

A NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK



Meadow Brook

Meadow Brook Hall is the historic home of one of the automotive aristocracy's most remarkable women, Matilda Dodge Wilson, her second husband Alfred Wilson, a lumber broker, and their four children, Frances and Danny Dodge, and Richard and Barbara Wilson. It exists as an indirect product of the achievements and good fortune of her first husband, automotive pioneer John F. Dodge, co-founder of Dodge Brothers Motor Car Company who quickly prospered in the burgeoning auto industry before his tragic death in 1920, leaving Matilda one of the world's wealthiest women. This fortune not only built one of America's finest residences and country estates, it also supported numerous Detroit charities and organizations, and made possible the founding of Oakland University.

Meadow Brook Hall was built during the country place era, a time when wealthy American industrialists pursued rural life in settings of great beauty. It represents one of the finest examples of Tudor-revival architecture in America and is especially renowned for its superb craftsmanship, architectural detailing and grand scale of 88,000 square feet. Inspired by the country manor homes in England, it was designed and built by the Detroit architectural firm of Smith, Hinchman and Grylls between 1926 and 1929, at a cost of nearly \$4 million.

Meadow Brook Hall was built on the 320-acre farm estate John and Matilda Dodge had purchased years earlier as a weekend country retreat. The Wilsons expanded the estate to include 1,500 acres and several residences. For the Dodge and Wilson families, the farm estate provided a splendid setting for recreational activities and pastimes, such as equestrian sports, motoring, and gardening, and even developed into an agricultural complex, producing the finest lines of pedigree livestock.

In 1957, the Wilsons donated their residence, its collections, the estate's 1,500 acres and \$2 million to found what would become Oakland University. Meadow Brook Hall was opened to the public in 1971, four years after Matilda's death.

Currently, The Hall welcomes more than 70,000 visitors each year to participate in tours, educational programs and a variety of special events. This historic house museum also provides a sense of tradition for Oakland University and is a research, scholarship and training resource for students and faculty.

A National Historic Landmark, Meadow Brook Hall strives to preserve and interpret its architecture, landscape, and fine and decorative art so that visitors may be entertained, educated and inspired by history. The many beautiful gardens at Meadow Brook are maintained by hundreds of dedicated volunteers and members belonging to the Meadow Brook Garden Club.

"Becoming a Proven Winners Signature Garden validates what we have known for years: using Proven Winners plants assures us that our gardens will perform to our high standards all season long. The designation allows us to share that confidence with our guests by providing a magnificent backdrop for weddings and events while showcasing this National Historic Landmark."



Nikki Thomas

*Facility Operations Manager, Meadow Brook Hall
Staff Liason, Meadow Brook Garden Club*

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For more information about all of the gardens in the Proven Winners Signature Garden Program, please visit www.provenwinners.com.

MEADOW BROOK HALL

*A Proven Winners Signature Garden
Since 2014*



MEADOW BROOK HALL AND GARDENS

A Proven Winners Signature Garden

Meadow Brook Hall is known for its Tudor Revival architecture and extensive collection of decorative and fine arts. The Hall's 88,000 square feet and 110 rooms make it the largest historic home in the Midwest. The Hall's beautiful gardens make extensive use of Proven Winners plants, and have earned the prestigious designation as a Proven Winners Signature Garden – a showcase for the State of Michigan!



Gatsby/Tuymman Garden

Goldilocks Rocks® *Bidens*

Golden blossoms appear all summer without deadheading on heat and drought tolerant plants. Zones 9-11. Sun. Height: 8"-14".



Knole Cottage

Karalee® Petite Pink *Gaura*

Lovely in landscapes and as a thriller in containers, this perennial blooms nonstop all season on wispy stems. Zones 6-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 14"-20".



Tilly's Garden

Diamond Mountain® *Euphorbia*

Extremely heat and drought tolerant plants form dense mounds of double, white flowers. Zones 10-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 24"-36".



Rock Garden

Superbena® Violet Ice *Verbena*

Large clusters of lavender purple flowers appear abundantly on spreading/trailing plants. Zones 8-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 6"-12".



Hillside

Supertunia® Mini Vista Hot Pink *Petunia*

Hot pink flowers blanket these vigorous, mounding to spreading plants all season. Zones 10-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 6"-12".



Orientation Garden

Lemon A-Peel® *Thunbergia*

This annual vine will give you color all summer long while climbing happily up whatever support you give it. Zones 10-11. Part sun to sun. Height: 5'-8'.



English Garden, Rose Garden

Señorita Rosalita® *Cleome*

An improved cleome: thornless, seedless and odorless. Heat and drought tolerant plants are easy to grow. Zones 10-11. Sun. Height: 24"-48".



Rose Garden

Soprano® Purple *Osteospermum*

A cool weather loving plant topped with bright purple daisies in spring and fall. Zones 9-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 8"-14".



Front Circle Urns

Supertunia® Mini Vista Pink Star *Petunia*

Vigorous plants are completely covered in pink and white striped flowers all season. Zones 10-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 6"-12".



Rock Garden

ColorBlaze® Velveteen® *Solenostemon*

Adds a bright spot of fuchsia and purple to the garden all season on full, upright plants. Zones 10-11. Sun-shade. Height: 24"-40".



Hillside

Catalina® Gilded Grape™ *Torenia*

This versatile annual blooms in sun or shade all season. Use it as a bedding plant in landscapes or as a filler in containers. Zones 10-11. Sun-shade. Height: 8"-16".



Knole Cottage

Dolce® 'Apple Twist' *Heuchera*

A vigorous, mounded perennial with ruffled, chartreuse foliage that blushes red in spring. Zones 4-9. Part shade-shade. Height: 10"-12".



Front Circle Urns

Laguna® Sky Blue *Lobelia*

Sky blue flowers appear prolifically. Excellent in containers and landscapes. Zones 9-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 6"-12".



Rose Garden

Graceful Grasses® 'Fireworks' *Pennisetum*

This popular red and green striped grass with a fountain-like shape adds height and texture to containers and landscapes. Zones 9-11. Sun. Height: 24"-30".



Loggia Garden

Timeless™ Pink *Pelargonium*

Bubblegum pink blossoms appear on cascading plants all summer. Zones 9-11. Part sun-sun. Height: 12"-18".



Pegasus Garden

Pegasus® *Begonia*

Deep green glossy leaves with a silver overlay. Great in containers. Zones 9-11. Part shade-shade. Height: 12"-18".