Old Salem Museums & Gardens

Garden & Landscape Plan

2021
Land and genetics acknowledgment

Old Salem Museums & Gardens and the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) are sitting on colonized land. The 33 acres of land owned by Old Salem Inc. is located in the Southern Woodland, on the colonized territory of the Tutelo, the Keyauwee, the Sappony, the Catawba, and the Cheraw, and was utilized as hunting grounds and trading paths by numerous other Native polities and peoples.¹ The land was claimed by the British in 1663. Facing pressure and destabilizing factors of European colonists, most Native peoples had moved to other lands by the early 1700s. In 1753, one year after the Moravians purchased the 98,985-acre tract of land in North Carolina from British statesmen John Carteret, the Tutelo and Sappony people, displaced from their land, became refugees and were adopted into the Cayuga tribe in what is now New York. Ultimately if justice is to be considered, short of giving the land back, we can recognize that this is ancestral native land of people who are still here and prioritize the care for native plants of which the resilience of our environment depends.

The subsistence of the early Moravians in Wachovia, and the building of Salem, were entirely possible because of the land resources stewarded by generations of Native people living on and cultivating this land before them. The mythical “Wilderness” described by early Moravian settlers in the backcountry of the North Carolina piedmont was truly the remnants of an ancient ecosystem managed by the Native peoples of Turtle Island and the Southern Woodland for thousands of years.

We have remarkable documentation of the species that were present in Wachovia when the Moravians first arrived here. Thanks to the land survey of Christian Gottlieb Reuter, we have a seemingly comprehensive botanical and zoological inventory of the Wachovia Tract in the 1750s. This land survey is the foundation of landscape restoration at Old Salem.

Although the early Moravians did have planned forest management, unique amongst colonial communities in America, over time, their unsustainable dependence on wood resulted in the deforestation of Salem’s woodlands; as was the case across America/Turtle Island by European colonizers. Although the original plant species diversity has technically remained in Forsyth County (roughly the original Wachovia tract) the

¹ Information gathered from Whose Land <www.whose.land>, and Native Land <www.native-land.ca>.
quantity of these species, and quality of ecosystem, are both drastically diminished. Colonists and the plant species they introduced have altered this land forever.

As a cultural institution, it is fundamental to our mission and core values to responsibly steward and value, to the highest degree, the living species and land we find under our care. The native trees and shrubs in our landscape today are now growing in a different, changed environment than 260 years ago. The ground is covered in invasive species introduced by colonists over the centuries. For example, English Ivy, an invasive species introduced from Europe by settlers, chokes out our trees if left unattended. Much effort has gone into removing English Ivy off trees and from the landscape of Old Salem.

As an education and cultural institution, we can learn from and contribute to the global effort to decolonize botany. This includes reevaluating and critiquing both common and Latin names used to describe plants, seeking out and listening to Native people today, and making educated, collaborative decisions to determine how to describe these plants in the future. Something as seemingly simple as naming, or renaming, elements of our landscape can spark difficult conversations.

The initial subsistence of the Moravians in Wachovia relied heavily on maize, pumpkins, and beans, all crops utilized by Native peoples. A large proportion of the varieties of seeds in Old Salem’s historic seed collection, and grown in our gardens, are the genetic heritage developed by, and belonging to, the Native peoples who cultivated and developed this landscape. Beans, squash, corn, peppers, tomatoes, potatoes, and sunflowers (of which we steward 113 varieties of these seven species combined) are all crop varieties fundamentally modified and mastered from their wild crop relatives and developed into important agricultural crops by Native peoples.

Along with recognizing the fundamental importance of Native peoples technological and scientific agricultural advances, it is imperative to acknowledge that a significant number of varieties in our collection (50 total varieties of eight important crop species in our seed collection) are the genetics developed by and belonging to the peoples of Africa who were kidnapped and enslaved by Europeans and forcibly brought to America. These agricultural crops were, and still are, essential food crops in the hot and humid South.

Decolonizing botany, horticulture, and agriculture begins with listening to Native voices and advocating for Native land and human rights. As an educational and cultural institution, it is fundamental to our mission to seek out and amplify these voices. We encourage you to follow: Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance (@nativefoodalliance on Instagram), Indigenous Food Lab (@indigenousfoodlab on
Instagram), The Sioux Chef (@siouxchef on Instagram), Good Rain Farm (@goodrainfarm on Instagram), Watershed Productions (@watershedproductionsmedia on Instagram), Sylvanaqua Farms (@sylvanaqua on Instagram), Rowen White (@rowenwhite on Instagram), Native Conservancy (@nativeconservancy on Instagram), Virginia Free Farm (@virginiafreefarm on Instagram).

Cultural relationships should also be weighed considerably in our work interpreting the histories of plants and landscapes. This applies with not only native plants but to colonial plants like the *Rosa laevigata* as well. *Rosa laevigata* is commonly known as “Cherokee Rose” and is the state flower for the state of Georgia. Old Salem has been advised by members of our Cherokee Advisory Committee that this name is offensive. We will cease to use this common name.

The native shrubs and trees in Old Salem’s landscape have always benefited us with the ecosystem services they provide. They clean our air, slow down and filter our water, and provide food and habitats for insects and birds. Salem’s native plants are the foundation for the web of life in which we are all a part. On a philosophical level, these plants offer us the opportunity to decolonize our perspectives, to share the stories of the Native people who lived here and shaped this land, to explore and challenge the dominant historical and cultural narratives of European colonization, and to understand our past in order to inform and make positive change in our present. These plants have a complicated and fascinating story to tell. Are you willing to listen?
How will Old Salem Landscape and Gardens matter in 2021? How will we focus our energies?

Victory Gardens

In March of 2020, facing the Covid-19 crisis, we decided to pivot the focus of our gardens from museum demonstration and seed saving to growing food for those who need it. By the end of the year we grew and donated about 3,500 pounds of fresh produce to Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC and to HOPE of Winston-Salem.

In 2021 we plan to again grow our gardens as “Victory Gardens” to grow food for those who need it. We will grow carrots, beets, cabbage, kale, collards, cucumbers, tomatoes, peppers, squash, potatoes, and sweet potatoes. We have chosen to grow modern varieties which will hopefully be more productive than most of our heirloom varieties. This also gives our garden staff the opportunity to compare modern vegetable varieties with those heirloom varieties in our seed collection which are normally grown in Old Salem’s gardens.

yellow beets, summer squash, Swiss chard, and green beans - all 2020 Victory Garden harvests donated HOPE of Winston-Salem
Accessible Landscape - Salem Pathways

Throughout 2020 it became apparent that due to Covid 19 outdoor space had more utility than ever. Additionally, Old Salem began developing Salem Pathways, an interpretative experience that will use visitors’ own smartphones to guide them through narratives of different individuals in Salem’s history. This will be an exciting new endeavor for Old Salem which will allow for stories to be told of individuals whose histories are not necessarily connected to buildings including Flora Ann Bynum, an early contributor to restoration of the historic landscape of Salem, NC. To help accomplish this we have begun to layout and put down wood chip mulched pathways. These pathways will not only help facilitate the Salem Pathways experience but make our landscape more accessible to all, guiding visitors places they perhaps would not normally go off the beaten path.

*mulched pathways allow better accessibility and encourage exploration*
Continued Importance of Seed Saving

Staying at home has also led to more interest in home vegetable gardens. Because of this demand for seeds has been incredibly high. Seed companies have had to limit order times and have sold out of stock due to such high demand. The locally adapted genetics in Old Salem’s seed collection, as well as the extra seed which we produce each year when saving for stewardship of the collection, has a huge social justice potential in the value to local home and community gardens. Although we have set aside our focus on seed growing while we shift to the Victory Gardens approach, we hope to reincorporate some seed growing into the garden in 2021.
Facilitating Learning in Place

Old Salem’s gardens have a lot offer in the realm of educational experiences. The horticulture department works to facilitate any needs the Learning in Place team has in their educational endeavors. We have consulted with members of the Learning In Place team in planning the gardens. Crops for foodways interpretation will be interplanted with our Victory Garden efforts, particularly focused in the Miksch and Triebel gardens but peppered throughout the other Salt Street family gardens and the Single Brothers garden as well. Additionally, the trees in Old Salem’s landscape give opportunity to educate about the living origins of wood objects crafted in the Joinery.
Connections with MESDA and Old Salem Collections

The trees in Old Salem's landscape give us the opportunity to educate about the living origins of the furniture in MESDA's and Old Salem's collections. Black walnut, tulip tree, oaks, pines, and more find themselves in MESDA gallery rooms, Old Salem’s public facing collections, and out in the Old Salem landscape!

Walnut in MESDA and the Old Salem landscape
Highlighting the Importance of Native Plants

For nearing 50 years native plants have been foundational to the landscape restoration efforts at Old Salem. Based on the botanical inventories of the natural landscape in what is now Forsyth County by land surveyor Christian Reuter in the 1750s, and subsequently later floras by Salem botanist’s Samuel Krams and Lewis David de Schweinitz, native plants have been planted in Old Salem in an effort to create an "authentic" landscape of period appropriate plant material. This effort was started in the 1970s long before native plants became trendy in landscape design and gardening circles due to their ecological benefits.

Around 560 native trees and shrubs of 87 different species are now growing on Old Salem’s properties within the historic district. They not only provide us an authentic plant material for Old Salem historic period of interpretation but are low tech tools for combating climate change, sequestering carbon, and contributing to ecological resilience. Old Salem has a unique urban native plant arboretum in its landscape and a real opportunity to highlight the importance of native plants and to teach plant literacy.
Historic District by Garden or Lot
Miksch and Triebel Gardens (#1)

These two gardens are a combined 4,320 square feet of intensively cultivated area. The Miksch and Triebel gardens will both be planted in crops for donation to HOPE of Winston-Salem. They will also be planted in crops requested by the Learning In Place team for their use.

In January 2021 two cherry trees were removed from the lower part of the Miksch garden because of disease issues in those trees. The American holly near the southeastern corner by the chicken coop has been limbed up as to provide sight through and airflow. Also, invasive English ivy has been removed from the fence and under this tree. The muscadine vine along the fence between the two gardens is pruned annually. The peach tree between the Miksch and Triebel gardens gets pruned during the winter months. Along Salt Street on the fence of the Miksch garden there is a dog rose.

In order to enhance the view from Salt Street. The existing compost dumping area has been moved to the fenced in area by the chicken coop. The not only moves the compost to a less unsightly area but will provide an opportunity for a small public facing compost area where the science of compost could be highlighted. The beautyberry at the northwest corner has been cleaned up of weed trees and vines which have been prevalent in this corner.

Throughout 2020 we worked on the perennial borders of the Miksch garden which line both the northern and southern fence lines. Reseeding annual weeds are a persistent problem here. In addition, some perennial plants have been added to these border gardens to increase the diversity of plant material overall in Old Salem’s gardens. The espalier fruit trees in the perennial border are pruned during the winter months.

Last year and during this past winter we have been working on the restoration of garden square border edges in the Miksch. The lowest garden square has been allowed to go fallow with grass and clover. The Miksch garden and swept yard needs minor earthworks and drainage work done to prevent future erosion of the central garden pathway.

Native trees and shrubs growing on these lots are the following: Sugar Maple (Acer saccharum), American Holly (Ilex opaca), Flowering Dogwood (Cornus florida), and Sweet Shrub (Calycanthus floridus)
Fruits growing on these lots: Apple (*Malus domestica*), Cherry (*Prunus cerasus var. Montmorency*), Peach (*Prunus persica*), Pear (*Cyrus communis*), Fig (*Ficus carica* ‘Brown Turkey’), Alpine Strawberry (*Fragaria vesca*)


For specifics of what is and will be planted in the Miksch and Triebel vegetable gardens please see the garden plans at the end of this document.

**Single Brothers Garden (#2)**

The total cultivated space of this garden is 11,400 square feet (6000 sq ft of intensively cultivated “kitchen garden” area and 5400 sq ft of field, or agricultural, crops - not including the orchard trees and grapevines). Before Covid we planted the Single Brother’s Garden’s different squares planted as six individually themed gardens; a seed garden for growing and saving seed from, a tree nursery and herb garden, a flower garden, and three agricultural squares respectively planted with agricultural crops from Africa, the Americas, and from Europe. Last year in 2020 as well as this coming growing season we will plant crops for donation to HOPE of Winston-Salem. Additionally, we will plant some crops for the Learning in Place team and for seed saving. The perennial flower and perennial herbs/tree nursery square won’t be planted in Victory Garden crops due to the more permanent nature of these gardens.
In the fall of 2019, we transplanted 13 fig plants, propagated from the Doctor’s House in the tree nursery, alongside the southern fence line. During 2020 these fig plants all established themselves.

In January of 2021 we removed the old ‘Northern Spy’ apple tree. The shade where that tree was growing had increased to a degree that it was no longer enough sun for the aging tree. We also have opened the sightline from the Single Brothers yard into the garden. Pruning a few large branches from the sycamore which also opens the sightline from Main Street onto the garden.

The pomegranate has been pruned back necessarily and the quince has had the invasive air potato vine removed. This is a recurring problem as the air potato is quite persistent and reseeds hardly.

The hollies next to the Single Brothers workshop have been limbed up for a sight line from Single Brothers house lower level into the garden. This also needed to happen to remove the invasive English ivy that was enveloping these trees which eventually suffocate them. This work has exposed some utilities, so native shrubs (Wax Myrtle, Button Bush, Arrowwood Viburnum, Tag Alder, and Smooth Hydrangea) were strategically planted around the base to give a visual barrier, as well as increase the diversity of native plants in our landscape.

The interpretation of the 1759 Bethabara Upland Garden in the Triebel should ideally happen the Single Brothers Garden where a more cohesive vision of the scale and detail of the Upland Garden, our best and most complete example of a Moravian garden 11 years before the Single Brothers garden was first laid out, can be more accurately depicted.

The apples and peach trees along the grapes growing on the fence bordering Old Salem Rd there are five grape vines, three of the Norton variety and 2 of the Catawba variety. Also along the fence, at the corner of Old Salem Rd and Academy St, are planted swamp milk weed, ironweed, black-eyed Susan vine, and kiss-me-over-the-garden-gate.

Many elements of Old Salem’s Christmas decorations are usually grown in the Single Brothers Garden. Christmas decorative elements grown include peppers, broomcorn, okra, Job’s tears, cardoon, and corn husks.

Native Trees and Shrubs growing in the Single Brothers yard, garden, and orchard: American Holly (Ilex opaca), Black Oak (Quercus velutina), Fir (Abies sp), Green Ash (Fraxinus pennsylvanica), Sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), Downy Serviceberry (Amelanchier arborea), Pawpaw (Asimina triloba), Pecan,
Oak, Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), Wax Myrtle (*Myrica cerifera*), Button Bush (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*), Arrowwood Viburnum (*Viburnum dentatum*), Tag Alder (*Alnus incana*), Smooth Hydrangea (*Hydrangea arborescens*)

Fruit growing in the Single Brothers yard, garden, and orchard: Grape (*Vitis aestivalis* ‘Norton’), Cherry (*Prunus cerasus* var. Montmorency), Fig (*Ficus carica* ‘White Marseilles’), Apple (*Malus domestica*), Peach (*Prunus persica*)


For specifics of what is and will be planted in the Single Brothers vegetable garden please see the garden plans attached to the end of this document.

**Orchard (#3)**

Two diseased and dying apple trees and two diseased and dying cherry trees have been removed in the past year. At the moment, they don’t need to be
replaced as the mature trees around them have utilized that space. The Norton grape vine along the fence bordering the Schroeter garden needs annual pruning.

The pathway from Main Street through the orchard connecting to the path from Miksch garden through the Salt Street Family gardens has been moved to the center of the orchard and is now mulched with woodchips instead of a mowed pathway. This new pathway will require occasional spraying and reapplication of wood chips. This path offers visitors the opportunity to stroll past heirloom apple trees, crabapple, oak, and witch hazel leading to the crossroads of a new central axis pathway through the family gardens.

**Tree and vine growing on the orchard lot:** Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*), Common Witchhazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), Apple (*Malus domestica*), Crabapple (*Malus cv. ‘Hewe’s Crab’*), Flowering Crabapple (*Malus floribunda*), Grape (*Vitis aestivalis ‘Norton’*)

**Salt Street Family Gardens (#4)**

For many years these four gardens (Cape Fear, Leinbach, Levering, and Schroeter) had intensively cultivated vegetable gardens and two intensive flower gardens. In 2018 and 2019 we let the vegetable squares grow over with grass and mowed them. In 2020 since we had additional garden staff and to suit the need of producing more produce to donate as part of the Victory Gardens initiative, we brought many of these garden plots back into production.

In the Cape Fear Bank Garden, we will continue to maintain, but to a less intensive degree, the sunny perennial flower bed. The vegetable beds are somewhat shaded by the now large apple trees next to them. In 2021 we plan to work with this shade and plant spring brassica crops here. Along the fence to Leinbach near Salt Street is also a Guelder rose.

The Leinbach Garden is also home to Mrs. Leinbach’s Rose, a Noisette type rose, which is Old Salem’s oldest extant plant material known to have been continuously grown in Salem since 1823. This rose plant should be maintained and cared for. Here there is vitex and lilac that requires pruning during the dormant season. The three vegetable squares will be brought back into production for Victory Garden crops. There is a bindweed problem in these gardens that has persisted since the 1980s!

Growing in the Leinbach garden: **Elderberry** (*Sambucus canadensis*), **Scarlet Trumpet Honeysuckle** (*Lonicera sempervirens*), **Willow Blue Star** (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*), **Rose Vervain** (*Verbena canadensis*), **Leinbach Rose** (*Rosa* - Noisette type), **Vitex** (*Vitex negundo*), **Lilac** (*Syringa vulgaris*)

In the Levering Garden the existing shady perennial flower bed will continue to be maintained at a much less intensive degree. The vegetable plots will be Victory Garden crops. We have collecting cedar posts and are mid-process of restoring the grape arbor. Here is also a noisette rose, and peonies which require staking and cutting back.

Growing in the Levering garden: **Grape**, **Red Muscadine** (*Vitis rotundifolia* ‘Cowart’), **Grape, White Muscadine** (*Vitis rotundifolia* ‘Isabella’), **Blue Mistflower** (*Conoclinium coelestinum*), **Fringed Bleeding Heart** (*Dicentra eximia*), **Tree Peony** (*Paeonia suffruticosa*), **Leinbach Rose** (*Rosa* - Noisette type), **Peonies** (*Paeonia officinalis*), **Ragged Robin** (*Lychnis flos-cuculi*), **Toadflax** (*Linaria purpurea*), **Alpine Columbine** (*Aquilegia alpina*), **Harebell** (*Campanula rotundifolia*), **Peachleaf Bellflower** (*Campanula persicifolia*), **Cowslip** (*Primula veris*), **Forget-me-not** (*Myosotis arvensis*)

The Schroeter garden will be continue to be entirely mowed grass with a wood chip mulched pathway connecting the orchard to Levering garden bisecting it.

Growing in the Schroeter garden: **Eastern Red Cedar** (*Juniperous virginiana*), **Black Walnut** (*Juglans nigra*), **Cherry** (*Prunus cerasus* var. Montmorency), **Mockorange** (*Philadelphus coronarius*), **Winter Honeysuckle** (*Lonicera fragrantissima*)

**1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th Houses Meadow (#5)**

The apple, pear, and cherry trees will need winter pruning and the grass mowed. We periodically let the grass grow into a faux meadow sometimes during the year.
In 2019 we transplanted 3 American plum trees into the tree line with the cherries. These trees have now established and will add some more early spring blooms and fruit to this area.

Growing on these lots: Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), American Wild Plum (*Prunus americana*), Pecan (*Carya illinoinsis*), Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Virginia Pine (*Pinus virginiana*), Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*), Blackhaw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), Sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria*), Cherry (*Prunus cerasus* var. Montmorency), Pear (*Pyrus communis*), Apple (*Malus domestica*), Fig (*Ficus carica*)

### Goody’s Compost Lot (#6)

The leaf compost pile is where the gardens of Old Salem begin. In the fall, leaves are gathered from the district into a large pile. Non-weedy “green” garden waste gets incorporated here recycling these nutrients into compost that is eventually added to our garden beds creating a healthy soil for our plants. The Goody’s lot is home to both our new leaf collection pile, wood chip for mulch, and our finished leaf compost piles. The compost here has broken down to a nice friable texture. This is the compost that we add to our garden beds and is essential to our gardens. This area is also home to several specimen native trees and shrubs.

**Trees and shrubs growing here:** Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*), Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*), Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), Southern Red Oak (*Quercus falcata*), Blackhaw (*Viburnum prunifolium*), American Wild Plum (*Prunus americana*), Fringe Tree (*Chionanthus virginicus*), Carolina Silverbell (*Halesia carolina*), Pin Oak (*Quercus palustris*), Sweetbay Magnolia (*Magnolia virginiana*), Black Cherry (*Prunus serotina*)

### Doctor’s House (#7)

Behind the doctor’s house are very old terraced landings which have been cultivated as gardens as recently as 10 years ago. This area is flanked by two large black walnut trees. Walnut trees secrete into the soil a chemical substance which impedes the growth of many plants. Because of these trees, gardens in this area are not practical.
Upstairs inside the doctor’s house is a permanent exhibit focused on the 1761 Hortus Medicus garden of Bethabra and the botanists of Salem with a special focus on Lewis David Von Schweinitz.

**Growing here:** Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*), Fig (*Ficus carica 'White Marseilles'*)

### Herbst House (#8)

The Herbst house became the home base to the Horticulture department in 2019. The fall of 2019 saw the opening of the Garden & Seed Saving Lab. The lab was open to ticketed visitors on high volume days and Salem Saturdays. The Herbst House is the home base (and public face) for Old Salem’s historic plant collection, space for workshops and presentations, a workspace for drying and cleaning seed, storage of the seed collection, and office space for the garden staff.

**Growing here:** Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*), Dogwood (*Cornus florida*), White Mulberry (*Morus alba*)

### Boy’s School (#9)

Currently there are no gardens or significant landscape plant elements in the Boy’s School yard. There is some documentation of a garden here historically. This area is mown and trimmed by the landscape team.

### Arboretum / P.E.I (Plants of Ecological and Economic Importance) Lot and Salt Street between West & Walnut (#10)

This area contains many specimen trees, many of which are labeled. Specimens include Willow Oak, Black Walnut, Dogwood, Red Oak, White Oak, Black Gum, Pignut Hickory, Sassafras, and Paw Paw. This area has the highest concentration of specimen native trees and shrubs intentionally planted over the years. There is potential for tree focused programming in the future tying directly to different aspects of early Moravian life in Salem i.e. The first foresters, the botanists, and the Single Brothers tree nursery. We plan a wood chip mulched pathway to go through this area as part of the Salem Pathways.
In the fall of 2017 we planted 11 native shrub species, 27 plants in all, in the P.E.I. lot this fall. These shrubs were funded by a grant from Burt’s Bee’s grant to serve as pollinators, and native bee habitat. This planting of native shrubs rounds out our native shrub collection substantially and gives us a place in the landscape to inform Old Salem’s visitors about the botanists of Salem, who extensively inventoried the native flora of what is now Forsyth County. Eventually an information panel will be created detailing what species are growing in the “Plants of Ecological Importance” lot, detail some of the ecological benefits of these plants, and convey information about Salem’s botanist’s floras.

Native trees growing here: **Eastern Red Cedar** (*Juniperus virginiana*), **Shortleaf Pine** (*Pinus echinata*), **Black Walnut** (*Juglans nigra*), **Flowering Dogwood** (*Cornus florida*), **Pawpaw** (*Asimina triloba*), **Hop Hornbeam** (*Ostrya virginiana*), **Black Haw** (*Viburnum prunifolium*), **Persimmon** (*Diospyros virginiana*), **Willow Oak** (*Quercus phellos*), **Virginia Pine** (*Pinus virginiana*), **Pecan** (*Carya illinoinsensis*), **Sassafras** (*Sassafras albidum*), **Pignut Hickory** (*Carya glabra*), **White Oak** (*Quercus alba*), **Southern Red Oak** (*Quercus falcata*), **Chestnut Oak** (*Quercus montana*), **American Wild Plum** (*Prunus americana*), **Chickasaw Plum** (*Prunus angustifolia*), **Sourwood** (*Oxydendrum arboreum*), **Chinese Chestnut** (*Castanea mollissima*eft) (not native but representative of the mostly extinct American chestnut), **Mockernut** (*Juglans cinera*), **Sweetgum** (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), **Tulip Tree** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), **Pin Oak** (*Quercus palustris*), **Red Bud** (*Cercis canadensis*), **Boxelder** (*Acer negundo*), **Fringe Tree** (*Chionanthus virginicus*), **Sugar Maple** (*Acer Saccharum*), **American Hazelnut aka Filbert** (*Corylus americana*).

Native shrubs growing here: **Shadblow Serviceberry** (*Amelanchier canadensis*), **Arrowwood Viburnum** (*Viburnum dentatum*), **Farkleberry** (*Vaccinium arboreum*), **Possumhaw** (*Ilex decidua*), **Spicebush** (*Lindera benzoin*), **Possumhaw Viburnum** (*Viburnum nudum*), **New Jersey Tea** (*Ceanothus americanus*), **Highbush Blueberry** (*Vaccinium corymbosum*), **Bottlebrush Buckeye** (*Aesculus parviflora*), **Smooth Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea arborescens*), **Buttonbush** (*Cephalanthus occidentalis*).

**Vogler house and Anna Catherina lot (#11)**

The Vogler house is a relatively modern house in Salem. Because of its more modern interpretive time period there is an opportunity to grow some relatively
modern ornamental plants at this house. There are also three young heirloom apple trees in the lower part of this lot. The privet hedge and English ivy at Salt Street have been completely removed allowing for much better visibility at the intersection of Salt and West.

Growing here: **American Buckeye** (*Aesculus glabra*), **White Muscadine** (*Vitis rotundifolia ‘Isabella’*), **Apples** (*Malus domestica*), **Crape Myrtle** (*Lagerstroemia indica*)

**Shoe Shop lot (#12)**

The lower part of this lot along Salt Street is home to 2 pawpaw trees a few recently planted native shrubs. This area is an extension of the Plants of Ecological Importance lot.

**Blum House (# 13)**

There are four figs on the south side of the Blum house and one fig at the northwest corner. The retaining wall on the north side of the house along Main Street is collapsing and is potential unsafe. Lilly of the Valley and hostas grow above the retaining wall. The Mock Orange shrub growing along the northern property line should be severely thinned and/or cut back.

Growing here: **Fig** (*Ficus carica ‘Brown Turkey’*), **Camellias** (*Camellia japonica*), **Christmas Fern** (*Polystichum acrostichoides*), **Sensitive Fern** (*Onoclea sensibilis*), **August Lily** (*Hosta plantaginea*)

**Tavern Restaurant (#14), Tavern Museum (#15), Tavern Meadow**

On the south side of the tavern restaurant there are three fig shrubs. These are to be pruned annually during the dormant season. One large tree next to the tavern parking area was split and was removed in 2020 by a tree care service. The newly exposed area has been cleaned up as many weed trees were growing here. Some native evergreen shrubs could be planted here to screen the utilities.

A small dooryard herb garden is next to the kitchen entrance. There are many landscape elements in the tavern yard. A wintersweet shrub (*Chimonanthus*
praecox) is next to the bathrooms. There are Eglinite and Noisette roses, three in total, behind the Tavern museum.

Native trees growing here: **Eastern Red Cedar** (*Juniperus virginiana*), **River Birch** (*Betula nigra*), **Dogwood** (*Cornus florida*), **Willow Oak** (*Quercus alba*), **Sugar Maple** (*Acer saccharum*), **American Holly** (*Ilex opaca*), **Little Leaf Linden** (*Tilia cordata*), **American Persimmon** (*Diospyros virginiana*), **Red Maple** (*Acer rubrum*), **Tulip Tree** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), **Swamp Chestnut Oak** (*Quercus michauxii*), **Sweetgum** (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), **Black Cherry** (*Prunus serotina*), **White Oak** (*Quercus alba*), **Pecan** (*Carya illinoinensis*), **American Beech** (*Fagus grandifolia*), **Black Walnut** (*Juglans nigra*)

Native shrubs growing here: **Smooth Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea arborescens*), **Inkberry Holly** (*Ilex glabra*), **Chokeberry** (*Aronia melanocarpa*), **Wax Myrtle** (*Myrica cerifera*)

Also growing here: **Grape**, **White Muscadine** (*Vitis rotundifolia ‘Isabella’*), **Garlic Chives** (*Allium tuberosum*), **Wintersweet** (*Chimonanthus praecox*), **Roses** (*Rosa-Noisette types*), **Eglantine Rose** (*Rosa eglanteria*), **Figs** (*Ficus carica*)

**Timothy Vogler/Gun Shop lot (#16)**

Located behind the Gun Shop lot is one of Forsyth County’s largest surviving Elm trees.

Native tree growing here: **American Elm** (*Ulmus americana*)

**St Phillips (#17), Happy Hill Overlook (#18), and Central School lot (#19)**

In recent years we have grown vines on the fence of St Phillips church and gourds were also grown along the fence. In 2020 and 2021 since we haven’t been open to visitors, we haven’t cultivated these.

The pathway to this overlook is mulched with wood chips and lined with fence railing. This is one of the only places to walk through the woods in Old Salem. Native trees surround this overlook, and this area would be a good candidate for
future plantings of native shrubs. The pathway to the Happy Hill overlook has been cleaned up with the removal of a dying princess tree and other need pruning for access. We also mulched a new pathway that runs along the outer fence line.

Due to the city street work this area is largely unavailable to us for the past few years. The leaf compost has been moved to the Goody’s Lot and the brush pile has been moved to the empty lot at the corner of Poplar and Walnut streets.


Also growing here: Peach (*Prunus persica* 'Crawford*'), Linden Viburnum (*Viburnum dilatatum*), Orange Daylily (*Hemerocallis fulva*), Sweet Autumn Clematis (*Clematis terniflora*), Mimosa Tree (*Albizia julibrissin*)

**South end of Main St (Zinzendorf Arboretum) (#20) and MESDA Horton Center (#21)**

Near the South end of Main Street are remnants of the former Zinzendorf arboretum planted in the late 1970s. As of early 2019, all the trees have been limbed up to above head height. All specimen trees should be labeled.

The triangular bed previously planted with ornamental flowers has been planted with native shrubs and grasses requiring less, but still occasional, maintenance. Arrangements of heirloom flowers from the gardens will continue to be refreshed weekly for the front desk.

(Chionanthus virginicus), American Hornbeam (Carpinus caroliniana), Honey Locust (Gleditsia triacanthos), Shortleaf Pine (Pinus echinata), Black Locust (Robinia pseudoacacia), Southern Catalpa (Catalpa bignonioides), American Sycamore (Platanus occidentalis), Black Walnut (Juglans nigra), Tulip Tree (Liriodendron tulipifera), Eastern Serviceberry (Amelanchier canadensis), Red Bud (Cercis canadensis), Shortleaf Pine (Pinus echinata), Red Mulberry (Morus rubra), Yaupon Holly (Ilex vomitoria), Black Cherry (Prunus serotina), American Holly (Ilex opaca), Hop Horn Beam (Ostrya virginiana), Silky Dogwood (Cornus amomum), Dwarf Fothergilla (Fothergilla gardenii), Inkberry Holly (Ilex glabra ‘Shamrock’)

Also growing here: Switch Grass (Panicum virgatum ‘Northwind’), St. John’s Wort (Hypericum frondosum ‘Sunburst’)

Volz Lot (#22)

Once a lot planted in field crops, this area has a great proximity to Main Street and good view from Walnut crossing Old Salem Road. As trees have grown this area has become too shady, and irrigation unpractical, to warrant the energy of cultivating this space. In the March of 2019 three American plums were planted in the lower area of the Volz lot.

Native trees, shrubs, and vines growing here: Willow Oak (Quercus phellos), Littleleaf Linden (Tilia cordata), American Wild Plum (Prunus americana), Eastern Red Cedar (Juniperus virginiana), Alder (Alnus serrulata), Magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora), Century Plant (Agave americana), American Wisteria (Wisteria frutescens)

Visitors Center (#23,24,25,26)

The ring of cedars (#22) has been trimmed on the inside to make the space more inviting, creating a sense of an outdoor room. The holly shrubs that once grew into the sidewalk have been limbed up and now give much better access. A shade tree, a maple or oak, should be planted in the triangular grassy plot of land next to the bus unloading/loading area to give groups a shady lunch spot when it matures. Existing specimen native plants in the parking lot area like the Silver Bell tree, Fothergilla, Fringe Tree, and Virginia Sweetspire should be labeled. The mass planting of Calycanthus (#23) will be removed and that area replanted with a
dogwood or similar sized native tree. The kudzu (#24) growing out of the creek is a constant effort to keep in check and off of our trees planted nearby.

Native trees and shrubs growing here: **Eastern Red Cedar** (*Juniperus virginiana*), **Willow Oak** (*Quercus phellos*), **American Holly** (*Ilex opaca*), **Eastern Red Bud** (*Cercis canadensis*), **Fringetree** (*Chionanthus virginicus*), **Red Maple** (*Acer rubrum*), **Carolina Silverbell** (*Halesia carolina*), **Hop Hornbeam** (*Ostrya virginiana*), **Serviceberry** (*Amelanchier canadensis*), **American Sycamore** (*Platanus occidentalis*), **Shortleaf Pine** (*Pinus echianata*), **Green Ash** (*Fraxinus pennsylvania*), **Fothergilla** (*Fothergilla gardenii*), **Sweetshrub** (*Calycanthus floridus*), **Yaupon Holly** (*Ilex vomitoria*)

**Brewery Lot (#26)**

A large section of the brewery lot is bordered by a creek and, along with the Tannery lot, is Old Salem’s only natural water resource. A near entirety of this lot is mowed except for the steep banks next to the creek. The open field and proximity to the stroll-way give it a natural park like feel and it is often used as such by the community.

**Notable native tree growing here:** **Blackjack Oak** (*Quercus marilandica*)

**Tannery Lot (#27)**

This lot along with the Brewery lot has Old Salem’s only natural water resource.

**Trees growing here:** **Black Walnut** (*Juglans nigra*), **Apple** (*Malus domestica*), **Common Mulberry** (*Morus alba*)

**Factory Row (#28)**

This large area between Factory Row road and the stroll-way is notable for the numerous large Walnut trees. Along Factory Row road about 30 heirloom apple trees were once planted in the early 1990s. Now only about a third of these trees are still living. These trees could be used as bud stock for grafting in the Single Brothers tree nursery for genetic preservation.
Builders Lot (#29)

No important plant material is on this lot however it is regularly maintained by the landscape crew.

Plant Nursery and Greenhouse (#30)

The first step in the cycle of “Seed Saving” often happens in the greenhouse and nursery area, a key modern advantage in the maintenance of our living collection of heritage plant material. Here we germinate and grow seedlings starting in the late winter/early spring (and in late summer), of annual vegetables, flowers, and herbs, for later transplanting into the gardens. Perennial plants are also started here in the fall. In the greenhouse we will also overwinter and propagate the container plants.

With the pending sale of the current property where the greenhouse now sits, we are potentially building a new greenhouse and nursery area in between the Visitor’s Center and 901 S Marshall Street building.

Coca-Cola building (#31)

The facilities at this building complex have been the home base for the Horticulture department for over 15 years. The Horticulture lab and offices were once here and now have moved to the Herbst house. The landscape maintenance crew utilizes some of the downstairs office space as well as the break kitchen space. Most importantly are the tool storage, shop space, and secure indoor parking bays for golf carts, lawn mowers, tractor, and skid steer. We also store gas cans, a large diesel tank, landscape materials such as fencing and poles, and the two trucks utilized by the Horticulture department.

We are currently exploring moving these facilities to 901 S Marshall St.

Alternate Brush Dump (#32)

The empty lot southeast of the intersection of Walnut and Poplar streets serves as an alternate brush dump pile place while the city street and water project utilizes our Central School site. Here we store all woody brush from the historic district which is periodically collected by the city.
Main Street

Before Covid-19, the Horticulture department created container plantings to be placed near the doorways of all museum and retail buildings along Main Street. Also, Christmas decorations were created by the horticulture staff utilizing elements from our gardens and landscape, will be hung during the Christmas season on all museum and retail building doors and on lamp posts up and down Main Street. We anticipate continuing these endeavors in 2022.

Seeds with Stories:
Old Salem’s Historic Plant Collection

In a supporting letter for OSMG’s Garden Club of America Zone Historic Preservation Commendation, Peter Hatch, Emeritus Director of Gardens and Grounds at Monticello, wrote “Salem’s collection of historic plants, especially its vegetable seed bank, is one of the finest in the country”

This collection of historic plants and the seed saving program are essentially one and the same. While trees and shrubs have a comparatively long life span, and most perennial plants can be propagated through division or cutting, the preservation of much of this living collection necessitates its regeneration through the cycle of saving seed. Annual (and biennial) flowers, herbs, vegetables, and grains must be grown out through the entirety of their life cycle from seed to seedling to mature flowering plant to ripe (or dried) fruit containing seed.

Practical and genetic maintenance must be done throughout this process. Large enough populations of individual species or varieties must be grown out to ensure genetic diversity within the population and to avoid inbreeding depression. Steps must be taken to avoid cross pollination of susceptible species. Selection should be practiced to ensure the correct phenotype and vigor. Seed must be properly cleaned and stored in cool, dark, and dry environment. Seeds from each stored plant variety must be grown out again within each seed’s differing window of viability.

Currently 129 different species of flowers and herbs are routinely saved for seed. In addition, 123 different antique varieties of vegetables and field crop seed are stewarded. 45 of these vegetable varieties are regional heirlooms acquired from
local seed savers often as family heirlooms passed down from earlier generations. Not every variety can be grown each year due to practical limitations as well as risk of cross-pollination so the collection must be rotated across successive years.

Excess seed from the collection gets disseminated into the world outside of Old Salem through the annual seed swap and through the Seed Savers Exchange network, helping to insure the preservation of these historic plants.

Native plants should anchor the Historic Plant program given that they have the longest history here, are the most ecologically important plants we steward, and are the primary focus of our most bountiful plant focused source material – the Salem Botanists floras (inventories of plants).

The beauty of a collection of historic plants is that it can be reproduced and shared. This also means that, unlike a static collection of furniture or buildings, in order to maintain this collection all pieces of this living compilation need to be periodically regenerated. Growing these plants to maturity, and then saving their seeds for long term storage, allows us to propagate and showcase them in the Old Salem Gardens where visitors can interact with the collection. By learning and participating in these seeds’ stories they become part of our own story.

To this end Seeds with Stories is an initiative aimed at highlighting the histories of Old Salem’s Historic Plant Collection in ways that are engaging to visitors. Old Salem’s restored landscapes and gardens have always been rooted in the reintroduction of historically appropriate trees, shrubs, herbs, flowers, grains, and vegetables. This effort has resulted in a significant collection of heritage plants and seeds. The histories behind these species are significant and the Seeds with Stories initiative communicates their history with the public.

To achieve this initiative’s aim interpretive media based on research should be created. This media could be social media posts, videos, QR code linked digital web pages, signage, or information panels. Signage is needed in the Single Brothers Garden in particular to give visitors a history and explanation of the garden which is predominantly self guided.
Tree and Shrub Inventory: an urban forest combating climate change and aiding ecological resiliency

Native trees are low tech tools for combating climate change. In the early days of Old Salem’s landscape restoration endeavors, much effort was put into planting a diversity of native trees and shrubs in the historic district. These efforts were rooted in the desire to create a landscape of authentic plant material, as close as possible to the landscape inhabited by the early people of Salem, based on the Wachovia inventory of Christian Reuter, the Records of the Moravians, and subsequent Floras of the area by Salem botanizers. We can now sit under the canopies of these trees (many of which were planted by Old Salem Horticulture department 30-50 years ago) and enjoy the shade of trees planted by an earlier generation. These trees and shrubs also add a pre-colonial aspect to Old Salem as well as contribute great ecological benefits.

From the beginnings in 1972, while Old Salem did have many mature trees, new native plantings were put where space allowed including the “Plants of Economic Importance” field below the Taverns and Salt Street. In 1977 major changes took place in the southern end of Old Salem with tree plantings at the old “Central School” area and an Arboretum of native trees was planted at the old Zinzendorf Laundry site below MESDA. In 1989 after a tornado brought down many mature trees, a great effort went into not only replanting, but also of using the disaster as an opportunity to create a more “authentic” landscape with an even greater diversity of researched plant material. Ten years after that yet another effort went into filling in the Southern end, the Arboretum, and the “Plants of Economic Importance” area, along some area near the Northern end of Salem.

Throughout these endeavors over the past 49 years, periodic inventories and assessments of the trees and shrubs in OSMGs landscape have occurred. A few times during the 1970s, once following the tornado damage in 1989, and again in the late 1990s. Over 20 years have passed since the last thorough evaluation of Old Salem’s landscape and much has changed. Many trees are no longer here, and oaks planted in 1976 are now mature 45-year-old trees!

Old Salem’s landscapes’ value is now getting further recognized during Covid. We now have an opportunity to open the landscape with maps and pathways, to invite visitors to explore our trees and shrubs, and to help increase plant literacy. The trees in the landscape can also highlight the living origins of wooden objects.
in Old Salem and MESDA’s collections. Around 560 trees and shrubs of 87 different species growing on Old Salem’s properties within the historic district have been inventoried so far. This study now will allow us to make more informed decisions concerning the landscape, better educate our visitors about these natural resources, and to hopefully further the plant diversity of Old Salem going forward!

The Landscape Maintenance Crew

The Landscape Maintenance team, led by OSMG Landscape Manager Bernard Bailey, maintains 60 different properties, almost 33 acres in all.

Objectives of the landscape maintenance crew are:

• trimming, around all fence lines, trees, signs, light poles and curbing

• mowing all properties, fallen branches removed, and litter and debris are cleaned up

• When time allows, sidewalks are maintained by leaf blowing and weeds growing in sidewalk are sprayed with herbicide/vinegar as needed

• Regular pruning to limb up trees and shrubs on all 60 properties, with special attention paid to trees in the district

• Trash from all around the district, 33 trash cans in all, is collected at the end of the day daily

• Yearly, from October through January, leaves are blown from all Old Salem buildings and sidewalks into piles in the street. Leaves piles are then continuously collected from the street October through January. Leaves are collected in leaf piles that become essential compost for the gardens.

• Leaf compost piles are turned with the skid steer 4 or 5 times a year and finished compost piles are moved across district once a year

• Brush pile is kept neat until the City of Winston-Salem collects monthly

• Routine maintenance is performed on all mowers, trimmers, blowers, chainsaws, and golf carts:
• Check oil and fluids, change spark plugs, change oil, general equipment maintenance

• Sharpen mower blades, pruners, and loppers

• Contract to routinely maintain tractor, skid steer, and golf carts

• All gas cans are filled twice a month, mixed gas is prepared, and diesel tank is filled by contact once a year

• Pesticides and herbicides are safely stored, reordered, and managed

• Regular gardens and grounds supply runs

• Snow and sleet preparations and removal

• Ice melt on all building entryways and sidewalks

• Call contract snow and ice scrapers for the VC parking lot, back of VC, and all parking lots

• Shovel entry ways and sidewalks when needed

• In the event of storm damage, the landscape team removes fallen trees and branches or contracts out large jobs

The Gardening Crew

The garden crew plans, plants, and cares for gardens and landscape plants in Old Salem. Objectives of the gardening crew are:

**Single Brothers Garden**

• planning, composting, bed formation, planting, weeding, watering, removal of unwanted plant material (sunflower stalks, corn stalks, finished plants, etc), conversation with visitors, seed harvesting, harvesting for various uses, Victory Garden vegetable crops

• Single Brothers Workshop dooryard garden

• planting, maintenance, and watering

**Miksch, Triebel, and Salt Street Family Gardens**

• Weeding, watering, deadheading & plant removal & some planting in the sunny perennial bed in Cape and the shady perennial flower bed in Levering. Leinbach rose and other ornamental shrubs will require some minimal care. Victory Garden vegetable crops and seed saving.
MESDA bed
• weeding and watering

Tavern Garden
• weeding and watering,

Christmas decorations
• planning, creation, hanging, removal,

Greenhouse and Nursery
• clean and clear out, use irrigation system to water nursery plants (in coldframes, etc) and of greenhouse plants, pest and disease maintenance (routine observation, culling diseased plants, applications), propagation of plants (seed starting, cuttings, and division) for gardens

Native Tree and Shrub establishment & maintenance
• late summer and late winter pruning

Orchard tree maintenance and new tree establishment
• late summer and late winter pruning

Historic Plant & Seed Program
• seed collection, cleaning, storage, record keeping, planning grow outs, propagating plants as needed, research

Planning
• garden planning (crop rotation, seed saving considerations ie avoiding cross pollination, succession timing, bloom time and continuous interest), seed catalog and SSE yearbook perusal, seed ordering

Research
• Research & learn history of gardens and gardeners, plants, botanists, & foresters of Salem, heirloom varieties, historical practices, modern techniques for our gardens today, etc

Maintenance of indoor and outdoor workspace, and tools
Summary of how, in 2021, the Horticulture Department plans to focus its energies:

1. Victory Gardens
2. Seeds with Stories Initiative
3. Accessible Landscapes
4. Facilitating Learning in Place
5. Moving Greenhouse/Plant Nursery and Horticulture Facilities
6. Highlighting Native Plants
N ← MIKSCH

ROCKET (ARUGULA)

SP COVER?
F CARROTS

SP CHARD

SP CARROTS
S/F COVER?

5 PEPPERS

(GARLIC)

SP COVER?
F CARROTS

SP BEETS
S/F COVER?

(WALKING ONIONS)

(SKIRRET?)

(AS PARAGUS)

SP ONIONS

COVER?

SP POTATOES

SP ENDIVE (RESEED)

(GARLIC)

F CARROTS
SP COVER?

S SUMMER SQUASH

SP CARROTS
S/F COVER?
LEVERING

S. CUCUMBERS
F. KALE
S. TURNIPS
S. CUCUMBERS
F. KALE
S. TURNIPS
FLOWERS
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<td>F COLLARDS</td>
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<td>SBG NORTH (UPPER)</td>
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<td>CORIANDER (MARJOREM)</td>
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SBG MID (UPPER)
### SBG - Flowers

#### South (Upper)

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<td>Rudbeckia fulg.</td>
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- 5 Winter Squash