

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN COLORADO TREE TRAIL

West Campus Loop

39 trees, 1 hour walking time

Gambel Oak

Located: Northwest section of
Ross Hall courtyard

Diameter: 1-3 inch, multistem

Planted: 2001

Quercus gambelii

Although Gambel oak wood is hard and dense, its branches are irregular and crooked, making them flexible enough to bend without breaking when covered with heavy snow. The bark is rough and brownish-gray. The leaves are generally 3–5 inches long. They frequently turn orange and yellow during autumn, creating mountainsides of vivid colors.



Red Horsechestnut

Located: North Ross Hall
courtyard

Diameter: 5 inches

Planted: 2001

Aesculus x carnea

Aesculus × carnea, or red horsechestnut, is an artificial hybrid between a red buckeye and a horse-chestnut. The origin of the tree is not known, but it probably first appeared in Germany before 1820. The hybrid is a medium-size tree, growing between 67-83 feet tall, intermediate between the parent species in most respects, but inheriting the red flower color from the red buckeye. It is a popular tree in large gardens and parks.



Limber Pine

Located: Northeastern Ross Hall
courtyard

Diameter: 4.5 inches

Planted: 2001

Pinus flexilis

The limber pine is popular as a windbreak tree or an ornamental tree due to its drought tolerance. It is also grown as a Christmas tree, liked for the soft needles but with stiffer branches than an Eastern white pine.

They are also known for their long lifespans. A limber pine in Eagle Cap Wilderness, Oregon has been documented as over 2000 years old.



'Autumn Blaze' Red Maple

Located: Eastern entrance to
Ross Hall courtyard

Diameter: 8 inches

Planted: 2001

Acer x freemanii 'Autumn Blaze'

Autumn Blaze (*Acer fremanii*) is prized as the fastest growing Maple tree with a hardy nature and brilliant color. This tree will turn blazing red during the autumn months, really adding to the campus' changing fall landscape.

The bark of this tree always has dark striping on its gray-silver surface.



Russian Hawthorn

Located: Center of Ross Hall courtyard

Diameter: 3.75 inches

Planted: 2001

Crataegus ambigua

The Russian hawthorn is a species of thorn (hawthorn) native to Western Asia and Eastern Europe, including Armenia, Iran, Russia, and Turkey. It grows as a shrub or tree up to about 35 feet in height. The fruit is dark red to purple or black, with one or two stones. The bark has a characteristic gold-bronze color that provides a winter-interest feature.



Red Horsechestnut 'Briotii'

Located: Central Ross Hall
courtyard

Diameter: 2.5 inches

Planted: 2011

Aesculus x carnea 'Briotii'

A broadly rounded, dense shade tree. The late spring flowers are rose-red and held in 10 inch long upright panicles. The leaves are a dark green, and more resistant to sun scorch than a horsechestnut tree.



Pinyon Pine

Located: Southern Ross Hall
courtyard

Diameter: 3 inches

Planted: 2001

Pinus edulis

The pinyon (piñon) pine grows as the dominant species on 4.8 million acres (7,300 sq mi) in Colorado, making up 22% of the state's forests. The pinyon has cultural meaning to agriculture, as strong pinyon wood "plow heads" were used to break soil for crop planting at the state's earliest known agricultural settlements.



White Fir

Located: Southwestern Ross Hall
courtyard

Diameter: 6.5 inches

Planted: 2001

Abies concolor

The white fir is a fir native to the mountains of western North America, occurring at elevations of up to 11,154 feet. It is a medium to large evergreen coniferous tree growing 80-197 feet tall and with a trunk diameter of up to 6.5 feet. It is popular as a Christmas Tree. The White Fir species offers a perfect combination of strength, versatility and beauty. White Fir is a preferred construction species because of its nail-holding ability, lightness in weight, and resistance to split, twist, and pitch.



English Oak

Located: Western Ross Hall
courtyard

Diameter: 5.5 inches

Planted: 2001

Quercus robur

This tree is made famous by being the primary tree in Sherwood Forest, where Robin Hood was known to inhabit.

It is a long-lived tree, with a large, wide-spreading crown of rugged branches. While it may naturally live to an age of a few centuries, many of the oldest trees are pollarded or coppiced, both pruning techniques that extend the tree's potential lifespan, if not its health, as well.



Limber Pine 'Vanderwolf's Pyramid'

Located: East Ross Hall lawn

Diameter: 4.5 inches

Planted: 2001

Pinus flexilis 'Vanderwolf's
Pyramid'

This is a moderately sized forest tree that is native to a large range of the Rocky Mountains from Wyoming to New Mexico and into parts of California and most of the west. It was first identified and classified by Rocky Mountain plant collector and botanist, Edwin James, 1797-1861.



Japanese Tree Lilac

Located: East of Ross Hall, along 11th Ave.

Diameter: 5.5 inches

Planted: 1984

Syringa reticulata

The Japanese Tree Lilac is a species of Lilac, native to eastern Asia, in northern Japan, northern China, Korea, and far southeastern Russia.

It is a deciduous small tree, growing to a height of up to 45 feet, with a trunk up to a foot in diameter; it is the largest species of lilac, and the only one that regularly makes a small tree, rather than a shrub.



Blue Spruce

Located: Southeast of Ross Hall,
along 11th Ave.

Diameter: 12 inches

Planted: 1984

Picea pungens

Growing up to 49 feet tall by 16 feet wide, it is a conical evergreen conifer with scaly grey bark. Waxy grey-green leaves, up to 1 inch long, are arranged radially on the shoots, curving upwards. The pale brown cones are up to 4 inches long.

The specific epithet, "pungens" means "sharply pointed", referring to the leaves.

The blue spruce is the State Tree of Utah and Colorado.



Northern Catalpa

Located: Southeast of Ross Hall,
along 11th Ave.

Diameter: 8 inches

Planted: 2003

Catalpa speciosa

The Northern Catalpa is a medium-sized, deciduous tree, with brown to gray bark, that matures into hard plates or ridges. The leaves are deciduous, opposite (or whorled), large, heart shaped and pointed at the tip. The flowers are trumpet shaped, white with yellow stripes and purple spots inside. The leaves generally do not color in autumn before falling, instead, they either fall abruptly after the first hard freeze, or turn a slightly yellow-brown before dropping off. It is widely planted as an ornamental tree. This tree prefers moist, high pH (alkaline) soil and full sun, but has been able to grow almost anywhere in North America.



Silver Linden

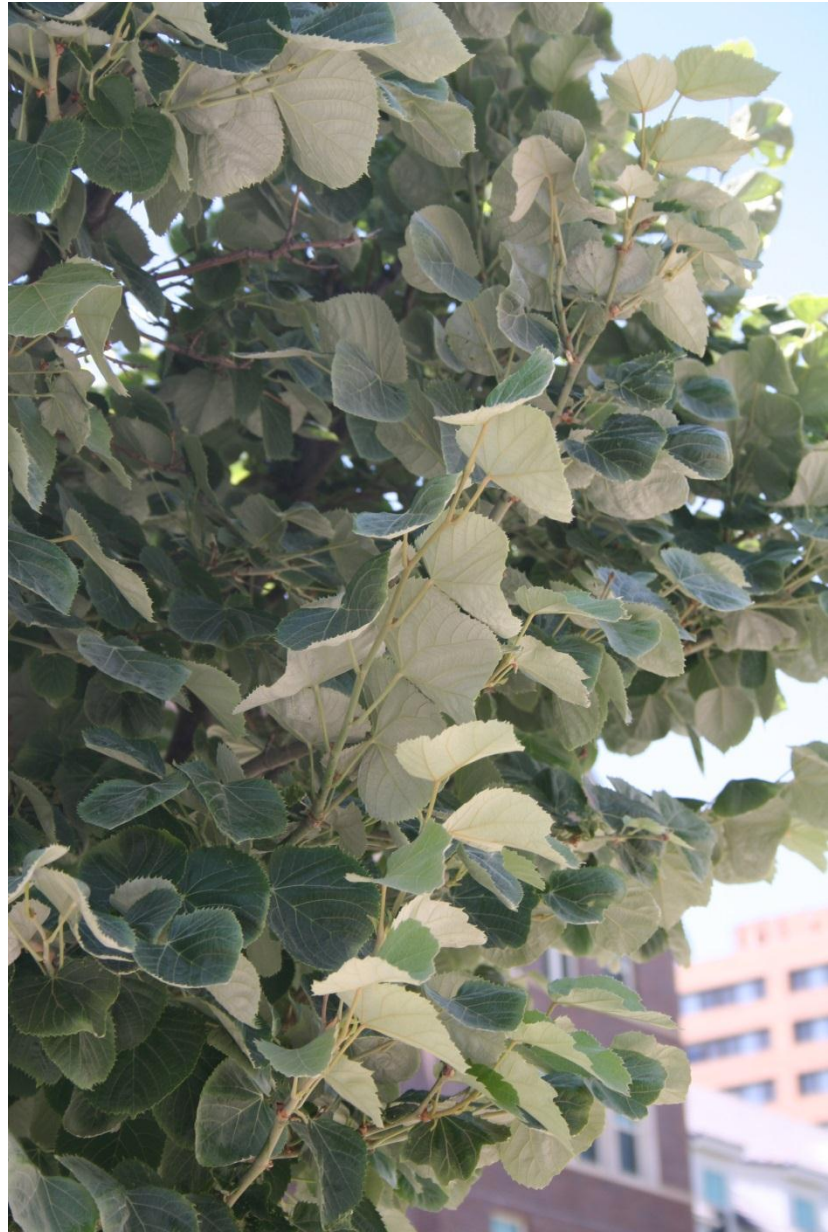
Located: Northeast of North Hall,
along 11th Ave.

Diameter: 5.5 inches

Planted: 2005

Tilia tomentosa

The Silver Linden is a deciduous tree growing up to 115 feet tall, with a trunk up 7 feet in diameter. The leaves are alternately arranged, rounded to triangular-ovate, green and mostly hairless above, densely white tomentose with white hairs below, and with a coarsely toothed margin. The flowers are pale yellow and have a strong scent, attracting honeybees for pollination.



'Marshall's Seedless' Green Ash

Located: Northeast of North Hall,
along 11th Ave.

Diameter: 5.5 inches

Planted: 2003

Fraxinus pennsylvanica
'Marshall's Seedless'

This somewhat irregularly-shaped tree when young, becomes an oval with age. Green Ash will reach a height of about 50 feet with a spread of 40 feet. Upright main branches bear twigs which droop toward the ground, then bend upward at their tips. This fast growing tree will adapt to many different landscape conditions and can be grown on wet or dry sites.



'Green Mountain' Sugar Maple

Located: East of North Hall,
along 11th Ave,

Diameter: 2.75 inches

Planted: 2010

Acer saccharum 'Green Mountain'

The Green Mountain Sugar Maple carries all of the characteristics of the Sugar Maple with the strong limbs and the gorgeous fall color and the seeds are inconspicuous and causes no significant litter problems.

The Green Mountain Sugar Maple is used for wide tree lawns, screens, shade, and as a specimen tree. It is also good street tree. The leathery leaves and durable foliage are resistant to heat and drought.



Washington Hawthorn

Located: East of North Hall,
along 11th Ave.

Diameter: 4 inches

Planted: 2003

Crataegus phaenopyrum

It is widely grown as an ornamental plant, and can reach up to 33 feet in height. The small, red, berry-like fruit grow closely together in large clusters and are food for squirrels and birds. They have a mild flavor and can be eaten raw or cooked. As with other species of hawthorn, the wood is hard and can be used to make tools.



Columnar European Hornbeam

Located: East side of North Hall

Diameter: 3 inches

Planted: 2010

Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata'

The Columnar European Hornbeam is a dense conical shaped tree with attractive gray bark. It has oblong, dark green leaves, which are deeply ribbed and turn golden-yellow in the fall. Catkins emerge with the leaves to produce long papery fruits in late summer. They tolerate most soils and most soil conditions. They transplant well and seldom show any dieback from stress.



White Pine

Located: Southeast corner of
North Hall

Diameter: 3.5 inches

Planted: 2009

Pinus strobus

White pines prefer well-drained soil and cool, humid climates, but can also grow in boggy areas and rocky highlands. In mixed forests, this dominant tree towers over all others, including the large, broadleaf hardwoods. It provides food and shelter for numerous forest birds, such as the Red Crossbill, and small mammals, such as squirrels.



'Chanticleer' Callery Pear

Located: Southeast corner of
North Hall

Diameter: 3.5 inches

Planted: 2009

Pyrus calleryana 'Chanticleer'

The 'Chanticleer' Callery pear is a cultivar, partly selected because of its unique combination of good traits including great form and resistance to blight and limb breakage. Poor limb or weak branching has been a major problem with some of the pear's relatives including commonly planted 'Bradford' pear trees.



American 'Liberty' Elm

Located: North side of South Hall

Diameter: 3.75 inches

Planted: 2008

Ulmus americana 'American Liberty'

The American Elm cultivar 'American Liberty' is in fact a group of six genetically distinct cultivars under a single name, although they are superficially similar. The Liberty elm is reportedly suitable for street planting, being tolerant of de-icing salts and air pollution. It is a Dutch Elm Disease resistant tree, while maintaining a classic American elm look.



'Bloodgood' London Plane Tree

Located: Northeast corner of
Holmes Hall

Diameter: 5.25 inches

Planted: 2005

Platanus x acerfolia 'Bloodgood'

This is one of the first cultivars to be selected for anthracnose resistance. It is a rounded tree with deep green leaves that turn a poor yellow in fall. The plant tolerates poor cultural conditions, including heat, drought and poor soil. Recent observations indicate susceptibility to ozone.



'Moraine' Thornless Honeylocust

Located: Northeast corner of
Turner Hall

Diameter: 17.5 inches

Planted: circa 1968

Gleditsia triacanthos inermis
'Moraine'

These tough, fast-growing trees tolerate flooding, seasonal extremes, acidic and alkaline soils, highway salts and city pollution. They resist wind damage and tolerate drought once established. Their long narrow pods have a sweet gummy sap, which inspires the common name, Honey Locust. Their roots can break paving, which can be a problem, given the tree is close to a road or sidewalk.



Bristlecone Pine

Located: Northeast of the north wing of Harrison Hall

Diameter: 2 inches/ 5 feet tall

Planted: 2013

Pinus aristata

The bristlecone pines are the oldest single living organisms known (though some plants form clonal colonies which may be many times older). The oldest bristlecone pines are single plants that have been alive for a little less than 5,000 years. These very old trees are of great importance in dendrochronology or tree-ring dating.



Little-leaf Linden

Located: Southwest of McKee
Hall

Diameter: 14 inches

Planted: circa 1973

Tilia cordata

Little-leaf Lindens are widely grown as ornamental trees throughout its native range in Europe. It was much planted to form avenues in 17th and early 18th century landscape planning. Sarajevo's streets used to be lined with them. Honeybees love this tree, due to its floral aroma.



Cottonwood

Located: Southwest of McKee Hall

Diameter: 28.5 inches

Planted: circa 1973

Populus deltoides

This tree needs bare soil and full sun for successful germination and establishment; in natural conditions, it usually grows near rivers, however, human soil cultivation has allowed it to increase its range away from such habitats.

The leaves serve as food for various types of caterpillars. Cottonwoods are no longer planted on campus due to their suckering tendency and susceptibility to storm damage, but this is an impressive specimen.



White Poplar

Located: Southwest of McKee Hall

Diameter: 32 inches

Planted: circa 1968

Populus alba

It is native from Morocco and the Iberian Peninsula through central Europe (north to Germany and Poland) to central Asia. It grows in moist sites, often by watersides, in regions with hot summers and cold to mild winters. It is most closely related to Trembling Aspen, which we also have a handful of on campus.



English Walnut

Located: East of Michener Library

Diameter: 11 inches

Planted: 1981

Juglans regia

English Walnuts are a large, deciduous tree attaining heights of up to 100 feet, and a trunk up to 7 feet in diameter, commonly with a short trunk and broad crown, though taller and narrower in dense forest competition. It is a light-demanding species, requiring full sun to grow well.



'Ivory Silk'

Japanese Tree Lilac

Located: West of McKee Hall

Diameter: 2.5 inches

Planted: 2012

Syringa reticulata 'Ivory Silk'

This 'Ivory Silk' Japanese tree lilac cultivar is known for growing into a neat tree shape on its own, and for blooming in the spring with creamy white blossoms. This beauty of an ornamental tree stays relatively small, and has several uses in a multitude of landscapes.



'Radiant' Flowering Crabapple

Located: West of McKee Hall

Diameter: 2.5 inches

Planted: 2012

Malus 'Radiant'

A radiant crabapple, also called a flowering crabapple, is of the *Malus* species and is related to common variety apple trees. Any type of crabapple tree, in comparison with an apple tree, is smaller in all respects. The radiant, known as the "jewel of the landscape" because it produces flowers, often serves an ornamental purpose. The radiant type can produce edible fruit as well.



Buckthorn

Located: West of McKee Hall

Diameter: 10 inches

Planted: 1973

Rhamnus cathartica

Buckthorns are a deciduous shrub or small tree, with grey-brown bark and spiny branches. The leaves are elliptic to oval; they are green, turning yellow in autumn, and are arranged somewhat variably in opposite to subopposite pairs or alternately. The flowers are yellowish-green, with four petals and insect pollinated. The fruit is a globose black drupe, containing two to four seeds; it is mildly poisonous for people, but readily eaten by birds, which disperse the seeds in their droppings.



'Armstrong' Red Maple

Located: West side of McKee,
north of the breezeway

Diameter: 3 inches

Planted: 2012

Acer rubrum 'Armstrong'

This fast growing, upright tree becomes 50 feet to 75 feet tall and retains a narrow form. New foliage emerges vibrant red and turns dark green in the summer. Fall color is usually orange-red to yellow-orange (in warmer climates) but not as brilliant as other varieties. It has smooth, silver-gray bark which becomes deeply ridged with age. Petioles on this maple are long, resulting in droopy looking leaves. Showy red flowers precede foliage on intriguing reddish branches.. This tree is native to the eastern United States.



Ponderosa Pine

Located: West of McKee Hall, north
of the breezeway

Diameter: 23 inches

Planted: circa 1969

Pinus ponderosa

Ponderosa pines are a large coniferous evergreen tree. The bark helps to distinguish it from other species. Mature individuals have cinnamon-red bark with black crevices. Younger trees have black to reddish-brown bark. The tree can often be identified by its characteristic long needles that grow in tufts of two to four (or five) depending on subspecies.

Sources differ on the scent. Some state that it has no distinctive scent, while others state that the bark smells like vanilla if sampled from a furrow of the bark.



Ginkgo

Located: East side of McKee breezeway

Diameter: 4.25 inches

Planted: 1990

Ginkgo biloba

The Ginkgo is a unique species of tree with no close living relatives. The ginkgo is a living fossil, recognizably similar to fossils dating back 270 million years. Native to China, the tree is widely cultivated and was introduced early to human history. It has various uses in traditional medicine and as a food.



Rocky Mountain Juniper

Located: Southwest corner of Ross Hall

Diameter: 12.5 inches

Planted: 1985

Juniperus scopulorum

The Rocky Mountain Juniper is a small tree reaching up to 50 feet tall, with a trunk up to 3 feet in diameter. The leaves are arranged in opposite decussate pairs, or occasionally in whorls of three. The juvenile leaves (on young seedlings only) are needle-like. The seed cones are berry-like, dark blue with a pale blue-white waxy bloom, and contain two seeds (rarely one or three); they are mature in about 18 months.



Fernleaf Buckthorn

Located: Near Southwestern
entrance to Ross Hall

Diameter: 6 inches

Planted: 1989

Rhamnus frangula 'Asplenifolia'

A bushy, deciduous, slow-growing shrub/tree, with finely textured, scalloped leaves, this plant grows to 12 feet tall and almost as wide. The Fernleaf Buckthorn bears clusters of green flowers, followed by round red fruit that ripens to black in the fall. All parts may cause severe discomfort if ingested. This tree is one of a kind on the campus.



Burr Oak

Located: Near the Southwestern entrance to Ross Hall

Diameter: 26.25 inches

Planted: circa 1965

Quercus macrocarpa

It is a large deciduous tree growing up to 100 feet in height, and is one of the most massive oaks with a trunk diameter of up to 10 feet.. It is one of the slowest-growing oaks, with a growth rate of 1 foot per year when young. It commonly lives to be 200 to 300 years old, and may live up to 400 years. The bark is a medium gray and somewhat rugged.



Lodgepole Pine

Located: West of Ross Hall

Diameter: 9 inches

Planted: 1989

Pinus contorta

Lodgepole pines are known to reach heights of up to 160 feet, with a diameter of up to 7 feet. The Lodgepole pine, as a species, is a very dependent on fire as a mode of replacing itself. The bark of the lodgepole pine is fairly thin, minimizing the defense the tree has to fire. The stands are so densely populated that the trees self thin, or out-compete each other, leaving dead trees in the stand.



'Spring Snow' Flowering Crabapple

Located: Northwest corner of
Ross Hall

Diameter: 5 inches

Planted: 2003

Malus x 'Spring Snow'

The 'Spring Snow' Flowering Crabapple tree is loaded with white flowers in early spring, and on the branches of the 'Spring Snow' Crabapple Tree, the blooms turn a pure white color when in bloom. In Spring the tree produces beautiful blooms, and the mature height is 20 feet with a spread of 10 feet. The tree is almost sterile with negligible fruit production. It has recently become a very popular ornamental tree in the state of Colorado.

