



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITY™

EXTENSION SERVICE

Crosby Arboretum, MSU-ES

Picayune, MS

Project Highlights:

- 104-acre Interpretive Center displays the native flora and plant communities of the Pearl River Drainage Basin.
- Nearly 4 acres of created wetland habitat; including a beaver pond exhibit, gum pond, slough, and forested stream.
- Walking pathways through 20-acres of savanna exhibits that features longleaf pine, baygall, and pitcher plant bog.
- Forty acres of created woodland habitats featuring successional beech-magnolia, pine-hardwood, bottomland hardwood, and other woodland types.
- Pinecote Pavilion, an AIA Honor Award winning structure.
- Seven natural areas in Hancock and Pearl River Counties that preserve over 700 acres of plant and wildlife habitat; and are utilized for research and tours.

Biodiversity



Pinecote Pavilion at Crosby Arboretum, MSU-ES

Project designers:

Edward L. Blake, Jr., Andropogon Associates, lead landscape architects

E. Fay Jones, architect

Dr. Sidney McDaniel and Christopher Wells, botanists

Context: arboreta, urban fringe

Awards: ASLA Medallion Award; AIA Honor Award; ASLA Honor Award

Project Overview

Crosby Arboretum began in 1979 as a memorial to Picayune timber owner and philanthropist, L. O. Crosby, Jr. The Arboretum is dedicated to educating the public about their environment. This mission is carried out by preserving, protecting, and displaying plants native to the Pearl River Drainage Basin ecosystem, providing environmental and botanical research opportunities, and offering cultural, scientific, and recreational programs. The Arboretum displays three basic habitats found within this ecosystem. They are Savanna, Woodland, and Aquatic exhibits.

Smart landscape features and practices

Biodiversity. With increasing value being placed on our natural heritage, The Crosby Arboretum is the premier native plant conservatory in the Southeast. Early founders decided to focus Arboretum exhibits and efforts to preserve and display plants that are native only to the Pearl River Drainage Basin. The Arboretum also manages 700 acres in seven associated natural areas. The assemblages of carefully selected and protected lands nurtures over 300 species of indigenous trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and grasses. Rare, threatened, or endangered species of plants and wildlife are present at throughout the Arboretum's preserves. The Arboretum protects and manages several pitcher plant bogs both on site and within the natural areas. Edible, poisonous, and aromatic plants, too, are found at the Arboretum. As the seasons unfold their splendor, the Arboretum provides a clear, unobstructed view of the variety and beauty of our natural resources.

See following page for additional images.

Two species of pitcher plants are conserved at Pinecote and in Arboretum natural areas.





The Crosby Arboretum, MSU-ES

Picayune, MS

As a center for learning, the Crosby Arboretum is a scientific and educational organization that documents and shares information about nature to the public while providing sites for long-term research. The arboretum manages approximately 700 acres in seven associated natural areas. These carefully selected landscapes support over 300 species of plants.



Dead Tiger Creek Hammock is a low, non-alluvial (not formed from a river) hardwood swamp, and is one of the western-most hammocks found in the southeastern U.S. Pink coreopsis (*Coreopsis nudata*) and flameflower (*Macranthera flammea*) are rare wildflowers found here.

Savanna Exhibit:

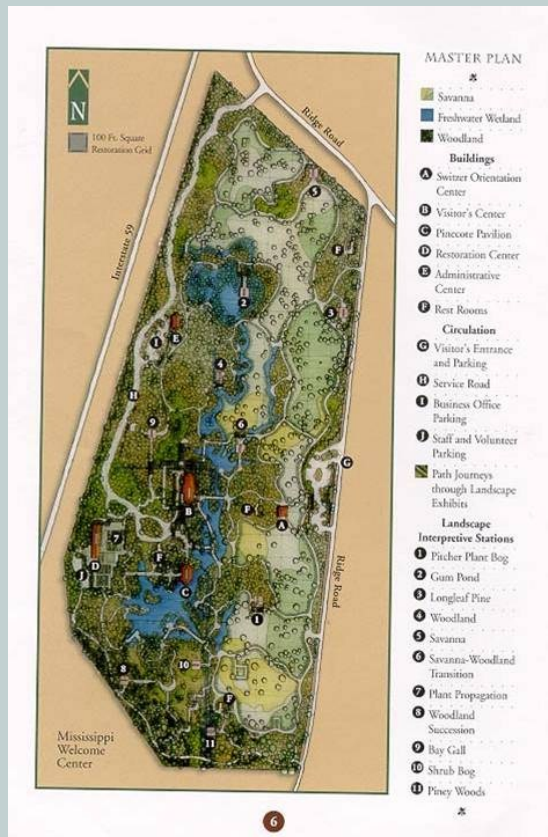
Savannas are grasslands with scattered trees and were the original Gulf Coast landscape.

Woodland Exhibit:

Over 12,000 native trees and shrubs have been planted at the arboretum into plant communities, or habitats, that are groupings of plants found in natural associations.

Aquatic Exhibit:

A central feature is the 2 1/2 acre freshwater pond, derived from locally-occurring beaver ponds and which displays the wealth and beauty of native aquatic plants.



Pinecote Master Plan