

Windrush Gardens

Majestic live oaks and ancient crape myrtles create a shady canopy over azaleas and camellias in Windrush Gardens, evoking a sense of tranquility and peace. The winding paths are ideal for strolling and enjoying the 25 acres of landscaped spaces.

1. Hostler's House: One of the two 19th century structures original to Windrush. The hostler was a hired hand employed to tend the horses.

2. Pigeonnier: Wealthy plantation owners often had pigeoniers to provide squab for fine dining. This one was constructed as an ornamental garden shed.

3. Garden I and Garden House: Steele Burden spent many of his early days here painting, reading and entertaining guests. He developed this area during the 1920s.

4. Young Hermes: A bronze sculpture of young Hermes in repose on an old well.

5. Water Lily Pond: The fountain in the pond was acquired in 1925. This zinc statue is thought to be one of the first pieces of sculpture in downtown Baton Rouge and was later moved to Windrush.

6. Windrush House and Porch: The Burden home is an example of Creole Vernacular Architecture, with an expansive front lawn bordered by Wards Creek.

7. Garden II: Developed in the 1930s, these flower beds exhibit seasonal color.

8. Hermes and Zeus: Hermes whispering to Zeus. Acquired in 1935, bronze.

9. Garden III: These shrub borders, developed in the 1940s, surround a large expanse of lawn.

10. Atalanta: This mythological female athlete agreed to marry any man who could beat her in a foot race.

11. Hippomenes:

In the race, he threw golden apples in front of Atalanta. She stopped to pick them up, and he won.

12. A Wounded Amazon: Marble sculpture circa 1850.

13. Bacchus: This carved stone statue is the god of wine, the inspirer of ritual madness and ecstasy.

14. Piney Woods: This was one of the last areas developed by Steele Burden, and it was his experiment in a more naturalistic picturesque landscape, serving as a transitional piece leading to the lakes. Azaleas and camellias fill this large informal area under the pines.

15. The Lakes: By creating these lakes, Steele Burden added larger water features. He also used the soil to create changes in topography, providing a sense of enclosure from the outlying agronomic landscape. He enhanced the edges of the lakes with a gazebo and planted native Louisiana irises and cypress trees.

