



The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation

www.crossestategardens.org

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023

Heed the call...

Come to the Annual

Cross Estate Gardens Plant Sale!

The New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation was established under the auspices of Mr. James Spiniello. Its board is composed of volunteers interested in the preservation, maintenance, and development of public, historical gardens.

The Foundation is working with, but not funded by, the National Park Service,

U. S. Department of Interior, to preserve the Cross Estate Gardens.

The New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation Board of Trustees

Founder of Volunteers

Jean Pope (1931-2017)

NJHGF Founder

V. James Spiniello (1928 - 2013)

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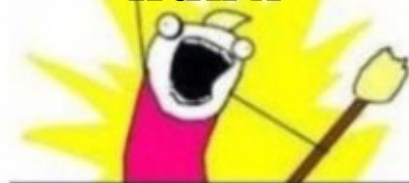
Who are we?



NJHGF Cross Estate Gardens!



What do we want?



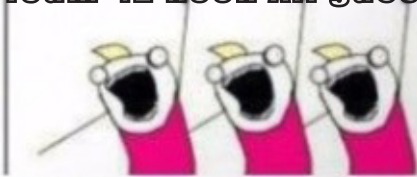
Shoppers at our Annual Plant Sale!



When do we want them?



Saturday, May 6, 2023
9-10am Members only
10am-12 noon All guests!



imgflip.com

PLEASE NOTE: The Cross Estate Gardens is part of the Morristown National Historical Park (MNHP) of the National Park Service (NPS).

Before visiting, please check the NPS website for current park status and alerts:

<https://www.nps.gov/morr/index.htm>

News from the Morristown National Historical Park (MNHP) and Cross Estate Gardens

Rocky without Bullwinkle

The last National Park Service Species Spotlight of 2022 came to me with an email from Pam Dobben that said:



Photo: Judy Gallagher

“This year was the first time we have recorded flying squirrel on camera both at the Washington’s Headquarters area and the Cross Estate/ New Jersey Brigade area of the park. Nice to see they are making a rebound in our area.”

The Species Spotlight, which can be found at <https://irma.nps.gov/DataStore/DownloadFile/678530>, has lots of fun facts. Here are a few:

- There are two species of flying squirrel in the Northeast, the “northern” (whose range is actually farther south) is slightly larger and redder than the “southern”
- Their “flight” is actually a long 20 to 30 mph glide, where they spread out and open their patagium (skin flaps) and use their legs and tail to steer. The description of the landing made me think of a vertical belly flop: belly first then all four feet grab on.
- Their large, wide-set eyes help spot predators and, hopefully, allow them to pull in their patagium and free fall in time to avoid being caught.
- From fungi to flower blossoms, insects to carrion, the southern flying squirrel has a very varied diet. Their northern counterparts are particularly fond of fungi and truffles.

The full article has SO much more, and I encourage you all to check it out! Many thanks to Pam Dobben and Ed Sharron of the NPS for sharing this fascinating Species Spotlight!

Happy 90th Birthday, MNHP!

MNHP formally kicked off its 90th anniversary year on March 4th, 2023 with a reception in its museum auditorium. In “A Stroke of Luck: How Morristown Became the First National Historical Park”, MNHP Chief of Cultural Resources Dr. Jude M. Pfister tells the full story. Below is an extract discussing the role of W. Redmond Cross.

“The first known attempt to link the Revolutionary Morristown sites from a tourism perspective occurred in 1895. George Howell proposed the establishment of what he termed Washington Park, encompassing the Ford mansion, the Morristown Green, Fort Nonsense, and Jockey Hollow—essentially the park today except for the Green. By 1930, interest in the land had come to include economic development. The owners of the land at Jockey Hollow, a group called the Jockey Hollow Club, and led by W. Redmond Cross (owner of the Cross Estate, today part of Morristown NHP), had come upon hard financial times with the onset of the Great Depression. This distinct group of investors owned most of the Jockey Hollow encampment area with publicly undetermined goals. The financial crisis ultimately forced the sale of the Club’s lands to Lloyd W. Smith. After the sale, the New York Herald Tribune noted that the Jockey Hollow Club “could not hold the land long enough to make a profit on it as a real estate transaction, but an appeal to their patriotism made them agreeable to the sale” to Lloyd W. Smith.⁴ Vern Chatelain, the first historian employed by the NPS, later wrote that “It was a stroke of luck that [the Jockey Hollow Club] was hit by financial worries and was unable to go ahead immediately with its plans” to develop the land.⁵ Redmond Cross later visited NPS offices in Washington in March 1931—after the Club sold their holdings to Lloyd W. Smith—to meet with Horace Albright, whom he was probably acquainted with through New York City club membership, to discuss the national park idea. Lloyd W. Smith must have known about Cross’s overture to Albright too. This would be Cross’s last involvement in Jockey Hollow before Lloyd W. Smith became the primary driver along with Mayor Potts of the national park idea.”

<https://www.nps.gov/morr/learn/historyculture/a-stroke-of-luck.htm>

4. Larry Lowenthal, Morristown National Historical Park Administrative History— Draft. 41.

5. Ibid., 45.



Talk & Tea with Jenny Rose Carey

Grow More Flowers: for You and for Pollinators

Thursday, September 21, 2023, 1-3 p.m.

Save the Date! You won't want to miss this talk!



The New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation Cross Estate Gardens is pleased to welcome Jenny Rose Carey to speak at its annual talk and tea. You may recall her excellent talk about shade gardening in 2018. On September 21st, she'll be back to talk about designing personalized flower beds that are seasonal and varied. Finding the perfect plant mix to appeal to you and the pollinators, thereby bringing joy to all!

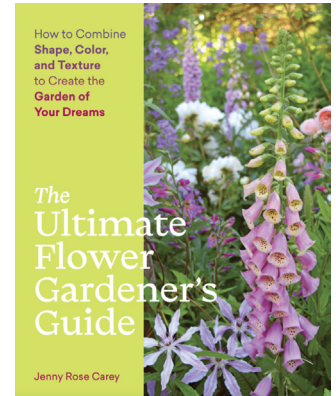
Jenny Rose Carey is a renowned gardener, educator, historian, and author who has been lecturing nationally and internationally for many years.

She is an avid hands-on gardener who has gardened in both England and the United States. Her Victorian property, Northview, contains diverse garden spaces, including a cutting garden, an herb garden, a dry garden, and various mixed flower beds.

Jenny Rose is the former senior director at the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's Meadowbrook Farm in Jenkintown and worked at Temple University for over a decade, first as an adjunct professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Horticulture and then as director of the Ambler Arboretum.

Jenny Rose and her gardens have been featured on the PBS series *The Victory Garden*, in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, the *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *GROW* magazine, and *The Pennsylvania Gardener*. She is the co-author with Mary Anne Fry of *A Century of Cultivation*, the author and photographer for *Glorious Shade*, Timber Press, 2017, and *The Ultimate Flower Gardener's Guide*, Timber Press, 2022.

For more information, check out her website at <https://jennyrosecarey.com>



Call for Volunteers

*Painting, masonry, irrigation, and, yes, gardening,
the New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation Cross Estate Gardens
needs volunteers to help with all of these tasks.*

To be more specific, assistance is needed

- to paint the large shed behind Grace's Garden
- to help finish cutting and laying bluestone for the path that leads to the Walled Garden
- to expand the irrigation system in the Natural (Wild) Garden
- to maintain the historic 2-tiered Walled Garden
- to weed, plant, and prune in the other garden areas around the Cross Estate

Join our fabulous group of Volunteers today! Contact info@crossstategardens.org.



The Cross Estate Gardens

New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation
Post Office Box 712, Bernardsville, NJ 07924
www.crossestategardens.org



Search for Cross Estate Gardens

Become a Member

The Cross Estate Gardens, one of this area's treasures, receives volunteer help but no funding from the National Park Service (who manages the property). We rely upon membership support to pay for the plants and materials for the gardens. Please consider supporting the NJHGF's efforts by joining. Every dollar donated goes into the gardens.

To become a member:

1. Cut this form and send it in with your tax-deductible check, payable to NJHGF (New Jersey Historical Garden Foundation), PO Box 712, Bernardsville, New Jersey 07924. Or
2. Go to the Membership page on our website (<https://www.crossestategardens.org/join/>) and pay via PayPal.

Choose your Membership Category:

- Individual \$25
- Family \$50
- Friend \$100
- Sponsor \$250
- Patron \$500

Tell us about your preferences:

- I prefer to read this Newsletter online
- I like receiving a print copy of the Newsletter in the mail

Would you like to volunteer:

- I'd like to help with the gardening on a regular basis
- I'd like to help with a specific project in the gardens

Tell us who you are:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

email: _____

The NJHGF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.