

## HISTORY OF TOWER HILL BOTANIC GARDEN

# TIMELINE

- 1840** September 18, Worcester County Horticultural Society (WCHS) organized.
- 1842** March 3, WCHS incorporated.
- 1846** Society receives its first bequest, \$3,000 from Daniel Waldo—one of its founders.
- 1851** 1st Horticultural Hall built at 16-20 Front Street, Worcester, MA.
- 1861** All exhibitions canceled due to poor growing season (first and only time in Society history).
- 1928** Second Horticultural Hall opened at 30 Elm Street, Worcester, MA.
- 1983** Trustees vote to establish a Botanic Garden.
- 1986** Tower Hill Botanic Garden officially opens.
- 1987** Tower Hill designated a Special Environmental Site by Executive Office of Environmental Affairs of MA.
- 1988** September 25, Master Plan for Tower Hill unveiled.
- 1990** September 16, Lawn Garden and Harrington Orchard dedicated at Tower Hill.
- 1991** Tower Hill voted the Gold Medal for 1992 for excellence in service to its constituents and for the vision of developing a Botanic Garden, by the MHS.
- 1992** March 3, WCHS celebrates its 150th Anniversary.
- 1992** April 1, New half-mile entrance road—Fuller Drive, opens.
- 1992** September 9, Groundbreaking for the Entry Garden and Stoddard Education and Visitors Center.
- 1994** January, Stoddard Education and Visitors Center opens, with a library, classrooms, gift shop, theater, and management and administrative offices.
- 1996** Fall, Parking Lot completed, Entry Garden hardscaping completed.
- 1997** Spring, Entry Garden to be planted, entry pavilion will be constructed.
- 1997** Fall, Groundbreaking for 4,000 sq. foot Orangerie (glass house) planned to house temperate plants for year-round winter enjoyment.
- 1999** February 28, Public Opening of Orangerie.
- 2000** September 9, Public opening of the Systematic Garden.
- 2001** Construction of the Folly completed in the Inner Park.
- 2002** Construction of the Hope H. Spear Wildlife Refuge Pond completed.
- 2002** Construction of the Temple of Peace completed in the Inner Park.
- 2002** Construction and installation of the Moss Steps completed on the Loop Trail.
- 2006** Capital Campaign Phase IV fundraising begins and progresses.
- 2010** November 14, Public Opening of The Winter Garden and Limonaia.
- 2015** The Court: Garden Within Reach opens.