

# Jamestown Rediscovery

HISTORIC JAMESTOWNE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



*Members of the Green Spring Garden Club, Inc., donate funds in support of the Ellen B. Kelso Memorial Garden. From left: Susan Sicheluff, Historian, Wilma Sharp, and Marie Bond, President of Green Spring Garden Club, Inc, pose with Dr. Bill Kelso, Director Emeritus of JRF, and Denise Kellogg, JRF Director of Development.*

### **Green Spring Garden Club, Inc., Donates Funds to Care for Ellen B. Kelso Memorial Garden**

**JAMESTOWN, VA (June 6, 2025) –**

The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation was delighted to accept a generous donation from the Green Spring Garden Club recently. The funds will support the care and maintenance of the Ellen B. Kelso Memorial Garden, in front of the historic Yeardley House, where staff and visitors

enjoy a quiet moment among the plants and herbs that would have been grown on the island in the 17th century.

Over the last two years, members of the Herb Society of America, Colonial Triangle of Virginia unit have revitalized the garden to include plants native to Virginia, European plants imported by the early settlers, and others that would've been familiar to the 17th-century residents of Jamestown. As spring turns to summer, the garden is bursting with life. In addition to the opportunity to learn about native plants, the Ellen B. Kelso Memorial Garden includes picnic tables and shady spots where visitors can relax and reflect on their trip to Jamestown.

The garden is named in honor of Ellen Kelso, the late wife of renowned archaeologist Dr. Bill Kelso. As a resident of the island for more than twenty-five years, Ellen was Jamestown's "First Lady." She cared for all the staff, but especially the archaeologists, often making lunch or cookies to enjoy after a long day in the field. An avid gardener, the Memorial Garden is dedicated to her.

Marie Bond, President of Green Spring Garden Club, Inc., said, "The Green Spring Garden Club has chosen to honor Ellen's memory because of her support of our community and her service as a Hostess and Arranger during our signature event, the Christmas Tour of Homes. Alongside her husband Bill, whose dedication to archaeology in the Historic Triangle brought new life to our community, Ellen was a treasured friend."

In May, representatives of the Green Spring Garden Club presented their donation to Dr. Bill Kelso, Director Emeritus, and Denise Kellogg, the foundation's Director of Development. We are grateful to The Green Spring Garden Club for their generous and ongoing support.

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#### About Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation

*The Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation preserves and shares the original site of James Fort and Jamestown, established in 1607. The Foundation is dedicated to uncovering, preserving, and sharing Jamestown's diverse history, and highlighting its major contribution to the foundations of modern American society. Jamestown Rediscovery Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) nonprofit and jointly administers Historic Jamestowne alongside the National Park Service. Admission includes the James Fort site, New Town, and the Voorhees Archaearium Archaeological Museum, as well as walking tours, living history, and public programs. For more information about visiting Jamestown, please visit [www.historicjamestowne.org](http://www.historicjamestowne.org) or call (757) 856-1250.*