

DAVIDSON COLLEGE ARBORETUM

THE RETURN OF THE NATIVES

Five kinds of trees on the walking tour were once native to North America but became extinct on this continent from two to fifty million years ago. These trees survived in Asia and in recent times have been reintroduced. They are all well suited to life in the Davidson Arboretum.

Cunninghamia lanceolata (Common China Fir) See Walking Tour No. 15

This tree was widely distributed in the past but became extinct in North America about fifty million years ago. It persisted in China and is today the second most important timber tree in South and Central China, next only to bamboo. Cunninghamia was reintroduced into the U.S. in 1804. A specimen near the Carnegie Guest House was presented to former college president John R. Cunningham because of the coincidence of a name in common. Most specimens of the tree in this country have multiple trunks, an unusual trait for a conifer tree.

Koelreuteria paniculata (Golden Rain Tree) See Walking Tour No. 1

Koelreuteria lived in the U.S. until about twenty-five million years ago. Today it is still found naturally in Japan, China and Korea. It was reintroduced into the U.S. in 1763. In China the tree has been used to mark the graves of scholars. The common name comes from the fall of golden flowers which are produced in great numbers.

Metasequoia glyptostroboides (Dawn Redwood) See Walking Tour No. 24

In 1941 a Japanese paleobotanist decided that some Pliocene fossils deserved a separate genus, and named them Metasequoia. In the same year a Chinese forester observed an ancient tree in the village of Modaoqi, South Central China. It was not until 1946 that specimens of the tree were examined by trained botanists, and it was discovered that the tree was the same genus as the fossil Metasequoia.

Zelkova serrata (Japanese Zelkova) See Walking Tour No. 34



Japanese Zelkova (there are four other species in the genus) has been touted as a substitute for the American Elm, which is subject to the lethal Dutch elm disease and phloem necrosis. Zelkova was an important element in North American forests until about two million years ago. At present the genus ranges over much of Asia. The Japanese Zelkova occurs as a wild tree in Japan and Korea. It was introduced into North America in 1862, but has become popular only in the last few years.

Ginkgo biloba (Ginkgo, Maiden Hair Tree) See Walking Tour No. 40

The family Ginkgoaceae was once nearly worldwide in distribution and contained numerous genera and species. The family became extinct in North America five million years ago but survived in Europe until a few hundred thousand years ago. The Western World believed Ginkgo completely extinct until they were found growing as planted trees, usually in temple gardens in China toward the end of the eighteenth century. Since then they have been restored to much of their former range through human agency. There is still a debate as to whether any wild Ginkgos have survived in China. The fruit-like seeds are valued for food in Asia but are rarely eaten in the West. The outer soft covering of the seed has a strong odor, much like Limburger cheese.

PHSTORY OF THE DAVIDSON COLLEGE ARBORETUM

Davidson College is located in Mecklenburg County twenty miles north of Charlotte, North Carolina. It has a 100-acre active campus, with a total acreage of 450 acres.

The purpose of the Davidson College
Arboretum is to develop, maintain, and display a
major collection of woody plants that will thrive
in the Piedmont of North Carolina. The
Arboretum is meant to enhance the natural
beauty of the college and provide an outdoor
laboratory for students, faculty and staff, the
local community and visitors to the college.

The vision of an arboretum here on campus goes back to June, 1869, when the Report of the Faculty to the Board of Trustees proposed "to make the Campus in its contents represent in time the forest growth of the State, and, if possible, the general botany of the region."

Over the years, a variety of trees and

shrubs were planted so that the college became an arboretum in all but name. Then, in 1982, President Samuel R. Spencer, Jr., received a letter from the Director of the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., Mr. Henry M. Cathey, urging him to use the grounds of Davidson College as a working arboretum. In the same mail was a large check from the estate of Mr. Edwin Latimer Douglas, one of whose life interests had been forestry.

With this support and encouragement, the college embarked on an aerial survey from which came topological maps of the area, on which later were identified and localized over 1650 major trees. Labels can now be found on most trees that record family name, scientific name, common name, location, hardiness zone and native area.

Come learn and enjoy with us.

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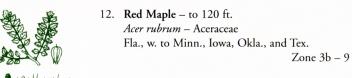
Davidson College Arboretum

Davidson College Davidson, North Carolina 28035

Sketches by the late Professor of Biology Tom Daggy and Ted Cleary, ASLA.



- 1. Goldenrain Tree to 45 ft. Koelreuteria paniculata – Sapindaceae China, Korea Zone 5 – 8
- 2. Deodar Cedar to 150 ft. Cedrus deodara - Pinaceae Himalayas evergreen
- 3. Canada Hemlock to 80 ft. or more Tsuga Canadensis - Pinaceae Nov. Sc. to Ala.
- American Holly to 50 ft. *Ilex opaca* – Aquifoliaceae E. Mass. to Fla., Mo. and Tex.
- Southern Magnolia to 100 ft. Magnolia grandiflora - Magnoliaceae N.C. to Fla. And Tex. Zone 7-9evergreen
- Sweetbay Magnolia to 60 ft. Magnolia virginiana – Magnoliaceae Mass. to Fla to Tex. Zone 5 – 9
- 7. **Laurel Oak** to 100 ft. Quercus laurifolia - Fagaceae Va. to Fla. and La. Zone 6 – 9 leaves persistent
- 8. Okame Cherry to 30 ft. Prunus x – Roseacea Cross of P. incisa and P. campanulata Zone 6 – 9
- Katsura tree to 60 ft. Cercidiphyllum japonicum - Cercidiphyllaceae China, Japan Zone 4-8
- 10. Chinese Chestnut to 60 ft. Castanea mollissma – Fagaceae N. China to Korea Zone 4 – 8
- 11. **Live Oak** to 60 ft. Quercus virginiana – Fagaceae Va. to Fla. and Mex. Zone 7 – 10 evergreen



13. Bald Cypress – to 150 ft. Taxodium distichum - Taxodiaceae Del. to Fla., w. to Ark. and Tex.

Zone 4 – 11

14. American Elm - to 120 ft. *Ulmus americana* – Ulmaceae Fla., w. to Rocky Mts.

Zone 3-9

15. China Fur – to 120 ft. or more Cunninghamia lanceolata - Taxodiaceae China Zone 7 = 9Evergreen

16. Kwanzan Cherry - 25 to 30 ft. Prunus serrulata 'Kwanzan' - Rosaceae Zone 5-7

17. Kashi Holly - to 40 ft. *Ilex chinensis* – Aquifoliaceae Japan, China Zone 7b - 9

18. Yoshino Cherry – to 50 ft. Prunus yedoensis – Rosaceae cultivated in Japan Zone 5 – 8

19. Lusterleaf Holly - to 50 ft. Ilex latifolia - Aquifoliacea E. China, Japan Zone 7 – 9 evergreen

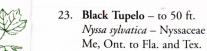
20. Lacebark Elm - to 70 ft. Ulmus parvifolia – Ulmaceae N. China Korea

21. **Red Cedar** – to 75 ft. Juniperus virginiana - Cupressaceae Ne. N. Amer. Zone 3b – 9

22. Sugar Maple – to 130 ft. Acer saccharum – Aceraceae Que. to Fla. and Tex.

Zone 4 – 8

Zone 4 – 9



Zone 4 – 9

Metasequoia glyptostroboides - Taxodiaceae Szechwan, China Zone 5 - 825. Glossy Privet - to 30 ft.

24. Dawn Redwood – to 100 ft. or more

Ligustrum lucidum "Davidson Hardy" - Oleaceae China, Korea Zone 7 – 10 evergreen

26. River Birch - to 100 ft. Betula nigra – Betulaceae

Mass., s. to Fla., w. to Kans. Zone 3b – 9

27. Yulan Magnolia - to 50 ft. Magnolia denudata - Magnoliaceae (formerly Magnolia heptapeta) China Zone 5 - 8

28. Sweet Gum - to 120 ft. Liquidambar styraciflua - Hamamelidaceae Conn. to Fla. and Cent. Am

29. Evergreen Oak - to 40 ft. Quercus myrsinifolia - Fagaceae

Japan, China, Himalyas Zone 7 - 9

30. Persian Parrotia - to 40 ft. Parrotia persica - Hamamelidaceae

31. Sawtooth Oak - to 60 ft. Quercus acutissima – Fagaceae Korea, Japan, China Zone 6 – 9

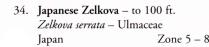
32. Yellowwood – to 50 ft. Cladratis kentukea - Fabaceae (formerly Cladrastis lutea) Se. U.S.

White Oak - to 100 ft. Quercus alba - Fagaceae Me. to Fla. and Tex.

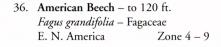
Zone 3b – 9

Zone 4 – 8

Zone 5-9



35. Littleleaf Linden – to 90 ft. Tilia cordata – Tiliaceae Europe Zone 3b –



37. Amur Maple – to 20 ft. Acer ginnala - Aceraceae China, Mongolia, Manchuria, Korea, Zone 3 – 8

38. Fortune Tea Olive (*2) Osmanthus x fortunei – Oleaceae first cultivated in Japan Zone 7 – 9 evergreen

39. Japanese Maple – 20-50 ft. Acer palmatum – Aceraceae China, Korea, Japan

40. **Ginkgo** – to 120 ft. Ginkgo biloba – Ginkgoaceae Se. China



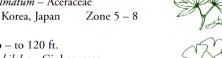


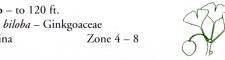


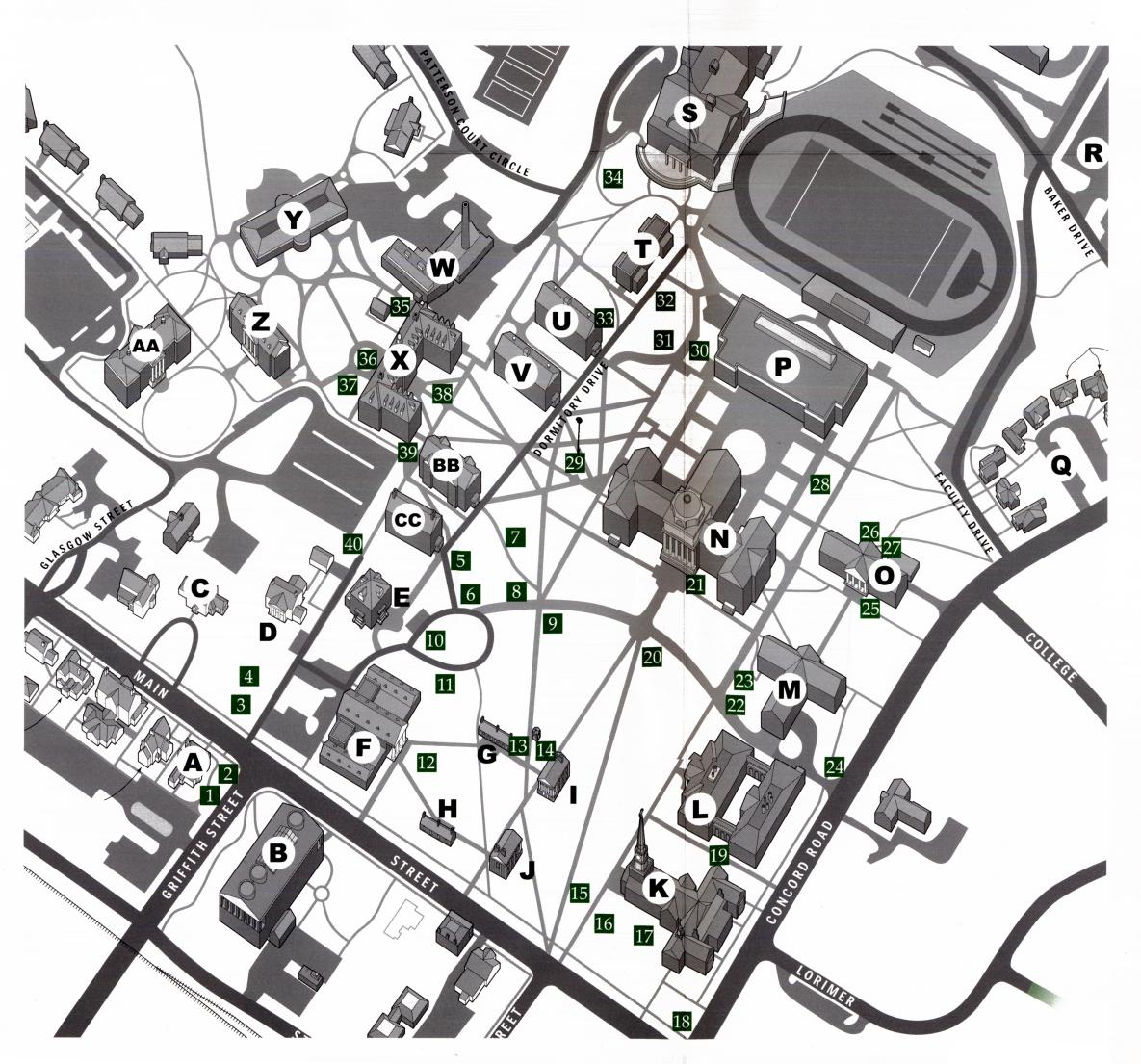












CAMPUS BUILDINGS LEGEND

- **A**. Grey Admission Office
- **B**. Visual Arts Center
- **C**. Alumni House
- **D**. President's House
- **E**. Carnegie Guest House **F**. Cunningham Fine Arts
- **G**. Elm Row
- **H**. Oak Row
- I. Philanthropic Hall
- J. Eumenean Hall
- **K**. Presbyterian Church
- **L**. Baker-Watt Science Complex
- M. Sloan Music
- N. Chambers Building
- **O**. Martin Chemical Lab.
- P. E.H. Little Library
- Q. Jackson Court
- **R**. Baker Parking Lot
- S. Knobloch Campus Center
- **T**. Duke Res. Hall
- **U**. Sentelle Res. Hall
- V. Cannon Res. Hall
- W. Laundry / Steam Plant
- X. Belk Res. Hall
- Y. Vail Commons
- **Z**. Richardson Res. Hall
- AA. West Res. Hall
- BB. Watts Res. Hall
- CC. Little Res. Hall