



PROPERTY HISTORY

Considered a Santa Fe treasure, the garden has a long and colorful history. The property, referred to as “El Zaguán” (Spanish for “the corridor”) because of its long covered hallway, was purchased in 1854 by James L. Johnson, a prosperous merchant and trader on the Old Santa Fe trail, who relocated from Maryland to Santa Fe with his family. Introduction of the diagonal paths in the garden and the picket fence that runs along the street side are attributed to the Johnson family as are a number of the existing trees and shrubs. Anchored by two large horse chestnut trees (only one remains) and a tamarisk (salt cedar), the garden, located on the west side of the property, has thrived under the care of successive owners. Once a lush Victorian garden watered by an acequia (irrigation ditch), the garden has changed in response to recent droughts like so many gardens in the southwest.



“WINTER IN THE GARDEN ...”

The garden is a work and teaching space for Santa Fe Master Gardeners. During work sessions questions from visitors are welcome.

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THE GARDEN AT EL ZAGUÁN



BACKGROUND

The Garden at El Zaguán, a project undertaken by the Santa Fe Master Gardener Association (SFMGA) in 2013, is a partnership with the Historic Santa Fe Foundation, owner of the property since 1979. SFMGA's mission with the project is to develop a beautiful, sustainable, and drought tolerant garden while remaining true to the garden's historical roots.

HOURS: The garden is open to the public Monday - Saturday
9:00am - 5:00pm



Plant History



WHAT'S BLOOMING IN THE GARDEN?

Spring: *beauty bush (kolkwitzia), chokecherry, columbine, daffodil, dead nettle, forsythia, geranium, hyacinth, iris, honeysuckle, lilac, lily-of-the-valley, mock orange, Nanking cherry, peony, poppy, sundrop, tulip, violet*

Summer: *allium, allysum, catmint, delphinium, larkspur, rose, hollyhock, day lily, feverfew, lamb's ear, lavender, phlox, plumbago, red hot poker, roses, rue, shasta daisy, snapdragon, speedwell, sunflower*

Fall: *anemone, aster, chrysanthemum, nigella sativa*



The garden contains many old varieties of shrubs and flowers introduced by the Johnsons and subsequent owners. As was common in the 19th century, many plants were brought from the eastern US to the west although the climates were so different; the relocated easterners sought the comfort of the familiar plants of home. It is thought the horse chestnut trees were planted in the 1880s by the Johnson's and that the peonies were also

introduced by this family. The beauty bush was planted in the 1920s by then owner Margretta Dietrich. Old varieties of honeysuckle shrubs located here are similar to those found in other historic gardens around Santa Fe. More recent arrivals include butterfly bushes, lavenders, lilacs, lilies, roses and many other perennial flowers.



springtime mock orange in bloom



summer larkspur blooms

