







GEORGE WASHINGTON'S HORSE

AND OTHER WHEATON TREE TALES

	Name	Location	The story
Oldest	 <p>Sugar Maple <i>Acer saccharum</i></p>	Southeast corner of Mary Lyon Hall	Holcombe Austin enjoyed relating a piece of folklore about the tree: George Washington tied his horse to the lowest branch when he rode through Norton.
Tallest	 <p>Tulip Tree <i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i></p>	Near the Presidents' House	The tulip tree can reach 150 feet or more in height, and matures at the age of 200 years. The other contender for tallest tree on campus is the American sycamore (<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>), located at the edge of Peacock Pond nearest to the Balfour-Hood Center.
Most Common	 <p>Pin Oak <i>Quercus palustris</i></p>	Everywhere	The pin oak is one of the most widely used native oaks for landscaping, valued for its speedy growth. Other common trees on campus include Norway spruce (<i>Picea abies</i>) and the Eastern white pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>).
Most Remarkable	 <p>Dawn Redwood <i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i></p>	Near the Nursery School, Hollyhock House and in Everett Courtyard	Thought to have been extinct for over 5 million years, Wheaton's three "fossils" are said to be descended from the first modern living tree discovered by forester T Kan in a remote Chinese village in 1941. Another remarkable tree in the Wheaton collection is the dove tree, (<i>Davidia involucrata</i>), whose large white petal-like bracts resemble doves resting on the branches. It grows near the front entrance to Keefe Hall.
Most Medicinal	 <p>Ginkgo Tree <i>Ginkgo biloba</i></p>	Near Knapton Hall	Used for medicinal purposes for more than 4,800 years, the ginkgo is said to increase short-term memory function, making it a popular herbal supplement in the U.S.
Shumway's Favorite	 <p>American Beech <i>Fagus grandifolia</i></p>	Wheaton Woods, just south of the Haas Center	Notable for its smooth gray bark and dark green of the leaves in summer, this is the oldest and largest American beech on campus.