

## HILLTOP, OVERLOOK, AND TERRACES

### Design Narrative

The natural topography of the Hilltop is accentuated by the addition of a large elliptical form. A ring road leading behind the Administration Building continues the geometry of the Overlook Esplanade, a tree-lined walkway leading to the Overlook Plaza. Located along the central axis and downhill from the Administration Building, the Overlook Plaza provides a formal civic space to take in the best view in the park looking toward the river and mountains in the distance. The plaza is sized to allow for a 50'x70' tent for special events. A series of stone walls, columns, and piers made of local Tennessee marble provide a sense of arrival to the center of the esplanade. Whether entering the space from the esplanade, or the sloped lawn from the Administration Building the iconic stone announces your arrival at this peak view. Two twelve foot tall columns frame the view along the central axis from the plaza and the Administration Building when standing on the terraces below.

The Esplanade walkway is shaded by an arcing allee of native Blackgum trees (*Nyssa sylvatica*). The sweeping Esplanade path and canopy will draw visitors toward the central Overlook Plaza while providing spectacular views outward along its length. Two small parking bays defined by stone walls bookend either side of the Esplanade. The allee is broken at the central plaza to allow adequate open space for events and views to and

from the Administration Building. A new parking lot behind the Administration Building provides ample parking for city and park employees, general park users, and guests for events hosted on the Overlook Plaza.

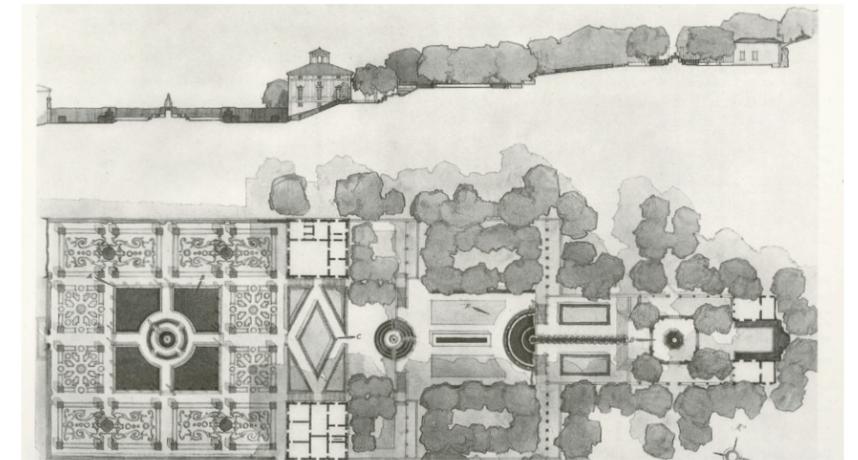
A series of accessible switchback paths depart from the Overlook Plaza and make their way down slope toward the Event Lawn. Mid-way down the slope are a series of display gardens that pay homage the crop fields that covered these slopes from the early 1800s until the 1950s. These gardens, inspired by DOT roadside species such as cosmos, poppies, rapeseed, will provide a rotational display of bold color meant to dramatically stand out against a cool season grass hillside when viewed from above.

### Central Axis



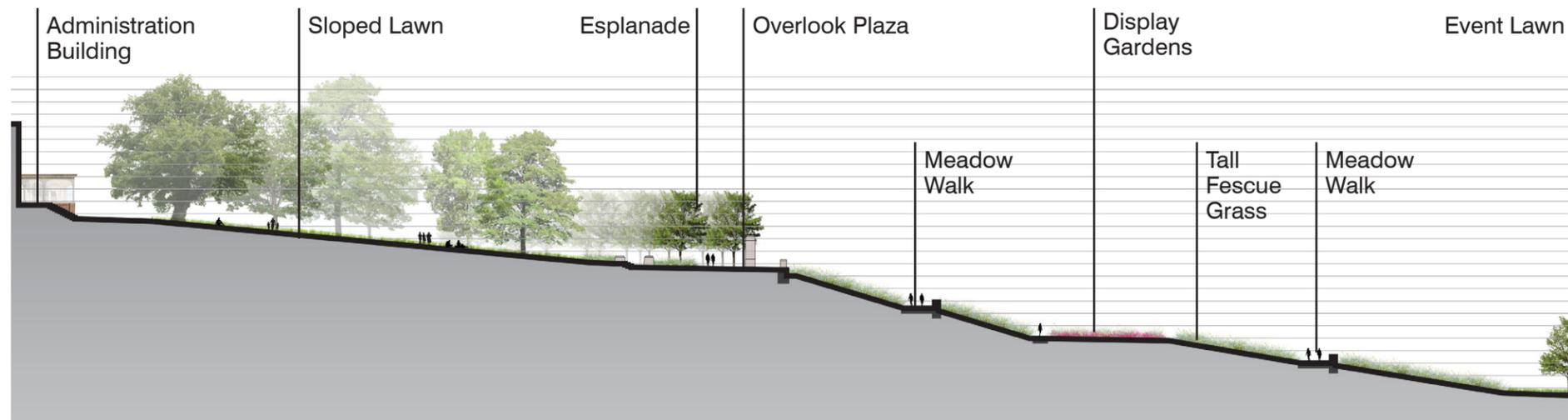
Historic view from the Administration Building

### Terraces and Central Spine



Shepherd and Jellicoe drawing of Giardino Giusti, Verona, Italy

### Section Along Central Axis from Administration Building to Event Lawn



### Agriculture



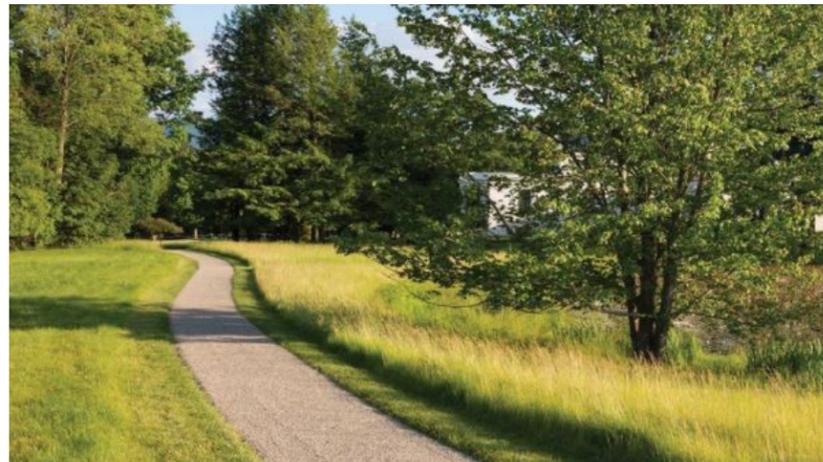
Historic Aerial showing agricultural fields in front of the Administration Building

# HILLTOP, OVERLOOK, AND TERRACES Site Plan

## Legend

- 1 Overlook Plaza
- 2 Esplanade
- 3 Picnic Lawn
- 4 Proposed Parking
- 5 Proposed Loop Road
- 6 Display Gardens
- 7 Terrace Walks
- 8 Prairie
- 9 Event Lawn
- 10 Proposed Tree Planting
- 11 Existing Restroom Building
- 12 Existing Parking
- 13 Existing Parking

### Terrace Paths and Prairie



*Path and Meadow by Reed Hildebrand*

### Agricultural Terrace



*Fields of Cosmos and Mustard Flower*

