



Montgomery Place

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OVERVIEW OF MONTGOMERY PLACE

The history of Montgomery place began in 1802, when Janet Livingston Montgomery purchased the 242-acre estate. After purchasing the land, Janet did many great things with it. One of her greatest contributions to this estate was running a commercial nursery that supplied fruit trees and seeds to farmers in the area. Her estate included orchards, gardens, a nursery, and a greenhouse. Her nursery was tended to by enslaved Africans who were working towards creating and maintaining a productive estate. Upon her death in 1828, Janet left the estate to her brother, Edward Livingston. Edward, his wife Louise, and their daughter, Cora Barton, transformed Montgomery Place into a self-sufficient estate, adding a conservatory, elaborate flower gardens, and architectural follies. When the family decided to remodel the mansion, they called on architect Alexander Jackson Davis for the design. During the 1920s and 30s Violetta White Delafield and her husband John Ross Delafield (a Livingston descendant) put their marks on the estate. In 1986, John Dennis Delafield transferred the estate to the Historic Hudson Valley. Today, the historical landmark of Montgomery Place is visited by many tourists and local residents. All who visit this garden have the opportunity to capture the views along the Hudson River and stroll down the beautiful paths lined with gorgeous flowers.

The Montgomery Place mansion was built in 1804 in the federal style. A.J. Davis re-designed the mansion between 1840 and 1860 in the classical revival style. Many individuals worked on the landscaping of Montgomery Place. Edward Livingston laid out several walking trails while his daughter, Cora Livingston-Barton, designed many of the gardens with the help of Andrew Jackson Downing. Violetta White Delafield then added to these gardens in the 20th century.

OVERVIEW OF MONTGOMERY PLACE

The picturesque 434-acre estate, Montgomery Place, is home to an array of gardens, intricate architectural design, and natural beauty. General Delafield's energetic wife, Violetta White Delafield, who was a talented botanist with an interest in horticulture, stabilized the 19th century landscape of the estate. She was responsible for the beautiful terraced landscaping on the west side of the house. Violetta's garden remained a critical component of the estate until her death in 1949.

Although many people contributed to the construction of the estate, two professionals, Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing, were directly responsible for the creation of the wonderful Montgomery Place. Alexander Jackson Davis, the greatest American architect of the Romantic Movement, designed new wings in a classical revival mode. He was the architect of the mansion, the coach house, and other buildings on the estate, while Andrew Jackson Downing was the landscape designer. Downing was passionate about creating serene environments for properties. Downing's inspiration to create beautiful gardens and architectural landscape patterns came from his family's love for plants and landscaping. Working in a nursery as a boy, he realized his passion for florals would lead him to a career in designing landscapes and gardens. The English ideas of his time also inspired Downing to continue designing projects until his death in 1852. Downing's contribution to the landscape of Montgomery Place was significant and long-lasting. Downing offered suggestions for Montgomery Place's gardens, grounds, landscape, and walkways. He sold products from his family owned nursery to the Bartons and had close connections with the Barton family, collaborating with Coralie Barton to create the grounds surrounding the conservatory. Both Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing were inspired in different ways to create the estate known as Montgomery Place. They lived interesting lives and became famous for their works as architects and landscape designers.

OVERVIEW OF MONTGOMERY PLACE

Today, the beautiful Montgomery Place is filled with over four hundred acres of flowers, trees, and animals. Montgomery Place has an herb garden, rose gardens, and an informal Rough Garden. It is also made up of orchards, open meadows, a greenhouse, and an arboretum. A notable aspect is the South Woods, which contains eighty acres of native forest. Montgomery Place is home to deer, squirrels, chipmunks, birds, frogs, fish, butterflies, bees, and many other insects. Visitors can appreciate the different aspects of nature when strolling along the paths.

The glamorous Montgomery Place is located in Annandale-on-Hudson in northern Dutchess County just off Route 103 in the Town of Red Hook. Apple and other fruit trees are still being grown on the property and are a significant part of Hudson Valley agriculture. The fruit from these trees can be purchased in season at the farm stand on Route 9G.

Over 200 years after Montgomery Place was built, it continues to draw visitors. Every year, approximately 32,000 visitors tour Montgomery Place's mansion and estate.



LESSON PLAN

Target Age Group For Lesson: Grades 3-5

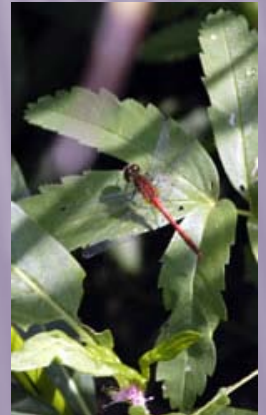
NYS Standards Addressed:

1. Students will use a variety of intellectual skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, developments, and turning points in the history of the United States and New York.
2. Students will use a variety of skills to demonstrate their understanding of major ideas, eras, themes, and turning points in world history and examine the broad sweep of history from a variety of perspectives.
3. Students will study family, neighborhood, community, New York State and United States history, culture, values, beliefs and traditions and the important contribution of individuals and groups.
4. Students will distinguish between past, present, and future time periods.

Objective: The primary purpose of this lesson plan activity is to facilitate student learning of the landscape and design of Montgomery Place. By being able to create a draft of each individual students' idea of what the garden landscape entails, the students will be able to enhance their ideas through visiting the garden. Each student will be able to take away aspects of the landscape and incorporate it into their design outline.

Materials:

- Handout explaining activity
- Paper
- Colored Pencils and Crayons
- Frames to award best portrayals of the garden
- Prizes for the best landscape designs



LESSON PLAN

Introduction/ Preparation: Begin the activity by giving students general information on Montgomery Place. Discuss the significance of studying this garden and the importance of the garden as part of Hudson River Valley. Explain the rationale of the activity and what is expected of each student. Explain different features of the garden that they may want to include in their design. Motivate the students by informing them about prizes that will be awarded to the most creative, most colorful, and most accurate design landscapes. Allow students to ask questions they have about the lesson plan.

Procedure:

1. Introduction to lesson plan activity (10 minutes)
2. Distribution of materials (5 minutes)
3. Allow time for students to look over handout that further explains lesson plan activity (10 minutes)
4. Allow time for students to brainstorm different ideas (5 minutes)
5. Have students begin their individual drafts of the landscape design of the garden (30 minutes)
6. Presentation of every draft design (1 hour)
7. Class ventures out to Montgomery Place by bus (25 minutes)
8. Field trip at Montgomery Place begins and tour guide leads the class (45 minutes)
9. Students will explore the flora and fauna of the garden to get ideas to improve drafts (20 minutes)
10. Class meets together (5 minutes)
11. Students will make changes to their original outlines of the design of the garden (15 minutes)
12. Students present their new and completed drawings of the design of Montgomery Place (1 hour)
13. Class will meet to discuss what everyone learned in doing the learning activity. (15 minutes)
14. Class departs from Montgomery Place and returns to school (25 minutes)

Conclusion: Once the activity is over, students will draw conclusions from their drawings about the different aspects of flora and fauna incorporated into the landscape of Montgomery Place. Students will gain a better understanding of how gardens are designed so thoughtfully. Hopefully students will be inspired by the landscape of Montgomery Place and learned how to integrate the design ideas into their original drafts. Students will learn how their original ideas of the gardens changed after they visited and saw the garden.

ITINERARY

Montgomery Place Garden (11:00 am- 3:00pm) Take a self-guided tour of the gardens and landscape throughout the site. A true gem of the Hudson River Valley, Montgomery Place Garden is a spot not to be missed by anyone interested in the picaresque setting of this historic region.

River Road

Annandale-on-Hudson, NY 12504
(914) 631-3992



***Directions** Go north on CR-103/River Road. Turn right on Rt. 199. Turn right on Rt. 9G. Turn left on N. Clinton St, which becomes Clinton Square, then S. Clinton St. At Reservoir Square take the 2nd exit and stay on S. Clinton St. Turn left on Hooker Avenue. Turn left on Raymond Road.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- (2005-2006). *Encyclopedia of World Biography on Alexander Jackson Davis* . Retrieved October 14, 2007 from Encyclopedia of World Biography Web site: <http://www.bookrags.com/biography/alexander-jackson-davis/>
*This website discussed the biography of Alexander Jackson Davis.
- (2006). *Historic Hudson Valley*. Retrieved October 14, 2007 from Historic Hudson Valley Web site: http://www.hudsonvalley.org/montgomeryplace/learn_history.htm
*This website offered great insight into the history of Montgomery Place.
- (2007). *Historic Hudson Valley*. Retrieved October 14, 2007 from Historic Hudson Valley Web site: <http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/24/86/>
*This website offered general information about the gardens and landscape of Montgomery Place.
- (2007). *Historic Hudson Valley*. Retrieved October 14, 2007 from Historic Hudson Valley Web site: <http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/16/46/>
*This website provided a general introduction to Montgomery Place and discussed several different aspects of the estate.
- (2007). *Historic Hudson Valley*. Retrieved October 14, 2007 from Historic Hudson Valley Web site: <http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/79/144/>
*This website discussed the story of how Montgomery Place came about and evolved over the years.
- (2007). *Hudson River Valley - National Heritage Area*. Retrieved December 6, 2007 from Hudson River Valley - National Heritage Area: http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/index.cfm?section_id=10&suggested_itinerary_cat_id=1&page_id=114
*This website provided an itinerary on various events and locations to visit in the area.
- (2007). *Hudson Valley Heritage Area*. Retrieved December 6, 2007 from Hudson Valley Heritage Web site: <http://www.hudsonrivervalley.net/newtour/Guidebook/TheSite.php?SiteNum=T53>
*This website discussed the importance of Fort Montgomery and a historical description about the area.
- (2007). *Online Encyclopedia* . Retrieved October 14, 2007 from Web site: <http://encyclopedia.jrank.org/Cambridge/entries/013/Andrew-Jackson-Downing.html>
*This website offered a brief description of the life of Andrew Jackson Downing.

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"Architectural Styles of America." Federal/Adam (1780-1850). Dr. Tom Paradis. July 2007.

<http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~twp/architecture/federal>

* This site provided information about the federal style of architecture, which was one of the styles used for the Montgomery Place mansion.

"History of Montgomery Place." Historic Hudson Valley - Montgomery Place 2007. 13 Oct. 2007

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/79/144/>

*This site discusses the history of Montgomery Place and gives a brief summary of the previous land owners and their effects on this historical landmark.

John C. Poppeliers and S. Allen Chambers. What Style is it? A Guide to American Architecture. Hoboken: John Wiley and Sons, 2003.

* This book explained some of the different architectural styles that some of the designers used for the Montgomery Place mansion.

Montgomery Place: Landscape Guide. New York: Historic Hudson River Valley, 2006.

*This brochure is a guide to the gardens and landscaping of Montgomery Place.

"Plants, Excitement in Bloom at Montgomery Place Historic Estate." Historic Hudson Valley-Plants. Historic Hudson Valley. 13 Oct 2007 <http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/111/162/>.

*This site explains details about the different features and types of landscaping at Montgomery Place.

Tanner, Ogden. Gardens of the Hudson River Valley: An Illustrated Guide. Singapore: Harry N. Abrams Inc., 1996.

* This book contained many different gardens and a section that specifically describes the landscape of Montgomery Place.

WEBSITE LINKS

*Historic Hudson Valley-Montgomery Place:

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/16/46/>

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/24/86/>

http://www.hudsonvalley.org/montgomeryplace/learn_history.htm

*The History of Montgomery Place:

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/79/144/>

*Plants, Excitement in Bloom at Montgomery Place Historic Estate:

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/content/view/111/162/>

*Montgomery Place:

<http://www.hudsonriverheritage.org/montgo.html>

*Montgomery Place Mansion Wallpapers:

<http://www.wallpaperbase.com/photography-montgomeryplacemansion.shtml>

*Livingston, Edward:

<http://concise.britannica.com/ebc/art-12646/Edward-Livingston-portrait-by-John-Trumbull-1805-in-the-City>

*Alexander Jackson Davis:

<http://www.blandwood.org/history/ajdavis.html>

WEBSITE LINKS

*Picture Links:

<http://www.hudsonvalley.org/montgomeryplace/images/monty-hist1.jpg>

<http://eduscapes.com/lamb/pei10.jpg>

<http://www.albany.edu/~ec5748/isp605/montgomery2.jpg>

<http://www.nynjctbotany.org/poetwtk3.jpg>

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/en/thumb/1/18/Andrew_Jackson_Downing.jpg/250px-Andrew_Jackson_Downing.jpg

<http://images.google.com/imgres?imgurl=http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~helphand/america18imagesone/image24.jpg&imgrefurl=http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~helphand/america18pgsone/america18pg2.html&h=159&w=256&sz=10&hl=en&start=13&tbnid=SIYv iT4rdCcs0M:&tbnh=69&tbnw=111&prev=/images%3Fq%3DAndrew%2BJackson%2BDowning%26gbv%3D2%26svnum%3D10%26hl%3Den%26sa%3DG>

http://www.blandwood.org/history/images/AJDavis_000.jpg

<http://cityguide.pojonews.com/fe/maps/images/MontgomeryPlace.jpg>

http://www.hudsonvalley.org/travel/interestpics/garden_mp.jpg

<http://www.decatourhouse.org/people/assets/coralivingston.png>

*The Guidebook and Itinerary:

<http://www.hudsonrivervalley.net/newtour/Guidebook/TheSite.php?SiteNum=T53>

http://www.hudsonrivervalley.com/index.cfm?section_id=10&suggested_itinerary_cat_id=1&page_id=114