

LINCOLN TREE TOUR

Proud Sponsor of the Lincoln Garden Club's 2019 Tree Tour

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WELCOME

Thank you for embarking on a journey with the Lincoln Garden Club to see some of the most striking trees in Lincoln, Massachusetts. The Lincoln Tree Tour is comprised of six public areas in Town whose grounds you may tour on your own with the help of this booklet, unless otherwise posted on site. The trees on deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum grounds have been added in 2019, two years after the Club launched the Tree Project with its first tour.

This booklet is not supposed to be a technical tree handbook. It aims at revealing to you unique and quaint information, stories and history on trees and the Town, while guiding you through six beautiful areas. The trees selected for the Tour may stand out because of their age, size, beauty, or closeness to this nature-loving community's heart. Many of them have special season-related attractions, such as the young Dawn Redwoods at Pierce Park, with their soft, fire-orange leaves in the fall, and the twisting Northern Catalpa at the Library, with its showy white flower clusters in the summer.

HOW TO USE THIS BOOKLET

The back cover of this booklet is a Map showing the six areas in Town that the Lincoln Tree Tour is featuring. Next, you will find an index of the areas, listing their trees.

After a section on the importance of trees, you will reach the Tour guide. You will find a description of each place with a map, showing you the

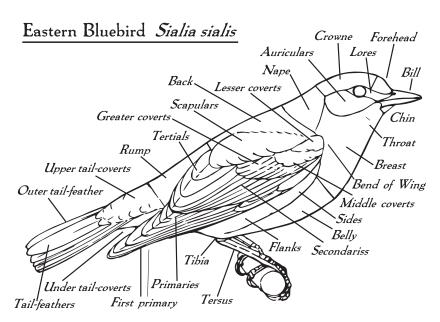
Building Water Path continues Path Featured tree locations of the featured trees.

So, step outside, look up, and enjoy your booklet! We hope you will do this tour again during different seasons to revisit these lovely specimens and see how they evolve in their rich landscapes.



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TREES

Approaching a huge animal often fills us with awe, wonder, and quite a lot of fear. We seem so fragile and at their mercy when close to their powerful muscles, limbs and movements. Trees can be infinitely more towering than any animal still walking this earth. But due to their stillness and vast lifespan, we barely notice their growth and movements, and get really close to them without hesitation.



The bigger trees become, the more they seem to invite us to take a closer look, touch their rough bark and appreciate the subtle pulse of life running

upward inside these fabulous beings. Such encounters often start lifelong relationships, and there is nothing like befriending a tree. With them we share some of the most significant events of our lives - a favorite book, a marriage proposal, an afternoon of pondering over a difficult matter. At these moments trees may shelter us from the noise of civilization, protect us from the blazing sun or sooth us with the flutter of leaves on a windy day.

It is scientifically proven that trees improve our well-being. Some studies, for instance, have shown that patients who can enjoy the view of trees out their windows have fewer health complications and heal faster than patients with no trees in sight.

But these colossal beings are responsible for much more. They provide us with the most basic necessities for our survival — oxygen, food and shelter. In one year, an acre of mature trees provides enough oxygen for 18 people, according to the nonprofit TreePeople. An apple tree can

Trees 7

yield up to 20 bushels of fruit in a year, even when planted on the tiniest urban lot. We are not the only ones who depend so dearly on trees. Bears, bees, birds and all sorts of wildlife necessary to keep our forests healthy also need trees to survive.

We build our homes and furniture with the wood from trees, and burn it to keep us warm and dry. We use trees to concoct medicines, teas, syrups and to produce musical instruments.

Trees preserve the health of our cities and towns by cleaning polluted air, preventing erosion and water evaporation. They also remove excess carbon dioxide (CO2) that builds up in our atmosphere and contributes to climate change. Trees absorb, store and break up CO2, releasing the oxygen back into the air. In a year, an acre of mature trees can absorb the carbon dioxide produced by a car driven 26,000 miles.

Have you noticed during a summer ride that the temperatures in Lincoln are generally 5°F lower than in the city of Boston? That is no coincidence. Trees are able to cool entire cities, their streets and the build-up of heat from exposed asphalt and buildings by up to 10°F. They shade pathways and houses, decreasing energy demand. Trees also release water vapor into the air through their leaves, slow the runoff of rainwater and keep it in the ground, prevent soil erosion, and are key to a clean and ample water supply.



We cannot live without trees. And due to the alarming effect of development on our environment, many of them depend on us to survive. In America, we have a tradition of clearing enormous areas of trees. Let's look up and thank them instead. Let's protect our trees, think twice before taking them down and work to preserve them.

DECORDOVA SCULPTURE

DeCordova Sculpture Park and Museum is located on the former estate of Julian and Mary Elizabeth "Lizzie" Dana deCordova. Julian donated his estate to Lincoln, MA, in 1930, with the stipulation that it would become a public park and art museum following his death.

Over the five-year period during which the residence was converted into a museum (1945-1950), important players in the art world helped devise a plan to keep the museum open for decades to come. The team spotted an opportunity to create a museum for contemporary art exhibitions. These were scarce in the Boston area, as were venues willing to showcase works by regional contemporary artists. When the then-named deCordova and Dana Museum and Park opened, it was the only museum focused on collecting and exhibiting the work of living artists residing in New England.

To pay for converting the deCordova home into a museum, the founding committee auctioned the vast collection that Julian and Lizzie formed during their seven decades of international travel, as independent appraisers decided it had no substantial value. That might not have come as a surprise to many who knew how Julian purchased art — he liked acquiring whatever took his fancy during his



Park and Museum

travels, not to mention that he absolutely loved a bargain.

Lincoln-based architect John Quincy Adams designed the extensive renovations that launched the mansion as a museum. In 1998, Kallmann, McKinnell & Wood of Boston

designed a 20,000 square-foot extension, greatly increasing the gallery space and providing access from the lower campus. In 2013, Lincoln Nursery School moved into the studio buildings.

Four years later, the Café was moved to the gift shop building, followed by the renovation of the courtyard.

In 2019, the town of Lincoln amended its bylaws, so the museum could partner with the nonprofit Trustees of the Reservations. The organization, which preserves

The deCordovas built a shingled cottage as their summer retreat in Lincoln around 1870. A great fire in the early 1900s destroyed the building, which gave Julian an opportunity to have it rebuilt with new inspiration based on architectural styles he enjoyed during his travels around the world.

The architectural style of the castle is mainly Spanish, but it carries Moorish, Lombard, and even Medieval touches, such as its battlements and pointed arches. Throughout the years, Julian continued to add even more color to

the architecture of his castle. After moving permanently to Lincoln in 1882, he commissioned the addition of a gallery, turrets, and brick facades to imitate the chateaux that he and Lizzie had enjoyed in France. The carriage house, added in 1888 for horses and buggies, is the oldest structure standing on the property, as it survived the fire.



nearly 25,000 acres of land and over 100 historic sites around Massachusetts, became the overseer of deCordova's nonprofit corporation, while the town still owns the property and buildings.

Julian deCordova

Although Julian deCordova joined the prominent and prosperous Dana family of Cambridge by marrying Lizzie, he made his own fortune as a tea broker, wholesale merchant, investor, and as president of the Union Glass Company, located in Somerville, MA.

Travel and art were among the greatest passions of the self-educated son of a Sephardic Jewish merchant from Jamaica. His wife shared his enthusiasm for art, and they both traveled around the globe several times in an era before airplanes and automobiles, when tourism was rare and quite an adventure.



Julian had never envisioned his estate becoming a sculpture park of contemporary art. But, in 1927, he might have inadvertently given friends and family a glimpse of what his legacy would later offer by assembling a fountain made of glass doorknobs. Located in the area of the current stone crosswalk across the roadway in front of the carriage

and Elizabeth Dana

house, the knobs were set over a sand pit so that Julian could rearrange the design as he wished. The knobs he used had been



made at his factory, an important manufacturer of art glass in America for over 75 years. Union Glass produced a wide range of glass products that shifted according to fashions and economic conditions.

Initially, Union Glass manufactured doorknobs, lamps and lamp trimmings, bottles, windows, lenses, and tableware. Railroad lanterns also became a significant source of revenue, as railroad workers used lantern hand-signals to communicate with the engineer. With increasing industrial wealth, tastes gravitated to more ornamented glass, and the company distinguished itself in the market for producing many objects, such as pieces made of silvered and iridescent glass in the Venetian revival style. But the company's bread and butter remained the production of high-quality "blanks," fully transparent glass pieces for engraving and cutting.

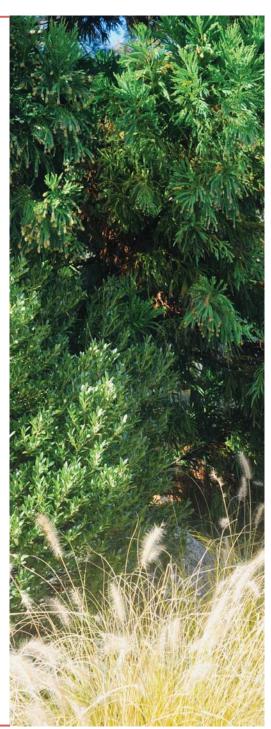
Art glass production peaked during the times Julian deCordova owned the company. Under his leadership, the business survived the tumultuous 1880's and remained in Somerville, while most competitors moved west for cheaper fuel and resources. The waning of interest in iridescent and cut glass as well as problems with internal management led Julian to close the factory in 1927. He donated 61 glass pieces to the Smithsonian Museum and kept some in his home, which were later purchased by the Corning Museum of Glass, in NY. Above is a picture of some of the knobs once used at Julian's fountain.

MAP

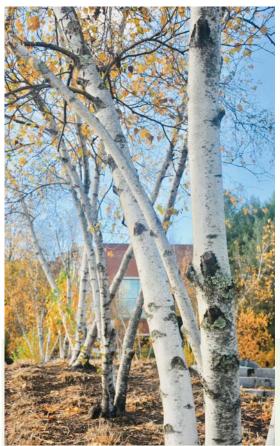


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GRAY BIRCH ALLÉE



A beautiful allée of gray birch trees graces the path to deCordova Museum from its parking lot. These typically short-lived trees, widespread in the Northern Hemisphere, are among the first ones to colonize a forest after a disturbance such as a fire.

Known for their beauty and resilience, birches have become very popular trees for landscaping. Check Pages 42 and 52 for more information on Birch trees.

The word "allée" generally refers to a walkway or drive bordered by rows of evenly spaced, even-aged trees of the same species.

Nowadays, however, arborists do not recommend planting an allée of only one tree species. If a deadly disease spreads and plagues that type of tree, one might end up losing all the specimens along that path.

The word "allée" comes from Old French — "aller" meaning "to go." Allées were introduced as a landscape feature during the Italian Renaissance, which extended from the mid-1300's to the end of the 1600's, and became particularly popular in European royal parks and estates in the 17th and 18th centuries, mostly in France and England. Inspired by the allées in Europe, planting tree-lined streets became popular in America in the late 19th century.

AMERICAN CHESTNUT

The story of American Chestnuts illustrates the cradle-to-grave concept quite literally. Their strong, straight wood was decay resistant, and therefore used to build furniture, fences, railroad ties, barrels, and even entire homes. Their tannin was extracted and used to dye silk and manufacture leather. Bees produced the sweetest honey from their blossoms. The trees' rich and abundant nuts fed a variety of wildlife and people. While squirrels, bears, turkeys, and deer ate their nuts, rural economies depended on the nuts for feeding families, fattening pigs, and earning cash.

Then, after reigning for 40 million years, the American Chestnut almost disappeared within 40. A fungus, the chestnut blight, almost wiped the tree off the map, causing what many have called the greatest ecological disaster to strike the world's forests in history.

The American Chestnut Foundation, which has been working on restoring the tree to its native forests, gave these two specimens to deCordova Museum in 2015 (a third one didn't survive). The organization is developing blight-resistant trees through scientific research and breeding, with the goal of restoring the entire ecosystem

lost at the turn of the century. The strategy is to plant them in forests, learn how they react in various scenarios, and add them to degraded lands where they were found before.



Once these two trees achieve greater height, they will be moved from the parking lot to a permanent location at deCordova Museum.

Parrotia Ironwood

The flamboyant Parrotia Persica has such dense, hard, and durable wood that it is used for telephone poles, bridge construction, and

tool handles. That is how it got to be called "the iron tree." Also, during winter, the silvery sheen of its smooth bark looks metallic. It peels in scales, revealing a mosaic of gray, green, and white new bark beneath.

Even though its flowers are small and petal-less, they emerge in late winter and early spring, before the leaves, and with a blood red tinge, they inspire flower arrangements galore. After flowering, the new leaves emerge coppery and then become dark green. As fall approaches, the tree reaches its most beautiful stage, with leaves that shine golden yellow, crimson, rose pink, maroon, and purple,



sometimes all colors on a single tree. On an autumn walk, watch for a slight breeze that will set the canopy shimmering.

The name Parrotia, however, comes not from its color or parrots, or parrot green, but from Baltic German naturalist, explorer, and scientific mountaineer Friedrich Parrot (1791-1841). In early 1829, he made the first successful ascent to the top of Mount Ararat, widely accepted in Christianity as the resting place of Noah's Ark.

This dazzling little tree (it doesn't get taller than 40-feet) can also handle harsh city conditions. It comes from the rainy side of the Alborz Mountains in Iran. With a climate similar to the northern California coast, the region can receive 80 inches of rain per year.

Katsura Allée

The Katsura tree, native to Japan and China, is famous for its heart-shaped leaves that emerge reddish purple in spring, mature to medium green with a slight bluish tinge in summer, and turn stunning shades of gold, orange and red in fall. Although not aromatic when attached to the tree, fallen autumn leaves have been described as smelling of cinnamon, burnt sugar or ripe apples.

Allées enhance the charm of any path. That is why the Lincoln Garden Club is helping the Town of Lincoln restore the allée along scenic Baker Bridge Road with its rolling farm fields on both sides.

In 2018, six trees were planted in a row farther from wires, so the electric company won't prune the trees when they achieve maturity. Since such service providers' main goal when pruning trees is to get branches out of the wires, specimens are sometimes damaged in the process. Always consider carefully the height and shape of any tree before planting it along roadways or power corridors, so the tree will be compatible with the available space.



TULIP TREE



The Tulip Tree, or Tulip Poplar, is native to most of eastern United States and is named for its cup-shaped, tulip-like yellow flowers. It is not, however, a poplar tree, but a member of the magnolia family. Along with the white pine, it is the largest tree in eastern forests. Its size, added to the fact that it grows fast and is a hardwood, guaranteed its place in American History.

Using animals for transportation was inefficient in wild North America. A thick forest made rivers and streams better for travel. Most waterways were hard to navigate by conventional boats, so explorers soon adopted the Native Americans' dugout canoes. Many early dugouts were made from Tulip Tree trunks although they rotted quickly in water,

lasting only one or two seasons. But their size allowed making huge canoes that floated in shallow creeks while still hauling massive loads.

No less of a woodsman than Daniel Boone chose this type of canoe to migrate from Kentucky to the western frontier. After losing a land grant suit in 1799, a 35-person group led by Boone felled a Tulip Tree and carved a 60-foot canoe that carried the women and children, while the men drove the livestock overland. The Spanish granted them land in St. Louis, the first major American settlement in the West.

PIGNUT HICKORY ALLÉE

The Pignut Hickory grows throughout the eastern and central US, and is particularly beautiful in the fall, when its leaves turn yellow, and in

late spring, when winter buds open. The bud scales fold back like a petal. Flowers give way to rounded nuts, but only after the tree matures, at around 25 years of age. The nutritious but hard-to-open nuts attract squirrels, chipmunks, raccoons, black bears and other wildlife. Ever wonder who might be dropping hickory nuts in the dark? Flying squirrels, who have nocturnal habits, and love to eat the nuts.

Early American settlers used this tree in many ways. They fed the nuts to the hogs, which inspired the name Pignut Hickory. They also split saplings to make brooms, why some called it Broom Hickory.

Since its wood is heavy and tough, yet flexible and shock-resistant, it was used for yokes,



wheels, ladders and furniture, and even for auto parts in the early days of the car industry. Now it is often used in sporting goods such as skis, and it continues to be used for tool handles.

Hickory wood also has low heat conductivity, which made it a favorite for wagon wheels and sulkies for harness racing. It was also invaluable to pioneers as a source of fuel, producing more BTUs than coal.

SUGAR MAPLE

In 1663, chemist Robert Boyle wrote to Europeans about a tree in the New World — the Sugar Maple — that produced a sweet substance. John Smith was among the first settlers who remarked about the Native Americans' sugar processing that resulted in maple syrup. The first attested use of the word "maple" was in 1260 as "mapole," and it also appears a century later in Geoffrey Chaucer's Canterbury Tales, spelled as "mapul." Natives used its inner bark to make a tea to treat coughs and diarrhea. And after colonization, the



plethora of uses for this tree only increased. People made soap from its ashes, used its bark as a dye, drank the sap as a spring tonic, and took the syrup to alleviate liver and kidney conditions.

The Sugar Maple is quite popular in the musical industry, as its wood carries sound waves well. The back, sides, and neck of most violins, violas, cellos, and double basses are made from maple. Electric guitar necks and many drums are commonly made from maple. Check Page 55 for more information on Sugar maples.

The Sugar Maple's hard, heavy wood is used to produce baseball bats. During the 2001 baseball season playing for the San Francisco Giants, former professional left fielder Barry Lamar Bonds switched from the traditional ash wood baseball bat to one made of maple and hit 73 home runs — a new record. Miracle maple?

FRINGE TREE

The Fringe Tree, one of the few plants from the olive family that is native to North America, gets its name from the fragrant, wispy white flowers that droop down in long clusters in late spring and early summer, when most trees have already bloomed.

Unfortunately, this specimen is in bad shape. Notice how its branches are stretching as far as they can, looking for light. Under the tree, the soil is swept clean, so it lacks protection for its roots and the



nourishment that the natural accumulation of leaves should provide. Also, the stress to this Fringe Tree could be aggravated by allelopathy — Walnut and Hickory trees produce substances detrimental to Fringe Trees, and an allée of Hickories stands right up the hill (Page 19).

When planting a tree, consider soil composition, sunlight availability, wind exposure, ground inclination, water access, proximity to buildings and other plants, and drainage. Size, shape, hardiness, growth speed, susceptibility to local pests, as well as water and light needs are a few items to check that will help you decide what to plant.

Sourwood

The Sourwood has quite a collection of common and local names: Sorrel Tree, Sorrel Gum, Sour Gum, Arrow Wood, Elk Tree, Lily-of-

the-Valley Tree and Titi Tree. But the scientific name for this tree native to the eastern US (Oxydendrum Arboreum), refers to the sour taste of its leaves. Though sour, their moisture provides a thirst-quencher to hikers and mountain climbers.

Native Americans used it for sled runners, cooking tools and firewood. Pioneers collected the sap for fever concoctions, chewed the bark to soothe mouth pains, and made teas to treat diarrhea from its leaves.



But the best-known byproduct of the Sourwood is the honey the bees produce from its fragrant blossoms, which look like lily of the valley flowers. Sourwood honey is a light amber color and aromatic, with a rich buttery caramel flavor. The aftertaste has a slight tang that has been likened to gingerbread, and some say it smells like cinnamon and cloves. It generally commands a premium price, as many say no other honey can match it.

Every August, Black Mountain, North Carolina, hosts the Sourwood Festival to honor their native tree and its honey. Hundreds of vendors and families attend the festival, which offers everything from music and dancing to arts and face painting. In addition, local beekeepers attend the festival to sell their celebrated product.

STAR MAGNOLIA

Not a day goes by that Director of Buildings and Grounds at deCordova Museum Doug Holston doesn't think of his father. And it is not because he makes daily visits to the Star Magnolia that Linda Hammett Ory, president of the Board of Trustees, planted in honor of Chester B. Holston, who passed away in 2016 at 83 years of age.

"What I liked most about my father was his support and guidance," reminisces Doug. "He was always there to help anyone in need."

Doug remembers that in the 90's, his father was friends with the Facilities Manager at deCordova. That is how Doug was interviewed and started his career at the museum in 1991, as Buildings and Grounds Assistant.



Mr. Holston had a strong bond with the town of Lincoln. He worked for 36 years as an auto mechanic for Knowles H B Oil Co., once located at 110 Concord Road. He also had a second job as grounds keeper at the estate of his boss, John Knowles, who was born and raised in Lincoln.

They both loved helping the homeless, and grew vegetables together on Knowles' 10-acre property in Groton. Mr. Holston delivered them to Pine Street Inn in Boston every month in a pickup truck.

"My dad loved that vegetable garden," says Doug. "It was his medicine."

EUROPEAN WEEPING BEECH

These two magnificent European Weeping Beeches may seem identical at first. Notice, however, how the crown of one of them is wider than the other. That is because Weeping Beeches become wider as they grow, proving these two specimens were planted years apart.

Many of the mature trees you are enjoying in this tour were planted during Julian deCordova's time. Rumor has it that Mr. deCordova had a friend at the Arnold Arboretum who often gave him plants that the arboretum didn't want to keep. That may be how he acquired most of the exotic adult specimens present at the park today.

Check Page 40 for more information on Weeping Beeches.



The fruit of the Beech Tree is a one-inch-wide prickly burr that splits into four at maturity, releasing two shiny triangular nuts. The burr is a receptacle similar to the one in Oak acorns, which also belong to the Fagaceae family. These fruits are called beechnuts and are edible, with a slight taste of vanilla. In fact, the genus name Fagus comes from the Greek for "eat," presumably after the tastiness of the nuts, which are dispersed by birds, rodents and sometimes humans. Did you know the young leaves of Beech Trees can be eaten raw in salads?

PURPLE BEECH

The European Beech, of which the Purple Beech is a naturallyoccurring variety, is relatively new to Europe compared to other tree species such as the Magnolia. Stone Age humans who ate beechnuts probably first brought it to England around 4000 BCE — some 2,000 years after the English Channel formed after the Ice Age. Nonetheless, it is considered a native tree in southern England. Arborists of northern England, however, disagree, and remove them from native forests.



One of the most characteristic features of Beech Trees is how

their leaves hold on through winter, when most other trees in northeastern forests are naked — a phenomenon called "marcescence." Pale brown beech leaves hanging from branches make a shivering, rustling sound in the cold wind.

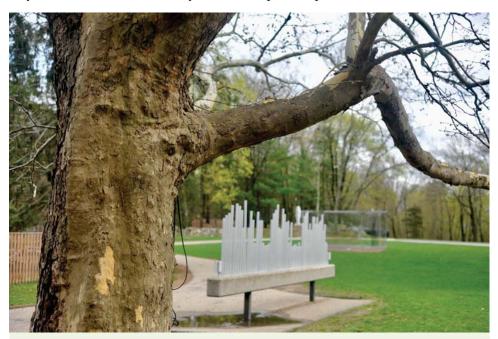
Marcescence is most often found in young trees, on low branches, and it may be a transitional form in evolution between evergreen and fully deciduous. Its advantages include discouraging deer and other herbivores from eating the leaf buds during cold months. It also helps the tree trap more snow for moisture and provides a new layer of compost in the spring – great for trees growing on poor soil.

Check Pages 32, 37 and 47 for more information on European Beeches.

The gray, smooth bark of the Beech makes it a target for graffiti. Very sad -- bark damage is an opportunity for diseases to invade.

SYCAMORE

The American Sycamore is generally regarded as the giant of the eastern hardwood forest. As these massive trees age, they may develop hollow trunks that provide shelter for ducks, owls, flycatchers, and chimney swifts. In Indiana, they are vital to the endangered Indiana bat, who uses them as nurseries. Some Sycamores have formed cavities large enough for black bears. And legend has it that a hollow Sycamore in Pennsylvania protected several of General Washington's troops during the Battle of Brandywine in 1777. The Sycamore then became a symbol of hope and protection for America.



In 1963, the Massachusetts Legislature approved widening Memorial Drive in Cambridge to relieve rush-hour traffic, which meant felling 127 Sycamores along the north bank of the Charles. Residents protested and patrolled the trees for months so the District Commission wouldn't surreptitiously take them down. Patrols were ready to blow a whistle beneath the window of a Harvard housemaster whose wife would summon supporters by phone to stand between trees and trucks. Their perseverance finally forced a repeal of the mandate, and the Sycamores still stand along the river.

JAPANESE MAPLE



With over 1,000 varieties of Maples and cultivars, the iconic Japanese Maple is among the most versatile small trees for the landscape. But they grow slowly (one to two feet per year) and they are very hard to grow from cuttings. Most of the Japanese Maple trees at garden centers come from grafting, in which the select variety is joined with a seedling-grown rootstock, so they can continue to grow together.

Japanese Maples, called the "autumn welcoming trees" in Japan, generally grow to be 20 to 25 feet tall. But be patient: some will grow very slowly, staying small for a long time, before eventually turning into a majestic 40-foot-tall tree.

Fried maple leaves are a very popular snack in the Japanese prefecture of Osaka, and apparently have been for at least a thousand years. The city of Minoh, located in the north part of the prefecture, is particularly famous for their fried leaves. The Maple leaves are dipped and fried in tempura butter, which give them their unique taste. Chefs in Minoh usually store their leaves in barrels of salt for one year, which they say enhances their taste.

LITTLELEAF LINDEN TREE



The Littleleaf Linden produces clusters of yellowish flowers in the summer that give off a pleasant smell, making them a great source of nectar and pollen. No wonder Littleleaf Linden honey is so popular all over Europe. It is also regarded as nutritious and packed with medicinal qualities. In the countries of Central, Southern and Western Europe, linden flowers are a traditional herbal remedy made into a tea called tilleul. The young leaves can also be eaten as a salad vegetable.

Its wood is not strong, but a classic choice for refined woodcarvings. English sculptor Grinling Gibbons used it for medieval altarpieces and carvings in St. Paul's Cathedral, Windsor Castle, and Chatsworth.

Littleleaf Lindens were planted and used for social purposes as early as 760 A.D. In Germanic and Norse countries, the tree was known as a favorite of the goddesses of love (Freya), and of married love (Frigga). Maidens would dance ecstatically around the village linden, and women hoping for fertility would hug the tree or hang offerings in its branches. In Scandinavia, Lindens were thought to be a favorite haunt of elves and fairies and therefore avoided after dark.

Japanese Cedar

The Japanese Cedar, Peacock Pine or Sugi — actually a member of the Cypress family — is the national tree of Japan. This tree of immense cultural importance is planted around temples and believed to be visited by deities on festival days. Small shrines are set on the trunks of old Sugi trees to reflect their spiritual significance. Recently, the Japanese have recognized the importance of old Sugis, which sometimes reach heights of 100 feet and 2,000 years of age, leading to unusual attempts to conserve them such as having special doctors care

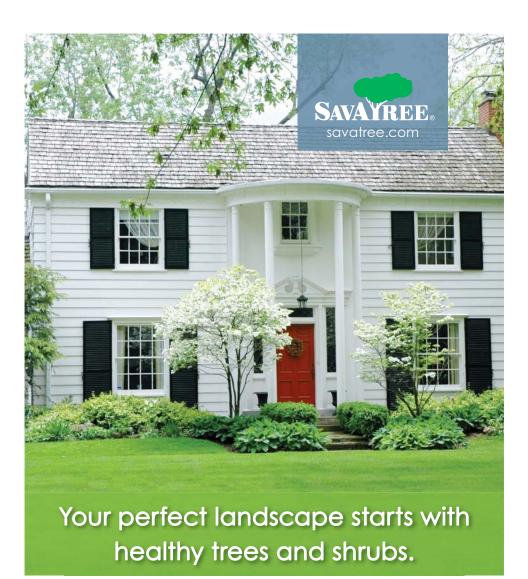
for them.

But this tree is both beloved and despised in modern Japan. After WWII, a program to reforest Japan's mountainsides led to massive plantings of both



Sugi and Hinoki trees. Millions of people endure weeks of hay fever every year, brought on by the clouds of pollen from these trees. The now unmanaged forests are also causing extensive pollution. The lack of care, added to the fact the trees are all of similar size, cause heavy shading, preventing vegetation from growing beneath them. Not needed by mature trees, the excess nitrogen from decaying organic matter collects in the forest soil. With almost no vegetation to absorb it, the nitrogen washes away during rainstorms, and the runoffs generate huge algal blooms at sea, creating "dead zones," where little survives. Some say these runoffs are as harmful to the environment as the nitrogen fertilizer runoffs from industries.

Some of these forests are now being thinned so that other plants can stand a chance and promote richer ecosystems. Unfortunately, overall, little flora and fauna can survive in these areas — at least for now.



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LINCOLN PUBLIC LIBRARY

In the last years of the 18th century, the Reverend Charles Stearns became "Lincoln's first author of note," when he published several books of poetry and moralistic dramas. Stearns and some of his neighbors joined to form the private subscription "Social Library of the Town of Lincoln." This small beginning led in 1884 to Lincoln resident George Grosvenor Tarbell donating \$27,000 for a Victorian red brick

Library designed by Boston architect William G. Preston.

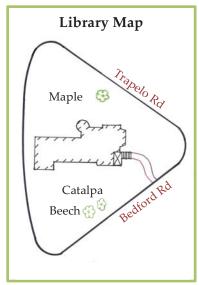
The land on which the Library stands today was part of a 750-acre Concord farm owned by Thomas Flint. He arrived in Massachusetts in 1635 from Matlock, England, to take possession of land furnished through a king's grant. Generations have enjoyed the Library's fireplaced reading rooms, stained glass windows and mature trees.

In the 19th century, the Library bought a large collection of stuffed birds, placed in the Reading Room. The stuffed peacock must have become a favorite — for years it sat in the Library vestibule, welcoming patrons. No one seems to know what happened to it. But another bird took its place in the hearts of Lincolnites. A bronze eagle with outstretched wings now sits atop a granite boulder in front of the Library — the War Memorial dedicated to our residents fallen in wars, from the Revolutionary War through the Vietnam War.



COPPER BEECH

The Copper Beech or Purple Beech is a majestic tree with a silver-gray, smooth trunk and deep purple foliage in the spring that changes to a copper hue by the fall. Its beauty has been the subject of many poems. Irish novelist Maeve Binchy even wrote a book entitled "The Copper Beech," about the lives of eight people who etched their dreams and desires into a large Beech tree on the last day of school. Even though fictional, Binchy's book reminds us that all Beech



trees are delicate. We shouldn't walk over their roots, especially under the canopy, much less carve anything on their trunks. Trees seem so sturdy, but disturbing their space or harming their bark may allow disease to enter. Beeches grow slowly and develop into grand, lowmaintenance shade trees. In their case, low-maintenance is a must. They suffer if pruned for more than dead branches. Also, the roots are

sensitive to soil composition, so raking and mulching under them is a bad idea. The best way to care for a Copper Beech is to leave it alone as much as possible. More on the Purple Beech on Page 25.

The Copper Beech is one of the many European Beech trees found in nature and nurseries. They are used to produce all sorts of objects. Their wood is very easy to carve, soak, dye, varnish and glue. This is why their wood became popular especially for furniture. Its hardness is ideal for making implements such as mallets and workbench tops.



NORTHERN CATALPA

This mature Catalpa, now in its declining years, was one of the first trees planted on the Library grounds, in the early 1900's. It soon became a fixture not only for its beauty, but also because of its twisting trunk. Many people have guessed why it twists. Some believed that bittersweet vines made the trunk turn, or that several trees planted



together were forced into this decades-long spiral of their trunks, eventually forming one twisted specimen.

Arborists determined the Catalpa is one tree, and not many, intertwined. They suspect the twisting happened because of a genetic anomaly possibly triggered by an environmental factor such as sunlight, or a rock standing in the way of its roots.

With the help of the Arnold Arboretum, the Lincoln Garden Club is now trying to grow more catalpas with twisting trunks so we may have another one when

this tree dies. To make sure we stand a chance of succeeding, this multi-year project will include several methods such as collecting branch cuttings and root cuttings, propagating seeds and grafting.

The name Catalpa came from the Native American name of the tree, pronounced "kutulpa." Herbalists use Catalpas for various medicinal concoctions. A tea made from the seeds is said to treat asthma and bronchitis, and tea from its bark to having antiseptic, laxative and sedative properties. It is even used as an antidote to snakebites. The tea's narcotic effects never leave the patient dazed, according to herbalists. Catalpa wood is also used as tonewood in guitars.

SUGAR MAPLE

The iconic Sugar Maple, also known as Hard Maple, Head Maple, Bird's-eye Maple and Sugartree Maple, is one of America's best-loved trees. No other tree beats the Sugar Maple as a state tree. It is claimed by New York, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Vermont. Its leaves turn spectacular shades of yellow, orange, and red in the fall. Its hard, heavy, and strong wood is excellent for producing furniture, wall paneling, flooring, veneer, wood handles, bowling pins and alley lanes, butcher blocks, pool cues, skateboards, and much more.



But perhaps the greatest quality of the Sugar Maple is the ability to restore the natural habitats of New England. The world became smaller during the last centuries. Now our gardens and forests are dotted with plants from all over the world, which we either planted or brought inadvertently as seed. Some of these plants thrive in our climate and overpower native plants. And local wild animals and bugs necessary to pollinate our forests and farms often cannot eat or pollinate foreign plants. They sometimes even starve eating a similar, unwholesome plant from another country.

Consider planting a Sugar Maple if you have the space and live outside the city — they can grow 100′ tall and do not do well in urban areas. It will feed and shelter animals, and help local pollinators support our crops and forests. More on Sugar Maples on Page 20.

The Sugar Maple is the only tree now used in commercial production of maple syrup. Along with honey, maple syrup was the primary sweetener used by Native Americans and early European settlers.

LINDENTREE FARM

Lindentree Farm is a certified organic produce farm created in 1991, when Ari Kurtz received a license from the Town to farm 5 acres of land adjacent to his house and barn, purchased in 1985. The house was in rough shape. He was told the abutting land had been farmed for a long time, and the house had been a shed used to process asparagus.

During farm renovations, Mr. Kurtz attended a Bemis Lecture by Robyn Van En, one of the founders of the Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA) movement, which inspired his business model. The system helps small, diverse organic farms like Lindentree manage expenses and create a sense of community by selling harvest shares to people before the farming season begins. Lindentree also sells to local businesses and at the farmer's market, where Mr. Kurtz's wife, Moira Donnell, helps. She also does CSA work and grows flowers and herbs.

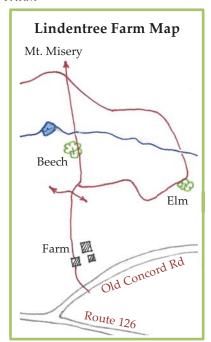
In 2003, the Town licensed to Lindentree 5 more acres, and 3 more in 2010, in part because beavers had moved in and taken a few acres out of production. The beavers are still there, busy to the point that the trail that connects St. Anne's Church to the farm fields is under water.

Lindentree Farm got its name for three reasons: First, Mr. Kurtz attended the Linden School in Pennsylvania as a child. Second, the farm has two American Linden trees along the property's frontage with Old Concord Road. Third, hoping to avoid being mistaken for a tree farm, the owners chose to make it one word, "Lindentree." Even so, people occasionally ask what kind of trees the farm sells.



AMERICAN ELM

The American Elm, the state tree of Massachusetts, was the predominant street tree in America. It was easy to plant and transplant, grew fast, its vase-like shape was great for urban areas, and its graceful branches arching like water fountains were a hit. Asian Elm bark beetles were accidentally brought to America in the 50's and devastated the Elms by spreading a fungus that causes Dutch Elm Disease. Most Elms were not resistant and died. Their loss was a serious blow to communities.



Decades ago, a forest full of Elms stood

in the grassy area that abuts Lindentree Farm. The seed bank in the soil doesn't deny history. Every year, dozens of saplings of the fast-growing Elms sprout out of the ground and dot the fields, looking like sturdy little bushes with very serrated, dark green leaves. Several small trees are growing at the edge of the forest. One is now over 20 feet tall. If nothing is done, this tree will probably die before reaching maturity. Lincoln fumigates five Elms in Town to keep them alive. Resistant Elm hybrids are now available, and some even retain the classic American Elm form.

American Elm wood is light in color, heavy, hard, strong and tough

with interlocked grain. It was mainly used for veneer, boxes, crates, barrel staves, and furniture parts. The name "Dutch Elm Disease" comes from the fact its cause was first identified by Dutch scientists.



EUROPEAN BEECH



In the early 70's, two Eastern White Pines that dotted the fields of Arena Farms (now Lindentree Farm) were struck by lightning and died. Lincolnites Kemon and Rhoda Taschioglou founded the Old Concord Road Tree Association to raise funds for the planting of a new tree. Neighbors who loved these fields joined the cause and chipped in.

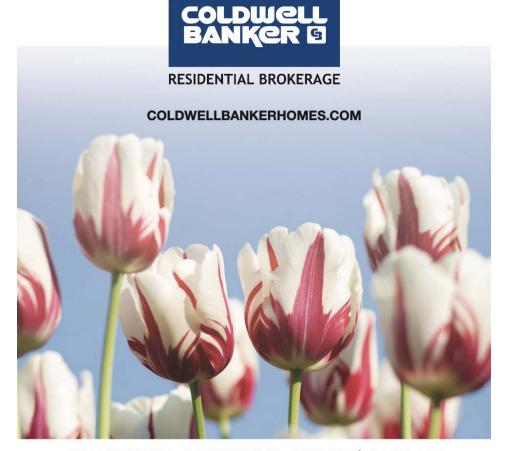
Russell Barnes, manager of the Lincoln Conservation Commission properties at the time, suggested a Beech tree, as it would be shaped in a way that children could climb it, and sturdy enough to withstand the hardship of being alone in the fields. The tree was purchased and planted, and at Christmas time the Association gathered to celebrate the tree, singing "Oh Little Tree" to the tune of "O Tannenbaum." A local girl played the flute, making the occasion extra special.

This was the only project the Association ever sponsored. The bank account was closed, books finalized. But the fruits of that one project still stand. The Taschioglous and many other former members of the Old Concord Road Association walked with their children on these trails for decades, passing by the Beech tree. They raised their families in the area and enjoyed the breathtaking views of this lonely tree. On Independence Day 1998, the Taschioglous' son Peter proposed to his girlfriend under the Beech, and later got married to her. To this family, this tree is a dear friend to visit and enjoy during their daily walks. Check Pages 24, 25, 40 and 47 for information on the European Beech.

COLDWELL BANKER RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

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OLD TOWN HALL, 25 LINCOLN RD., LINCOLN | 781.259.1100

OLD TOWN HALL

Old Town Hall is one of the most famous buildings in Lincoln, listed in the Massachusetts and the National Registers of Historic Places. Opened in 1848 to hold Lincoln's civic gatherings, the Hall was soon hosting our first high school, and later our first public library. When purchased from the Town by a private citizen in 1884, it was moved from the site where Bemis Hall now stands, to across Bedford Road, next to the white church. There it stood as a general store and post office for almost 30 years. In 1918, the Hall was hauled to its current

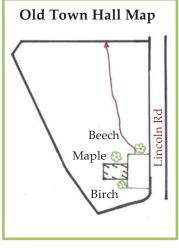
address and kept open for business throughout the move. Since then, it has housed a gas station, a law office and a small publisher. Today the tenants include a post office, a real estate office, and a women's exchange that sells handcrafts, gifts, and antiques. Income from leases and donations support the nonprofit that maintains the building.

Henry Ford tried to purchase Old Town Hall in 1931 to move it to his museum of significant American architecture in Michigan. The town didn't let him. So he built a replica on the museum grounds, next to the Wright Brothers' bicycle shop, and the homes of lexicographer Noah Webster and writer Robert Frost. The Hall holds a post office because Lincoln's wealthiest citizen at the time, Sumner Smith, found it inconvenient to travel to the other post office in the mall. He preferred to walk over the meadow to and from his house on Sandy Pond Road.



Weeping Beech

Branches grow vertically, and gradually bend toward the ground. That is what "weeping" means in the tree world — a phenomenon that happens to trees with a genetic anomaly. This variety of European Beech was developed in England in 1836 by propagating cut branches of a Weeping Beech found by chance in a forest. An American nurseryman introduced it to the United States a decade later, when he brought a sapling from Belgium to



Queens, NY. After DNA testing, scientists believe that every Weeping Beech in America descends from that one sapling.

Want to see huge Weeping Beeches up close? The Newport RI mansions have 120-year-old massive specimens. They are at the end of their lives, so hurry! A nearly-as-big centenarian Beech -70' tall and 60' wide - stands on the grounds of the historic Captain Bangs Hallet House, in Yarmouth, MA.

Photos show this tree at Old Town Hall was planted after 1984. Its admirers hope it will grow to become a huge tree with an almost entirely enclosed space within the branches, as mature Weeping Beeches do. Their branches root into the ground when they touch moist soil, and the tree starts also growing vertically. That process is called layering, and it is widely used to propagate plants. So, when does one tree become many? When we separate the new shoots from a main tree? No one can really tell!



Norway Maple



Context is everything when it comes to plants. When we introduce a new tree to a region, depending on the climate and soil conditions, a tree may maintain a tolerable relationship with other plants. But usually it either does poorly without human intervention or it overpowers local plants. If we let such trees take over, they eventually create a "dead zone" where only invasives live. This weakens wildlife, as food resources become very poor, and throws the balance of nature into chaos.

The Norway Maple is one of those invasive trees in New England. It was introduced to the United States in 1756 as an ornamental and soon became a popular tree for urban areas because it creates dense shade and is highly tolerant of smoke and dust. Look at the seedlings sprouting out all over the lawn around this Norway Maple. They grow faster and are stronger than local trees, quickly shading and outnumbering other seedlings. The local trees can't get enough light, get weak, and die.

So should we cut this mature tree down? The Massachusetts government says not necessarily. Mature trees can be kept and managed by pulling their seedlings from nearby forest areas and mowing around them where there is lawn. But it is forbidden to import, sell or propagate the Norway Maple in our state. When you consider a new plant for your yard, we urge you to consider a native species. They need very little care, as they are adapted to this climate, and provide the best nutrition and shelter conditions for local wildlife.

RIVER BIRCH

The River Birch, also known as Red Birch, Black Birch or Water Birch, is a species of Birch native to the United States that naturally develops multiple trunks. In nature, it is generally found in flood plains and swamps, but it also does well in drier soil. Its bark is very distinctive not only for its various tones of cream and salmon colors, but also for its extreme peeling, which allows the tree to grow faster by synthesizing more food from carbon dioxide.

Native Americans used the boiled sap of this vigorous tree as a sweetener just like the Sugar Maple syrup. They ate the inner bark as survival food. We no longer commonly eat its sap or bark, and its wood is too crooked to have any value as timber. But it is durable enough to make many items such as toys, eating utensils and artificial limbs. Gardeners value it as a great native option, attractive in every season, as its leaves turn bright yellow in the fall. And environmentalists love it for its capacity to contain erosion on stream banks. Check Page 52 for Station Park's River Birch.



The word bereza, which means Birch in Russian, is an ancient word that conveyed the concept of taking care of someone. The Slavs thought of the Birch as a protector of their people. They believed Birches controlled the spread of fires in forests, and planted them around their villages. In Celtic culture, the Birch symbolizes growth, renewal, stability, new beginnings, and adaptability. Even though short-lived, this pioneer species is one of the first to appear in disrupted areas, withstanding harsh conditions.



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Opportunities to garden together

Community service at Station Park and water troughs Flowers for the Library and for homebound seniors Support to Lincoln trees through the Lincoln Tree Tour

Workshops & field trips year-round

Flower arrangement exhibits

Biennial plant sales

www.LincolnGardenClub.org

PIERCE HOUSE & PARK

John Howard Pierce, a state Senator, gentleman farmer and businessman about whose affairs we know little, had the Pierce House built in 1900 in the Georgian-Revival style. The front façade of the Pierce House was designed to resemble the Vassall-Craigie-Longfellow House at 105 Brattle Street in Cambridge, MA, built in 1759. He probably had high regard for the Longfellow House because

it had been the headquarters of General George Washington and later became the home of American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow for almost 50 years.

the Town commissioned a plan to an architect who advised tearing down Pierce House, which was in the way of his plan to build an athletic complex. The plan died a year later, when the Town ordered planting native hardwood and evergreen trees to frame the borders of the Park.

The Town of Lincoln considered changing the

use of Pierce House and Park twice. In 1931,

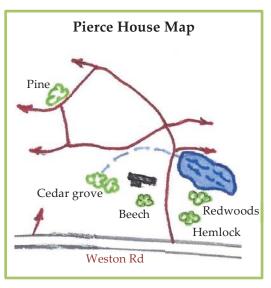
Mr. Pierce wanted the estate to become a hospital and park when he gave it to In 1945, Lincoln considered the Park as a site for a new school, but Lincoln Road was chosen instead, allowing the house to stay as a place of community gatherings and functions.

the Town in his will, but that wasn't possible. So the wills of Mr. Pierce and his daughter Elsie, who left the Town an annual income to be used toward the House, were changed. The balance of the income left by Elsie served other great purposes, providing hospital treatment, medical and nursing care, as well as dental and well child care for Lincoln residents going through hardships.



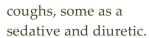
RED CEDAR

The Red Cedar, also called Eastern Redcedar, Pencil Cedar and Aromatic Cedar, is actually a species of Juniper. That is why it is also called Virginian Juniper, Eastern Juniper, and Red Juniper. It was first observed at Roanoke Island in Virginia in 1564, and soon became prized by colonists for building furniture, logs cabins and rail



fences. Its wood became a staple of the pencil industry for over a century, until the Western Cedar replaced it, as there were not enough Red Cedars available to meet production demands. Today pencils are generally made out of Incense Cedar.

Native Americans believed the Red Cedar to be a holy tree and often burned it in purification rites and sweat lodges. They concocted remedies with its berries, roots and bark, some to relieve asthma and





The juicy blue berries that the Red Cedar produces take three years to mature and are food for many types of wildlife. That includes the Cedar Waxwing, a bird named for the tree because they often eat most of its fruit.

EUROPEAN BEECH

This mature, round-shaped European Beech has not always been here alone. Two identical Beech trees stood together in front of Pierce



House for decades. Sadly, the other tree got sick and had to be removed.

The European
Beech seems to
reign
unchallenged in
the history of
Europe.
Historians claim
that the first
written

European literature was inscribed on Beech bark. The English word book comes from the Anglo-Saxon boc, a derivative for beece or Beech. People in Germanic societies often used Beech wood tablets for writing before paper was available. The modern word book derives from the Old English $b\bar{o}c$. Both $b\bar{o}c$ and Old Norse $b\acute{o}k$ primarily mean beech and carry book as a secondary meaning. Similar patterns occur in modern German and Dutch. In Swedish, bok means both beech and book.

The Chinese closely guarded the secret of paper manufacture. But in 751 AD Arabs captured Chinese papermakers and started their own industry in 793 A.D. By 1150 AD the crusades had brought paper to Spain and the first paper industry in Europe was established. In 1453 AD Johann Gutenberg invented the printing press. The first paper industry in North America was built in Philadelphia in 1690.

In evolutionary terms, recent research indicates that the Beech is the most basal of trees in the Fagaceae family. It originated the Oak, the Chestnut, the Chinquapin, and all other plants in its family.

EASTERN WHITE PINE

If you were a British sailor back in the in the 17th century, the words White Pine would never have crossed your lips. If they did, you could have very well been hanged.

The Eastern White Pines in New England were a British military secret. Here the trees grow up very quickly, developing tall, straight, strong trunks. Because of these attributes, the pines could be used to produce the tallest masts ever seen at the time —the masts that held the sails of the most impressive British ships. Thanks to our Pines, the English could sail faster and maneuver better, giving the English

Navy superiority over every other navy, including the Spanish.

Pines typically grow after some destructive event that wipes out all trees, such as a hurricane or a wild fire. The Pines are so tall that their cones survive the heat, which opens them, causing seeds to drop to the newly prepared soil. No other plant outsmarts the Pines in such conditions.

The White Pine in this trail, though, is a **Wolf Pine**. It is very large, bony and multi-forked, and such trees are very costly to process into logs, so loggers often left them in the



woods. Wolves have a reputation of eating everything around them. These trees take a lot of space and light in the forest. That's why they are called "Wolf Trees." Something happened to the main trunk of the Wolf Pine that made it send up shoots to replace the dead leader. It is impossible to know what — maybe a beetle attack or a drought that caused the trunk to fail. What matters is that the event probably saved its life, and now we can appreciate the Wolf Pine in these woods.

DAWN REDWOODS



These conifers
native to China are
most peculiar. Their
needles are soft and
fall when winter
comes (deciduous).
They also turn the
most vivid shade of
orange during the
fall. Also called
Metasequoias,
Dawn Redwoods

are "cousins" of the Giant Sequoias in California, sharing the same subfamily. They are the smallest of the Redwoods, growing only 200 feet in height — the largest Giant Sequoias are as tall as a 26-story building, and the width of their bases can exceed that of a city street. Giant Sequoias are the largest living beings on Earth.

Although relentless collection of their cones prevented their natural reproduction and nearly brought them to extinction, China is now the only place to view a large number of Dawn Redwoods in the wild.

A Metasequoia reforestation project named the Crescent Ridge Dawn Redwoods Preserve was established in 1995 in the Appalachian region of North Carolina. A 50-acre grove was planted, and many hope that one day it will become established enough to become a public park. The year 2035 is the target date for opening it to the public.

Fossil records show that Dawn Redwoods once covered the Northern Hemisphere. They were thought to have been extinct for millions of years until their rediscovery in 1941 by a Chinese forester in a remote corner of the Sichuan Province in south-central China. Somehow, a little over a thousand trees had survived for millennia in that region, which ironically is not even an ideal environment for Metasequoias.

EASTERN HEMLOCK

The Eastern Hemlock is the state tree of Pennsylvania. But if you look around, you will see them everywhere in Massachusetts too. Many of these specimens tower over other trees, bringing to the landscape a massive background of evergreens. The Eastern Native Tree Society has found Hemlocks up to 173 feet tall along the east coast of the United States. Put two of these trees on top of each other, and they surpass the Statue of Liberty, which is 305′ tall.

Hemlocks sometimes grow to be enormous because they can live 800 years. Unfortunately, a pesky aphid-like insect called wooly adelgid is plaguing and killing most Hemlocks in America. This awful bug came from Japan uninvited in the 1950's and has been feasting on our Hemlocks ever since. Spraying entire forests is economically impossible and not very effective, according to scientists. So their best bet for saving Hemlock forests is by releasing in great numbers a predatory beetle whose favorite meal is the wooly adelgid.

Black bears often use hollow Hemlocks as shelter. This tree also feeds many wild animals. Deer, rabbits and squirrels eat Hemlock bark. Porcupines eat Hemlock twigs, and birds eat their needles and seeds. Hemlock needles contain vitamin C and can be drunk as a tea, as the Iroquois Indians did. Oil extracted from the needles is used in the perfume industry. Crushed needles smell like Poison Pemlock (a flowering plant Greek philosopher Socrates drank to kill himself), but the Hemlock trees are not toxic



STATION PARK

An empty lot in 1905, this area was once occupied by a Girl Scout building funded by Helen Storrow that later became a restaurant, gift shop, hardware store, and then a rutted parking lot for the nearby community store and train. Station Park was created in 1970 by a group of Lincolnites and local organizations. The Lincoln Garden Club has maintained it since 1972, thanks to its volunteers, who plant, prune, dig, rake, mulch and water regularly. The Lincoln Department of Public Works, local schools, businesses and other organizations often help the Garden Club with Station Park projects, making it a center of generosity, camaraderie, and, of course, delicate beauty.

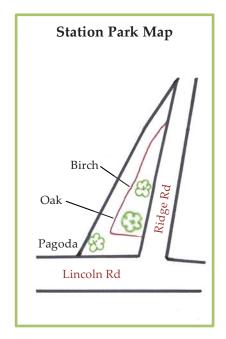
The gardens are mostly plants donated by the volunteers to honor loved ones or simply beautify their Town. The Club is now focusing on introducing native plants and trees to protect and feed wildlife and pollinators, helping the local habitat. In 2015, a native garden bed was installed, and in 2016 native trees and shrubs were planted. Savor the serenity of the wooden arbor and rustic fences. Enjoy the Peace Pole installed in 1984, and be sure to take a sip at our water fountain.



RIVER BIRCH

In the warm and sunny morning of May 24, 2002, relatives and friends of Berkeley Bottjer gathered at Station Park to witness the planting of a tiny River Birch in her honor. Ms. Bottjer wasn't well enough to attend, but she enjoyed seeing the pictures that afternoon. She died of cancer a few hours later, at 56.

Like her tree, Ms. Bottjer was very young. But she lived a passionate and exciting life as an architect, especially celebrated as an "urban pioneer" of Boston's South End. There she lived for



years and took the restoration of numerous town houses to heart as a personal cause. She was known for choosing fearless colors for walls



and happy mixes of antique and contemporary furnishings for rooms, bringing new life to a historical place in disrepair. She was also an avid amateur photographer, and a devoted volunteer for the Lincoln Garden Club, the Lincoln Library, and the Audubon Society. Her husband, acclaimed Broadway set designer Karl Eigsti, once said, "I always told people that before I met Berkeley, I had a career. After I met her, I had a life." Now her River Birch lives on at Station Park, as beautiful as her life. Go to Page 42 for information on the River Birch.

Japanese Pagoda

The Japanese Pagoda, or Chinese Scholar tree, is native to China. But it became very popular in Japan, where it was planted on the grounds of many Buddhist temples. Today it is also a well-loved ornamental tree in Europe, North America and South Africa, probably because of its beautiful leaves that resemble a fern, and its elegant round crown. The Pagoda tree at Station Park, though, leans toward the street. It seems to have been pruned to allow walkers to pass through the park path and the sidewalk, and it may be growing



faster toward areas where it reaches more light. The large Oak across the gravel path is partially blocking its access to the sun. This Pagoda is quite old, very possibly planted when the sidewalks in Lincoln were being laid out. You can see that the grade has been considerably lifted since it was planted, as the trunk goes into the ground with no flare.

The Pagoda is one of the 50 fundamental herbs used in traditional Chinese medicine, and it is easy to see why. The list of its medicinal

uses seems endless: it fights bacteria and inflammation, suppresses muscle spasms and bleeding, reduces fever and blood pressure, and fights cholesterol among many other uses. Modern medicine is still unveiling its benefits. A recent study suggests that an extract from the seeds may alleviate rheumatoid arthritis symptoms.

Have you heard of the "guilty Pagoda tree" or zuihuai? It is a tree located in Jingshan Park, in Beijing, China, that became a tourist attraction and national landmark. The Chongzhen Emperor, the last ruler of the Ming dynasty, allegedly hanged himself from the tree in 1644, after the imperial city of Beijing fell to rebel forces.

SWAMP WHITE OAK



Oaks are North American trees that come from the Beech family. The Oak right next to the arbor at Station Park is a Swamp White Oak — a tree known to survive a variety of habitats. There are over 500 different species of Oaks. And some of them are evergreens. The Swamp White Oak can only be distinguished from similar Oaks by the bark on young branches, which peels profusely.

Oaks are strong, long-lived trees, and their wood is quite valuable. But gardeners who, like Lincolnites, have homes surrounded by Oaks, get numerous benefits from living Oaks as well.

Mulch is one benefit. Oak leaves don't alter the pH of the soil, even if used in large amounts. They are easy to carry, close by in our yards, and so light compared to the bags of mulch we lug from the store. And, best of all, they are free of charge!

Oak leaves are a great source of organic materials that are added to the soil as they decompose. Some research

shows their leaves contain up to 1% nitrogen, about as much as the composted cow manure used to fertilize soil. So, don't send your leaves away!

You may also mow Oak leaves into your lawn, enriching the soil and feeding the grass with no adverse effects. Or you may till them into your veggie gardens. Do it in the fall, so they decompose for next year.

Thank you for having explored some of the most beautiful trees in Lincoln with the Lincoln Garden Club.

But the fun is not over.



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Visit LincolnTreeTour.org

NOTES

LINCOLN TREE TOUR 2019

TEAM DIRECTORY

Tree Tour 2019 Project Chairs Son Daniela Caride and Cathy Moritz

➢ Booklet Editor ← Daniela Caride

>> Booklet Copy Editor <> Cathy Moritz

Maps & Tree Tour Logo Designer
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SUPPORTING INFO

➣ Image Credits by Page ≪

Daniela Caride took all the photos listed below except for those otherwise noted in red.

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Please visit www.LincolnTreeTour.org to donate, send questions and comments, take a virtual tour or download the booklet.

Please visit www.LincolnGardenClub.org for inquiries on how to become a Club member.

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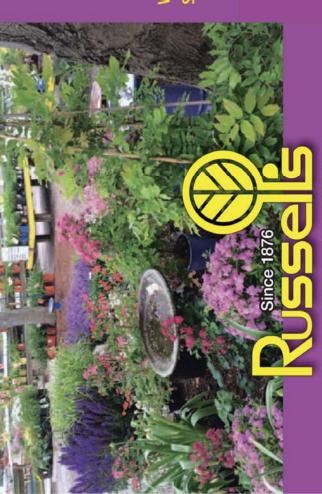
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