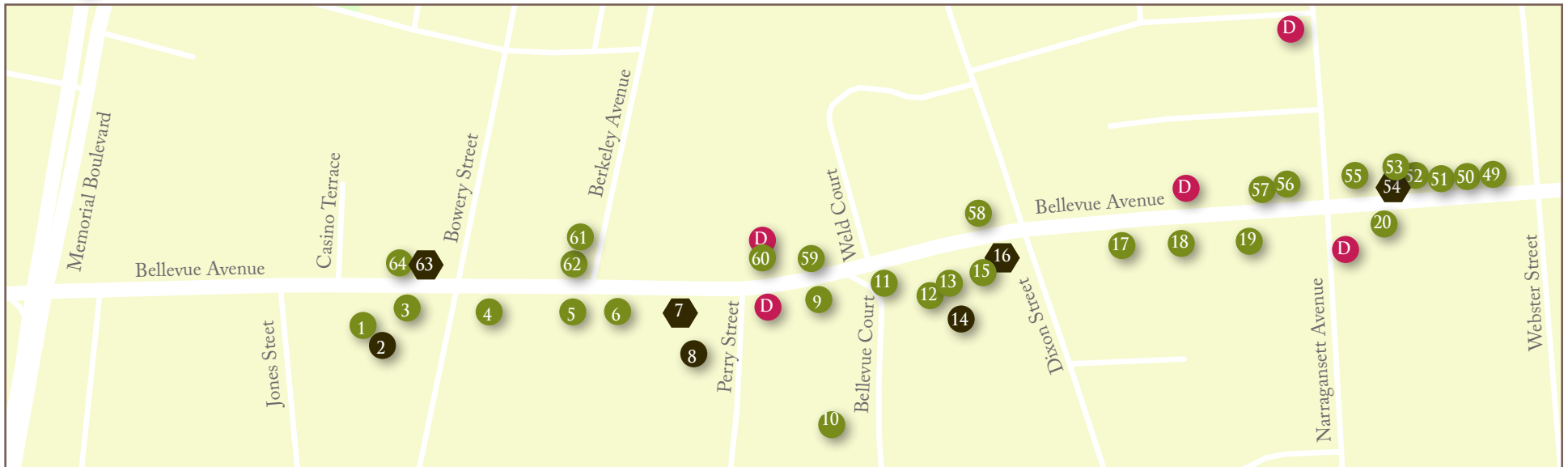


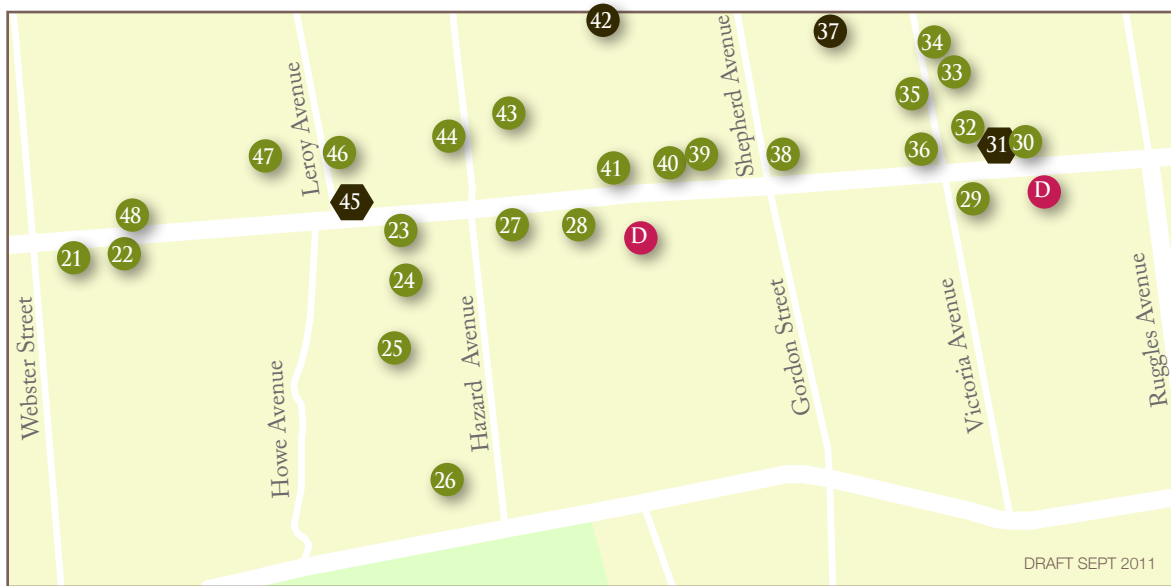
GILDED AGE NORTH TREE WALK

(2-mile loop)

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Fernleaf European Beech | 9 Northern Red Oak | 25 Weeping European Beech | 41 American Hop-Hornbeam | 58 European Beeches |
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| 3 English Yew | 11 European Beech | 27 Paperbark Maples | 43 Weeping European Beech | 60 Copper Beech |
| 4 European Beech | 12 Group of European Beeches | 28 Tulip Tree | 44 Turkey Oaks | 61 Sugar Maple |
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D Deceased European Beech (mainly the Purple European Beech, or Copper Beech)





1 Fernleaf European Beech
Fagus sylvatica 'Asplenifolia'

The European Beech is one of Newport's signature trees. Native to Europe, it was widely planted during the Gilded Age and thrives in Newport's temperate climate. A European Beech cultivar, the Fernleaf Beech is valued for its great presence in the landscape.

2 Kingscote

One of the earliest Newport "cottages," Kingscote is a landmark of the Gothic Revival style in American architecture.

3 English Yew
Taxus baccata

Taxus baccata is one of the longest living organisms on the planet. The ancient Llangernyw Yew is the oldest individual

tree in Europe and second or third oldest individual tree in the world (believed to be between 4,000 and 5,000 years old). In France, the oldest yew trees are located in Norman churchyards; a chapel was often laid out in the hollow trunk.

4 European Beech
Fagus sylvatica

5 American Holly
Ilex opaca

Like all hollies, *Ilex opaca* is dioecious, with separate male and female plants; only female plants produce the characteristic red berries. Many songbirds shelter in and feed on the berries of this northeastern native.

6 Blue Atlas Cedar
Cedrus atlantica 'Glauca'

The Blue Atlas Cedar is an

evergreen admired for its ornamental silvery blue green needles and symmetrical form.

7 Information Station

8 Isaac Bell House (1883)

Designed by McKim, Mead and White, the Isaac Bell House is one of the best surviving examples of shingle style architecture in the country.

Find the following labeled trees as you pass the Isaac Bell House:

Horsechestnut
Aesculus hippocastanum

Prized for its showy white flowers in early May, this tree is well planted throughout the city. Newport also has a reddish pink flowering variety, *Aesculus x carnea*. Horsechestnuts are very tolerant of ocean

and wind conditions. The seed pods and fruit are a favorite of children and resemble a buck's eye. Native to the Balkan Peninsula, the Horsechestnut is a relative of our native Buckeye.

Princeton American Elm
Ulmus americana 'Princeton'

This American Elm is one of a few that have survived Dutch elm disease. (Originally selected in 1922, the Princeton cultivar was later found to have a particularly strong resistance to this disease.)

As with many New England cities and towns, Newport was once awash with American Elms. It was a dominant tree, especially in cities, because of its unusually long, straight trunk that holds its canopy well above utility lines.

Flowering Dogwood
Cornus florida

The *Cornus Florida* is a popular flowering tree but it often develops dogwood anthracnose.

9 Northern Red Oak
Quercus rubra

The Northern Red Oak is one of the most important oaks for U.S. timber production. It is a long-lived species, with a lifespan of up to 500 years.

10 Mongolian Oak
Quercus mongolica

This Mongolian Oak is one of the most impressive trees in Newport. Its shape is unique

with its short, wide trunk, odd configuration of branches, and unusual width.

11 European Beech
Fagus sylvatica

12 Group of European Beeches
Fagus sylvatica

These European Beeches have been sheered to create a manicured look. The younger beeches that replaced declining Norway Maples will be sheered to match the more mature trees.

13 American Sweetgum
Liquidambar styraciflua

An interesting tree because of its furrowed "winged" bark and undulating branches, the Sweetgum has valued fruit that supports many birds and small animals.

14 The Elms

In 1898, the Berwind family engaged architect Horace Trumbauer to design a house modeled after the mid-18th century French chateau d'Asnieres. The elaborate Classical Revival gardens were developed from 1907 to 1914.

15 Weeping European Beech
Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'

The strong stature of the beech along with its cascading and elegant branches makes the weeping beech a favorite variety. The branching structure gives a dramatic tunnel effect

and children often play underneath the branches.

16 Information Station

17 Horsechestnut

Aesculus hippocastanum

18 Fernleaf European Beech

Fagus sylvatica

19 Copper Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Atropunicea'

Copper, or Purple European Beeches are declining in Newport due to old age, stresses from planting conditions and a fungal disease that attacks many of these vulnerable trees, most of which are over 100 years old.

Other beech cultivars are threatened as well, but Copper Beeches appear to be dying at a much faster rate. Newport's landscape, both historically and culturally, would be devastated by the loss of this species.

20 Japanese Zelkova

Zelkova serrata

Bellevue Avenue is lined with the Japanese Elm. Resistant to Dutch Elm disease, it is one substitute for our native Elm.

21 Roundleaf Sweetgum

Liquidambar styraciflua 'Rotundiloba'

Rotundiloba, or Roundleaf Sweetgum, is a sterile cultivar or "fruitless" variety and has round lobed leaves that

resemble a child's mitten. The straight species has star-shaped leaves.

22 Katsura Trees

Cercidiphyllum japonicum

A set of Katsura trees flank this driveway entrance. The Katsura is one of the largest of the Asian hardwoods and has delicate, heart-shaped leaves.

23 Japanese Maple

Acer palmatum

This green, unusually large Japanese Maple hangs over the sidewalk, offering dappled light and unusually artistic branch formations.

24 Turkey Oak

Quercus cerris

Not to be confused with the American Turkey Oak (*Quercus laevis*), this Eurasian oak is relatively rare outside of arboreta. Newport is fortunate to have a large collection of striking mature specimens. The acorns are a great source of food for wildlife. Stand back to appreciate the tree's mighty form and picturesque branching structure.

25 Weeping European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'

A Katsura (*Cercidiphyllum japonicum*) seedling is growing underneath the canopy of this weeping beech.

26 Weeping European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'

This wonderful weeping beech in the far left background of the property has layered out into multiple trees.

27 Paperbark Maples

Acer griseum

Row of three Paperbark Maples. Named after its unique reddish-brown exfoliating bark, the Paperbark Maple is a statement piece in the landscape. Recent attempts have been made to acquire new seed stock from wild populations in China to improve the very small gene pool of cultivated specimens.

28 Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

The Tulip Tree's distinctively shaped leaves mimic the bloom of the tulip and turn a rich buttery yellow in autumn. Its peculiar flowers are tulip-shaped, yellow-green and banded with orange at the petals' base.

At 120'-130' tall, it is almost always recognizable in a landscape due to its skyscraping presence.

29 Group of Boulevard Cypress

Chamaecyparis pisifera 'Boulevard'

Look for the older, over 75' tall group of trees. This particular cultivar, 'Boulevard,' was propagated locally at the Boulevard Nurseries in Middletown, RI.

Cross Bellevue Avenue to continue.

30 Yeddo Spruce

Picea jezoensis

George Rogers Hall (1826-1899) of Bristol, RI was the first tree hunter to bring living plants—including the Yeddo Spruce—from Japan directly to New England.

31 Information Station

32 Cucumber Magnolia

Magnolia acuminata

Native to eastern North America, the Cucumber Tree is one of the largest and cold-hardest magnolias. It derives its name from the shape of the unripe fruit.

33 Tulip Tree

Liriodendron tulipifera

34 Japanese Zelkova

Zelkova serrata

In the distance in the Frederick Law Olmsted Park (the former Stoneacre Estate), sit the very first three Zelkovas planted in the city.

George Rogers Hall (1826-1899) of Bristol, RI was the first tree hunter to bring living plants—including the Zelkova—from Japan directly to New England.

35 Littleleaf Linden

Tilia cordata

Note the row of pleached Littleleaf Lindens behind the wall along Victoria Avenue. Pleaching is the art of training trees into formal hedgerows. A labor intensive practice, pleaching was first seen in late medieval gardens in Europe.

36 London Planetree

Platanus x acerifolia

The London Planetree is not a true species, but a hybrid tree produced from two different species (in this case, a cross between the American Sycamore and the Oriental Planetree). It was discovered at the Oxford Botanical Gardens in the 1600's. Its distinct puzzle-like camouflage bark is often used to identify the tree.

37 National Museum of American Illustration

38 Maidenhair Tree

Ginkgo biloba

A 'living fossil,' the Ginkgo tree is one of the oldest surviving plant species on earth

39 Irish Yew

Taxus baccata 'Fastigiata'

This Irish Yew is not one large plant but three that have grown together nicely to create a screen for this property.

40 Japanese Holly

Ilex crenata

41 American Hop-Hornbeam

Ostrya virginiana

Native to eastern North America, the American Hop-Hornbeam is a dense hardwood. Its buds and catkins are important source of winter food for some birds, notably the Ruffed Grouse, *Bonasa umbellus*. The leaf is similar to that of the European Beech.

42 Chateau-sur-Mer

Ushering in the Gilded Age, Chateau-sur-Mer is an Italianate-style villa built for China trade merchant William Shepard Wetmore. A landmark of High Victorian architecture and decor, it was the most palatial residence in Newport until the Vanderbilt houses of the 1890s.

43 Weeping European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'

44 Turkey Oaks

Quercus cerris

There are large Turkey Oaks along the drive with a new generation planted as well.

45 Information Station

46 European Beech

Fagus sylvatica

47 Weeping European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'

48 Japanese Zelkova

Zelkova serrata

49 Fernleaf European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Asplenifolia'

50 Swiss Stone Pine

Pinus cembra

51 Japanese Cedars

Cryptomeria japonica

A pair of Japanese Cedars flank the drive.

52 Fernleaf European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Asplenifolia'

53 Japanese Maples

Acer palmatum

The arrangement of these three maples (two red and one green) on the lawn of the Preservation Society of Newport County Headquarters is a common planting style for specimen trees.

54 Information Station

55 Weeping European Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Pendula'

56 European Beech

Fagus sylvatica

57 Horsechestnut

Aesculus hippocastanum

58 Row of European Beeches

Fagus sylvatica

The row of European Beeches across from the Elms was planted at almost an equal distance apart on the front edge of the property. The trees act like

a tall hedge without shielding the entire property from the public.

59 Silver Maple

Acer saccharinum

A fast-growing tree that will tolerate wet conditions.

60 Copper Beech

Fagus sylvatica 'Atropunicea'

61 Sugar Maple

Acer saccharum

62 Pollarded Big-Leaf Lindens

Tilia platyphyllos

As you approach the corner of Berkeley and Bellevue, there is a grouping of pollarded Linden trees. This is an artistic pruning style that is begun when the trees are young. Branches are pruned every year, eventually becoming knob-shaped.

63 Information Station

64 Honeylocust

Gleditsia triacanthos

Like the Horsechestnut, the Honeylocust can withstand undesirable conditions and provides dappled shade making it a good sidewalk tree.

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