William Floyd Estate Summer Programs 2012

William Floyd Estate

May 25 - November 12, 2012

Friday - Sunday & Holidays Grounds: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Old Mastic House: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

631-399-2030

Free self-guiding pamphlets for the outbuilding area and family cemetery are available at the Old Mastic House until 4:00 p.m. Plan to spend at least 2 hours at the William Floyd Estate to see the house, grounds and family cemetery.

Ranger-Conducted Programs

Old Mastic House Tour

May 25 - November 12, 2012 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Friday - Sunday & Holidays Tours are limited to 10 people. Visit the historic home of William Floyd and be guided through multiple generations of change from the 1720s to the 1970s. This free 1 hour guided tour of the furnished 25-room house is offered every half-hour. Last tour leaves at 4:00 p.m.

The Old Mastic House is only available by guided tour.

Cultural Landscape Walking Tour

May 6, & November 10 10:00 a.m.

What's a cultural landscape all about? On this Estate it's about how the Floyd family manipulated, changed, and adapted their land for various uses. The land changed from a plantation and working farm to a summer estate and hunting preserve. On this 1 mile guided walk, we will look for the evidence of past use.

Old Mastic Bird Walks

May 12, 20, & November 18 9:00 a.m.

Bring binoculars on a 2 mile walk through the woods, fields, and wetlands of the property. A good variety of birds will be seen as we walk the varied habitats during peak migration time.

He Dared To Sign: William Floyd

July 4 10:00 a.m.

William Floyd was born in the Old Mastic House and inherited it. He was a wealthy plantation owner, yet he dared to sign the Declaration of Independence. For doing so he risked losing his house, property, and his head! But did he really sign on July 4th? Find out about this man and the other signers.

The Summer Gunner: The Art and Lore of Traditional Decoy Carving

July 7, August 18, & September 8 11:00 a.m.

Join decoy carver Jaime Reason on the front porch of the Old Mastic House to learn about carving shorebirds and ducks by hand. Find out about the history of waterfowl hunting in the local bays and the rich traditions of local carvers.

An American Naturalist: John Nichols

July 14 10:00 a.m.

John Nichols was an icon in the field of natural history. In this house he wrote and published hundreds of articles on the natural world, and he wrote poetry as well. Join us on the front porch of his beloved home and listen to some excerpts from his writings.

Floyd Junior Ranger Programs

July 13, 20 & August 3, 10 10:00 a.m.

(Children 8-12 years) Reservations required.

Become a Junior Ranger! Attend two of the Friday programs and complete the activity booklet (on your own but with help from a ranger) and earn a Declaration of Independence and a pin. $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

Old Mastic House: A Simple Architectural Tour

Sept. 15, & October 20 10:00 a.m. Reservations required. Visitors will be given a simple architectural review of the Old Mastic House. Colonial, Victorian and Greek Revival architecture, among other styles, are all represented here and each will be seen and explained. Eighteenth century doors, post and beam framing and 12 over 12 windows are just some of the details to be examined.

Documents in Stone

Sept. 29, & October 27 10:00 a.m. Reservations required.

It's a unique introduction to genealogical research. Visitors are shown a variety of ways to learn about grave markers, from the materials they were made of, to foot stones, to kinship, to burial characteristics. Learn about the origins of the "Deaths Head" and take a grave stone rubbing home.

Wildflowers of Autumn

October 6 10:00 a.m.

Fall is peak time for a variety of wildflowers to bloom. The fields are washed in a pretty array of colors. Native grasses also add color to the landscape. This 2 hour program will look at the blooms in Old Mastic Fields. Wear tick repellent.

Trees, Wood and Tools: The Colonial Uses of Wood

November 3 10:00 a.m. Reservations required.

This is a unique introduction to the trees, tools, and woods of the Colonial Period in New York. The Floyd Family used the pristine forests to build their beloved "Old Mastic House" and all of their barns and outbuildings. Samples of wood and tools used by the Floyds and their carpenters will be shown and explained. Weather permitting; a walk will be conducted.

Call 631-399-2030 to make your reservations for any special programs.