

DOUGLAS-FIR

Pseudotsuga menziesii

Evergreen. Medium to very large slender tree often 80-120' tall. Pendent cones, like spruces, but with seed bracts projecting beyond cone scales, thicker bark, and softer needles with usually bushier crown. Needles are 1", relatively sparse, divergent, not prickly, rounded and blunt at tips, green above with two white bands underneath. The needle color is variable, some dark green, yellow-green, or blue-green. The fruit is a pale red-brown hanging cone 3-4" long with three pronged long bracts projecting beyond scales. The twigs are slender, with bud pointed and orange-brown. It has softer-looking needles and more "relaxed" branching than Spruces or Firs. It emits a powerful sweet aroma. The bark of old trees is deeply furrowed and corky. The bark of young trunks is smooth and pale gray. It is native to western North America where it is common and widespread, a principal component of coniferous forests.



The Charles Baber Cemetery has only one Douglas-fir. It is located on the eastern side of Trinity Avenue where 13th Street would intersect the property. It is practically invisible because it is growing along side Japanese Larch trees and the scraggy branches of both species of trees tend to intertwine with each other.

