

Pioneer Park Tree Walk



10

**Saucer Magnolia**  
*Magnolia soulangiana*

Deciduous tree, hybrid of two Asian magnolias. Can reach 25 ft. The large pink or white flowers open like saucers to show the petals, blooming before the leaves unfurl. The cone-like fruit is composed of many separate pointed fruits that split open to expose red seed in early autumn. Sometimes incorrectly called "Tulip tree."



11

**Black Walnut**  
*Juglans nigra*

American native, likes deep, rich, well-drained soil; not drought-resistant. Grows to 50 to 75 ft. The nuts are delicious and highly nutritious. Native Americans and pioneers made a brown dye from the husks surrounding the nuts. Prized for its strong, brown heartwood. During World War I, airplane propellers were made of walnut.



12

**Monterey Pine**  
*Pinus radiata*

Very fast-growing, shallow-rooted evergreen, grows to 80 to 100 ft. Occurs naturally only in the fog belt along the central coast of California. The three remaining native stands of this pine are infected and under threat of extinction from a fungal disease originating in the Southeastern U. S. and discovered in California in 1986.



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**California Pepper Tree**  
*Schinus molle*

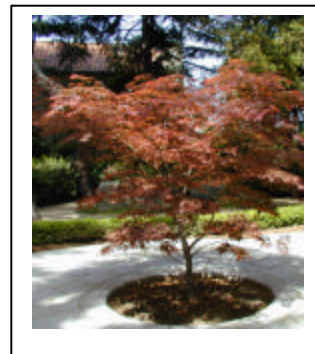
Evergreen tree with spreading, weeping, umbrella-like form; moderate growth to 20 to 30 ft. Leaves have a spicy, aromatic scent. Indigenous to South and Central America. Virtually all parts of this tree have been used medicinally throughout the tropics, but it can also cause allergies.



14

**Deodar or Indian Cedar**  
*Cedrus deodora*

Evergreen tree native to the Himalayas. Fast growing to 80 ft. with a 40-ft. spread at ground level. Considered the abode of the gods in Indian mythology.

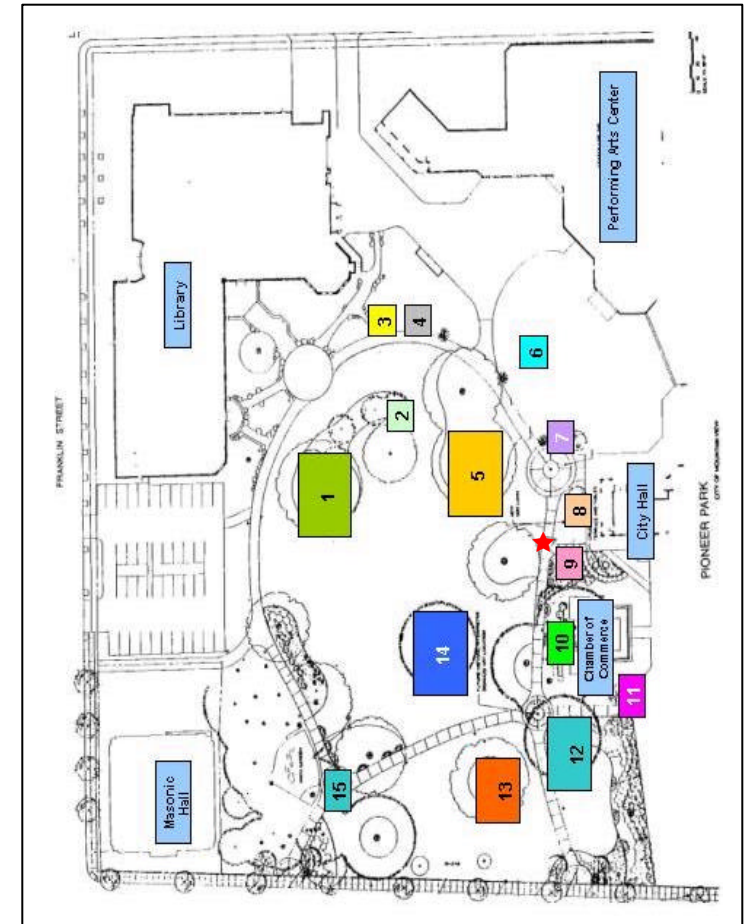


15

**Japanese Maple**  
*Acer palmatum*

Deciduous tree native to China and Japan. Hardy and durable, can grow to 25 ft. and grows best in dappled light. Leaves turn red in autumn. Its botanical name (*palmatum*) refers to its leaves, which have five or more deep lobes and vaguely resemble a human hand (palm). It is a popular bonsai subject in Japan.

City of Mountain View  
Pioneer Park  
Tree Walk



★ Mountain View Centennial Tree (Valley Oak)

Pioneer Park Tree Walk



1

**Coast Live Oak**  
*Quercus agrifolia*  
Evergreen tree that once covered huge areas of Coastal California. Can reach 20 to 70 ft. Round-headed and wide-spreading. Drops almost all its old leaves in early spring. Native people considered it sacred; it provided them with their most important source of food (up to 500 lbs. of acorns in a good year).

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**Scarlet Oak**  
*Quercus coccinea*  
Deciduous tree native to eastern North American deciduous forests; commonly found in dry, sandy sites. Can reach 60 to 80 ft. Glossy dark green leaves turn bright scarlet where autumns are cool. Needs full sun and good drainage to do well. Was valued by Native Americans (the Seneca) for its medicinal applications.

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7

**American Sweet Gum**  
*Liquidambar styraciflua*  
Deciduous tree native to the Eastern U.S.; grows abundantly in the lower Mississippi Valley. Commercially grown for hardwood in its native range. In the West, grows to 60 ft. Leaves are dark green in spring and summer, turning red, yellow, or purple in fall; easily identifiable gumballs.



2

**Flowering Cherry**  
*Prunus subhirtella*  
Deciduous tree native to Japan. Can reach 25 to 30 ft. Needs full sun and fast-draining soil. Somewhat drought-tolerant. The pink flowers appear in the spring, before the leaves. Introduced from Japan in 1894. In Japan, a 1000-year-old flowering cherry has a circumference of 32 ft.



5

**California White or Valley Oak**  
*Quercus lobata*  
Deciduous tree native to California's interior valleys, Sierra Foothills, and Coast Ranges. Can reach over 100 ft. California's mightiest oak, with a life span of 200 to 500 years! The only oak that lives near bodies of water; many were cut down because they grew where there was deep soil and plenty of water — prime agricultural land.



8

**Crape Myrtle**  
*Lagerstroemia indica*  
Drought-tolerant, deciduous shrub or tree native of China. Flowers have crinkled and ruffled petals (crape). Grew in the Chinese emperor's palace gardens during the T'ang Dynasty (A.D. 618 to 906). Introduced to the Western world in the middle of the 17th century by ship's crews of the Dutch East Indies Company.



3

**Eastern Redbud**  
*Cercis canadensis*  
Deciduous tree native to Eastern U.S. Can reach 25 to 35 ft. Rosy flowers cover bare branches in early spring. Found in rich woods, ravines, and along streams; forms an understory below canopy trees. Fast-growing but short-lived. Dislikes wet clay soils, preferring a deep sandy loam. Responds poorly to drought.



6

**Coastal Redwood**  
*Sequoia sempervirens*  
Fast-growing, evergreen tree native to the foggy coastal belt of Northern California. Can reach 300 ft. The oldest redwood is some 1400 years old. Thrives on fog and summer humidity. The tree is thought to be named for a native American leader, Sequoia, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet. *Sempervirens* means "lives forever."



9

**Flowering Dogwood**  
*Cornus florida*  
Deciduous tree native to the Eastern U.S. Can reach 20 ft. Needs ample water and protection from western sun. Called the most beautiful native tree in the U.S., it provides flowers in spring and red fruit for the birds in winter. The wood was used to make tools (golf clubs too). Native Americans used it for medicinal purposes and to produce a scarlet dye.