Celebrated Landscape Historian to speak at LancasterHistory on the transformation of the White House grounds

Marta McDowell will share the untold history of the White House grounds and how they have transformed overtime, reflecting American trends.

Lancaster, PA (October 3, 2019) – On Thursday, October 24, 2019, Marta McDowell will join LancasterHistory to discuss how the White House grounds have grown with America, a talk based on her best-selling book, *All the Presidents’ Gardens: Madison’s Cabbages to Kennedy’s Roses, How the White House Grounds Have Grown with America*.

The 18-acres surrounding the White House have been an unwitting witness to history—kings and queens have dined there, bills and treaties have been signed there, and presidents have landed and retreated many times over. Throughout it all, the grounds have remained not only beautiful, but also a powerful reflection of American trends.

Marta McDowell will share the untold history of the White House Grounds, starting with plant-obsessed George Washington and ending with Michelle Obama’s kitchen garden. History buffs will revel in the fascinating tidbits about Lincoln’s goats, Ike’s putting green, Jackie’s iconic roses, and Amy Carter’s tree house. Gardeners will enjoy the information on the plants whose favor has
come and gone over the years and the gardeners who have been responsible for it all. And Lancastrians will delight in the information about First Lady Harriet Lane’s contributions to the White House gardens. During Buchanan’s presidency, Harriet had a new wooden greenhouse built on the roof of the west terrace, adjacent to the State Dining Room.


**About The Event:** The Regional History Colloquium is a series of lectures and presentations hosted by LancasterHistory throughout the year. Presenters at the Colloquium are historians and scholars who are in the midst of a work-in-progress or who have recently completed a publication. Topics focus on historical issues relating to southeastern Pennsylvania and its wider borders.

**Tickets:** The event *All The Presidents’ Gardens* will take place on Thursday, October 24, 2019 in Ryder Hall at LancasterHistory, 230 N. President Avenue in Lancaster. A speaker’s reception and book signing by the author takes place at 4pm, followed by the main presentation at 4:30pm. The event is free and open to the public. Due to the popularity of the Regional History Colloquium series, **advance registration is required to guarantee a seat at the presentation**. Visit [www.lancasterhistory.org/lectures](http://www.lancasterhistory.org/lectures) to register online or call (717) 392-4633. Limited tickets still available. Questions and accessibility requests may be directed to info@lancasterhistory.org or (717) 392-4633.

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**Link to Marta McDowell’s Website**