Who would have thought that three homes built in the Greek Revival style by the master builder, Major William A. Jennings, could be found in the tiny hamlet of Orange (pop. only 10,670 in 1850). The style, harkening back to classic Greek architecture, was appreciated in the mid-1800s for being an expression of local nationalism and civic virtue, free of aristocratic and church associations. In addition, Spotswood Lodge, an 1850s farmhouse recently converted into a bed and breakfast, is open for tour.

**Hosted by**

Dolley Madison Garden Club

**Chairman**

Annie Vanderwarker  (434) 825-1218
orange@vagardenweek.org

**Co-Chairman**

Normie Sanford   (540) 809-8401
orange@vagardenweek.org

**Tickets:** $35 pp. Available tour day only at Market at Grelen, 15091 Yager Road, Gordonsville.

**Advance Tickets:** $30 pp at www.vagardenweek.org. Available locally until noon on April 21 at Elmwood at Sparks and The Arts Center of Orange in Orange and at the Laurie Holladay Shop and Colonial Florist in Gordonsville. By mail through April 10. Checks payable to DMGC with a stamped, self-addressed, legal-sized envelope to: Jacque Johnson, 22386 Village Road, Unionville, VA 22567.

**$15 pp bag lunches from The Market at Grelen at www.themarketatgrelen.com. Orders required by April 17. Pick up between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (540) 672-7268.**

**Facilities:** Available at The Market at Grelen and Spotswood Lodge.

**This is a driving tour. Parking is available at The Market at Grelen, Monteith, Edgewood and Merriwood. Spotswood Lodge is only accessible by shuttle. Pick up at The Market at Grelen from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and drop off from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Market at Grelen is located at 15091 Yager Road, Gordonsville, 22942.**

**Directions to Headquarters (The Market at Grelen)**

Maps will be available as part of the local brochure posted online at www.dolleymadrisongardenclub.org, or on Facebook under “Historic Garden Week in Orange, Virginia” www.facebook.com/Historic-Garden-Week-in-Orange-Virginia.
Also via a link at www.vagardenweek.org.

**From Richmond:** take I-64 west, exit at Zions Crossroads, head north on Rt. 15 through the roundabout at Gordonsville. Continue west on Rt. 33 (Spotswood Trail). Turn right onto Blue Ridge Turnpike/VA-231 for 4.61 miles. Turn right onto Jacksontown Rd./VA 635 for 1.43 miles. Turn right onto Yager Rd. at the Market at Grelen. 15091 Yager Rd., Gordonsville, 22942.

**From Charlottesville,** take Rt. 29 North to Ruckersville. Turn right on Spotswood Trl./Rt. 33 East for 6.72 miles. Turn left onto Constitution Hwy./VA-20 for 2.85 miles. Turn right onto Weyburn Rd. for 1.82 miles. Turn right onto VA 231/Blue Ridge Turnpike for 0.29 miles. Take second left onto Jacksontown Rd./VA 655 for 1.43 miles. Turn right onto Yager Rd. at the Market at Grelen. 15091 Yager Rd., Gordonsville, 22942.

Ticket includes admission to the following 5 properties:

**Merriewood**
12384 Merriewood Drive
Somerset 22972

The original section is a brick house built in 1856 by Major William A. Jennings, who built many houses in the area. In this elegant structure, his own residence, Jennings constructed a commanding version of the Greek Revival style. Restored to his original floor plan, the rooms in this section are just as they were in the 19th century. Doors, glass, window molding and decorative carvings are intact. Of interest is the Jennings family graveyard located on the property. In 1998 the current owners commissioned William Ryall, a New York architect, to design a frame addition. The new wing is light-filled and airy, and complements the original house. Furnishings include family pieces, as well as a mix of English and American antiques. In the music room is a noteworthy Sheraton secretary that belonged to Mrs. Collins’ great-great-grandfather and a Steinway grand piano from the Manhattan townhouse of Mr. Collins’ great-grandfather, which was a Christmas present to his daughter in 1888. A portrait of Mrs. Collins’ great-great-grandmother hangs above the mantel in the dining room; three portraits of Mrs. Collins’ great-aunt show her as a child, as an 18-year-old, and as a Red Cross nurse in World War I. A charming playhouse on the grounds is furnished as a child’s kitchen. Charles J. Stick designed the garden viewed from the first-floor addition. *James Collins and Virginia Donelson Collins, owners.*

**Edgewood Miller Farm**
5291 Scuffletown Road
Barbourville, 22923

Built by William F. Brooking in 1852 and constructed by Jennings, this brick house is two stories over an English basement with two large rooms on each floor. There is a hall and stairs running inside the front of the house. Closed shutters on the west side are false windows. This is similar to the design of Monteith in nearby Gordonsville and used to balance to the exterior. A front porch and frame expansion to the back of the home are 20th- and 21st-century additions. The kitchen was added by previous owners and renovated in 2011. The Millers added a high-tech media room in the English basement and updated many of the outbuildings on the property, including a guest house with an indoor/outdoor stone fireplace, a sunken garden and a garage with an office above it designed in the French Country style. They designed and constructed the chicken palace, too. A state-of-the-art horse barn is home to sport horses that are boarded and trained, as well as three thoroughbred rescue horses. Outside the main house is a brick oval patio surrounded by raised beds. Up the hill to the left is a deer-proof, raised-bed garden. Everything from from tomatoes, lettuces, raspberries, blackberries and beans are grown there organically. To the right is the field garden, which contains even more vegetables. The 243-acre property is in conservation easement and contains a new greenhouse. *Barbara and David Miller, owners.*

**Spotswood Lodge**
16280 Blue Ridge Turnpike
Gordonsville, 22942

Set on an 11-acre property with a pond in front, the traditionally styled main house has been added onto multiple times but the exact date of construction is unknown. The original one-over-one (the current dining room and one of the upstairs bedrooms) is the oldest part of the house and probably dates to the late 1700s. The main house and cottage has eight bedrooms, seven full baths and numerous living spaces.
Originally a single-family home, and later a B&B, the property was purchased by the owners of The Market At Grelen and renovated to be a farm rental for Grelen brides and others visiting the area. The interiors were re-designed by Leslie Gregg, co-owner of The Market. New bluestone and brick paving and natural fieldstone walls were added to enhance the yard. Overgrown boxwood around the foundation have been replaced with trees and shrubs to soften the house while not blocking its view from the road. The acer triflorum, or “Three-Flower Maple,” in front of house to left of front porch displays beautiful color in autumn. Dan and Leslie Gregg, owners.

**The Market at Grelen**

15091 Yager Road
Gordonsville, 22942

Set at Grelen Nursery’s 600-acre nursery with views of the Blue Ridge Mountains, The Market at Grelen is both a casual café and European-style garden shop with hiking trails and pick-your-own farm. The nursery was founded by Dan Gregg in 1991 and The Market was added in 2013. Open on tour day until 4 p.m.

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The house, a two-story building over an English basement with a hipped roof, is thought to have been built by the local master builder Major William A. Jennings (c.1844). Built on an L-shaped plan, the brick structure retains most of the original Greek Revival woodwork including the marbleized mantels. Painted to resemble real stone, this technique was popular in the mid-1800s. Noteworthy is the “maid-en staircase” which prevented slaves from entering the front of the house; they had to enter through a door that led to the roof. False windows, apparent from the exterior, are placed to maintain symmetry. The property includes a slave cemetery and a Civil War encampment. The current owners have worked to restore the landscape and create a wildlife and pollinator habitat through reforestation. Twenty acres of fallow fields were converted to wildflower and native, warm-season grass meadows. The surrounding area includes a peony and herbaceous border, a secret fountain garden, a formal boxwood-walled herb and tea garden, plus a Greek Revival chicken coop with vegetable and cutting gardens. The Passarellos are committed to preserv-
ing local native plant and vegetable varieties as well as keeping rare and North American Heritage breed chickens. Carla and Kevin Passarello, owners.

Places of Interest:

James Madison’s Montpelier, Rt. 20. Home of the fourth President of the United States, James Madison, and his wife, Dolley, the main house has undergone a nationally acclaimed restoration to its original 1820 design. Past Historic Garden Week proceeds have enabled the Garden Club of Virginia to assist in restoring the two-acre formal terraced Annie Du Pont Garden. Visitors can explore the mansion, gardens, old-growth forest, current archaeological excavations and the Gilmore slave cabin. www.montpelier.org

James Madison’s Museum, 129 Caroline St. The first museum to fully commemorate the “Father of the Constitution” provides insight into the life and legacy of President James Madison. Significant documents, family portraits, furnishings and Dolley Madison’s lace, lockets and letter are on display along with an original 1733 patent house and rural Virginia farming artifacts. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission.

Exchange Hotel Museum, 400 S. Main St, Gordonsville. Before the Civil War, the Exchange Hotel, with its high-ceiling parlors and grand veranda, welcomed passengers from two rail lines: the Virginia Central Railroad and the Alexandria Railroad. Soon war began. Troops, supplies, and wounded were transported on these railroads to Gordonsville. The Exchange Hotel became the Gordonsville Receiving Hospital, which provided care for 70,000 soldiers, both Confederate and Union. In the Reconstruction period, this hospital served the newly freed slaves as a Freedman’s Bureau Hospital. As the U.S. healed and the railroads boomed, this graceful building returned to its role of hotel. Now fully restored, the hotel is a museum dedicated to the Civil War era. Admission.

“We have visited many of the finest residences in our country and been most hospitably entertained, still the heart lingers on its first acquaintance with the beautiful and good at Montpelier.”

—Mary Cutts, niece of Dolley Madison

For more information visit www.vagardenweek.org
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Saturday, April 22, 2017
10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

We know you’ll enjoy taking in the beautiful and historic homes and gardens on the tour here in Orange on Saturday, April 22. And even more so if you stay awhile! From James Madison’s Montpelier to beautiful vineyards to civil war battlefields and more, there’s plenty to see and do here to keep you busy for days. Explore our attractions, shopping, dining and lodging options at visitorangevirginia.com.

GORDONSVILLE
Colonial Florist
540-832-3611, colonialfloristandantiques.com
Exchange Hotel Civil War Medical Museum
400 S. Main St., hgiexchange.com
Pomme ToGo
540-832-FOOD, pommetogo.com
Restaurant Pomme
115 S. Main St., restaurant-pomme.com

ORANGE
Real Food
12267 Old Gordonsville Rd., realfoodva.com
Original Designs by Maria Pace
132 Main St., mariapace.com
Briarwood Florist
307 N. Madison Rd., shopbriarwood.net

Objects on Main
107 E. Main St., objectsonmain.com
Lightwell
110 E. Main St., thelightwell.com
Melrose Antiques
101 E. Main St., melrosefineantiques.com
Orange Center for the Arts
129 E. Main St., artscenterinorange.com
Med Spa
331 N. Madison Rd., medspava.com
Lacy’s Florist
120 W. Main St., lacyflorist.com
Central Virginia Wine Tours
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Key to HGW Tour Symbols

- **W**: Walking Tour
- **G**: Garden Emphasis
- **H**: History Focus
- **L**: Lunch Offered
- **B**: Bus Group Conducive
- **R**: Refreshments Included
- **P**: Designated Parking
- **S**: Shuttles Available
- **A**: Special Activities
- **!**: Important Notes
- **★**: First Time on HGW Tour
- **GCV Restoration Site**

For more information visit [www.vagardenweek.org](http://www.vagardenweek.org)

Photos courtesy of Catriona Tudor Erler and Bridget Bryant