

Th: Jefferson

MONTICELLO

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Monticello celebrates Garden Club of Virginia's Historic Garden Week

GARDEN PARTY MARKS
70TH ANNIVERSARY OF
RESTORATION OF WINDING
WALK FLOWER BORDER AND
OVAL BEDS AT MONTICELLO

IN LATE APRIL, COLORFUL TULIPS dominate the stage at Monticello. The perennial reds and yellows burst onto the springtime scene to an audience of garden enthusiasts and Monticello visitors. By mid-July, warm season annual flowers rule the garden. But what you see today—the beauty and splendor of the gardens at Monticello—had virtually disappeared after Jefferson's death in 1826. The Garden Club of Virginia played an important role in restoring Jefferson's gardens at Monticello. The flower gardens were revived and restored between 1939 and 1941.

To locate the winding walk flower border and the oval bed plan, Garden Club of Virginia members used Jefferson sketches and aimed the headlights of their automobiles across the West Lawn at night to observe the depression left behind. The location of the perennial bulbs, which had continued to flourish along the border after 115 years, also helped to outline its location.

In celebration of the Garden Club of Virginia's restoration of the 20 oval flower beds and the winding walk flower border, Monticello held a garden party during Historic Garden Week in Virginia, with award-winning author Andrea Wulf. Wulf discussed her newly released book, *Founding Gardeners, The Revolutionary Generation, Nature and the Shaping of the American Nation* on the West Lawn.



Andrea Wulf, author of *Founding Gardeners*, introduced her new book at Monticello during Historic Garden Week in Virginia.