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The Foundation of the State Arboretum (FOSA), a University-related nonprofit organization, is the means by which you can support the Arboretum and its programs.

FOSA membership also carries reciprocal benefits at more than 100 arboreta, botanic gardens, and conservatories worldwide.

Won't you join us?



State Arboretum of Virginia
At the University of Virginia's Historic
BLANDY EXPERIMENTAL FARM
400 Blandly Farm Lane • Boyce VA 22620
(540) 837-1758 • Fax: (540) 837-1523

2.5K 11/05

<http://www.virginia.edu/blandy>



State Arboretum of Virginia
At the University of Virginia's Historic
BLANDY EXPERIMENTAL FARM

This 3-mile drive offers outstanding views of the Arboretum, including wetlands, meadows, and woodlots. Please drive slowly and watch for people and wildlife. Plants marked with an asterisk (*) are considered invasive and the Arboretum strongly discourages use of these plants.

Stop Number/Mileage

1 0.00 Beginning of Loop Drive. The Loop Drive begins to the east of the visitor parking lot. The picnic grove is nestled beneath the trees on the right. The greenhouse beside this grove is used for research and is not open to the public.

2 0.06 Trees of Virginia. Many of the trees planted here are native to Virginia; most are familiar woodland and landscape trees. In the spring, enjoy the blooms of the dogwood and redbud. The oaks, maples, and elms provide summer shade. A number of non-native trees are interspersed among the native trees. The apple, pear, and walnut trees are all that remain from an orchard formerly located on this site. Five large ginkgo trees are on the left. *Ginkgo biloba*, the maidenhair tree, is the only surviving member of a very primitive family that flourished during the Mesozoic era, 180 million years ago. They are native to southeast China, but have been widely planted in Europe, North America and Japan.

3 0.13 Meadow. The Loop Drive passes through a meadow of native warm-season grasses and wildflowers. The meadow is part of the Nancy Larrick Crosby Native Plant Trail. The Rose and Magnolia families are beyond the meadow, on the hill to the right (south). Views of these collections are spectacular in April when the quince, crabapples, and plums are in full bloom. The Viburnum collection is to the left (north), and the catalpas and paulownias* sit along the ridge.

4 0.31 Mile marker. In the early 1900s this road was the main entrance to the property. Stone fences that once lined this road were removed in the 1930s. Specimens from the Olive family (olives, ashes, lilacs, and forsythia) are displayed in a sweeping panorama from left to right.

5 0.43 Wetland. Lake Arnold, on the left, is an ephemeral pond, filling only during wet years. In late

spring, this area blooms with yellow iris (*Iris pseudoacorus*),* an introduced species that has invaded eastern wetlands. To the right is Rattlesnake Spring, a natural spring that feeds the wetland. By August, New York ironweed provides purple contrast to the red cardinal flower. Above the wetland to the right is Pea Hill, which is dotted with trees from the Legume and Pistachio families. The corktree and witch hazel collections are just beyond Pea Hill.

6 0.50 Maples. The Maple collection is on the left. These trees, along with the holly, euonymus,* and boxwood on the right, combine to make this area beautiful in the fall. The Buckthorn and Linden family collections are on the left, beyond the Maples. A fence marks the Arboretum boundary. Continue straight ahead.

NOTE: A new section of the Loop Drive begins here. The new section is marked on the map inside this brochure. However, the mile markers and highlights in this brochure correspond to the original road. To continue on the Driving Tour as outlined in this brochure, continue straight ahead. Turn right to explore the new section, which joins the original Loop Drive at Mile Marker 2.52 (Stop No. 14).

7 0.82 Farm Fields. The residence and fields are leased to a private farmer.

8 1.01 Route 628. Rt. 628 forms the southern boundary of Blandly Experimental Farm and is a public road. Turn right to continue the tour.

9 1.82 Rear Entrance. Turn right at Tuleyries Lane to re-enter Arboretum property.

10 2.00 Woodlot. The woodlot is filled with oak, hickory, and elm and is used for research projects. Colored flags mark ongoing research projects; please do not disturb flags. A grove of paw-paws is located on the right, halfway through the woodlot. Paw-paws are characterized by large, light green leaves in groups of three. The woodlot is also home to English ivy,* where it displays its invasive characteristics by climbing trees and overtaking all other vegetation on the forest floor. The ivy, as well as the azaleas, privet,* and philadelphus, remains from the 1940s, when the area was used as a plant nursery.

11 2.31 Research Village. These private

residences house visiting researchers and are not open to the public. Behind the cottages is a field that is used to study plant succession. Left alone, the meadow will gradually change from grassland to forest. Experiments in progress are testing the effects of deer and other mammals on the succession process. This field was last mowed in 1984.

12 2.31 Ginkgo Grove. A blaze of golden leaf color greets visitors in late October at the Ginkgo Grove. Dr. Orland E. White, the first director of Blandy Experimental Farm, established the collection in the 1930s with seedlings from a ginkgo tree on the UVa. grounds in Charlottesville. Approximately 340 trees remain, making it one of the largest collections of ginkgo trees planted for research outside of China.

13 2.51 Cedars of Lebanon. Planted in 1932, these massive Cedars of Lebanon flank the drive. Behind the Cedars and Norway spruce on the right is a grove of oaks and chestnuts.

14 2.52 Parking. A new section of the Loop Drive rejoins the original route here.

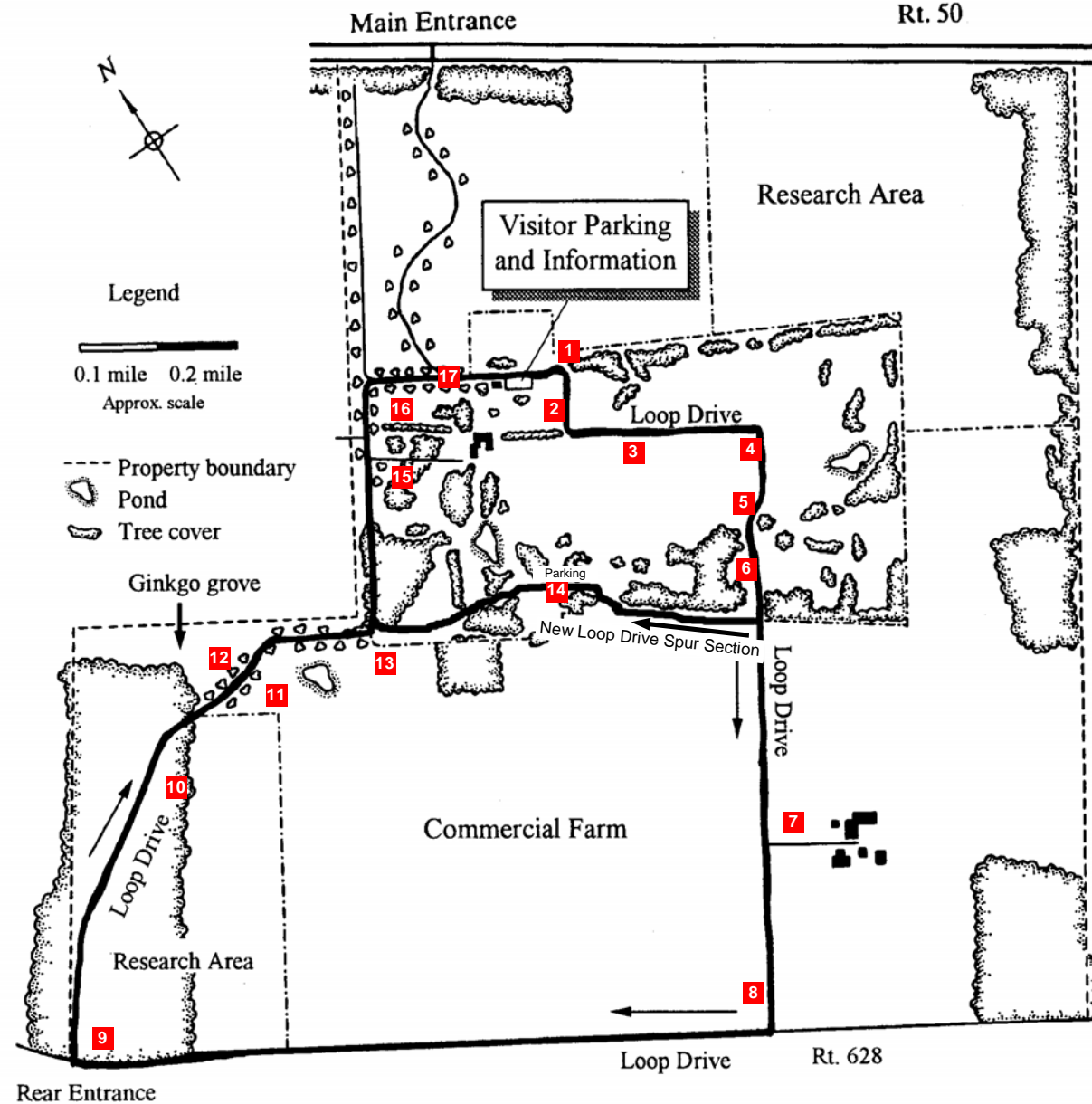
15 2.66 Pines and Azaleas. Up on the hill to the right is a cluster of pines and azaleas. The Arboretum collection includes more than half the world's pine species, many of which are planted in this area. The Azalea Garden forms the understory here and is spectacular in the spring. To the left is the Tuleyries, built about 1832. It was the summer home of Graham Blandy, who bequeathed 700 acres of his property to UVa. in 1926 to establish Blandy Experimental Farm. The Tuleyries is privately owned and is not open to the public.

16 2.74 Dogwood Lane. The lane is the last remnant of an old farm road that once stretched from Millwood to the Tuleyries. Today it offers a beautiful place to stroll among Virginia's state tree and state flower, the flowering dogwood (*Cornus florida*).

17 2.80 End of Loop Drive. Bear right at this intersection. A short distance ahead, the drive meets Blandy Farm Lane, the Arboretum entrance road. The Loop Drive ends here. Turn right to return to the visitors' parking, or turn left to exit to Route 50.

Thank you for visiting your State Arboretum!

University of Virginia's Blandy Experimental Farm



Loop Drive Highlights

Stop	Mileage	Feature
1	0.00	Beginning of Loop Drive
2	0.06	Trees of Virginia
3	0.13	Meadow
4	0.31	Mile Marker
5	0.43	Wetland
6	0.50	Maples
7	0.82	Farm Fields
8	1.01	Route 628
9	1.82	Rear Entrance
10	2.00	Woodlot
11	2.31	Research Village
12	2.31	Ginkgo Grove
13	2.51	Cedars of Lebanon
14	2.52	Parking Area
15	2.66	Pines and Azaleas
16	2.74	Dogwood Lane
17	2.80	End of Loop Drive

*Please Use Care While Driving.
Be Aware of Pedestrians and Wildlife.*

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