

# ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL GARDEN

HYDE PARK, NEW YORK



Photographed by Dr. A. David Gurewitsch © 1945–1962 Edna P. Gurewitsch

*“Life in the country is made up of little things...how the flowers come into bloom,  
whether the trees have pests, or the vegetables grow...”*

*— Eleanor Roosevelt, My Day, June 8, 1955*

Val-Kill, Eleanor Roosevelt’s home at Hyde Park, was a landscape she cherished. The 30th anniversary of the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site offers an important opportunity to reinterpret the Memorial Garden at Val-Kill as a living tribute to Eleanor Roosevelt.

**See the reverse side** for details of how you can help.

## About the Garden

Thirty years ago, the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site was established at Val-Kill to commemorate and perpetuate her lifework and to preserve and interpret her legacy. Within the site, the cutting garden was chosen as the most fitting memorial to this outspoken advocate for democracy and champion of human rights. Eleanor Roosevelt and her friends Nancy Cook and Marion Dickerman planted the garden in 1937 to provide fresh flowers for the cottages at Val-Kill. Over time, the garden changed from exclusively tea roses, peonies, asters, and zinnias to both flowers and vegetables. Today much remains to be done to refresh the garden's historic appearance and to maintain the living memorial as a thriving public space.

## You Can Help

The 30th anniversary of the Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site offers an important opportunity to reinterpret the Memorial Garden. Plans include designs for a memorial and associated activities, landscape design to address access and circulation, including handicapped access, design implementation, and ongoing maintenance.

We would like your help as we move forward. Please share your thoughts:

- What programs or activities best commemorate Eleanor Roosevelt's "living" legacy?*
- Which type of setting is most appropriate for the Memorial Garden—a place for quiet contemplation or public interaction?*
- Are you interested in supporting the Memorial Garden, either through volunteering or other means? Tell us how.*
- What more would you like to tell us about the Memorial Garden and activities?*

Respond to

Superintendent Sarah Olson

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Thank you!



**Eleanor Roosevelt National Historic Site**  
**National Park Service**