



Item No. 20 Town of Atherton

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT – REGULAR AGENDA

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
GEORGE RODERICKS, CITY MANAGER

THROUGH: ROBERT OVADIA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

FROM: SALLY BENTZ-DALTON, PARK MANAGER/TOWN ARBORIST

DATE: JUNE 16, 2021

SUBJECT: REQUEST FROM THE ATHERTON TREE COMMITTEE TO USE
TREE COMMITTEE FUNDS FOR A NEW TREE WALK
BROCHURE, SIGNAGE AND COMMUNITY EVENT

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the expenditure of \$2,500 in Tree Committee funds towards a new tree walk brochure, signage and community event.

BACKGROUND

Betsy Colby an Atherton resident and a Tree Committee member initiated a project for an official Tree Walk in Holbrook-Palmer Park with a companion brochure. Betsy recruited Julie Robertson, Park & Recreation Committee member as well as Dorothy Hunter, President of the Atherton Arts Foundation to work on this project with staff.

The Subcommittee's idea is to create an official tree identification walk around the Park that includes a brochure highlighting the history of the Park, as well as providing information on 25 specifically identified trees. A tree map would be included in the middle of the brochure.

Ms. Colby compiled a list of trees to highlight. Staff and the Subcommittee reviewed the tree selections and finalized a final list of 25 specimen trees. Ms. Hunter and members of the Art Foundation are drawing the 25 trees to be included in the brochure.

The Subcommittee proposes a community event to kick off the release of the brochure and official Holbrook-Palmer Tree Walk. The event would coincide with the Art Foundation Art Show – August 21 and 22, 2021. On Sunday, August 22, the Subcommittee proposes that staff and another arborist conduct the Official Tree Walk with members of the community in attendance. The event would also include kids activities and a Master Gardener information booth.

It has been two years since the Town hosted an Arbor Day event and the Subcommittee sees this event as an opportunity to re-engage the community in the Park. The event also counts toward the Town's Tree City USA designation.

At the May 5, 2021 Park & Recreation Committee meeting, the Committee reviewed and supported the Project. The Committee felt that the Project was consistent with the Town's Tree City USA designation and consistent with the mission of the Park.

ANALYSIS

The cost of the project includes the printing of the brochure, updating the green plastic tree identification signs, adding the required 4x4 posts, and installation of signage and/or a brochure holder. Approximately 10 4x4 posts are needed; as well as 25 new tree identification plaques. The Subcommittee is also proposing that a paper copy of the brochure be made available at City Hall as well as the Art Foundation offices. Digital copies would be available via the Town's website.

The estimated the cost for this project at approximately \$3,000.

- Acrylic green ID plaques (24) - estimated - \$400
- Pressure treated wood (4x4x10') - estimated - \$100
- Copies of the brochure (500 copies) – estimated - \$900
- Signage -Varies – estimated - \$600
- Brochure holder - estimated - \$500
- Event costs – estimated - \$500

The Tree Committee met by Zoom on May 20, 2021, to discuss the project and funds to be used. The Committee was in favor of the project and thought that it was a good use of Tree Committee funds. The Tree Committee approved the below funds.

Print brochure	\$900
Start of Walk sign	\$600
Brochure holder	\$500
Park event materials (raffle, kids activities, etc.)	\$500
Total for project	\$2,500

It was suggested that the Town fund the purchase and installation the tree ID plaques (including posts) and installation of the brochure holder and start of walk signs.

The Tree Committee fund has approximately \$26,000. This project represents a formal request of the Tree Committee to use funds toward this project.

Examples of waterproof brochure holders to be placed outside the Art Room or at the start of the walk.



MCE recovered display holders from the Town Center's old signage that could be reused as the Tree Walk Map Sign. To the below right is an example of plastic signage that could be mounted on the old post.



POLICY FOCUS

The Town Council discussion should focus on the use of Tree Committee funds for the tree walk brochure, signage, and community event.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds are available in the Tree Committee budget for the printing of the brochure, purchase of the brochure holder and signage, as well as for the community event.

The Park Programs budget can fund the new plastic tree ID plaques and posts. The Town can post the brochure on the Town’s website as well as have the brochures available at the Town Center.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in print and electronically. Information about the project is also disseminated via the Town’s electronic News Flash and Atherton Online. There are approximately 1,200 subscribers to the Town’s electronic News Flash publications. Subscribers include residents as well as stakeholders – to include, but be not limited to, media outlets, school districts, Menlo Park Fire District, service providers (water, power, and sewer), and regional elected officials.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE FEEDBACK/REFERRAL

This item X has or has not been before a Town Committee or Commission.

- Audit/Finance Committee (meets every other month)
- Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee (meets as needed)
- Civic Center Advisory Committee (meets as needed)
- Environmental Programs Committee (meets every other month)
- X Park and Recreation Committee (meets each month)
- Planning Commission (meets each month)
- Rail Committee (meets every other month)
- Transportation Committee (meets every other month)
- X Tree Committee (meets each month)

ATTACHMENT

1. Draft Brochure
2. Tree brochure printing quote

Benefits of trees –

Grow some more!

- Clean the air
- Store water in the soil
- Cool buildings
- Provide habitat for wildlife
- Store carbon
- Enhance mental and social well being
- Create beauty

Trees of

Holbrook-Palmer Park

150 Watkins Ave

Atherton, CA

2021

The History of Holbrook-Palmer Park

Nothing beats a sunny day in the park.

The 22-acre park was established in 1883. Originally called *Elmwood*, the estate was used by the Holbrook family for weekend visits. Charles Holbrook's daughter Olive inherited the estate and used it as her summer home with her husband Silas H. Palmer. When Olive died in 1958, she gifted the estate to the town of Atherton. The park has hosted live concerts, holiday events and art exhibits. The park is home to an arboretum, historic buildings, tennis courts, children's playground, parcourse and playing fields for baseball, soccer and lacrosse.

Architecture:

- The main house was built in 1875 in the Second Empire style but was replaced in 1959.
- The carriage house was built in 1897 in a Colonial Revival style.
- The water tower was built in 1883 and is a rare example of a 19th century tank house.
- Both the water tower and carriage house were listed on the National Register of Historic Places on September 26, 2016.

Learn more at

www.athertonhistory.com

www.ci.atherton.ca.us/180/Holbrook---Palmer-Park

To learn more about trees

Canopy website – excellent resource to learn about city trees

<https://canopy.org/>

Master Gardeners – can answer questions about growing trees

<http://smsf-mastergardeners.ucanr.edu/>

Books about trees:

A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us by Matt Ritter

Thanks to our local artists who provided the drawings

Atherton Art foundation

www.athertonarts.org

Tree 24 (F,4) Ornamental Pomegranate

Punica granatum

Origin: eastern Mediterranean
Pomegranate comes from Latin words for 'many seeded apple'

deciduous
Grows to 20 ft

Bright orange flowers come in spring
Small orange fruits are ornamental, but not edible

Drought tolerant

Good small landscape tree

Consider this:
Thank you for coming on the tree walk.
Consider planting a tree and enjoying it for many years.

Welcome the Holbrook-Palmer Park Tree Walk

The walk starts at the North Meadow parking lot and proceeds clockwise along the paved path around the outer edge of the park with a turn around the Main House in the center.

The distance is about 1 mile.

A map of the featured trees is on the centerfold of this brochure

What is a tree?
A woody plant at least 15 feet tall, usually with a single trunk and a spreading crown of leaves

When enjoying the trees, you can pick up fallen leaves and seeds, but do not pick things directly off trees – flowers, leaves or bark.

For more information contact:
arborist@ci.atherton.ca.us

Tree 1 (D,4) Shumard Red Oak

Quercus shumardii

<p>Origin: Southeastern US Named for Benjamin Franklin Shumard (1820-69), state geologist of Texas Deciduous Grows to 50 ft</p> <p>Large 6 inch, lobed leaves with pointed tips red fall foliage color</p> <p>Produces few acorns in our habitat.</p> <p>Large trunk needs at least 5 foot radius of clearance.</p> <p>Strong wood often used for furniture making</p>
<p>Consider this: Welcome to the tree walk! Walk around slowly and enjoy the park</p> <p>Notice the green watering bags used to help newly planted trees get established. These bags release water slowly to help new plants through our dry summers.</p>

Tree 23 (H,2) Olive

Olea europaea

<p>Origin: eastern Mediterranean Evergreen Grows to 30 ft</p> <p>Cultivated by people for millennia for valuable fruit and wood.</p> <p>Long lived species Some Missions still have the original olive trees planted in 1700s</p> <p>Narrow, grey-green leaves</p> <p>Drought tolerant, like full sun Plant fruiting varieties away from driveways and patios since the fruit can stain</p>
<p>Consider this: Excellent California Olive oil can be produced with varieties like Leccino and Picual. Try out some California Olive oil at home.</p>

Tree 22 (I,6) **Monkey Puzzle Tree**

Araucaria arucana

<p>Origin: Chile Araucaria name is derived from the Chilean native Araucanians Common name became popular after an Englishman remarked 'It would puzzle a monkey to climb that.'</p> <p>evergreen Grows to 100 ft</p> <p>Thick, tough leaves that are very pointy Seeds are edible, like large pine nuts.</p> <p>Large seed pod which is very heavy and can harm anything that it falls on</p>
<p>Consider this: If you were a monkey, would you climb this tree?</p>

Tree 2 (B,4) **Norway Maple**

Acer platanoides

<p>Origin: Norway Deciduous Grows to 80 ft</p> <p>Palmate leaves with 5 main veins lobed with pointed tips golden fall color</p> <p>yellow spring flower clusters</p> <p>pair of spread Winged seeds are about 4 inches long they spin like a helicopter blade when falling from the tree in the winter</p> <p>roots can be invasive and cause infrastructure damage</p>
<p>Consider this: Find a leaf on the ground and compare the veins to the fingers on your hand</p>

ATTACHMENT 1

Tree 3 (A,7) Coast Live Oak

Quercus agrifolia

Origin: California
Agrifolia = rough leaves
Evergreen
Grows to 70 ft

Cupped leaves with pointed edge
Underside of leaves have fuzzy hairs along the veins
Thick leaf with waxy coating to prevent evaporation during hot dry summers

Acorns are narrow with a pointed end, about 1.5 inches long
Bowl like cap has scales

Dense foliage
Drought tolerant – does not like any summer watering, so keep away from lawns

Consider this:
Find a leaf and count the points
See if you can find an acorn that the squirrels missed – and draw it

Tree 21 (J,6) Japanese Maple

Acer palmatum

Origin: Japan
Deciduous
Grows to 30 ft

There are many different cultivars with various leaf shapes and colors

Palmate leaves with veins coming from base point

Prefers partial shade and consistent water
Nice small landscape tree

Consider this:
Compare this leaf to the Norway maple leaf at the beginning of the walk. How are they different?

ATTACHMENT 1

Tree 19 (K,6) **Southern Magnolia** *Magnolia grandiflora*

Origin: south eastern US
evergreen
Grows to 80 Ft
Showy large white flowers
Leaves have fuzzy brown underside

Tree 20 (J,6) **Saucer Magnolia** *Magnolia soulangeana*

Origin: Hybrid developed in France from species that originated in China
A hybrid developed by Etienne Soulange-Bodin in France in 1820.
deciduous
Grows to 20 Ft

Beautiful big blooms in the spring before the leaves come out
Flowers can be white, pink or purple
Very nice landscape tree

Tree 4 (A,9) **Redwood grove**

Sequoia sempervirens

Origin: California
Sequoia – named after a Cherokee Indian chief
Sempervirens = Latin for 'always green'
Evergreen
In coastal mountains, can grow to 370 feet, in drier flat land can grow to 100 feet

Resinous wood is resistant to insects, making this an excellent wood for construction.

Thick reddish bark is resistant to fires

Redwoods prefer the coastal fog belt where they can absorb water from the air so it doesn't have to travel 300 feet up from the roots.

Give them plenty of room to grow because roots can be invasive as they seek out water

Consider this:
This is our California state tree

Tree 5 (B,9) Blue Atlas Cedar

Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca'

<p>Origin: Himalayas Evergreen Grows to 80 ft</p> <p>Needle like leaves grow in clusters off the branches On this species the needles have a blue – green color</p> <p>Upright cones that break apart when mature to release seeds. The 'cone petals' drop around the tree. Wind pollination</p> <p>Aromatic wood</p> <p>Fine specimen tree</p>
<p>Consider this: Can you find a cone petal on the ground? Do the needles look bluish to you?</p>

Tree 18 (L,5) Chaste Tree

Vitex agnus-castus

<p>Origin: China Deciduous Grows to 15 ft</p> <p>Gorgeous summer purple flower spikes Drought tolerant once established They can die back in a severe frost</p> <p>Nice small landscape tree</p>
<p>Consider this: If you come in the summer, look for a flower spike, stand back and watch for insects who gather nectar and pollen.</p>

ATTACHMENT 1

Tree 16 (J,4) **Cockspur Hawthorn** *Crataegus crus-galli*

<p>Origin: eastern North America 'cock spur' name refers to the thorns on the branches, like a rooster's foot spur deciduous Grows to 30 ft Small lobed leaf Fall color is purplish Good small landscape tree</p>

Tree 17 (J,4) **Sweet Gum** *Liquidambar styraciflua*

<p>Origin: south eastern US deciduous Grows to 70 ft Nice shade tree Round hooked seed balls Beautiful Fall color Common street tree in our area</p>

Tree 6 (G,9) **Blue Gum Eucalyptus** *Eucalyptus globulus*

<p>Origin: Australia Evergreen Grows to 150 feet Many species - Blue gum is one of largest Not recommended for residential planting – they produce a lot of leaf and bark litter Roots can be invasive</p>

Tree 7 (I,9) **Cajeput** *Melaleuca quinquenervia*

<p>Origin: Australia Evergreen Grows to 30 feet Rounded crown creates dense shade underneath Bottle brush type flowers at the ends of branches Tough tree that can tolerate difficult conditions – drought, heat, wind, poor or salty soil</p>

Tree 8 (J,9) **Giant Sequoia**

Sequoiadendron giganteum

Tree 15 (M,3) **Valley Oak**

Quercus lobata

Origin: California
 Evergreen
 Grows to 250 ft in native habitat; to 100 ft in urban areas

Massive trunks can have a diameter of 30 ft in native habitat

Foliage is scale like
 Bark can be up to 2 feet thick
 Cones are 3 inches

Giant Sequoias grow in open groves among other types of trees
 Some trees are estimated to be 4000 years old

Slow growing, so plan for mature size

Consider this:
 If this tree had a 30 foot diameter trunk – how far would that spread?

Origin: California
 Lobata = 'lobed'
 Deciduous
 Grows to 100 feet with wide spread

Majestic trees with thick trunk covered in scaly bark
 Rounded canopy with roughly bent branches
 Leaves are deeply lobed with rounded ends

Oak trees produce acorns – and Valley oak produces some of the largest – up to 2 inches long
 Oaks support a wide variety of animals and are important for habitats.

Drought tolerant – avoid any summer watering
 Plant away from lawns
 Give these trees plenty of room to spread

Consider this:
 This tree is on the emblem for the Town of Atherton.
 Find a leaf and count the lobes

ATTACHMENT 1

Tree 14 (R,1) Crepe Myrtle

Lagerstroemia indica

<p>Origin: China, Japan Deciduous Grows to 10-30 feet</p> <p>Colorful frilly, crepe paper type spring flowers in pinks or whites Oval leaf with smooth edge</p> <p>Fall leaf color Interesting cupped seed pods persist on tree through the winter</p> <p>Smooth, layered bark Beautiful ornamental</p> <p>Likes full sun, drought tolerant once established</p>
<p>Consider this: Look for a seed pod and count the sections</p>

Tree 9 (M,9) Douglas Fir

Pseudotsuga menziesii

<p>Origin: western North America Common name honors David Douglas, a Scottish botanist who, in 1827, brought the tree back for cultivation in Scotland. Species name honors Archibald Menzies, a Scottish physician who first documented the tree on Vancouver Island in 1791 Evergreen Grows to 250 ft in native habitat; to 100 ft in urban areas</p> <p>Needle like leaves stick out all around the branches Cones hang down, are 3-4 inches and have 3 pointed tips on the scales Bark is craggy and rutted</p> <p>Grown as a timber tree in the Pacific north west and raised for Christmas trees</p>
<p>Consider this: Look for other plants named after people</p>

Tree 10 (P,8) Elm experimental grove

Ulmus varieties

<p>Origin: central Asia Deciduous Grows to 60 ft</p> <p>In the 1980s and 90s Dutch elm disease spread through Atherton and killed many trees. Holbrook Palmer Park had been called Elmwood because of the many elms on site. People were so concerned about preserving this iconic landscaping tree that a study to find disease resistant varieties started in the Park in 1992. The varieties planted were Prospector, Frontier, American Liberty and Valley Forge. A ten year evaluation report was written by Larry Costello.</p> <p>The Frontier variety proved to have the best branch structure and resistance of the varieties grown. It also has an unusual red-purple leaf color in the fall.</p> <p>Holbrook Palmer Park contributed to a national study of Elms!</p>
<p>Consider this: Is there a tree variety you would like to study?</p>

Tree 13 (M,3) Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

<p>Origin: eastern North America Deciduous Grows to over 100 ft In its native environment it can grow to 200 ft – taller than any other deciduous tree.</p> <p>Common name comes from spring flowers which are shaped like tulips</p> <p>Leaves have unusual symmetric shape with four pointed tips The seeds have a single wing and float down as spinning blades in the winter Bark is rough with lots of texture</p> <p>Give plenty of room since it can grow very tall and roots can be invasive Plant away from patios since it produces lots of leaf and seed litter, as well as dripping honeydew from aphids</p>
<p>Consider this: Draw a yellow tulip and imagine it growing on a tree!</p>

ATTACHMENT 1

Tree 12 (V,5) Pin Oak

Quercus palustris

Origin: eastern North America

Deciduous

Grows to 70 ft

Fine tall stately tree

Leaves about 4 inches long, deeply lobed with pointed tips

Underside of leaf has tufts of hair along the veins

Some orange Fall leaf color

Small Acorns – about half an inch, with a very shallow cap

Consider this:

Find a leaf and count the points

Tree 11 (R,7) Deodar Cedar

Cedrus deodara

Origin: Himalayas

'deodara' = Hindi for 'tree of the gods'

Evergreen

Grows to 80 ft

Needle like leaves grow in clusters off the branches

Upright cones break apart when mature to release seeds. The 'cone petals' drop around the tree.

Wind pollination

Deodar cedar has drooping branch tips

Aromatic wood

A fine specimen tree that needs plenty of room to spread lower branches

Consider this:

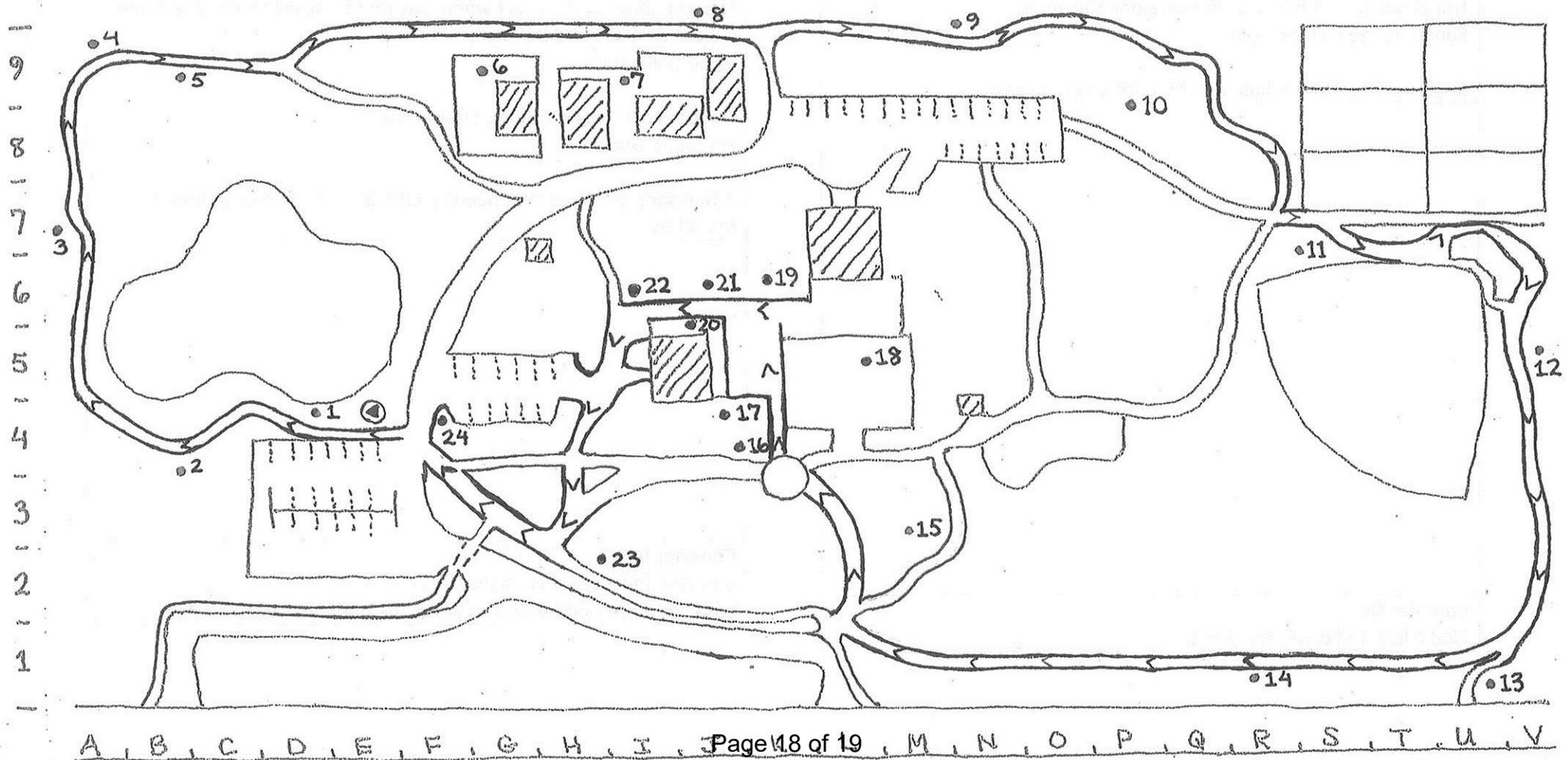
Can you find a cedar cone petal?

Look for more Deodar Cedars along the path near Watkins Ave.

ATTACHMENT 1

- 1 (D,4) Shumard Red Oak
- 2 (B,4) Norway Maple
- 3 (A,7) Coast Live Oak
- 4 (A,9) Redwood grove
- 5 (B,9) Blue Atlas Cedar
- 6 (G,9) Blue Gum Eucalyptus
- 7 (I,9) Cajeput
- 8 (J,9) Giant Sequoia
- 9 (M,9) Douglas Fir
- 10 (P,8) Elm experimental grove
- 11 (R,7) Deodar Cedar
- 12 (V,5) Pin Oak

- 13 (U,1) Tulip Tree
- 14 (R,1) Crepe Myrtle
- 15 (M,3) Valley Oak
- 16 (J,4) Cockspur Hawthorn
- 17 (J,4) Sweet Gum
- 18 (L,5) Chaste Tree
- 19 (K,6) Southern Magnolia
- 20 (J,6) Saucer Magnolia
- 21 (J,6) Japanese Maple
- 22 (I,6) Monkey Puzzle Tree
- 23 (J,2) Olive
- 24 (F,4) Ornamental Pomegranate





FolgerGraphics

21093 Forbes Avenue
Hayward, CA 94545-1115
Phone: (510) 887-5656
Fax: (510) 887-5831
<http://www.folgergraphics.com/>

ATTACHMENT 2 Quotation

63676

Version: 4

To:	Date	4/16/21
Town of Atherton	Salesperson	Kirk Folger
Sally Bentz-Dalton	Estimator	Linda Torre
150 Watkins Ave.		
Atherton, CA 94027		
Phone: (650) 752-0526		
Fax: (650) 688-6528		
Email: sbentz@ci.atherton.ca.us		

Dear Sally Bentz-Dalton

We would like to thank you for your time and consideration in regards to this quotation. Included is the detailed product specifications and prices. The quotation is confidential and is intended solely for the use of the addressee(s) named above.

Below Is Your Detailed Production Specifications for this Request

Description Tree Walk Book
 28 pgs
 5 1/2 x 8 1/2
 80# silk book all black ink
 Fold, stitch, box, deliver
 PDF supplied, email proofs

Prices

Quantity	Prices
100	\$240.00
250	\$410.00
500	\$705.00

Sincerely,

Upon acceptance please indicate the quantity required

Quoted By: _____ Kirk Folger **Sign:** _____ **Date:** _____

Accepted By: _____ **Sign:** _____ **Date:** _____

Thank You for giving us the opportunity to submit this quote. As always, quotes are based on a physical inspection of your originals and are valid for 30 days unless otherwise specified.