

University of Oregon Campus Trees of Interest University Planning Office, October 2005

This self-guided tour is an introduction to some of the many fascinating trees on the University of Oregon campus. The marked route of the tour is about one mile long and will take approximately one hour to complete. Begin at the Heart of Campus at the intersection of 13th Avenue and University Street.

Science Complex

1 - Dawn Redwood, Water Fir (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*)
Fossilized leaves of this deciduous conifer (its needles drop seasonally) can be found throughout the northern hemisphere, including central Oregon.
This species was previously thought to be extinct until it was discovered in Szechuan China in 1943. In 1947 the Arnold Arboretum at Harvard financed the collection and distribution of the seed throughout the world. This tree

is now a Eugene Legacy Tree. Though called a 'redwood' it is more closely related to the bald cypress of the southeast U.S.

Old Campus Quad, South

As you pass between Friendly and Allen Halls, you will come upon what is known as the Old Campus Quad. This quad is dominated by mature evergreens of several different species. The infamous Columbus Day Storm of 1962 took down a great number of large trees, but the campus recovered quickly. This part of the quad boasts several types of cedars including two of the three types of "true" cedars (genus *Cedrus*).

2 - Cedar-of-Lebanon (*Cedrus libani*) These two large distinctive trees are fine examples of one of the true cedars. This species is

amples of one of the true cedars. This species is native to Asia Minor and is named for the historical forests of Lebanon. There are many ancient references to this species of tree.

3 - Sitka Spruce (Picea sitchensis)

The sitka spruce is the largest type of spruce in the world, with some old-growth examples reaching close to 300 feet. Sitka spruce can be identified by their grey, scaly bark, small cones, and sharp flattened needles. The sitka spruce is the major lumber tree of Alaska, as its wood possesses great strength and workability. It is famous for its role in aircraft (most notably during World War II) and boat construction, as well as for musical instruments (especially guitar tops and sounding boards for pianos).

Deady Hall

4 - Big Leaf Maple (*Acer macrophyllum*)

This tree species, whose native range is from Alaska to California, is one of the few maples native to Oregon. This particular tree is believed to be the sole survivor of the first successful planting effort on the UO campus (1884). The

UO janitor carried out this planting after an unsuccessful planting of trees by students from the previous year; he was paid for each tree that survived.

Old Campus Quad, North

This area, also predominantly evergreens, is the northern part of the Old Campus Quad. It contains some of the oldest trees on campus and several class trees. The evergreens, including a giant sequoia (which lost its top in the Columbus Day Storm of 1962), a coast redwood, and a number of firs, spruces, and cedars, are mixed with smaller flowering trees such as dove trees and a variety of dogwoods.

5 - Coast Redwood (Sequoia sempervirens)

Native to foggy, coastal southern Oregon and Central California, this is the tallest- growing tree species in the world, regularly achieving heights of 300-350 feet and diameters of 16-18 feet. In the absence of year-long ambient moisture and subject to drying summer winds, trees here in Eugene will not reach these giant dimensions.

6 - Ginkgo, or Maidenhair Tree (Ginkgo biloba)

Native to southeast China, this tree is another example (beside the dawn redwood) of an ancient species. It can be recognized by its distinctive fanshaped leaves. The gingko is either a male tree or a fruit-bearing female tree. This female tree bears very strong-smelling plum-shaped fruit in the autumn. It is believed that the gingko species has existed for 128 million years. There is fossil evidence of it having existed in Oregon, but it survived only in China until being reintro-duced to the U.S. in 1790.

7 - California Incense Cedar (Calocedrus decurrens)

This species is native to an area from the Cascade mountains in Oregon to the Sierra Nevada mountains and into Baja California. It has distinctive curved branches and aromatic seeds and foliage. It is a tough, adaptable ornamental, and the lumber is the leading source of pencil wood; it is also used in cedar chests and closets.

8 - Oregon White Oak (Quercus garryana)

This tree is one of the original two "Condon Oaks" (the other was removed in 2004 due to its poor condition). When Deady and Villard were built, the campus was a treeless knoll with the exception of these two oak trees. Native from British Columbia south to the central California coast, Oregon white oaks are slow growing. This is the oldest tree on campus, likely predating Oregon Statehood (1859). It was adopted as a class tree by the class of 1897.

North of Robinson Theatre

This area is home to several interesting and mature trees, including a male gingko and one of the oldest dawn redwoods on campus.

9 - Ponderosa Pine (Pinus ponderosa)

A tree with a large native range (from British Columbia to Mexico and Texas), this tree is most common at medium elevations in the western U.S. These two are likely a variety called a valley ponderosa, which can be found in valleys in western Oregon and Washington. The ponderosa pine is one of the major lumber trees of North America. It also has significant spiritual significance to many western native cultures, especially several Navajo groups.

South of Robinson Theatre, Class Trees

This area south of Villard Hall and Robinson Theatre boasts many class trees and some interesting tree specimens.

10 - Giant Sequoia (Sequoiadendron giganteum)

Native to the western slope of the California Sierra Nevada mountains, this species of tree has been called the "largest living thing on earth." This is the 1880 class tree. While not as tall as the coast redwood, the giant sequoia has a notably wider trunk. It can achieve heights of 250-275 feet and diameters of 15-20 feet, but some are 300 feet tall and have a diameter of more than 30 feet!

11 - Japanese Cedar (*Cryptomeria japonica*)

This conifer is native to Japan (where it is the national tree). It is widely planted around temples and is highly prized for ornament and lumber. In its native range these fast-growing trees can grow 180 feet tall and 12 feet in diameter, though most varieties are much smaller. This particular tree is the 1879 class tree, the oldest class tree on campus.

Deady Wall

This arrangement of trees is known as Deady Walk and once represented the primary entrance to campus from town. Still an important feature on campus, it consists of a path lined with mature firs that are replanted over time as needed.

12 - Douglas-Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)

The state tree of Oregon and a quintessential symbol of the Northwest, this is the major lumber tree of North America. This species' native range is from British Columbia to Mexico and Texas. The douglas-fir is the second-tallest-growing tree species in the world, behind only the coast redwood. The tallest known douglas-fir is in Coos County, southwest of Eugene, with a height of 328 feet, though old-growth examples typically range from 200-250 feet. The wood has a strength-to-weight ratio approaching that of steel and is prized for timber construction.

Business Complex courtyard

13 - Yellow Buckeye (Aesculus octandra)

Native to central and southeast U.S. (Appalachia), the yellow buckeye is the largest of all the buckeyes and is related to the horse-chestnut. Native Americans ate the nuts after leaching toxins from them. This tree was received from the governor of Ohio and Ohio State University in 1958 as the result of a bet on that year's Rose Bowl Game between Ohio State and Oregon.

Memorial Quad

14 - Pyramidal English Oak (Quercus robur 'Pyramidalis')

The English oak, native to Europe, North Africa, and West Asia, is an iconic species whose strong wood has been prized for centuries. These eight English oaks are a cultivar of English oak having a pyramidal form. They were purchased in Illinois and sent by train to Eugene and were planted in 1939 in memorial of Robert Chase Bailey, senior class president of 1929, who had drowned in the Millrace.

Gerlinger Corridor

15 - California Bay (*Umbellularia californica*)

This evergreen, found in both shaded streamsides and exposed hillsides along the west coast, has pungently fragrant foliage. Typically multi-trunked, this specimen is particularly so, probably due to its being pruned as a shrub in the early part of the 20th century. The wood (sometimes called Oregon myrtlewood) is also valuable for woodworking.

16 - Purple-Leaf European Beech (Fagus sylvatica 'Atropurpurea')

A university tree that truly stands out with its smooth grey bark, low branches, and purple-green leaves, this is a spectacular example of a mature European beech, native to central Europe, which was planted in the early 1900s. This is a purple-leafed cultivar whose leaves turn copper in autumn.

Women's Memorial Quad

This quadrangle is known as the Women's Memorial Quad and contains several attractive trees, including several mature scarlet oaks, black walnuts, a remarkable giant sequoia, a couple of dawn redwoods, and a number of catalpa.

17 - Western Catalpa (Catalpa speciosa)

These interesting trees are native from the Midwest south to Texas. They are large, fast-growing trees, growing to 70 feet. They are known for their large, showy white flowers in the spring, large, bright green, coarse leaves in summer, and large fruit resembling bean pods in late summer and autumn.

Johnson Hall / Collier House

This area is home to Johnson Hall (the administrative building for the University of Oregon) and Collier House. Collier House was built circa 1885 by Professor and Mrs. Collier and was acquired by the university in 1895. Mrs. Collier was one of the first trained female botanists in the country. She personally went out in horse and buggy to collect trees to be planted on the Collier House grounds, including a couple of examples noted here.

18 - Monterey Cypress (Cupressus macrocarpa)

Though its indigenous population survives as only a small remnant near Monterey, California, this tree is widely cultivated and grows along the west coast of the United States and throughout other parts of the world and is especially popular in New Zealand and Great Britain. This is a potentially large tree when sheltered from ocean winds and can reach over 100 feet tall. This particular tree can be seen in the movie "Animal House." when it was much smaller.

19 - Purple Threadleaf Japanese Maple (Acer palmatum 'Dissectum Atropurpureum')

This is a beautiful example of a Japanese maple, a slow growing species. It is a small variety with purple leaves and twisting trunk and branches. Native to China, Japan, and Korea, this tree has been given special attention due to its size and unique character.

20 - Port-Orford-Cedar, Oregon Cedar (Chamaecyparis lawsoniana)

This tree is believed to have been planted in the late 19th century by Mrs. Collier. It is a very large species, reaching 200 feet tall, and is native to southwest Oregon and northwest California. The extremely durable wood is highly prized, especially in Japan, for uses from shrines to arrow shafts. The original benches in Autzen Stadium were made of this wood and lasted for 35 years without maintainence. Much of the native range of this tree has been logged, where stumps more than 18 feet in diameter can be found. It is one of the most valuable woods harvested in western North America (largely due to present rarity). This species has suffered from over-logging and the spread of an introduced root rot, and only one old-growth stand still exists, in Coos County, Oregon.

21 - Grand Fir (Abies grandis)

This type of fir is native to an area from Vancouver Island to California and Montana. It is a large tree species that can grow up to 250 feet. This is a tall specimen that is also believed to have been planted by Mrs. Collier. Its distinctly lop-sided form is due to its having grown in close proximity to a big leaf maple that is no longer on the grounds.

Other Stops

The 'Moon Tree'

22 - Douglas-Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii)

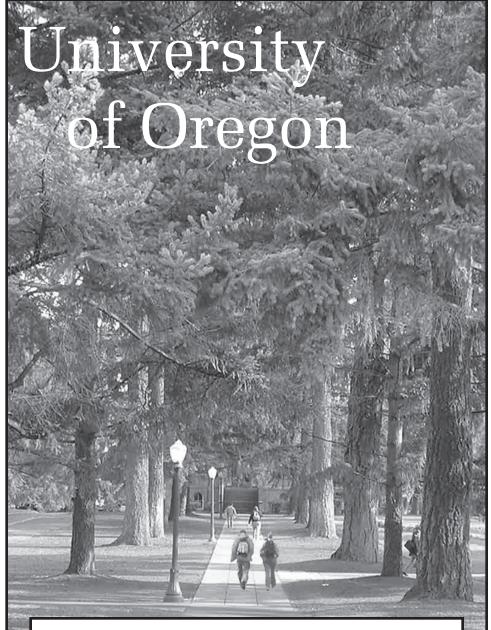
This tree, also known as the "Moon Tree," was grown from seeds carried to the moon by astronaut Stuart Roosa on Apollo XIV in 1971. The seedling was planted in 1978 where Willamette Hall now stands. It was transplanted in 1987 to accommodate the construction of the science complex additions.

Stafford Homestead/Straub Quad

23 - This area was once the location of the Stafford Homestead. It hosts several species of trees including coast redwoods, douglas firs, a big-leaf maple, a weeping cedar-of-Lebanon and a number of beautiful oriental cherries.

This concludes the self-guided tree tour of campus. Please feel free to explore other parts of campus which hold additional examples of many interesting tree species. More information may be found in the University of Oregon Atlas of Trees or by contacting Facilities Services' Exterior Maintenance Team.

Prepared by the University Planning Office (http://uplan.uoregon.edu/)



Self-guided Tour Campus Trees of Interest

April 2007

You are invited to come and explore the trees of the University of Oregon Campus. The campus today is a 295-acre arboretum containing well over 3,000 trees of more than 500 species. This self-guided tour will introduce you to some of the most significant trees on campus.



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