

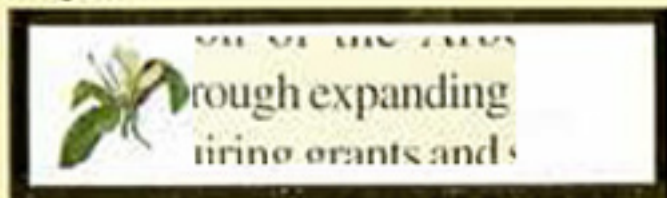
GLOSTER ARBORETUM

"Nothing is rich but the inexhaustible wealth of nature. She shows us only surfaces, but she is million fathoms deep."

-Emerson



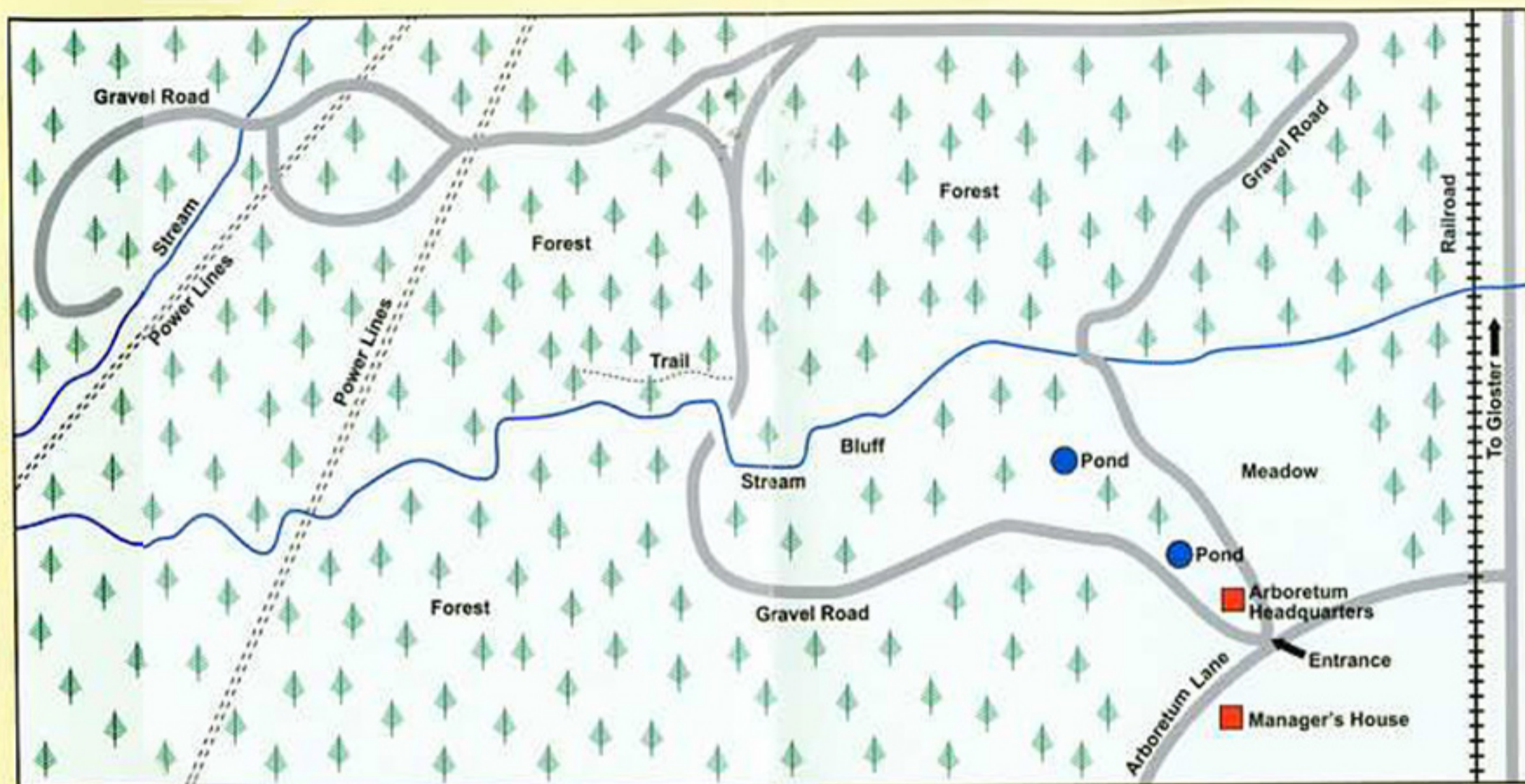
The Gloster Arboretum, founded in 1956 by the late W. Francis ("Frank") Gladney and his wife, Sara Gary Gladney of Baton Rouge, is perpetuated by the John James Audubon Foundation established in 1965 by the Gladneys.



Telephone (601) 225-4132

JOHN JAMES AUDUBON FOUNDATION





Map of the Arboretum

The Gloster Arboretum is located on the outskirts of Gloster in the southwest corner of Mississippi off State Highway 33 midway between Centerville and Crosby, Mississippi. The Arboretum is slightly over an hour's drive from Baton Rouge, approximately two hours from Jackson, and an hour from Natchez.

From Highway 33 in southeast Gloster, turn west at the B-Kwik Food Mart on E. Frank Shuh Drive. Go one block to the Georgia Pacific Plywood Mill and turn left at railroad. Go about one-fourth mile, following railroad tracks to Arboretum Lane, turn right and cross the railroad tracks. Proceed to the Arboretum headquarters, a large white frame house on the right. The on-site manager's house is a few hundred yards farther on the left.



Bigleaf Magnolia (*Magnolia Macrophylla*)

GLOSTER ARBORETUM HISTORY

Frank and Sara Gladney of Baton Rouge were passionate and knowledgeable horticulturists and lovers of native flora. In 1956, after purchasing a 350-acre tract of land on the outskirts of the small southwest Mississippi town of Gloster, they invited two Louisiana State University professors, landscape architect Dr. Robert Reich and botanist Dr. Clair Brown, to visit and to access the area's plant species. When told of the abundance of relatively rare plant species, the Gladneys immediately removed cattle from the site and the Gloster Arboretum was born. Over the next 35 years the Gladneys seldom missed a weekend either working at the Arboretum or traveling across the country to acquire more plants to add to the native populations of magnolias, rhododendrons and hollies.

In 1965 the Gladneys established the non-profit John James Audubon Foundation to support the work of the Arboretum. In the mid 1970s an additional 50 acres of land adjacent to the main site was acquired. Throughout the remainder of their active lives, the Gladneys shared the Arboretum generously with students, professionals, family and friends of all ages inspiring countless others with their enthusiasm and dedication to nature.

Since the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. Gladney, the Foundation Board has directed Arboretum operations with the help of an on-site manager who conducts the day-to-day activities and receives visitors. Today the site is maintained as a nature preserve with special attention being given to the collections of indigenous species.

Individuals who love nature are invited to visit at any time at no charge. To support the work of the Foundation, Lifetime Memberships are possible upon application and approval by the Board of Directors. Associate Memberships in the Foundation (\$30) may be obtained by sending name, address and telephone number to Board President Neil Odenwald, 4633 Blue Bell, Baton Rouge, LA 70808 or Treasurer Joseph Gary, 74 Ridgeway Drive, Belden MS 38826. Membership benefits include notification of ongoing activities and eligibility for overnight accommodations (reservations required) at the Arboretum in its spacious three-bedroom headquarters.



French Mulberry (*Callicarpa Americana*)

Arboretum Mission Statement

Recognizing the unique legacy of Sara and Frank Gladney, founders of the Gloster Arboretum and the John James Audubon Foundation, and following their vision and demonstrated example in active involvement with the Arboretum for 35 years, the Board of Directors and Foundation members have adopted the following objectives for the Arboretum:

- Utilize those sound forest management practices which recognize the overall mission of the Arboretum in education, conservation and preservation.
- Preserve the unique indigenous plant associations with special care being given to the beech, magnolias, stewartia, mountain laurel, rhododendrons, viburnums and other native species.
- Protect and enhance the special population of non-indigenous plantings introduced by the Gladneys and others.
- Expand the plantings as funds become available. Manage the plantings in a manner sympathetic with the existing naturalistic character of the site.
- Encourage public involvement at the Arboretum by educational institutions, plant societies and general plant and nature enthusiasts.
- Help perpetuate the Gladneys' early vision and the mission of the Arboretum by seeking funding through expanding Arboretum memberships, acquiring grants and seeking various other means.

(Detach Here)

John James Audubon Foundation Membership Application

(Application for membership reviewed by the Board of Directors at annual spring meeting)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Special Interests: _____

Categories:

\$1000 (Non Voting)
_____ Lifetime Membership

\$100
_____ Foundation Associate
(non-voting and annual fee)