

GINKGO

Ginkgo biloba

This ancient species flourished 200 million years ago in Asia, Australia, and North America. The irregular form of young trees develops into various shapes with spreading branches and massive, commonly ascending forked trunks. Growth is slow for 15 years. The height is 50'-80' and width is 40'-80'. The crown is variable and irregular. The mature bark is pale gray, furrowed with flattened ridges. The flowers are inconspicuous with the trees being male or female. Fruit is found only on the female tree. It appears in the late fall. It is a plum-like fleshy covering of nut with a strong offensive odor. The obnoxious smell and messiness of the fruit, which seldom occurs before age 20 is useful only to male clones. The foliage is distinctive fan shaped with sizes of 1-1½" to 3-1½" and is clear yellow in the fall. Adequate space is needed for this large tree. It requires little maintenance, only pruning.

There are 2 mature Ginkgo trees in the cemetery—the female (top row of pictures) is on the west side between Trinity Ave. and Mt. Laurel Avenue close to the small stream that runs across the property. The male (bottom row of pictures) is on the east side on Trinity Avenue close to where 13th St. would intersect the cemetery. A new baby Ginkgo (a male) was planted on Arbor Day 2014 between Trinity and Mt. Laurel Aves. slightly to the east of the female Ginkgo.

