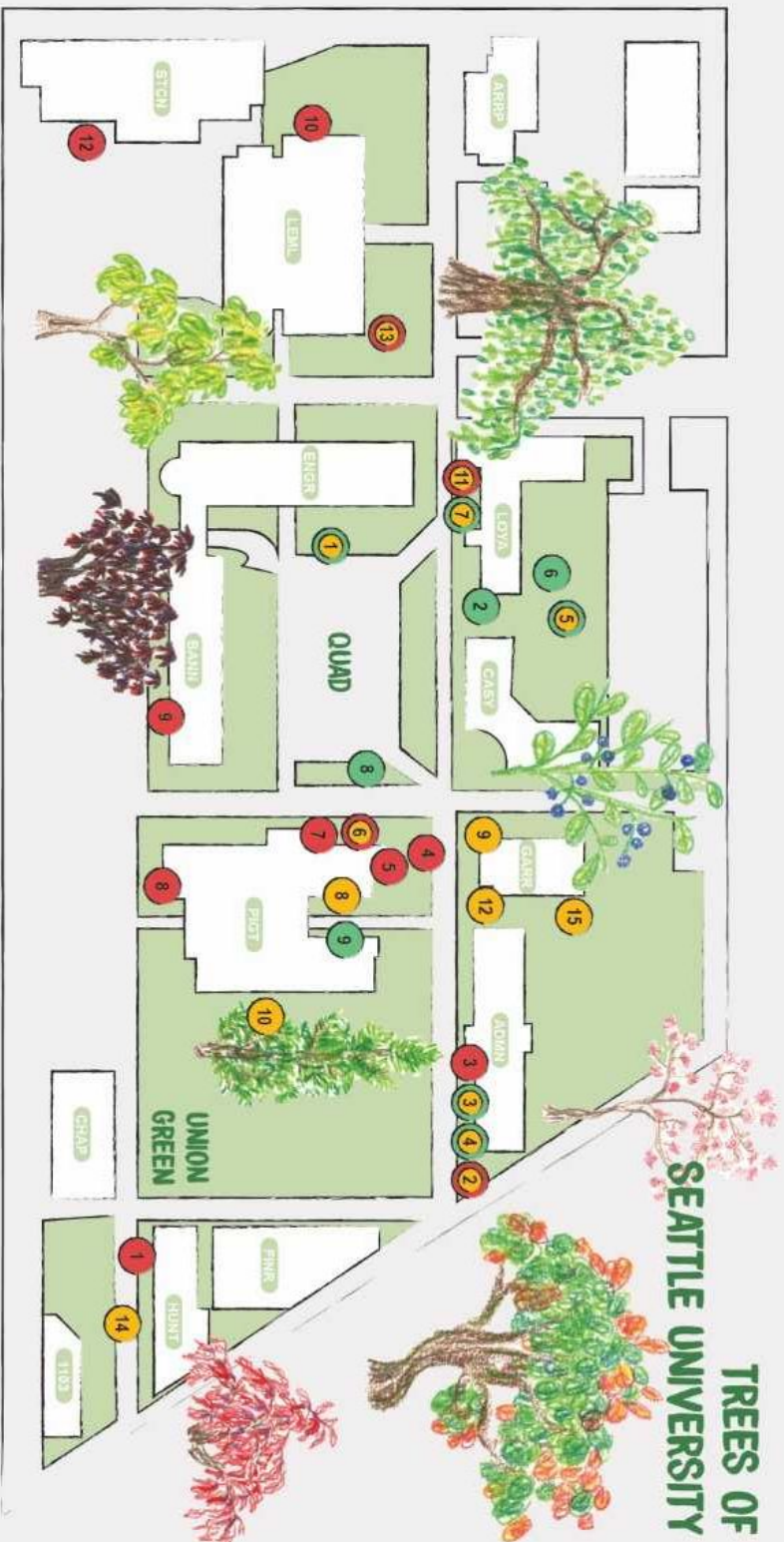


The Trees of Seattle University



TREES OF SEATTLE UNIVERSITY



EXCEPTIONAL TREES

- 1) Full Moon Maple
- 2) Mugo Pine
- 3) Sargent Magnolia
- 4) Pink Star Magnolia
- 5) Variegated Angelica Tree
- 6) Golden Alias Cedar
- 7) Little Epaullette Tree
- 8) Chinese Flame Tree
- 9) English Laurel
- 10) Incense Cedar
- 11) Bloodgood Japanese Maple
- 12) Golden Catalpa
- 13) Weeping Beech
- 14) Windmill Palms
- 15) Ponderosa Pine

KUBOTA LEGACY TREES

- 1) Weeping Red Laceleaf Japanese Maple
- 2) Mugo Pine
- 3) Redken Enkianthus
- 4) Weeping Giant Sequoia
- 5) Copper Beech
- 6) Golden Alias Cedar
- 7) Giant Sequoia
- 8) Japanese Red Pine
- 9) Red Oak
- 10) Blue Alias Cedar
- 11) Bloodgood Japanese Maple
- 12) Variegated Western Red Cedar
- 13) Weeping Beech

CISCO LEGACY TREES

- 1) Full Moon Maple
- 2) Tasmanian Pencil Pine
- 3) Sargent Magnolia
- 4) Pink Star Magnolia
- 5) Variegated Angelica Tree
- 6) Japanese Maple
- 7) Little Epaullette Tree
- 8) Grosser's Stripe Bark Maple
- 9) Mount Omrai Dogwood

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Introduction

I have lived on Seattle U campus for four years and have grown to deeply admire and respect the many wonderful trees and plants on campus in my time here. I was invited to intern with Grounds to create this biography through the mentorship of Janice Murphy and Shannon Britton; it was gratifying and exciting to be able to use the knowledge I've gained in my time here to help add to the depth of the beautiful garden that is the Seattle University campus. I hope that this biography serves as a resource for anyone looking to become more acquainted with the flora on campus, and that my photography portrays the trees in a way that does them justice.

The Trees of Seattle University campus map was designed and illustrated by **Alyssa Lau**, a Seattle University graduate in the class of 2018.

Alyssa created the map to use her graphic design skills to promote education about the biodiversity on campus. Alyssa also created all of the tree drawings on the map, she did them by hand with colored pencil to capture the organic nature of the trees.

Fujitaro Kubota was a legendary Japanese landscaper who emigrated to the United States in 1907 and worked on the Seattle U campus in the late 1950s and '60s. His family business, the Kubota Gardening Company, is still operating today and the garden headquarters can be visited in Renton, WA.

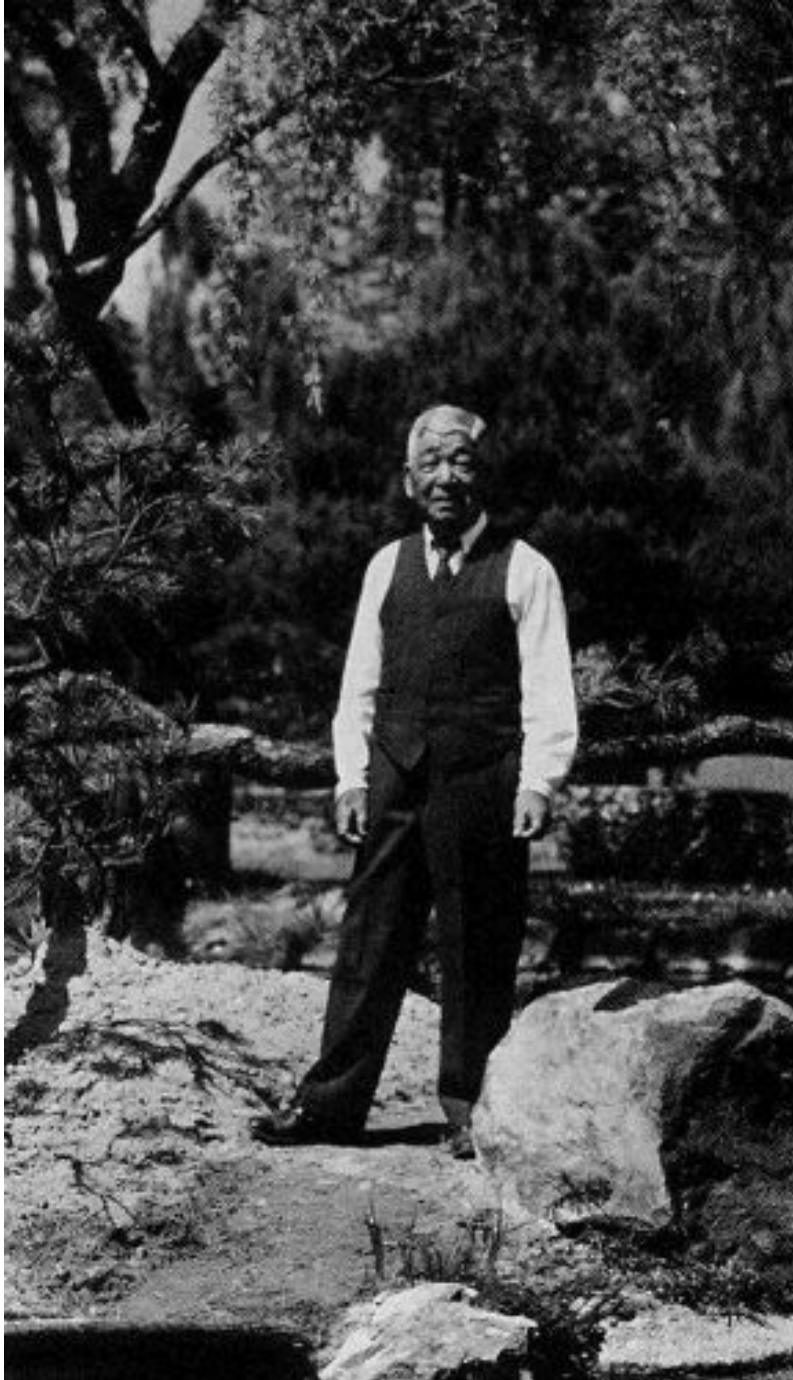
Ciscoe Morris is a famous landscape and gardening expert who was the Grounds and Landscaping Manager at Seattle U from the 80's until the early 2000's. He moved on from his position here to a more public role; he hosts a TV and radio show "Gardening with Ciscoe". He appears frequently in talk shows and gardening channels and is a prolific writer in many Pacific Northwest gardening publications.

Janice Murphy is also worthy of mention, 2018 was the last of her 21 years working on the Seattle U Grounds and Landscaping team. She is now happily retired, but she left her mark on campus in the form of many well-cared for trees and many inspired young horticulturists.

Spencer Trombley,

Environmental Studies Major, Seattle University 2018

Kubota's Legacy



Kubota Garden Foundation 1927

1.

Weeping Red Laceleaf Maple

Acer palmatum 'Dissectum f. Atropurpureum'

Location: Hunthausen - East

Native to: Japan

Average Height: 5-15 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

One of many cultivars of Japanese Maple, the Laceleaf maple is named after its delicate, thinly branching leaves. Laceleaf Japanese Maples are smaller and more slow growing than normal Japanese Maples, they are generally treated as shrubs for landscaping purposes. Seattle University's specimen is much larger than the average Laceleaf at nearly 20 feet tall with an equally large spread.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Weeping Red Laceleaf is outside the entrance to the Hunthausen building, across the walkway from the chapel. Before WWII, a large portion of Seattle's Japanese population lived where Seattle U's chapel and Union Green are today; the Weeping Red Laceleaf Maple is the centerpiece of the Japanese Memorial Garden that was created to honor and remember this community. It was gifted to the campus by an alumni who was another client of Kubota's. The tree was so big that it required frequent prunings, so Kubota suggested that it be relocated to Seattle U campus where it could grow freely.

2.

Mugo Pine

Pinus mugo

Location: Administration - Northeast

Native to: Mountains of Central Europe (France, Switzerland, Austria)

Average Height: 3-10 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

Originating in Central Europe, the Mugo Pine is a hardy evergreen that is adapted to living in alpine conditions. Their tolerance of cold weather allows it to thrive in the Pacific Northwest, but their need for well-drained soil makes finding a good place to plant them rather difficult in Seattle. It flowers with small clusters of tan to purplish flowers that develop into small cones. They are commonly used in landscaping as bushy shrubs, but the Seattle U specimen stands more upright and is positioned so that its twisting branches are visible from below.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Mugo Pine sits atop a small berm at the northwest entrance to the campus, outside of the Admin building. Planted in the 1950's, it was one of the first trees that Fugitaro Kubota brought to the campus. Originally planted closer to the walkway, it took to its surroundings so well that it began to overgrow its boundaries and spill out onto the walkway; it was slated for removal until Fugitaro's grandson relocated it a few feet back to where it stands today.

3.

Redvein Enkianthus

Enkianthus campanulatus

Location: Administration - East

Native to: Japan

Average Height: 3-10 ft

Native to the woodlands of Japan, Redvein Enkianthus are popular in landscaping for their hardiness and small white and pink flowers, which hang in clusters. Their branches become crimson at the tip, which contrasts nicely with the leaves and gives the species its namesake. It tolerates cold weather and snow, making it a very popular specimen for gardens in the northern United States.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Located outside the entrance to the Admin building, the Redvein Enkianthus may be rather small but it is one of the first trees that Kubota planted on campus. These plants are normally shrubs but this old specimen has grown to the height of a small tree, its age is apparent from the clumps of moss and lichen growing on its delicate branches.

4.

Weeping Giant Sequoia

***Sequoiadendron giganteum* 'Pendulum'**

Location: Pigott - Southwest

Native to: Western United States (Central California)

Average Height: 10-25 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

A very unique looking, 'Dr. Seuss-esque' variation of the Giant Sequoia, the Weeping Giant Sequoia is a popular tree used in landscaping as a centerpiece specimen, making for an excellent conversation piece. In the wild, Giant Sequoias are found in only a few groves scattered throughout the Sierra Nevada foothills of California. The 'weeping' cultivar was developed in Europe while European horticulturists were trying to mass produce the plant so they could enjoy it in their gardens without having to ship it across the world.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Seattle University has two Weeping Giant Sequoias, both of them very distinct. One is located outside the front entrance to the Bannan building, right next to the SU seal. It is a single trunk that extends diagonally upwards, leaving a curtain of cascading branches hanging below it. The other is directly up the hill from the first one, on the corner across from the Garrand building. It has multiple trunks that stay low to the ground, twisting and arching to give the tree an almost octopus-like appearance as it props itself up and flows out onto the walkway.

Spencer Trombley 2018

5.

Copper Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'

Location: Pigott - Southwest

Native to: Western Europe (France, Italy, Switzerland, Germany)

Average Height: 50-60 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The Copper Beech is a variation of the European Beech, unlike most other trees on this list it arose naturally as a mutation as opposed to being bred and cultivated. It is likely that this 'copper' trait was first domesticated in 15th century Germany. Also known as the purple beech, the Copper Beech is distinguishable by its maroon foliage that ranges from dark purple to a yellowish red. The flowers of Beech Trees hang in clusters and are relatively nondescript, they develop into nuts encased in a spiny shell that are consumed by birds and mammals, occasionally including humans although it is rather uncommon in modern times.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Copper Beech grows outside of the Western entrance to Pigott, behind the Weeping Giant Sequoia. This little area is referred to as "Kubota's corner" by the landscaping crew because it is densely packed with notable specimens that were planted by Kubota. Its characteristic red foliage makes it easy to identify amongst the many other notable trees that grow alongside it.

6.

Golden Atlas Cedar

Cedrus atlantica 'Aurea'

Location: Pigott - Southwest

Native to: Northern Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia)

Average Height: 40-60 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

The atlas cedar is named after the Atlas Mountains in Morocco and Algeria, where the species is natively from. In the wild it is listed as endangered, the species is now only found in one area of the Atlas Mountain range. The tree's sap can be used to make medicinal oils and tars, which can be a cause of deforestation when locals illegally harvest the trees to make these products. Ancient Egyptians also harvested the sap and oils from this species for medicinal and embalming purposes. Atlas Cedars do not flower, but develop large, barrel-like cones that take two years to mature before opening.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University has two variants of the species: Golden Atlas Cedars and Blue Atlas Cedars. While the Golden Atlases are spread throughout the campus, the one displayed on the map is outside of the Pigott building and is an excellent display of the cultivar's golden coloration. Golden Atlas Cedars are distinguishable from the Blues by a powdery yellow tint that covers the tops of their branches, making the foliage look as if it has been dusted with gold.

7.

Giant Sequoia

Sequoiadendron giganteum

Location: Pigott - South

Native to: Western United States (Central California)

Average Height: 10-25 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

The Giant Sequoia is not only the largest species of tree on earth, it is the largest living thing in the history of our planet's existence. They can grow to heights of over 300 feet, weigh over 20 tons and live to be well over 3000 years old. Native to the western foothills of the Sierra Nevada mountain range in California, wild specimens of this tree are now only found in small groves within many of California's state and national parks. It is also an extremely popular landscaping specimen due to its incredible size and longevity; famous specimens, many of them over 150 years old, can be found in botanical gardens across the globe.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

The largest tree on campus, the Giant Sequoia at Seattle University grows outside the south entrance to the Pigott building. In earlier years when the tree was a slightly more manageable height, the grounds crew would decorate it for Christmas, stringing it with lights and placing a massive star on top. The tradition had to be discontinued once the height of the tree exceeded the reach of even the largest bucket lifts; continuing the tradition would be a costly and dangerous undertaking so now the tree rests undisturbed.

8.

Japanese Red Pine

Pinus densiflora

Location: Pigott - East

Native to: Northeastern Asia (Japan, Korea, Northern China)

Average Height: 60-100 ft.

Foliage: Evergreen

Common throughout Northeast Asia, the Japanese Red Pine is popular for both landscaping and timber use. Its reddish-orange bark and gracefully curving branches make it a popular ornamental tree and also a popular bonsai specimen. Many traditional Japanese structures from the 14th to 17th century are constructed from the wood of this tree. In Korean culture the tree is venerated and seen as a symbol of fortitude; in previous centuries the logging of these trees was tightly regulated by Korean aristocrats. The government of South Korea recently changed the tree's name to "Korean Red Pine" in their country, since it is only called the Japanese Red Pine in English because it was first introduced to Western culture by the Japanese.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Red Pine can be found outside the front entrance of the Pigott building, it is distinguishable by its light orange trunk that arches over the walkway. It is a beautiful specimen, displaying why the species is such a popular choice for bonsai trees. Its branches are thin and wandering, topped with tufts of bluish green needles that contrast well with the tree's colorful trunk.

9.

Red Oak

Quercus rubra

Location: Bannan - East

Native to: Eastern North America (United States, Canada)

Average Height: 50-75 ft. (90-140 ft. in wild)

Foliage: Deciduous

Native throughout the Eastern United States and Canada, the Red Oak is a common sight in parks and landscaping throughout North America. Its wood is also very popular for industrial use and construction, as well as being an excellent firewood. It may take up to 30 years for a tree to mature and begin producing acorns, but once it does it provides a steady source of nutrition for a variety of birds and rodents. The acorns were also an important food source for some Native American tribes, they mixed the shelled and ground up seeds with ash to leach out the toxic chemicals, then used the acorn meal in their cooking.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle U has two Red Oaks on campus, one outside the main entrance to the Admin building and the other on the east side of the Bannan building. Both of these beautiful oaks stand out from their surrounding trees, taking up an enormous amount of space with their huge, meandering branches. In the summer they provide shade to some of the most frequented areas on campus, and in fall they flood the walkways below them with leaves.

10.

Blue Atlas Cedar

Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca'

Location: Lemieux Library - Southwest

Native to: Northern Africa (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia)

Average Height: 40-60 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

Atlas Cedars were brought to the world of horticulture by English botanist P.B. Web in 1827 after he visited Morocco. By the 1840's it was an immensely popular species to use in landscaping, Blue Atlas Cedars are the most popular variety and can be found in gardens around the world. In the wild this species is threatened by deforestation from logging and burning to clear land, as well as by increasing levels of droughts brought on by desertification. Although the species is commonly cultivated, it is endangered in the wild as its habitat continues to shrink.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Blue Atlas Cedars can be found throughout Seattle U campus but they are most concentrated in a grove in the Ethnobotanical Garden, at the Southwestern entrance to campus. This area was originally used by Kubota as a holding area for the plants he did not have a place for yet; the unused Cedars took root and thrived in this location, giving rise to the dense grove that is there today. Although the Blue Atlas Cedars are not native like the rest of the plants in the Ethnobotanical Garden, they provide a shady forest floor characteristic of the Pacific Northwest that supports a variety of native shrubs and flowers.

11.

Bloodgood Japanese Maple

Acer palmatum 'Atropurpureum'

Location: Loyola - East

Native to: Japan

Average Height: 15-20 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The Bloodgood Japanese Maple is a deciduous tree best known for its deep red foliage and brightly colored seed pods. This cultivar was first developed in the United States in the early twentieth century, where it was bred and developed in New York state's Bloodgood Nursery, giving the tree its namesake. Bloodgood maples have multiple thin, spreading trunks and are relatively fast growing, usually averaging two to three feet per year. They are generally used in landscaping to accentuate gardens but can grow to have a height and spread of up to 20 feet, like the specimen at Seattle U.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle U's Bloodgood Maple is located outside of the Loyola building, just south of the main entrance. This large, beautiful specimen is the last of three that were planted by Kubota. Its branches reach far over the walkways and in spring its bright red seed pods hang from them in clusters, adding a splash of color to the campus' west entrance.

12.

Variegated Western Red Cedar

***Thuja plicata* 'Zebrina'**

Location: Bellarmine - West

Native to: Pacific Northwest (Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Vancouver)

Average height: 30-50 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

The Western Red Cedar could arguably be called the flagship tree of the Pacific Northwest, it is abundant in Washington and Vancouver's coastal rainforests and was a cornerstone of local Native American cultures. They used its wood to build canoes and shelters, roots to build baskets, and the bark to make fibers for rope and clothing. The buds of the Western Red Cedar were steamed and chewed, drank or eaten by Native Americans to cure a variety of ailments from indigestion to respiratory diseases. This is only a few of the many ways that the tree was utilized by Pacific Northwest tribes, it was present in nearly every aspect of their lives. In current times Western Red Cedar is a popular tree in the lumber industry and is commonly used for house construction. It is also grown in a variety of cultivars for ornamental use, such as the Variegated Red Cedar on campus.



Seattle University's Variegated Western Red Cedar can be found near the Southeast entrance outside of the Student Center, near the entrance to the Bannan building. The variegated cedar is distinguishable from other Western Red Cedars by its foliage, which is the usual green mixed with a cream colored white.

13.

Weeping European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'pendula'

Location: Lemieux Library - Northwest

Native to: Central Europe (Italy, France, Turkey)

Average Height: 35-50 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The Beech tree has been a staple of European landscaping for hundreds of years, the weeping variety was developed in England in the early 1800's. Weeping Beeches are difficult to grow and require a lot of maintenance and pruning before they reach their full size. Depending on how they are pruned they can grow into a variety of different shapes; the ones on Seattle U campus are beautifully rounded, showing off their large, gracefully weeping branches.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's two Weeping Beeches are an everyday sight for students walking to and from class. Located at the northwest corner of the Lemieux library, they are hard to miss with their cascading branches drooping all the way to the ground. During winter while the branches are bare, it is possible to see that one of the trees is supported by a giant metal 'crutch'. This was put in place in 2015 when a routine draining of a nearby fire hydrant caused the area to flood and the tree became partially dislodged. It has adapted well to its new support and is in stable condition.

Ciscoe's Legacy



Property of Ciscoe Morris

Ciscoe Morris was the head of Seattle U Grounds and Landscaping from
1979-2002

1.

Full Moon Maple

Acer japonicum 'Aconitifolium'

Location: Quad - South

Native to: Japan

Average Height: 8-10 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The Full Moon Maple was given its name for its unique leaves which are large and relatively rounded, giving them an appearance reminiscent of a full moon. This cultivar of the Japanese Maple grows in a rounded pattern with thin, meandering branches that get a reddish tint near their tips. It's small, reddish flowers hang in clusters before developing into large, winged seed pods characteristic of Japanese Maples. Like many other Japanese Maple cultivars, this species grows multiple slender trunks from its base, which branch out into a rounded canopy.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Full Moon Maple grows on the lawn on the southern side of the quad, and was relatively controversial at the time of its planting. Ciscoe Morris, the head of grounds and landscaping at the time, was known to "plant first, ask questions later", and this tree is a result of that mindset. When he first planted it the quad was under renovation, and after construction was complete the school noticed that it had not been part of the plans and called for its removal. Ciscoe saved the tree by convincing them that the tree had been in place since before the renovation, and the tree has since grown to be a beautiful example of the species' rounded shape and large leaves.

2.

Tasmanian Pencil Pine

Athrotaxis cupressoides

Location: Loyola - Northeast

Native to: Australia (Tasmania)

Average Height: 20-60 ft.

Foliage: Evergreen

This interesting looking conifer is actually a member of the Cypress family, despite being called a Pine. It is a rare species that is found only on the island of Tasmania and can live to be over 1000 years old. It is listed as vulnerable on the IUCN List of Threatened Species because it is a slow growing species and is very vulnerable to fire. Repeated forest fires in Tasmanian protected areas throughout the past 50 years have greatly decreased the population of this species in the wild.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Tasmanian Pencil Pine is young and can be relatively hard to find. It is located right at the northeast corner of the Loyola building and is best viewed from the steps leading up to the Biodiversity Garden. This rare specimen was given to the university by horticultural explorer Dan Hinkley in 2003. Janice Murphy raised it in a series of pots before finally planting it where it currently stands in 2008. It is still very small at around 15 feet, but someday it will tower over the cherry trees that currently surround it.

3.

Sargent Magnolia

Magnolia sargentiana

Location: Administration - East

Native to: Central China

Average Height: 15-70 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

Native to Central China, the Sargent magnolia is listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN list of threatened species. Near the end of the twentieth century it was thought to be critically endangered until a forest of nearly 20,000 of the trees was discovered in central China. The species is threatened by habitat loss and, to a lesser extent, the use of its bark and flowers in traditional Chinese medicine. Although it is not scientifically proven, the bark is said to contain compounds that fight plaque and reduce gum inflammation.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's specimen of this rare species stands tall outside the entrance to the admin building. It was given to Ciscoe Morris as a small sapling by George Pinyuh, a late, renowned King County gardener. It was only about 10 feet tall at the time of its addition to the campus and it took it over a decade to bloom for the first time, but it is now one of the most striking and well loved trees on campus.

4.

Pink Star Magnolia

Magnolia stellata

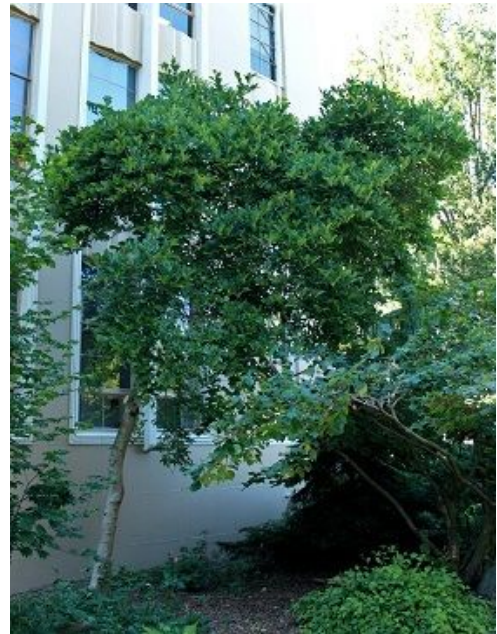
Location: Administration - East

Native to: Central Japan

Average Height: 15-20 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

Unlike the Sargent Magnolia, this is a common species that is very popular in landscaping, and for good reason. Its branches are thin and wandering, in the early spring they are adorned many large, delicate flowers that give a splash of color to the landscape. Seattle U's cultivar of *Magnolia stellata* is known as 'Pink Stardust', it was developed in an Alabama nursery and is known for having pink flowers that are even bigger than usual for the species. Its long, finger-like petals give its flowers a star-like appearance, which gives the plant its namesake.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

The Pink Stardust Magnolia on Seattle U campus was planted by Ciscoe in the 1980s, it grows outside of the Admin building across the lawn from the Sargent Magnolia. It is a smaller tree but its pink, long petaled flowers make it just as eye catching. These two Magnolias are among the first trees to bloom on Seattle U campus every spring, signaling the end of each winter quarter.

5.

Variegated Angelica Tree

Aralia elata 'variegata'

Location: Loyola - North

Native to: Eastern Asia (China, Japan, Korea, eastern Russia)

Average Height: 5-35 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

Native to northern Asia, including Japan, the Angelica Tree is a deciduous tree or shrub. The tree shoots are prepared in a variety of ways in Korean and Japanese cuisine including pickled, fried and deep fried. Seattle University's Angelica tree is the variegated form, meaning its leaves have a light colored border which gives the plant a striking appearance. It blooms late in the summer with clusters of white flowers that develop into small black berries. Although it is a relatively rare species, it is popular in cities because it is tolerant of a wide range of soils and is resistant to urban pollution.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Variegated Angelica Tree is relatively out of the way; it is located in the Biodiversity Garden behind the Loyola building. This garden is home to a number of notable trees and the Variegated Angelica is at its center, hanging over a small pond. Like bamboo, it spreads by sending up shoots throughout the surrounding area, so the landscapers have to keep it in check to prevent the tree from taking over the garden.

6.

Japanese Maple

Acer palmatum

Location: Loyola - North

Native to: Eastern Asia (Japan, Korea, China, Mongolia, Russia)

Average Height: 20-35 ft.

Foliage: Deciduous

There are few species of plants that are as widely cultivated as the Japanese Maple; there are hundreds, if not thousands of varieties of Japanese Maple species, including all but one of the maples on this list. They are found in the wild throughout all of Eastern Asia and, like the Japanese Red Pine, are called 'Japanese' in their English names because the species were first introduced to the western world by Japanese horticulturists.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

This particular Japanese Maple on Seattle U campus grows behind the Loyola building in the biodiversity garden. It is relatively tall for its species; Japanese Maples usually do not exceed 25 feet in height but this young specimen is already almost 20 feet tall and shows no signs of slowing.

7.

Little Epaulette Tree

Pterostyrax corymbosus

Location: Loyola - East

Native to: Eastern Asia (China, Japan)

Average Height: 30-40 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The Little Epaulette Tree is native to Southeastern China and Japan, where it can be found in forests along the banks of streams. The species thrives in moist soil and partial shade, so it is an excellent fit for Seattle. Epaulette Trees are relatively popular for use in landscaping because of their magnificent flowering habits. They bloom in the late spring, becoming covered in small, white flowers with radiating petals that look like shoulder pads (also known as epaulettes), giving the plant its namesake. The *Pterostyrax* family is very small with only four species, the most commonly cultivated species is the Fragrant Epaulette Tree, which is the larger cousin of the species on Seattle U Campus.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

The specimen at Seattle U takes a central position in the garden in front of the Loyola building, where its branches have ample space to spread and show off their thousands of flowers. When it is in bloom the tree is full of bees and other pollinators that are eager to sample its many flowers.

8.

Grosser's Stripe Bark Maple

Acer pensylvanicum

Location: Quad - North

Native to: Northeastern North America (United States, Canada)

Average Height: 15-20 ft.

Foliage: Deciduous

The only Maples on this list that are not a cultivar of Japanese Maple, Stripe Bark Maples are native to the Eastern United States and Canada. Grosser's Stripe Bark Maple has small green flowers that hang down in delicate chains; they are relatively nondescript as the species main feature as a landscaping tree is its bark. Also called the 'Snakebark Maple' its bark is covered in vertical white stripes. Its leaves are broad and come to three points, bearing little resemblance to the heavily lobed leaves of Japanese Maples.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's Stripe Bark Maples can be found bordering the quad, across the walkway from the Pigott building. They were planted by Ciscoe near the end of his time working on campus and are actually two different cultivars of the species. The Grosser's Stripe Bark Maple was chosen for this list because it has a more robust trunk which better displays the unique striped bark characteristic.

9.

Mount Omei Dogwood

Cornus omeiensus

Location: Pigott - West

Native to: Central China (Mt. Emei)

Average Height: 20-30 ft.

Foliage: Evergreen

This interesting species is one of the only evergreen Dogwoods, it has dark, leathery leaves that contrast with its many white flowers that bloom in the summer. It grows with multiple thin trunks that spread out once they begin to branch and grow foliage. In the wild, the species is only found on Mt. Emei, one of the four sacred Buddhist mountains of China; it is a World Heritage Site because of its many ancient Buddhist temples from the 15th to 19th centuries.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

Seattle University's two specimens of these trees can be found outside the west entrance of the Pigott building; they were purchased and planted by Ciscoe Morris in the 80's. He was at an exotic plants conference in Seattle when the speaker said that a local nursery had two specimens of this rare species. He calmly gathered his things and snuck out of the auditorium before running to his car and immediately rushing to buy both trees. In recent times it has become a popular species in landscaping, nowadays many nurseries are stocked with these specimens.

Exceptional Trees



Golden Southern Catalpa, Spencer Trombey 2018

The following trees are not directly related to Kubota or Ciscoe but are noteworthy nonetheless.

8.

Chinese Flame Tree

Koelreuteria bipinnata

Location: Pigott - West

Native to: China

Average Height: 20-30 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

Introduced to US soil in the late 1800's, the Chinese Flame Tree was given its name for its foliage, which is bright yellow and is accented by light red seed pods. It produces small yellow flowers, but it is the seed pods that are the species' most striking characteristic. These unique seed pods are papery and look like Chinese lanterns, they are popular for use in bouquets and decoration. The seeds disperse very efficiently over a large area, making this hardy plant at risk for becoming an invasive species, although it does not survive in freezing temperatures.



Spencer Trombley 2018



Spencer Trombley 2018

The Chinese Flame Tree on Seattle University campus can be found outside the west entrance to the Pigott building, near the walkway. It blooms with small yellow flowers in the summer and drops its papery seed pods in the fall. Near the end of the season the pods can be found all around campus after they are blown about by the autumn winds.

9.

English Laurel

Prunus laurocerasus

Location: Garrand - East

Native to: Southeastern Europe and Southwestern Asia

Average Height: 15-50 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The English Laurel is one of the most commonly used landscaping plants and although it is most often seen as a hedge, it can also grow as a shrub or tree. Seattle University's specimen is a beautiful example of what the species can look like if allowed to grow freely. In spring it blooms in clusters of small white flowers that beautifully contrast against its dark green leaves, and beneath the canopy its gnarled, knotted trunk gives an idea of how old the tree is.



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The English Laurel tree outside of the Garrand building is potentially the oldest tree on the Seattle University campus. Garrand is the oldest building on campus and there are photos from the earliest days of the university that show a small shrub growing where the Laurel tree outside of the Garrand building now stands. Although there is no way to verify that the plant in the picture is the same plant that is there today, it is quite likely that this Laurel Tree is as old as the University itself.

10.

Incense Cedar

Calocedrus decurrens

Location: Pigott - Northeast

Native to: Western United States (CA, OR, NV)

Average Height: 30-50 ft (120-150 ft in wild)

Foliage: Evergreen

This tree was given its name for its fragrant wood and seed pods, which are very aromatic when crushed. It is native to the western United States, where it prefers mountainous regions such as the Sierra Nevadas. It is a popular evergreen to use in landscaping because of its aroma and neat, pyramid shaped growing pattern. Native American Cultures had a variety of medicinal uses for this tree; its leaves were used to treat stomach pain and its bark could be steamed and inhaled to treat congestion. The fibrous bark was also used to weave baskets.



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Seattle University's incense cedars grow in a small stand next to the Union Green, near the main entrance to the Pigott building. Their branches hang low over the walkway, making it possible to pick a few of their needles; crush them to smell the Incense Cedar's beautiful scent, but be careful as the needles are spiny.

12.

Golden Southern Catalpa

Catalpa bignonioides 'aurea'

Location: Garrand - Northeast

Native to: Southern United States

Average Height: 30-40 ft

Foliage: Deciduous

The Southern Catalpa is native to the southernmost states of the US, so it is most comfortable in warm weather and direct sunlight. The specimen on Seattle U campus is the 'aurea' cultivar, which has small white flowers with orange and purple but it is the tree's large, bright yellow leaves that make the more eye catching display. The wood of the Catalpa tree is sometimes used for construction purposes and also used to make acoustic guitars. This species alone is parasitized by the Catalpa Sphinx Moth which lays its eggs in the tree, infesting it with caterpillars; it is a known trick among fisherman to plant one of these trees in their yard for a free, self-sustaining supply of bait.



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This unique tree was planted by Janice Murphy in 1999 to add a splash of color to what was an otherwise dark section of campus. The tree now occupies a large space between the Admin and Garrand buildings, its long branches allow its bright yellow leaves to hang over the walkway and contrast with the surrounding Juniper trees.

14.

Windmill Palm

Trachycarpus fortunei

Location: Hunthausen - East

Native to: Central-Eastern Asia (China, India, Japan)

Average Height: 10-40 ft

Foliage: Evergreen

An uncommon sight on Seattle U Campus, the Windmill Palm is native to central Asia, where it ranges from China to northern India and as far east as Myanmar and southern Japan. This is a hearty species as far as palms go, they can tolerate frost and light snowfall as well as being comfortable in shade to full sunlight. The species can inhabit everywhere near the southern and western borders of the United States, the pacific northwest is the northernmost part of its range. It is an unusual looking tree, with a thin, branchless trunk topped with a tuft of large, fan like palms. It flowers in summer, producing yellow flowers that become small blue fruits that hang in clusters. These fruits are enjoyed by birds and rodents and while they are not eaten by humans, some Asian cultures use the fibers from the trunk to weave rope, brush bristles, mats and cloth.



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Windmill Palms are popular landscaping palms because of their tolerance for a wide range of climates; they are the only type of palm tree that can be found on Seattle University campus. They stand near the east side of the Hunthausen building, near Madison street. When Ciscoe first tried to plant these trees on campus they simply fell over, they had to be planted much deeper than he had originally thought. Once securely rooted, they took well to their surroundings and grew very rapidly in the wet environment.

15.

Ponderosa Pine

Pinus ponderosa

Location: Administration - West

Native to: Western United States, Canada

Average Height: 60-125 ft.

Foliage: Evergreen

A common sight for many Pacific Northwest locals, the Ponderosa Pine is a hardy evergreen that makes up the majority of many low to mid-elevation evergreen forests throughout the western United States. Mature Ponderosa Pines can be easily identified by their reddish-orange bark, which slowly turns from brown to orange as the tree ages. They have small cones that range from 3 to 6 inches and take about two years to mature. This species has a variety of medicinal uses and has been used by Native American tribes to treat a wide range of problems, mostly with the skin and respiratory system. These pines are popular for landscaping for their size and color, they are also good for erosion control and windbreaks.



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Seattle University's specimen is behind the Admin building and can be easily seen because of its height. For a while it was plagued by parasitic insects but was cured by introducing a different species of insect that ate the parasites. It never completely recovered from the damage but it is now in good health.

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