



**GARDEN
CLUB
TOUR**

*Sponsored by:
Amherst Garden Club
Amherst, MA*

July 14, 2001



DEBORAH ENRIGHT

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Garden Tour Guide

Thumbnail view (1 of 1)



Tour Guide Cover



Title Page



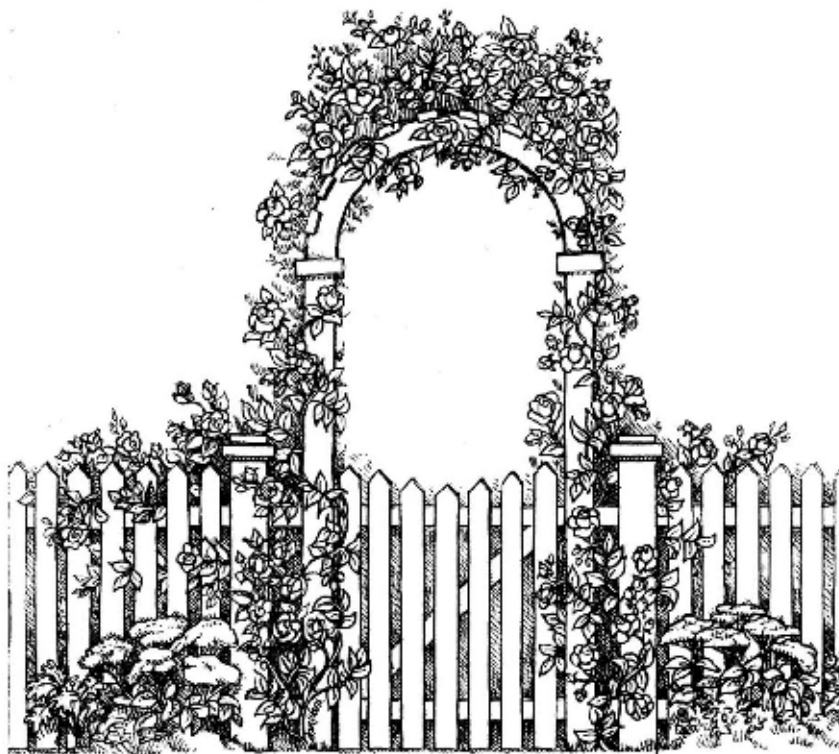
Officers



Map

Tour Guide Cover

The Secret Gardens of Amherst Village A Walking Garden Tour



Sponsored by The Amherst Garden Club, Amherst,

Title Page



The Secret Gardens of Amherst Village A Walking Tour

Saturday, July 14, 2001

*"Life begins the day you start a garden."
- Chinese proverb*



*Cover art work and inside art vignettes by Amherst Artist
and Garden Club Member, Jan Merkel Ward.*

Officers



2001-2002 CLUB OFFICERS

President	Jan Brown
1st Vice President	Jan Ward
2nd Vice President	Marti Warren
Secretary	Deborah Purtell
Treasurer	Sue Spics

GARDEN TOUR COMMITTEE

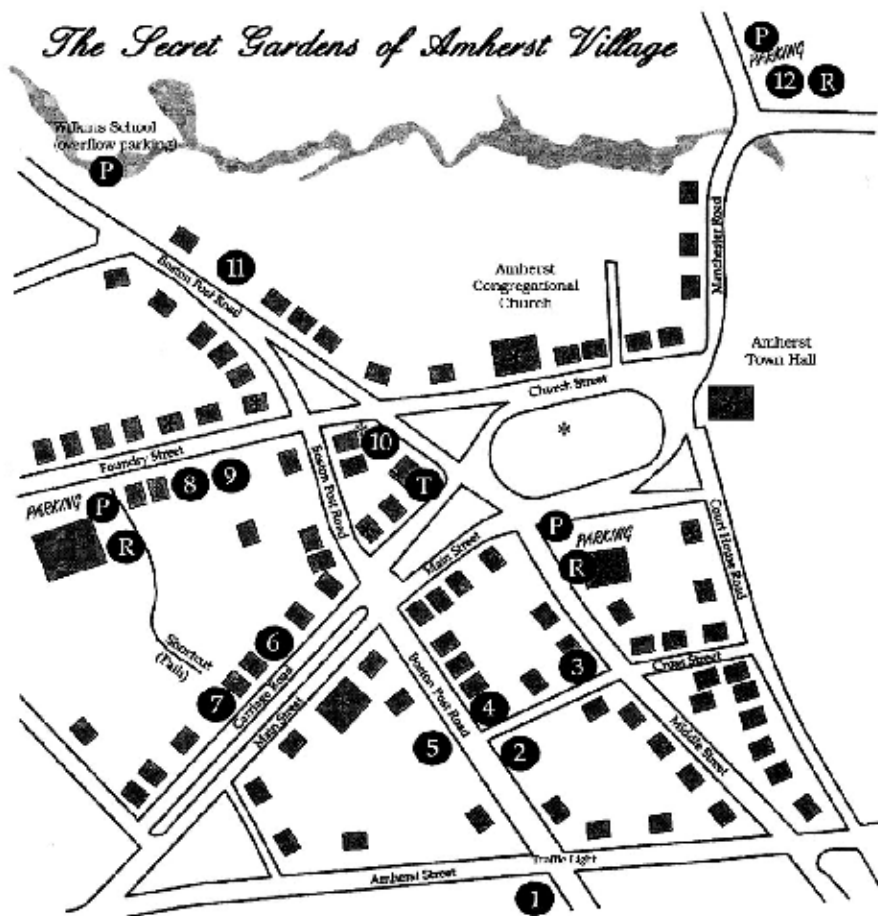
Co-Chairmen	Laurie Kinghorn Kathie Rodden
	Marti Warren
Publicity	Rene Whiteley
Personnel	Kathie Rodden
Tickets	Tibby Coffee
Program	Deborah Purtell
Event Logistics	Lorraine Jost
Luncheon	Kim Renda
Gardeners Boutique	Carolyn Quinn

We wish to thank all the Garden Partners, Garden Angels, Ticket Greeters, Ad Volunteers, Boutique Workers, Sign Makers . . . for without your help and support we would not have been able to put on "The Secret Gardens of Amherst Village." Also a very special thanks to our Past President Ginger Brown, for all her help and support through the planning of this event.

CIVIC PRIDE

It is with *civic pride* that the members of the Amherst Garden Club are involved in the beautification of the public areas not only in Amherst but also in the surrounding towns. The club spends the spring and summer planting and maintaining gardens for everyone's enjoyment. These include gardens at the Amherst Library, gardens at Town Hall, a garden located behind the Historical Society Wigwam Museum, a garden at the entrance to the village at Main Street and Amherst Street, and the Triangle perennial garden across from the Police Station. Upkeep duties include sometimes daily watering and deadheading that go along with such beautiful gardens.

Map



Please stop at the gardens in any order.

Purtell Garden Entrance





JEFFERSONIAN STYLE

201 Boston Post Road

Known as the “best built house in town,” this gracious, Federal style brick home has been a landmark since 1825, when it was built for Attorney Robert Means, Jr. Norwin and Elizabeth Bean, noted philanthropists and founders of the Bean Foundation, lived here from 1900 to 1960. The current owners, Deborah and Jeff Purtell, have lovingly restored and expanded the home and Jeffersonian gardens to the grandeur you see today.

The long, curving driveway creates a dramatic entrance to this important home, while offering the visitor a view of the pond, the formal flower gardens, and the rolling lawns. A continuous grassy corridor, flanked by symmetrical gardens, leads to the front entrance. Junipers, yews, lilacs, crabapples, and rhododendrons provide form and interest in every season. Approaching the patio outside the kitchen door, one sees the practical herb garden and a dramatic white birch, planted for summer shade and winter interest. Granite benches provide a resting place for the gardener and the visitor.

Deborah says, “We love masses of color, from the wonderful irises and peonies of spring to the yellow lemon lilies, lacy pink astilbes, sturdy white daisies, deep gold rudbeckia and stately blue globe thistles of summer.” Her secret is featuring reliable, low-maintenance perennials with long blooming periods, interspersed with splashes of colorful annuals in selected locations.

The stonewalls along the driveway, created from several old walls on the farm, provided new opportunities for landscaping with sedum, potentilla, and fairy roses. The little white “pig house” next to the tennis court is the last remaining agricultural building on the estate. The pond, added during the renovation, is an essential part of the overall landscape plan. Not only does it attract a variety of wildlife throughout the year, it also furnishes water for the underground irrigation system that enables the Purtells to maintain such extensive gardens.

Purtell Garden View 1



Purtell Garden View 2



Purtell Garden View 3



Purtell Garden View 4



Purtell Garden View 5



Steele Garden Entrance



Steele Garden

THE STEELE GARDENS

3 Mack Hill

This 200-year-old center hall Colonial, situated at the corner of Mack Hill and Manchester Roads, is surrounded by expansive open pastures and a hardwood rail fence. A large variety of maples and oaks form a welcoming canopy as you make the slow climb up the driveway to the home of Sheila and Bill Steele. The large barn on the left has served many purposes, including housing a meat-packing plant. The cold room and overhead pulleys are still in place in the barn.



When the Steeles moved in seven years ago, there were no gardens or shrubs, as the lawn ended at the foundation. They designed their first garden around the solarium located at the back of the house. A fish pond was later added, and the working greenhouse was erected in 1998, using granite from the old quarry on the property. A classically designed English herb garden adds interest to the swimming pool area. Another small garden features a Ginkgo tree, surrounded by a palette of yellow lilies, white rocket snapdragons, potentilla, purple bee balm, and butterfly bush. The Nan Chin ornamental cherry tree near the kitchen window anchors a traditional perennial garden, which features old-fashioned perennials such as purple asters, coreopsis, miniature roses, evening primroses, balloon flowers, feverfew, and phlox. Many varieties have moved with the Steeles from house to house, and some originally came from Bill's grandmother's gardens more than thirty years ago.

Sheila's gardens have been blessed with great topsoil and aided by generous supplies of water and compost. Her real secret, though, is the result of the decisions she made after reading The Chemical Free Lawn years ago. She uses only nontoxic product and picks insects by hand. An ardent organic gardener, she says, "I have bugs and I live with them!" Her philosophy is "don't be afraid to make mistakes – redoing is part of the fun! Gardening is always a work in progress."

Steele Garden View 1



Steele Garden View 2



Steele Garden View 3



Steele Garden View 4



Steele Garden View 5



Steele Garden View 6



Advertisements

Thumbnail view (1 of 1)



Antiques on the Green



Hairthurium



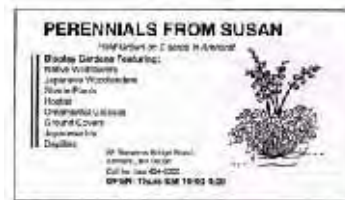
Mark and Marjorie Allen



Landscapes by Peter Kidd



Historic Stitches



Perennials From Susan

Antiques on the Green



Antiques on the Green

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3

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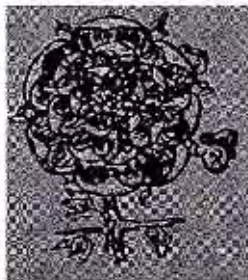
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