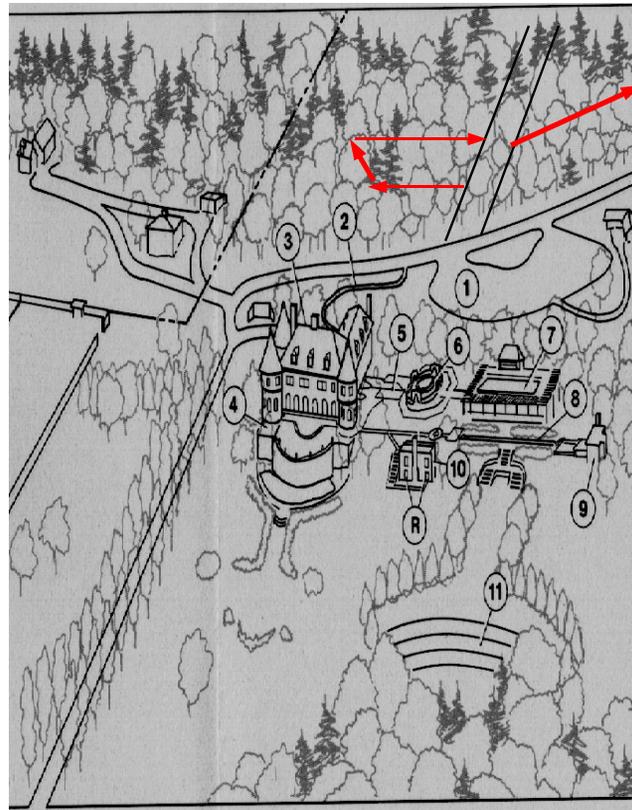


## The Forest Ecosystem

*There are three major layers to any forest. The **forest floor**, or under story, is the first layer and contains plants, shrubs, and small trees. Worms, snakes, ground squirrels, rabbits, deer, and some insects live in this layer. Taller trees form the second layer which is the **lower canopy** or mid-story. This layer contains the shade-loving trees that grow between the forest floor and the upper canopy. Squirrels, insects, and other animals live in this layer. The tallest trees in the forest form the **upper canopy** which is the third layer. Birds of many species are found in this layer. They build their nests in the safety of the high branches of the trees. Each layer of the forest is unique.*



### LEGEND

- 1** Parking lot
- 2** Steps to parking lot
- 3** Main House
- 4** Star Terrace, tour begins here
- 5** Marble Court
- 6** Finger Bowl
- 7** Swimming pool and terrace
- 8** Reflecting Pool
- 9** Bait Box
- 10** Letterbox
- 11** Amphitheater
- R** Restrooms
- Forestry Trail

## The Forestry Trail At Grey Towers National Historic Landmark

*USDA  
Forest Service  
Milford, PA*



# The Forestry Trail



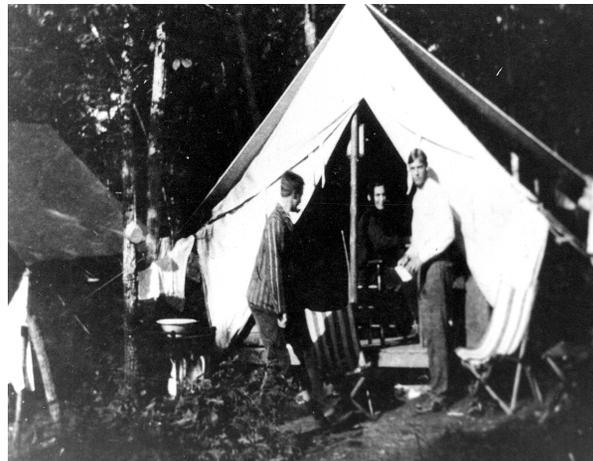
## Welcome to the Forestry Trail!

This easy-to-hike, 1/2 mile trail winds you up through the woods above the mansion. **The trailhead is located along the paved path above the parking lot.**

You will be able to see some of the most beautiful scenery on the estate. Uncover all the hidden components that make the forest ecosystem unique and special. You will discover a variety of mushrooms, ferns, trees, moss, and of course animals.

## Uncovering the Past

Did you know that this forest has only been here during the 20th century? If you happened to visit this hill a hundred years ago it would have very few trees. Thanks to the Yale School of Forestry and the students who visited Grey Towers during the early 1900's and all their tree planting we now have this great wooded forest. Today we take for granted that there are Foresters, and Forests but during Gifford Pinchot's time it was a new concept and profession. We owe those students a great deal of thanks!



## Conservation Today

This trail plays a very important part in the mission of Grey Towers and the USDA Forest Service. Every year several thousand people of all ages visit this trail. Our hope is that through conservation education we can help educate our future generations about the importance of trees and the forest ecosystem. Trees not only are beautiful but they have a vital role in the overall health of the planet. Trees help prevent soil erosion with their root systems, clean the air, and help keep our water clean and pristine.

