

MFA **H** *Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens*



# George Washington's Tent Visits Bayou Bend

Saturday, February 18, and Sunday, February 19, 2023  
10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

The Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia brings its replica of George Washington's tent to Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens.

“The First Oval Office” is the tent Washington used as his mobile headquarters during the Revolutionary War. The hand-stitched replica transforms Bayou Bend's Diana Lawn into an encampment with special displays and living-history interpreters in authentic reproduction costumes.



**For a digital program guide, scan this QR code.**

See the map on the interior pages of this program for locations and directions. Locations may change due to inclement weather. Please ask a visitor services attendant for more information.



## Traveling

Texas Army Fife & Drum Corps, marches and music, throughout the day

### 5 Diana Lawn

#### *The First Oval Office*

The Museum of the American Revolution (MOAR) presents its fully furnished replica of *The First Oval Office*, the tent that George Washington used as his headquarters during the American Revolution. MOAR preserves the original artifact at its museum site in Philadelphia and travels with the replica to share the history of Washington and the Revolution. MOAR staff in costumes interpret the lives of the people who interacted with the original tent during its use in the war.

Ongoing tours of the tent and interactions with the interpreters will be offered throughout the day.

### 4 Diana Terrace

#### *Drum Making | 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.*

Build a drum for your own marching music!

#### *Quill Pen Writing | 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.*

Practice your penmanship with cut feather quills and dipping ink.

### 3 Cottage Courtyard

#### *Peace Medals | 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. & 1:30–3:30 p.m.*

In this workshop led by a teaching artist, create a medal in the style of one presented by George Washington to Seneca Nation leader Sagoyewatha (also known as Red Jacket) in the 1700s. An image of Sagoyewatha wearing the medal is featured on today's tour of the house.

### 3 Cottage – Varner Room

#### *Silhouettes | 11:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.*

Have a silhouette made of your profile in a style similar to one George Washington had made by the artist Moses Williams at the Peale Museum. An original silhouette of Washington by Williams is part of the Bayou Bend Collection, and may be viewed on tour in the house.

Drop in seating, based on availability.

### 6 East Terrace

#### *Scavenger Hunt Pickup and Return | 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.*

A scavenger hunt activity draws connections between the architecture and grounds of Bayou Bend and Mount Vernon, George Washington's home. Mount Vernon was one of many inspirations Ima Hogg drew upon in planning the Bayou Bend house and gardens. How many similar features can you find?

### 7 South Lawn

#### *Stationed Docent Tours | 10:00 a.m.–4:45 p.m.*

*(Enter through the Webster Porch Door)*

Bayou Bend docents interpret eight rooms in the house that reflect the Revolutionary era especially well.

Highlights include:

- ◇ The Maple Bedroom to see the historic campaign bed similar to the one used by Washington
- ◇ The Metals Study Room to see silver made by Patriot Paul Revere
- ◇ The Chippendale Bedroom to see prints depicting the American Revolution
- ◇ The Dining Room to see ceramics owned by George Washington

#### *The Life of a Surveyor | 10:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m.*

In this interactive area, young minds can get to know the art of surveying, the profession young George Washington spent his youth training for. Use a replica of a 1700s-era surveyor's compass; practice spatial skills with playground blocks; and play games designed to test your geometry.

#### *Presentation Programs*

The grass circle of the South Lawn hosts two programs, presented multiple times.

#### ◇ *Washington Bids Farewell and Resigns as Commander of the Continental Army*

Houston-area attorney and George Washington storyteller Wesley Wright tells visitors the story of Washington resigning his commission before Congress in Annapolis, Maryland, and of the final meal given by the retiring commander to his officers in the Long Room at Fraunces Tavern in New York City in 1783.

Saturday, February 18: 11:15 a.m.; 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 19: 1:20 p.m.; 3:00 p.m.

This presentation lasts approximately 25 minutes.

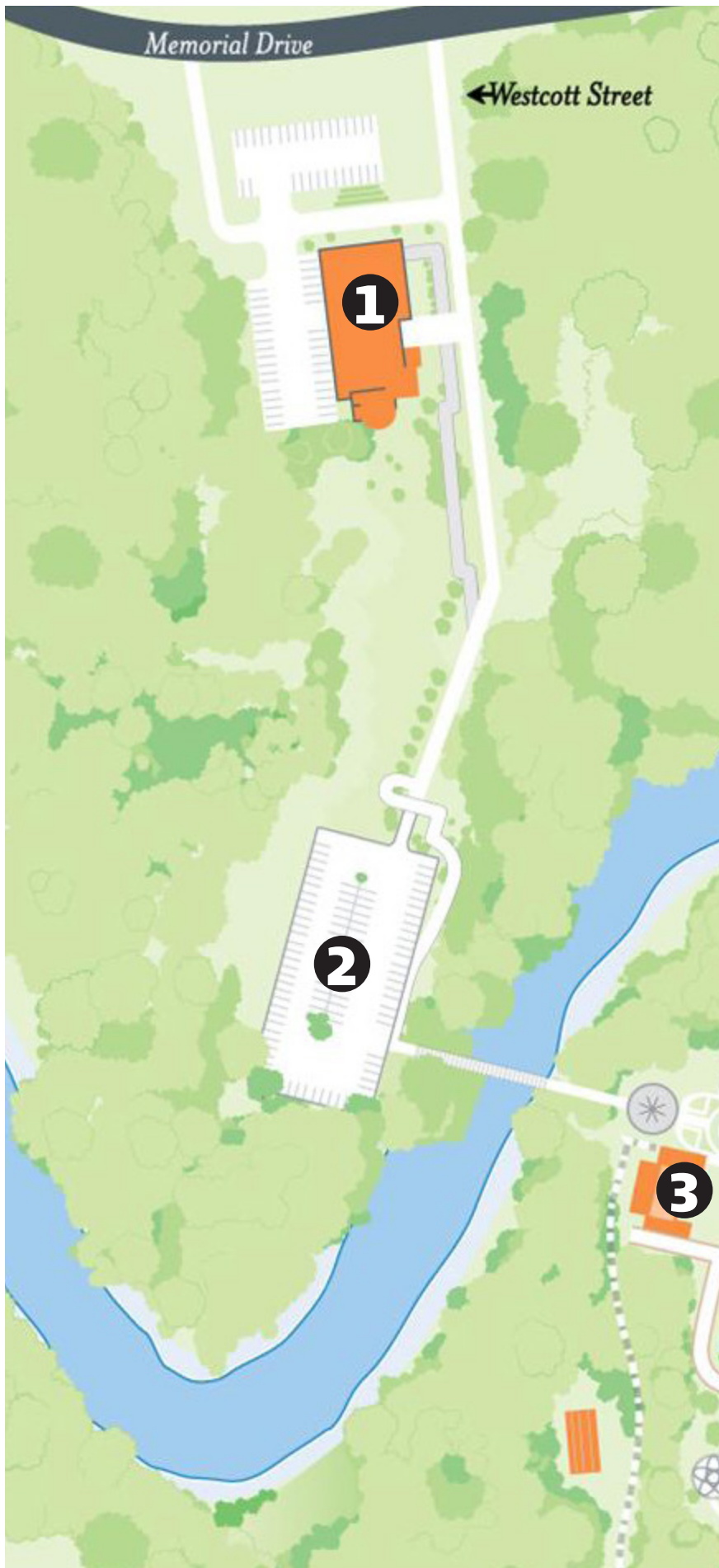
#### ◇ *His Excellency George Washington*

Houston-area actress and storyteller Jean Donatto reads and interprets the poetry of Phillis Wheatley, the first African-American woman author of a published book of poetry, was invited to meet Washington in 1776 and composed a poetic ode to him.

Saturday, February 18, 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 19, 12:30 and 2:30 p.m.

This presentation lasts approximately 25 minutes.



**1 Kilroy Center**

Parking

**2 Lower Lot**

Parking

**3 Cottage**

Restrooms

The Shop at Bayou Bend

**Cottage Courtyard:** Peace Medals

**Varner Room:** Silhouettes

**4 Diana Terrace**

Art Activity: Drum Making

Art Activity: Quill Pen Writing

**5 Diana Lawn**

*The First Oval Office* exhibition and tours

**6 East Terrace**

Scavenger Hunt Pickup and Return

**7 South Lawn**

Stationed Docent Tours

The Life of a Surveyor

Presentation Programs





The Museum of the American Revolution (MOAR) constructs and displays its hand-stitched replica of the tent that

George Washington used as his mobile headquarters during the Revolutionary War. The tent transforms Bayou Bend's Diana Lawn into an encampment with displays and living history interpreters to highlight Washington's leadership and bring to life the people associated with the tent, including Revolutionary War soldiers, free and enslaved people of African descent, Native Americans, women, and children.



In 2013, the MOAR partnered with the Historic Trades Department at The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation to produce a replica of Washington's War Tent. This experimental archaeology project, named The First Oval Office Project, created a functional tent replica to allow MOAR staff to make important decisions about how the original object would be displayed at the museum by understanding how it was constructed. It served as a "stunt double," enabling conservators and engineers to design and test the mounts that support the original tent, which resides in a 300-square foot climate-

controlled object case in a designated 100-seat theater at the Museum of the American Revolution's home in Philadelphia.

The replica tent now serves as a traveling education outreach resource. Each year, it is erected outdoors at historic sites complemented by replica objects, costumed interpretation, and small-group interactions with the MOAR staff that help visitors to understand how the tent was used during the Revolutionary War. The replica tent has been displayed at the New-York Historical Society, the Society of the Cincinnati's Anderson House, and George Washington's Mount Vernon, among other sites. For the first time, it makes its way to Texas for a public program and exhibition.

### **About the Museum of the American Revolution**

The Museum of the American Revolution uncovers and shares compelling stories about the diverse people and complex events that sparked America's ongoing experiment in liberty, equality, and self-government. Through the museum's unmatched collection, immersive galleries, powerful theater experiences, and interactive elements, visitors gain a deeper appreciation for how this nation came to be and feel inspired to consider their role in ensuring that the promise of the American Revolution endures.

Located just steps away from Independence Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the MOAR serves as a portal to the region's many Revolutionary sites, sparking interest, providing context, and encouraging exploration. The museum, which opened on April 19, 2017, is a private, non-profit, and non-partisan organization.

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### **About Bayou Bend**

Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens—Houston's home for America's treasures—is the MFAH house museum for American decorative arts and paintings. The objects are displayed in the home of legendary philanthropist and collector Ima Hogg (1882–1975), who gave her estate to the MFAH in 1957. More than 20 rooms showcase the evolution of American style and taste from 1620 to 1876. The mansion is situated on 14 acres of formal gardens and lush woodlands. Bayou Bend is open year-round to visitors and offers a variety of programs for children, families and adults.

### **SAVE THE DATE**

**Spring Break Week at Bayou Bend**  
**March 13–17, 2023 | 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.**

Perfect for families celebrating Spring Break in Houston, Spring Break at Bayou Bend invites visitors to partake in

child-friendly activities in the gardens, in the historic house, and at the Lora Jean Kilroy Visitor Center \$10 general admission, free for ages 18 & under.

### **Visit the House**

The first floor of the Bayou Bend house is open daily during Spring Break Week. Stationed docents are on hand to answer questions and provide information on the period objects and décor. Visitors with children will receive a special house activity that encourages participants to imagine themselves in the role of a curator.

### **Visit the Gardens**

The gardens are open and available for self-guided visits until 5:00 p.m. Along the way, discover art-making activities, guest experts, and exploration stations related to history, nature, and springtime.