



THE COMMUNITY CENTER TREE WALK BEGINS AT THE CHILDREN'S LIBRARY, 1276 HARRIET STREET

- 1a. Lawson Cypress or Port Orford Cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)
~ 1127 Hopkins Avenue, right of front door
Known for its straight grain and ruler-straight trunk, this tree is prized for making arrow shafts and shingles. This is an example of a blue-green form. Native to the West Coast.
- 1b. Incense Cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*)
~ 1127 Hopkins Avenue, right of driveway

- 2. Red-flowering Gum (*Eucalyptus ficifolia*)
~ 1280 Wilson Street, right side
Eucalyptus were first seen by Europeans on December 2, 1642 in Tasmania. The Eucalypt genus, meaning "well-covered" (referring to the lid on the seed capsule), has over 600 identified species, and others have yet to be named by botanists. This tree is maintained as a large bush and will have spectacular red flower clusters. They produce large seed capsules.

- 3. English Yew (*Taxus baccata*)
~ 1247 Wilson Street, left side along fence
A staple tree or shrub from the estates of yesteryear. Often used in historic residences which are recreating a garden from the past. Susceptible to aphids and scales. Native to the British Isles.
- 4. Japanese Black Pine (*Pinus thunbergii*)
~ 1290 Cedar Street, left side along fence
Slow-growing, a great ornamental landscape tree. Native to Japan.
- 5. Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*)
~ 1150 Newell Road, on Parkinson side
This tree was once in fine condition. Notice how recent pruning has created a recipe for branch failure, putting the tree at risk of falling. Native to Camel and Monterey, California.
- 6. Coral Tower Japanese Maple (*Acer palmatum 'Sango kaku'*)
~ 1314 Parkinson Avenue, right side of house
In the fall this tree rewards you with brilliant, almost fluorescent coral color. The younger the tree, the stronger the color. Native to Japan.
- 7. Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*)
~ 1231 Parkinson Avenue, right side of house
A grand tree! Tolerates poor soils and is generally insect and disease resistant. Almost always grows on an angle, usually towards the sunny south-west. Native to the Mediterranean area.
- 8a. Black Locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
~ 1150 Parkinson Avenue, street tree on corner of Wilson Street
Decades ago, Black Locust was a common street tree. Due to its sharp thorns, hard wood, poor structure and invasive roots, it is no longer used. Notice the included bark and trunk

- cracks. Native to the Eastern U.S., it has not naturalized in the California Gold Country.
- 8b. Japanese Pagoda Tree or Chinese Scholar Tree (*Sophora japonica*)
~ 1150 Parkinson Avenue, left of garage
Tolerates heat and poor soil conditions. Rugged bark with almost no trunk flare, its lavender flowers made this a popular Palo Alto street tree until the raisin-like fruit became a sticky mess. It is no longer recommended for use. Native of China.
- 9. African Sumac (*Rhus lancea*)
~ 1140 Parkinson Avenue, in alley
Not a specimen plant by any means, the rough and straggly branching is typical. The tree demands constant pruning. Native to dry California desert areas.
- 10a. Western Juniper or Sierra Juniper (*Juniperus occidentalis*)
~ 1043 Parkinson Avenue, front conifer
A tall tree with spreading branches, known for its reddish brown, shreddy bark. Native to the West Coast.
- 10b. Douglas Fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)
~ 1043 Parkinson Avenue, rear conifer
Notice how the branching habits are different from the coast redwood (one can be seen in distance on the other side of Parkinson). Native to our local Santa Cruz Mountains.
- 11. Lawson Cypress or Port Orford Cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*)
~ 1133 Harker Avenue, left of front door
This is the golden-leafed form. Its lacy, dropping foliage make it an attractive tree.

~ continued on other side

CANOPY

TREES FOR PALO ALTO

SELF-GUIDED TREE WALK No. 3



Community Center Area

This is one in a series of
Self-Guided Tree Walks put together by
Canopy: Trees for Palo Alto
to educate the public about the urban forest
that sustains and enriches our lives.

TREE SELECTION BY
Dave Dockter

ISA Certified Arborist and Planning
Arborist with the City of Palo Alto

UPDATED BY
Jana Dilley and Marty Deggeller
SUMMER 2003

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
GATHERED FROM THE
Sunset Western Garden Book;
An Anthology of the Eucalyptus;
and Japanese Maples and
Ornamental Conifers.

from Illinois to Arkansas.

21b. Plume Cryptomeria or Plume Cedar
(Cryptomeria japonica 'Elegans')

~ 1295 Middlefield Road, Trinity Lutheran Church,
on Melville Avenue

Although it is an evergreen conifer, winter sees this
tree's color at its best, when it changes from rich
purple-brown to copper-bronze. Native to Japan.

“The best friend on earth
of man is the tree.
When we use the tree
respectfully
and economically,
we have one of the greatest
resources of the earth.”

~ Frank Lloyd Wright, American architect

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CANOPY

TREES FOR PALO ALTO

3921 East Bayshore Road
Palo Alto, California 94303

PHONE 650.964.6110

FAX 650.964.6173

E-MAIL info@canopy.org

WEBSITE www.canopy.org

This publication was funded by the California ReLeaf 2003
Capacity-Building Grant Program and the
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

17. Coast Live Oak (Quercus agrifolia)

~ 985 Harriet Street, left of driveway

This tree is an example of a well pruned tree.
Note the interior growth has not been pruned
away. Native to coastal California.

18. Douglas Fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii)

~ 869 Melville Avenue, right side of house

Means 'false-fir.' Named after David Douglas, a
Scottish botanist sent to America, where he
discovered the tree near Hudson Bay. Archibald
Menzies was the first botanist to collect
California specimens in 1792 and 1794. To
finance his way west, Menzies was employed as
a ship's surgeon. Many species are named men-
ziesii because of him. Native to the West Coast.

19. Atlas Cedar (Cedrus atlantica)

~ 863 Melville Avenue, front yard behind fence

A magnificent specimen! Named after the Atlas
Mountains of Algeria and Morocco, this tree is
characterized by sloping branches and open,
irregular form. Native to Algeria/Morocco.

20. Silver Dollar Gum
(Eucalyptus polyanthemos)

~ 814 Melville Avenue, street tree on right

Actually a member of the 'box bark' series, this
tree has recently been grouped in the 'gum'
series (so named because of the gummy resin
beneath the bark.) The tree's real name is 'Red
Gum.' However, Sunset popularized its current
name due to the blue-silver color of the round
adolescent foliage. Native to Australia.

21a. Western Catalpa (Catalpa speciosa)

~ 1295 Middlefield Road, Trinity Lutheran Church,
in back lot, off Guinda Street

Huge leaves, long pods and white flower clus-
ters distinguish this Indian Bean which gives its
owner quite an annual cleanup mess. Native

12. Laceleaf Japanese Maple
(Acer palmatum 'Dissectum')

~ 1134 Harker Avenue, along front sidewalk

This is a small grafted weeping form of the
Japanese maple. (Two larger forms are seen
flanking them.) They are small shrubs which
grow to 6 feet high and 12 feet in spread.

13. Southern Magnolia (Magnolia grandiflora)

~ 7 street trees along Hutchinson Avenue

An evergreen tree with glossy, leathery
leaves. These trees produce large white flow-
ers, 8 to 10 inches long, that bloom
throughout the summer and fall. They can grow
either as a single-trunked or multi-trunked tree.

14. California Pepper Tree (Schinus molle)

~ 1055 Hutchinson Avenue, right side of house

This "California" tree is actually native to
Peru, Bolivia, and Chile. This particular
specimen is very old. These trees usually
decay and die of root rot before reaching
advanced age.

15. Maidenhair Tree (Ginkgo biloba)

~ Greenwood Avenue, entire street

An ancient tree found around the world, its
fossilized leaves have been dated from pre-
historic times. Named after the Maidenhair
Fern, the light green leaves turn gold after
fall rains. While quite barren for a winter
tree walk, this is a "must see" street in
October and November.

16. Flowering Ash (Fraxinus ornus)

~ 1102 Channing Avenue, street tree on Harriet side

Unique tree (not common in our area) but
not too showy. May brings some greenish-
yellow blossoms with profuse seed clusters
following in the summer. Native to Europe
and Asia.