This tour will give you a path to follow through the Arboretum to learn about the trees of Fairmount Park. Each tree is marked with a brown label and a corresponding yellow numbered tag for the information in this guide. Approximate tour time is one hour.

**Sculpture**

- **A** The Wrestlers 1895
  - Artist Unknown
- **B** Goethe 1890
  - Heinrich Carl Johan Manger
- **C** Sundial 1903
  - Alexander Stirling Calder
- **D** Gamboll II 1992
  - Robert David Lasus
- **E** Schiller 1885
  - Heinrich Carl Johan Manger
- **F** Night 1872
  - Edward Stuyah
- **G** Japanese Lantern 1993
  - Artist Unknown
- **H** Singing Rock Sitting Place 1988
  - Hera
- **I** Joseph Haydn 1906
  - Idusch & Son
- **J** Giuseppe Verdi 1907
  - G. B. Bashanellifusi
- **K** The Journey 1975
  - Lindsay Daen
- **L** Franz Schubert 1891
  - Henry Baer
- **M** Lions 1891
  - Artist Unknown
- **N** Rebecca at the Well 1908
  - John J. Boyle
- **O** The Reverend Dr. John Witherspoon 1876
  - Joseph A. Bally

**Tree Tour**

- **1** Variegated Sycamore Maple Acer pseudoplatanus ‘Variegatum’
  - As you leave the Horticulture Center, turn to the left to find the first tree on the tour. Notice the leaves of this maple tree have a unique variegated pattern. With many species of maple trees available, the mottled yellow and green leaves of this species make it distinctive.
- **2** Kerria Japonica Kerria japonica
  - In late summer, the small white flowers produced by this tree help attract honey bees to the trees, and the bright red fruits help birds and are filled with smooth, black seeds.
- **3** Ginkgo Ginkgo biloba ‘Fairmount’
  - One of four original ginkgo trees planted on this site, this tree marks one corner of the original Horticultural Hall. The Fairmount cultivar was developed over a century ago in the Fairmount Park nurseries and selected for its upright, narrow growth habit.
- **4** Weeping Higan Cherry Prunus subhirtella ‘Pendula’
  - This tree is an example of the weeping form of a traditional cherry tree. The four trees frame the sundial in the middle of the grouping, where it is possible to see four faces that represent the four seasons of the year.
- **5** Franklinia Franklinia alatamaha
  - Discovered by botanists, William and William Bartram in Georgia in 1765, Franklinia trees were named in honor of Benjamin Franklin. After 1830, the trees were never seen in the wild. Today, all franklinia are descendents of seeds collected by the Bartrams.
- **6** Japanese Flowering Cherry Prunus serrulata
  - This allée of cherry trees was a gift from the Japan America Society of Greater Philadelphia in 2003. In early spring, the Cherry Blossom Festival celebrates Japanese culture and the donation of trees.
- **7** Smoothleaf Elm Ulmus carpinifolia ‘Homestead’
  - After most elm trees throughout the United States were killed by Dutch elm disease in the 20th century, research efforts were focused on finding resistant varieties. This allée of elms is resistant to the devastating fungus.
- **8** Silver Linden Tilia tomentosa
  - This low-branched tree serves as an example of the silver linden’s potential mature size. Although too large for lawn plantings, this species occupies park space magnificently.
- **9** Red Horsechestnut Aesculus x carnea
  - As the ‘x’ in the botanical name indicates, this tree is a result of crossbreeding between the European horsechestnut and red buckeye. The result is a medium-sized tree that produces large clusters of light red flowers each spring and distinctive spineless fruit each fall.
- **10** Weeping Katsura Tree Cercidiphyllum japonicum ‘Pendula’
  - The weeping habit of this Katsura tree is an example of the variety of tree forms available within one species. One special feature of the Katsura tree occurs during autumn when the leaves fall and smell like cotton candy.
**History of the Arboretum**

Planted to complement the original Horticultural Hall of the 1876 Centennial Exhibition, the Centennial Arboretum of Fairmount Park offers visitors the opportunity to stroll through 27 acres of fine tree specimens. At the end of the 1876 Centennial Exhibition, the Fairmount Park Commission purchased plants from the exhibitors for permanent planting on the grounds. Purchased with funds from the American Philosophical Society, these, combined with donations from local horticulturists, began the newly planted arboretum.

**Ar·bo·re·tum:**

A place where trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants are cultivated for scientific and educational purposes.

Today, some of the original trees remain from those purchases. Newly planted trees throughout the grounds complement the landscape and add to the Arboretum. We hope that this self-guided tour gives you the opportunity to take pleasure in some of the trees. Please enjoy your time in the Centennial Arboretum at the Fairmount Park Horticulture Center.

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**Descriptions**

- **Black Tupelo** (*Nyssa sylvatica*)
  - The black tupelo of the Centennial Arboretum is an extremely large example of this native tree that exhibits beautiful fall color. Its natural canopy form is evenly rounded and often filled with many small branches.

- **Dawn Redwood** (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*)
  - This tree was only known to exist as a fossil until it was discovered in China in 1941. Once also native to North America, all trees today are descendents of those discovered in China. Unlike most conifers, this tree sheds its needles every fall.

- **Japanese Maple** (*Acer palmatum*)
  - This small tree is native to Eastern Asia and has evenly dissected leaves. The interesting shape of this tree is seen in its contoured branches and curled habit, easily viewed during the winter or from under the canopy.

- **Japanese Snowbell** (*Styrax japonicus*)
  - This tree is native to Eastern Asia and has fragrant, white, bell-shaped flowers in the spring. In the fall, you will notice the hanging fruits that often persist into November.

- **Castor-aria** (*Kalopanax septemlobus*)
  - This large tree remains from the Centennial Exhibition and is the sole species of the Kalopanax genus. Showy clusters of white flowers are produced in July and are followed by small black berries that are quickly eaten by birds when they ripen in October.

- **Pin Oak** (*Quercus palustris*)
  - This tree has a unique branching pattern where the lower branches are drooping, the middle are horizontal, and the uppermost are upright and spreading. However, when planted by streets or paths such as they are here, the lower branches are removed.

- **Blue Atlas Cedar** (*Cedrus atlantica* ‘Glauca’)
  - The atlas cedar is named after the Atlas Mountains of Algeria and Morocco to which this tree is native. In contrast to this upright form, the weeping variety can be seen across the road for comparison.

- **Common Chinafir** (*Cunninghamia lanceolata*)
  - The chinafir is not actually a fir at all, but instead part of the bald-cypress family, Cupressaceae. The tree is highly prized in its native China for its diverse uses, which are second only to bamboo. The chinafir was introduced to the United States as an ornamental in the early 1800’s.

- **Yellowwood** (*Cladrastis kentukea*)
  - The name yellowwood comes from the bright yellow color of freshly cut heartwood. This tree is native to the United States but has a scattered distribution and is not abundant anywhere.

- **Royal Paulownia** (*Paulownia tomentosa*)
  - Named in honor of Queen Anna Paulowna of the Netherlands, this tree is most recognized for its vanilla-scented lavender flower spikes that emerge in early April. Introduced for its decorative flowers, it is now listed as an invasive species in several states.

- **Willow Oak** (*Quercus phellos*)
  - The willow oak is a popular ornamental tree due to its rapid growth, hardiness, and capability to survive in sun and shade. This tree is suitable for urban planting and its leaves have a long-lasting yellow to bronze-red fall color.

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**Additional Information**

**HOURS**

Display House: 9am - 3pm

Grounds: 8am - 6pm April 1 through October 31

8am - 5pm November 1 through March 31

Open daily; excluding holidays

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Tel: 215-685-0996
Fax: 215-685-0103

FAIRMOUNT PARK HORTICULTURE CENTER
100 NORTH HORTICULTURAL DRIVE
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19131

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*An orange leaf indicates a plant native to the Eastern United States. Why plant native species? Native plants, those that have evolved and developed within regional ecosystems, are accustomed to local climate extremes and support native wildlife more effectively.*

*Design and text by the Longwood Graduate Fellows at the University of Delaware, 2007.*