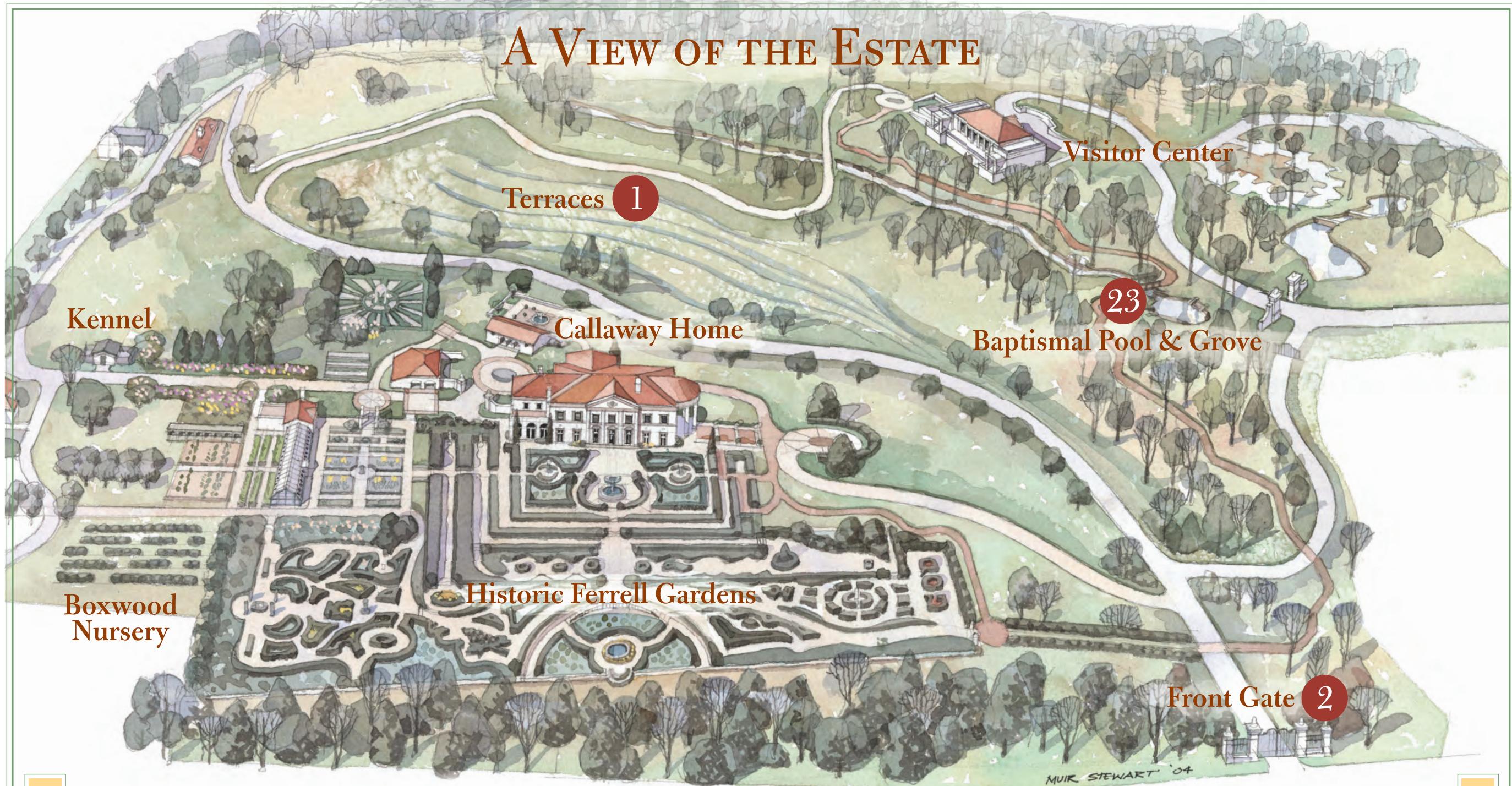


# A VIEW OF THE ESTATE



**VISITOR CENTER** Tours of the estate begin at the visitor center. This classically inspired building was designed by Cole & Cole Architects of Montgomery, Alabama and opened in 2004. It features a gift shop, museum exhibit hall, film theatre, event space and restrooms.

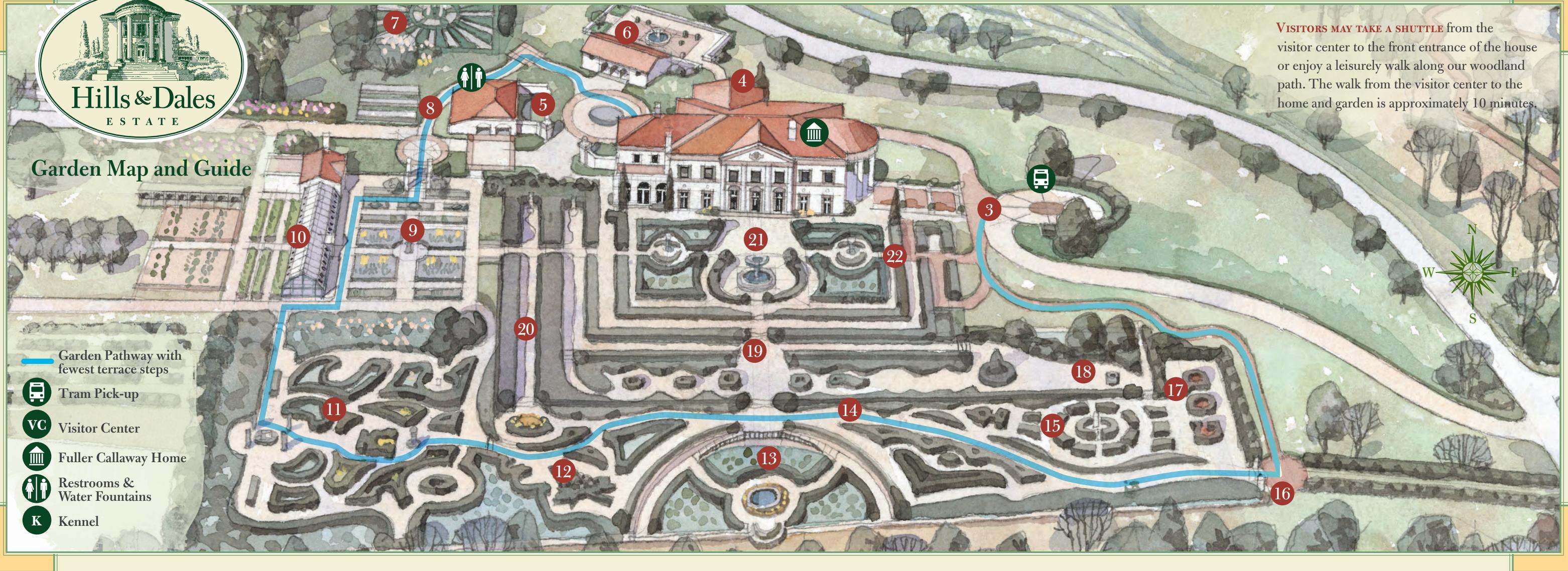
**TERRACES (1)** The hillside between the visitor center and the home was terraced in the 19th century for agricultural uses by the Ferrells. The terracing created more level land for cultivation and reduced soil erosion.

**FRONT GATE (2)** Designed by Heintz & Reid in 1916, the elegant entry gates were manufactured in New York for the Callaways. The front gates are rarely used due to the heavy traffic on Vernon Road.

**GROVE & BAPTISMAL POOL (23)** Ida planted tulip poplars in the grove while Alice added native trees and shrubs. In October a large planting of spider lilies bloom under the shade of the towering poplars. In the past, buggies came from town with converts to be baptized in the baptismal pool. The crumbling steps are still visible.



## Garden Map and Guide



### 1 & 2. SEE "A VIEW OF THE ESTATE"

**3. EAST PORTICO** This is the front entrance of the Callaway home. The Italian style villa was designed to complement the terraced gardens created by Sarah Ferrell. Six large wooden columns with Ionic caps support the semicircular terracotta roof that covers the portico. Notice the diamond-shaped marble plaque above the doorway that is inscribed "1916," the year the home was completed.

**4. PORTE-COCHERE & COURTYARD** Family and guests frequently entered the home from this covered entry which features beautiful cast-stone columns and a vaulted ceiling. The carriage step greeted guests arriving by horse and carriage or auto.

**5. MAGNOLIA ESPALIER AND GARAGE** The southern magnolias have been espaliered (trained to grow flat against the wall) to frame the arched windows on the side of the former garage and chauffeur's quarters.

**6. BATHHOUSE & POOL TERRACE** The bathhouse was designed by architect Hill R. Huffman of Atlanta and added by Alice and Fuller Jr. in 1941. The swimming pool was replaced in 2004 with a terrace featuring a central fountain.

**7. RAY GARDEN** In the early to mid-1900s the Callaways had a large vegetable garden in this area. In 1950, Alice converted part of that garden into the ray garden, where she grew roses and ornamental conifers. The "rays" are now planted with colorful annuals and perennials. The garden also includes a statue of Demosthenes.

**8. COLD FRAMES & WORK HOUSE** These cold frames are seasonally covered with glass to protect tender plants from the winter cold. The garden work house is situated over the boiler room which provided heat for both the main house and the glasshouse. The boilers were originally coal fired but now use natural gas.

**9. HERB GARDEN** The herb garden, installed in 1960, contains a wide variety of culinary, medicinal, and aromatic herbs. Four rose pillars with antique climbing roses pay homage to the previous rose garden.

**10. GREENHOUSE** Originally constructed in 1916, the greenhouse was remodeled in 1949 by Alice and Fuller Jr. and is maintained much the same as it was in Alice's time. The first section contains orchids, begonias, and blooming tropicals. The center section displays Alice's ferns. The third section includes cool season cut flowers such as snapdragons, stock and carnations. It also contains a variety of potted plants including orchids. Spring visitors can see a large bed of calla lilies which have been continuously cultivated since 1916.

**11. CHURCH GARDEN** Created by Sarah Ferrell and inspired by her Christian faith, this garden contains religious symbols sculpted in boxwood: a harp (or lyre) in the center, a circular bed symbolizing an offering plate, pews and an organ. Ida Callaway planted old-maids (*Zinnia*) and sweet william (*Dianthus*) to represent the congregation and jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema*) to represent the preacher. Around the well are the remains of four cedars now covered with wisteria. A large China fir tower over the garden near the armillary sphere.

**12. GRAPES** Sarah Ferrell drew her inspiration for this cluster of grapes planted in boxwood from the Biblical account in Numbers. In it, Moses sent spies into Canaan and they returned with a bunch of grapes so large it required two men and a pole to transport. Next to the grapes is a magnificent ginkgo tree that Sarah planted.

**13. SUNKEN GARDEN** The sunken garden is delineated by a beautiful semi-circular stone wall. Stone steps on each side lead down to a curved stone bench and a round pool. The view looking up to the home is one of our favorites.

**14. MAGNOLIA WALK** The magnolia walk is the longest terrace in the garden. Magnolias along this terrace were reportedly planted from seed collected during the Civil War by local confederate soldiers.

**15. THE MAZE** Near the end of magnolia walk, next to "GOD" is where Sarah Ferrell's boxwood maze is said to have been. This area was redesigned during Ida's tenure and later Alice added St. Fiacre to the birdbath.

**16. BIRD GATE AND BOXWOOD WALK** Alice Callaway commissioned noted blacksmith Ivan Bailey to create the bird gate at the old entrance to the garden. A boxwood pathway runs from the bird gate to the front gates. It welcomed visitors into the garden during the Ferrell and senior Callaway years.

**17. GOD** At the end of magnolia walk Sarah Ferrell planted boxwood to spell out "GOD." She was inspired by the Biblical account in Genesis: "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth..." This was near the original entrance to the garden so Sarah planted "GOD" at the beginning of her public garden. It is surrounded by clipped yews and stone walls.

**18. THE WELL & TEA HEDGE** This stone wellhead marks the location of another well that was used to water the garden during the Ferrell era; ironwork was added by Neel Reid. Beside it is a hedge of tea plants shaped in a shallow "v" installed by Alice.

**19. LOVER'S LANE** This long narrow pathway is bordered by large boxwood. During the time of the Ferrells & senior Callaways, couples were said to "court" here. The statues are Aratus (west) and Sophocles (east).

**20. FLORIDA LANE** This garden walkway was named Florida Lane since it contained many tender and tropical plants brought back from Florida by the Callaways.

**21. FOUNTAIN TERRACE** The terrace adjacent to the house features a large central fountain that was added in 1916. Boxwood mottos planted by Sarah Ferrell and Ida Callaway surround the urns on either side. The mottos include: "GOD IS LOVE, FIAT JUSTITIA" (let justice be done), ST. CALLAWAY and "ORA PRO MI" (pray for me.)

**22. SECOND TERRACE** On this avenue, yellow flowering golden rain trees offer shade to Ida's stone benches.

VISITORS MAY TAKE A SHUTTLE from the visitor center to the front entrance of the house or enjoy a leisurely walk along our woodland path. The walk from the visitor center to the home and garden is approximately 10 minutes.