

GARDEN ENTHUSIASTS | FULL DAY

With 55 acres there is a lot to explore. Once the family home of Mabel and Leslie Cheek, this extraordinary 1930s estate, with its historic mansion, cultivated gardens and expansive vistas, today serves the public as a botanical garden, arboretum, and museum. The options below will take you through each of the distinct botanical gardens on the estate. Be sure to check out the Seasonal Display Guide, Monthly Top Plant Picks and the Arboretum Map.

- ❖ Start with the **Bradford Robertson Color Garden**. This garden reflects the universal love of color as a design element in flowers and foliage, and the displays change seasonally.
- ❖ Enjoy quiet contemplation in the **Blevins Japanese Garden (Shōmu-en)**. *Shōmu-en* translates to “pine-mist forest.” This garden transcends cultures by connecting Eastern garden design with the native Tennessee landscape.
- ❖ Enjoy the sound of cascading water as you walk along a rocky stream examining the fern collection, hellebores, hostas and heucheras in the **Robinson Family Water Garden**.
- ❖ The **Wills Perennial Garden** is dedicated to iris breeder and author, Jesse Wills, and displays both new and traditional perennials and many bearded irises. The **Sigourney Cheek Literary Garden** pays tribute to the late Sigourney Cheek, a lifelong learner, author, and avid gardener.
- ❖ The **Martin Boxwood Gardens** were designed in the late 1920s by architect Bryant Fleming. The terraced gardens with extensive plantings of boxwood transport visitors to another time and place. These historic gardens include a wooded stream, reflecting pool, fountains, and stone grotto.
- ❖ Not to be missed, the iconic **Wisteria Arbor** is celebrated for its breathtaking views of the **Reflecting Pool** and the surrounding Warner Parks.
- ❖ Time for lunch. **Café 29** is in the former garage space in the Frist Learning Center and offers a casual, made-to-order menu. Take a moment to learn about the Cheek family’s connection to Maxwell House Coffee.
- ❖ Experience many native species including azaleas, trilliums, trout-lilies, a variety of ferns, and a small colony of paw-paw trees in the **Howe Garden** and learn about our state-of-the-art rain garden.

- ❖ The **Burr Terrace Garden** has three levels featuring colorful annual plantings, an armillary bed, and fountain. It's reminiscent of a garden in Padua, Italy, dating back to 1542, considered to be the oldest surviving botanical garden in the world.
- ❖ The **Carell Dogwood Trail** is the centerpiece of Cheekwood's Nationally Certified Collection® of Cornus, with many variations in branching patterns, bark, leaf, berry and the showy bracts characteristic of dogwoods.
- ❖ The **Herb Study Garden** is a project of the Herb Society of Nashville. Themed sections include culinary herbs, blue flowered herbs, herbs used by Native Americans of Middle Tennessee, herbs used by early colonists of Tennessee, Mediterranean herbs, and herbs noted for their texture and fragrance.
- ❖ The **Turner Seasons Garden** focuses on the seasonal aspect of gardens in Tennessee. It features a series of garden rooms, each with a decorative rain basin and plant collections of special interest.
- ❖ The **Rose Study Garden** is dedicated exclusively to America's official flower—the rose. Built and maintained by the Nashville Rose Society, it contains over 60 roses of all types and colors.



Thank you for visiting Cheekwood. For more information on programs, special events and membership visit [cheekwood.org](https://www.cheekwood.org).