

## ADDITIONAL HISTORIC TREES More Accessible by Car

### A. SYCAMORE – 220 years: (5 Sylvan Lane)

This two-story red-brick Colonial, built in 1937, is nestled in a dense woods of Sycamores. At the rear of the home, fertile valley soil watered by a tributary of the Mill Creek indicates this land was a natural habitat for plants and animals. Arrowheads and projectile points used by Native Americans found in Wyoming, assure us that large game animals were hunted here. Sycamore trees have been known to live as long as 600 years.

### B. SCARLET OAK – 293 years: (Across from Mt. Pleasant)

Find the Scarlet Oak on the 8<sup>th</sup> fairway of the Wyoming Golf Club. Now step back in time. In the beginning, this oak was rooted in the hereditary hunting grounds of the Shawnee nation. In 1749, the French claimed this land for Louis XV. King George III of England gained control in 1763. When the Wyoming area became a territory of the United States in 1783, this oak was 70 years old. When farmers settled here, it shaded Holstein cows on the Hollmann Brothers Dairy Farm. Today it's a hazard to golfers on the 8th fairway.

### C. CATALPA – 150 years: (301 Pleasant Hill Lane)

Prominently located in the front lawn of this remodeled 1875 farmhouse is a large Catalpa tree. Although the Catalpa is thought to be of limited value in the landscape, this one is the exception. Every year on graduation day this is the place to be with a camera. For when the tree's creamy white blossoms open, friends and family have the opportunity to photograph their special graduate in a beautiful outdoor setting.

### D. BUR OAK – 222 years: (336 Pleasant Hill Lane)

After World War II, the original owner built his prefabricated Pease Ranch House under this great spreading Bur Oak. He knew dense shade in summer would moderate temperatures and reduce energy costs. The present owner, equally aware of this, continues to give this oak tender loving care.

### E. SHAGBARK HICKORY – 75 years: (272 Compton Road)

At the north-east corner of Mt. Pleasant and Compton Road is a tall straight Shagbark Hickory. Behind it is an early American Colonial Revival which became the first Bed and Breakfast in Wyoming. The Shagbark is rarely seen in a city landscape and more likely found in an undisturbed woods.

### F. BUR OAK - 500 years: (196 Hillcrest Avenue)

This durable Bur Oak was well established long before the Age of Enlightenment when most people believed the earth was flat, and before the Industrial Revolution when all sailing ships were made of wood, and the microscope was not present to assist men and women of science. This Bur Oak was an Ohio State Champion before pruning became necessary a few years ago.

### G. ENGLISH YEW – More than 100 years (333 Oliver Road)

In the early 1900's, Edwin Russell Stearns Sr. built this massive 20,000 Sq. ft. American Four Square for his family. He was the son of George S. Stearns, co-founder of the Stearns and Foster Company in Lockland. Positioned in back of the house is an English Yew (Taxus). Its size and strength was often used as a secret hide-out and treehouse by neighborhood children. This tree species can grow up to 60' tall by 25' wide.

### H. EASTERN REDBUD – 20 years (Bonham Road and Harmon Drive)

This favorite native plant at McLean Park honors the young men from the valley who served in the 75<sup>th</sup> Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War. The Redbud is a small tree reaching 25 feet in height with graceful spreading branches. Its bright reddish purple flowers open in April, signaling the end of a long cold winter.

Children laughed and played. Some say this Red Oak on the front lawn was home base for the children's game of tag. The Wyoming Baptist Church remains the oldest established church building in Wyoming.

### 13. AMERICAN ELM – 190 years: (254 Elm Avenue)

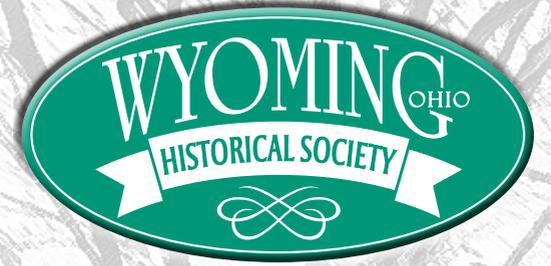
In the front lawn of this 1910 Alpine Chalet is a landmark American Elm. Although the Dutch elm disease killed most of the Elms that once lined our streets, a few can still be found in the city. Look for its striking silhouette any time of the year, its strongly arched limbs makes a vase-shaped form. It can reach over 80 feet in height. Wyoming Architect Walter Cordes Sr. designed this house.

### 14. RED MAPLE – 30 years: (323 Grove Avenue)

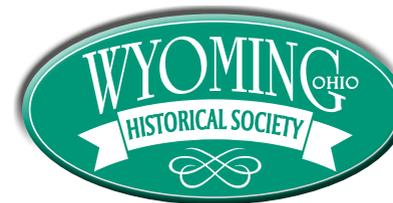
The wrap-around porch and the two-story turret of this 1895 Queen Anne house distinguishes it from others on the street. Placing a Red Maple at the front corner of the yard allows a full view of the building from the sidewalk. Red Maples can reach 60 feet in height and width. In Fall, the color varies from greenish yellow to brilliant red.

### 15. HACKBERRY – 50 years: (Wyoming Avenue and Oak Street)

Behind the bandstand on the Village Green is a Hackberry. This species could be the city "tree of the future" since it is very tolerant of poor soil as well as poor air quality.



# TREES OF HISTORY: A WALKING TOUR OF HISTORIC TREES IN WYOMING



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*Follow the guide and enjoy the stories and the beauty of Wyoming's rich cultural heritage, from the restless spirit of early settlers who, with their dreams and determinations, developed this land to our present distinctive community. Your starting point is the Wyoming Florist (corner of Grover and Wyoming Avenues) where you begin your 1 mile walking tour of Wyoming trees.*

**1. LACEBARK ELM – 15 years:  
(Wyoming Avenue)**

Recently planted Lacebark Elms along Wyoming Avenue blend well with the red brick pavers, park benches and vintage gaslights in defining the historic business district. These Elms enhance the beauty of the bandstand on the village green and the building that once served as a firehouse and police station in 1909. The Lacebark Elm is tough, durable and resistant to the Dutch elm disease, unlike the American Elm. It has the same beautiful spreading branches as the American Elm, but has a distinctive bark.

**2. OAKS: (310 Wyoming Avenue)**

The original lot size for this handsome 1865 house covered two city blocks, from Burns to Grove, and all the way back to Wentworth Avenue. It was selected by Colonel George House for its beautiful Oak trees. Notice a few are still standing on the old seven-acre homestead.

**3. GINKGO – 100 years:  
(corner of Wyoming and Burns)**

In 1870, a wood frame Presbyterian Church was erected on this property. It was replaced with this stone Victorian-Gothic style in 1890. The Ginkgo tree on the Burns side of the building was planted nearly a century ago. Although a century may seem a long time, consider this – the Ginkgo species was growing when dinosaurs roamed the land 200 million years ago. The Ginkgo leaves turn golden in the fall.

**4. AMERICAN BEECH – 200 years:  
(329 Burns Avenue)**

Notice this rare American Beech tree on the front lawn. Long before the American Revolution, this land was heavily forested with majestic trees like this. The Miami and Shawnee nations hunted this area for beaver, black bear, grey wolf and cougar.

Farms appeared and trees fell to the axe. By 1881, large woodland mammals had disappeared.

It is thought by some this house belonged to farmer Archibald Burns when he owned a 98 acre tract between Burns and Springfield Pike from Mills to Wyoming Avenue.

**5. SCARLET OAK – 210 years:  
(313 Burns Avenue)**

A Scarlet Oak stands in back of this 1875 High Style Italianate house, near the red brick carriage barn, and is best seen from Stearns Avenue at the crest of the hill. The original property was part of the Burns farm. This tree was about sixty years old when the house was built for Gideon G. Palmer who owned a flour mill in Lockland.

**6. TULIP POPLAR – 85 years:  
(105 Stearns Avenue)**

At the corner of Beech and Stearns Avenues is a Tulip Poplar. This tree was once abundant in Ohio but soon became scarce, when pioneers preferred its straight timber for log cabins, bridges and barns. The Tulip Poplar is hardy, fast growing, and can reach 190 feet in height. In Spring a beautiful orange-yellow flower appears. Behind this tree is a three story colonial revival house. A former resident, James Mariol, designed the very popular children's sidewalk vehicle – the Little Tykes Cozy Coupe.

**7. BUR OAK – 125 years:  
(229 Springfield Pike)**

A Bur Oak this age, and so near the Pike, could have had a public notice tacked to it for travelers to see on the old toll road. It would have read: Horse and rider, 6 cents each 10 miles, four-wheel carriage with four horses, 62 cents each 10 miles. Toll roads began in 1830 and ended in the 1860s. The Bur Oak does well in lawns and parks, and can reach 100 feet in height and spread.

**8. AUSTRIAN PINE - 50 years:  
(134 Elm Avenue – Elm Avenue School)**

Near this lone pine tree at the front driveway, the idea of a Wyoming Library was born in the summer of 1880. At Molly Wilson's lawn party, Minnie Cowing suggested to the young women that they start a lending library. All agreed. Together they raised money, bought books, and shared the task of carrying them to homes the year-round for the next fourteen years.

**9. WALNUT – 100 years or more:  
(134 East Mills)**

Throughout America, the Queen Anne house is affectionately called a "Painted Lady" since bright playful colors highlight different architectural features. This one, built in 1890, is a good example. Around the corner between the public sidewalk and Burns Avenue curb is an old Walnut tree. The walnut timber is used for cabinets, gunstocks and exquisite furniture pieces. Unfortunately, this wood is so prized that "Walnut Rustlers" have developed sophisticated techniques to acquire these valuable trees. Even helicopters have been used for a quick heist and get-away.

**10. LACEBARK ELM – 40 years:  
(102 Burns Avenue)**

This historic white house, built in 1906, is an American Four Square, or Prairie Box. Its style came from a new era in American architecture originating from a talented group of Chicago designers including a young Frank Lloyd Wright. Thriving in the front lawn is a well-cared for Lacebark Elm. This tough durable tree can reach 50 feet in height and width. Landscape planners have used it extensively throughout Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

**11. FLOWERING DOGWOOD – 40 years:  
(115 Burns Avenue)**

During the month of April, a number of fine White Dogwood trees can be seen in full flower along Burns Avenue. Two distinctive Dogwoods, one white and the other pink, are on the south side of this classic 1890 Victorian House. In 1989, the Disney Studios used this house and yard for their film, "A Mom For Christmas." The Dogwood is the aristocrat of native flowering trees. It grows to 20 feet in height and a spread considerably greater. In fall, green leaves turn to reddish purple and glossy red fruit appears.

**12. RED OAK – 200 years: (164 Burns Avenue)**

This Red Oak was already fifty years old when the Baptist Church was dedicated on September 9, 1883. Visualize that memorable day when families arrived wearing their Sunday best, some by horse-drawn carriages, others on foot, with women carrying baskets of food for the grand celebration. Men gathered outside by the steps greeting one another warmly.

*continued on reverse →*

