

Campus Buildings

1. Founders Hall
2. Brown Hall
3. McCandless Hall
4. Sandridge Student Center
5. Sanders Hall
6. Kares Library
7. Classroom Building
8. Waters Hall
9. Carter Gymnasium
10. McCain Hall

11. Security Office
12. President's Home (not shown)
13. Grey House (not shown)
14. Chasteen Hall (not shown)
15. Maintenance Building
16. Smith House
17. Patton House
18. Freehauf House
19. The Village 1 – 5

Each tree is marked with a plaque near the trunk with more historical information.



Historic TREE PROJECT



Explore Athens State University's beautiful campus & historic trees with this self-guided tour!

Over 40 Trees can be found from historic sites all over the country, and in tribute to local residents. Updated tour and refurbished plaques created in honor of Athens State University's Bicentennial: 1822 – 2022.

Map and guide developed by Athens State student Tevin Terry.

Special thanks to Billy McClain & the founders of the Historic Tree Project, this would not be possible without them. Thanks to the leadership of Dr. Sara Cline & the Athens State Biology Department, and to Carolyn Carthen and the SGA. Assistance provided by Dakota Cotton & the Athens State Archives.

Thank you to the Alabama Bicentennial Commission Foundation for providing grant funding.



Athens State University Historic Trees

1. Berkeley Plantation White Ash

2. John Tyler Southern Magnolia

3. Lady Bird Johnson Southern Magnolia

Tevin's Biology Notes (Magnolia grandiflora) With large waxy leaves, large white flowers, and growing to large sizes, Southern Magnolias are among the most charismatic found in our groves. These trees are also suspected to use allelopathy, a biological way of inhibiting the growth of neighboring plants that compete with them for shade.

4. Alamo Live Oak

Tevin's Biology Notes (Quercus virginiana) These false evergreens are native to the far southern coast of the U.S. They are called false evergreens because they seem to keep their leaves year- round, but actually drop them in late winter and quickly replace them. These oaks survive well in wet, sandy soil, which is why they are a common resident of beach towns. They are prized for the hardness of their wood. In fact, the U.S.S Constitution (AKA Old Ironsides) was not made of iron at all, but wood from the Live Oaks!

5. Joel Chandler Harris Southern Magnolia

6. Sergeant Alvin York Tulip Poplar

7. Patrick Henry Osage Orange

Tevin's Biology Notes (Maclura pomifera) This interesting mulberry produces a large green bumpy fruit. When damaged it produces a latex-like defensive compound that makes the fruit unpalatable for both wildlife and people. This tree has also been used historically by Native Americans to make bows and clubs.

8. Zachary Taylor Sweetgum

9. George Washington Tulip Poplar 1

Tevin's Biology Notes (Liriodendron tulipifera) Tulip Poplars are among the tallest tress in all of North America. They get their name from the large yellow flowers that bloom in early summer. However, despite their name they are not true poplars, but a magnolia like the Southern Magnolia. Unlike their cousins they are not evergreens and lose their leaves in the fall. Many trees, including the ones in front of Founders Hall, can be seen in paintings and photographs dating back to well over a century. On Washington's estate in Mt. Vernon there are Tulip Poplars over 140 feet tall and well over two centuries old! The specimen mark on this map is a descendent of those very trees.

10. Abraham Lincoln Dogwood

Tevin's Biology Notes (Cornus florida) These beautiful trees produce white or pink bracts, which are leaves, not petals, around their tiny green flowers.

11. Ogon Zelkova

12. George Washington Tulip Poplar 2

13. Betsey Ross American Sycamore

14. Montpelier Kentucky CoffeeTree

Tevin's Biology Notes (Gymnocladus dioicus) This pollution tolerant plant came from the estate of former President James Madison and has a history almost as old as the frontier itself. During hard times, settlers in the areas of the Midwest where these trees grew would use their coffee like beans as a substitute for coffee.

15. George Washington Carver Green Ash

16. Clara Barton Redbud

17. Boyd Shumard Oak

18. Staley Johnson Swamp White Oak

19. Chris Otto Weeping Persimmon Tree

20. Billy McClain Fringe Tree

21. Half-Moon Sycamore

22. Williamsburg Golden Rain

Tevin's Biology Notes (Koelreuteria paniculate) This beautiful tree, originally from China, graces any landscape that it sits upon, with a rare sight in the tree world: Yellow flowers! Blooming starts in mid-to-late summer and usually begins three years after planning. The blooms of these trees are also a great way to attract bees, as they seem to love the colorful flowers.

23. River Farm Chaste Tree

24. Cyrus Hall McCormick Catalpa

Tevin's Biology Notes (Catalpa speciose) With heart shaped deciduous leaves, bean like seedpods, and showy flowers, these trees grab the attention of anyone who walks by them. These trees are also the only home to the larvae of the catalpa sphinx moth, a worm that made these trees a popular attraction of anglers. It is said that back in the old times this quality increased property values.

25. Angel Live Oak

26. Martin Luther King Jr. Water Oak

27. Monticello Silver Maple

28. Jesse Owens Water Oak

Tevin's Biology Notes (Quercus nigra) This tree drops an impressive number of acorns each fall, which attracts dozens of species of wildlife. It is easy to identify, just look for the oak with the duck foot shaped leaves. We think this one might be mislabeled and is really a willow oak. What do you think?

29. Jesse Owens Honey Locust

30. Edgar Allen Poe Hackberry

Tevin's Biology Notes (Celtis occidentalis) Hackberry trees are some of the toughest species of trees found in the U.S. They have a range spreading from southern Canada to Florida and are extremely resistant to disease. The berries produced by this tree are a favorite of winter birds; and the flowers attract dozens of butterfly species.

31. Alex Haley Silver Maple

32. Monticello Catalpa

33. Martin Luther King Jr. Sycamore

Tevin's Biology Notes (Platanus occidental) You will also notice the large fuzzy balls, the fruit of these amazing trees. Once used as a common shade tree in urban areas, this water tolerant species is now used by environmentalists to appraise wetlands across the U.S.

34. Montpelier Red Maple

35. Wilbur & Orville Wright Sweetgum

36. Tim Jones White Pine (Doedar Cedar)

37. Albert Elmore Crape Myrtle (Montpelier)

38. Walden Woods Red Maple

39. Walden Woods River Birch

40. Hellen Keller Water Oak

41. Wilbur & Orville Wright Red Cedar

42. Williamsburg Silver Maple

43. McIntyre Yoshino Cherry Tree

44. Margaret Maples Oliver & Annie Maples Matthews Japanese Maple

45. U.S. Capital Grounds Honey Locust



Planting Billy McClain Fringe Tree, Arbor Day 2018