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GARDEN & GUN

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Nº 23 COWBOYS ROAM THE FLORIDA FRONTIER

Florida: home of gators, theme parks, cowbirds, and...cowboys? Yes, cracker cowboys—so named for the sound their whips make—are still leading descendants of the cattle the Spaniards introduced in the 1500s, when they settled the territory. Dr. William Coussard's Crescent J Ranch in St. Augustine has the world's largest herd of Florida cracker cowboys. And on similar ranches across Florida, cowboys still roam the land where some of the first ranching started and where, as development creeps, it might also end.

Nº 24 THE ULTIMATE CHEESE BISCUIT

You may have tried cheese biscuits. But unless you live around Greenville,

Grimesland, or Wilson, on the eastern side of I-95, you're probably not familiar with North Carolina's uniquely hedonistic variety. Across the area, cooks like those at Abrams restaurant in Tarboro bake fat knuckles of hoop cheddar in crispy casings of buttermilk biscuit dough. The result: golden-brown softballs that crumble on contact to reveal molten, delightfully greasy centers.

Nº 25 D.C.'S SECRET GARDEN TURNS SEVENTY-FIVE

Despite being the only woman among the American Society of Landscape Architects' founders, Beatrix Farrand preferred the more modest term *landscape gardener*. The title sums up the naturalistic approach she took when creating her Washington, D.C., masterpiece, Dumbarton Oaks, which opened to the public in 1940. Tucked away in

Georgetown, the twenty-seven-acre garden is often overlooked amid the capital's many landmarks and monuments, but its low profile is also part of the enchantment. Walkways and stairways snake through stands of weeping cherry trees and past blooming collections of dogwoods, wisteria, and Virginia bluebells. And the entrance? You'll find it, fittingly, off of R Street down Lovers' Lane. doaks.org

Nº 26 THE GREAT WALL OF ALABAMA

On his wooded land just east of milepost 338 on the Natchez Trace Parkway near Florence, Tom Hendrix, after retiring from the nearby Ford plant, spent some twenty-five years assembling the Wichahpi Commemorative Stone Wall. Higher than six feet in some spots, it winds for more than a mile. Hendrix built the monument—stacking more

HOOFING IT

Florida cracker cowboys herd cattle. Opposite: Louisiana's 610 Stompers storm Baton Rouge.

