



The Green in Green-Wood

David Bates Douglass, the designer of Green-Wood, described the origin of the cemetery's name: "A considerable portion of the ground is now covered with a fine old forest of native growth—the verdure and shade of which originally suggested the name of the Green-Wood... shade, ruralness, natural beauty, everything, in short, in contrast with the glare, set form, fixed rule and fashion of the city."

CELEBRATED TREES

More than 7,000 trees that make up Green-Wood's living collection are identified on Tree Finder: green-wood.com/trees

- European Horse Chestnut** (*Aesculus hippocastanum*)
Producing large white flowers in early spring, the European horse chestnut is one of the largest flowering trees in the temperate world. Susceptible to leaf blight, the tree often loses its leaves long before autumn.
- Northern Red Oak** (*Quercus rubra*)
In the fall of 2016, a red oak in Green-Wood was infected with oak wilt, a fungus that chokes the tree's vascular system, the first case in New York City. Efforts are underway to preserve our remaining specimens of this majestic native species.
- Grove of Quaking Aspen** (*Populus tremuloides*)
The leaf stem of this species is flat and catches even the slightest breeze. This grove is a memorial to the victims of the 1960 mid-air collision of two planes above Staten Island and Brooklyn.
- American Chestnut** (*Castanea dentata*) Group of 3
Due to chestnut blight first reported in 1904, the species has all but disappeared. These three, planted in collaboration with the American Chestnut Foundation, are an attempt to restore the species.
- Yoshino Cherry** (*Prunus × yedoensis*) Group of 5
The origin of this cherry hybrid dates back to the mid-1800s in Edo, former Tokyo, Japan. The flowers on these trees emerge before the leaves in early spring and have a faint almond fragrance.
- Catawba Rhododendron** (*Rhododendron catawbiense*)
The name of this enormous specimen of the species is derived from its original habitat: the Catawba River of western North Carolina. The river was named after the Native Americans of the area.
- Kentucky Coffee Tree** (*Gymnocladia dioica*)
Felled by Sudden Oak Death, this tree caused the damage to the nearby Brown family mausoleum. Today, as a "stump garden", it is replotting and showing signs of growth.
- Dawn Redwood** (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*)
This deciduous conifer is the sole living species of its genus. Dating back 50 million years, this "living fossil" was rediscovered in the 1940s in central China.
- American Elm** (*Ulmus americana*)
Between the 1920s and 1945, 75% of elms in North America were lost to Dutch Elm Disease, a fungal infection spread by the elm bark beetle. This is one of the largest still existent in Green-Wood.
- Common Persimmon** (*Diospyros virginiana*) Group of 4
Folklore claims that one can predict how harsh winter will be by the shape of a persimmon seed envelope. If you see a spoon, heavy snow, a knife, icy wind; a fork, a mild winter.
- Sassafras** (*Sassafras albidum*)
This tree is a New York State Champion Recognized by the State Department of Conservation as a native species of record size, it is also believed to be the oldest tree in Green-Wood.
- Tulip Tree** (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)
Its Latin name "tulip-making lily tree," may refer to both its flowers and its leaves. This specimen is the largest tree in Green-Wood, at 110 feet tall and a trunk that measures nearly six feet in diameter.
- Weeping Beech Tunnel** (*Fagus sylvatica* "Pendula") Group of 6
This "tunnel" is a visitor favorite formed by the cascading canopies of weeping European beech trees.
- Littleleaf Linden** (*Tilia cordata*) Group of 4
Symbolizing love and truth in Norse and Germanic mythology, Lindens were focal points during weddings and judicial assemblies. Their dense canopy of heart-shaped leaves and fragrant flowers are attractive to both bees and humans alike.
- Maidenhair Tree** (*Ginkgo biloba*)
This specimen, known as "The Phoenix Ginkgo," is comprised of twelve ginkgo trees that sprouted from a stump and have now reassembled (grown together) into one.
- Cedar of Lebanon** (*Cedrus libani*)
Native to the mountains of the eastern Mediterranean, this conifer has long been prized for its timber and essential oils; the resin of the tree was used by ancient Egyptians for mummification.
- Shagbark Hickory** (*Carya ovata*)
This species of hickory lives up to its common name. It features long strips of peeling bark, giving it a shaggy appearance. The fruit, bark, and leaves are a valuable food source for wildlife.
- The Franklin Tree** (*Franklinia alaramah*)
Extinct in the wild since the early 1800s, specimens grown today are descendants of seeds that were collected by John Bartram and his son, William, in 1765 in Georgia. He named the species after his father's friend, Benjamin Franklin.
- Cucumber Magnolia** (*Magnolia acuminata*)
The fruit of this species are an aggregate of follicles that are initially green, giving it an appearance similar to a cucumber.
- London Plane Tree** (*Platanus × hispanica*)
The American sycamore/oriental plane tree hybrid, so named because of its tolerance to the pollution produced in London during the Industrial Revolution, has established itself as a staple New York City street tree.

WELCOME TO GREEN-WOOD

This 478-acre site is a unique sanctuary within the New York Metropolis

Heritage of Green-Wood at a Glance

- 1838: The Green-Wood is chartered by New York State
- 1840: First burials occur at Green-Wood
- 1895: Green-Wood reached 474 acres, subsequent purchases expanded it to its current size of 478 acres
- 2006: Green-Wood is honored with designation as a National Historic Landmark
- 2015: Green-Wood becomes an accredited arboretum



LEGEND

- Entrances
- Nearby Subway Stations
- Walking Paths
- Buildings
- Bathroom
- Bathroom Wheelchair Accessible
- Memorials
- Art & Architecture
- Celebrated Trees
- Interpretive Markers
- Highest Natural Point in Brooklyn

NATURE WALK

- Alive at Green-Wood* tells the story of Green-Wood's natural heritage through interpretive markers positioned at landscape features
- From Rural Cemetery to Urban Oasis**
Our Evolving Landscape
 - Islands of Green**
Nature in a Sea of Cityscape
 - The Ice Age Beneath Your Feet**
Green-Wood's Glacial Origins
 - A Legacy of Trees**
An Urban Arboretum
 - Tree Families**
Our Diverse Plant Community
 - Nature at Your Service**
Natural Processes Support Daily Life
 - A Place for Wildlife**
Green-Wood's Rich Diversity of Flora and Fauna
 - Planting for the Future**
Trees Tell a Story about Climate Change
 - Green-Wood is Good for You**
Nature's Many Health Benefits
 - Ideas to Take Home**
How to Create Your Own Living Legacy
 - Planting for Resilience**
High Biodiversity Keeps Landscapes Healthy
 - Seasons of Change**
A Year in the Life of Green-Wood

ART & ARCHITECTURE

- Green-Wood's outdoor collection of Sculpture and New York City Landmarks
- Gothic Archway** (1861-1863), a NYC landmark, designed by Richard Upjohn and Son
 - Historic Gate** (1911), a NYC landmark, designed by Warren and Wetmore
 - John Matthews** (1808-1870), "The Soda Fountain King", monument designed by Karl Müller
 - The Greater** (2012), tribute to artist George Catlin (1766-1822), by John Coleman FNSS
 - Cabeza de Mujer (Sapladora Grande)** (2005), by Javier Marin, gifted by Michel Langlais
 - Here Lie the Secrets of the Visitors of Green-Wood Cemetery** (2017), art installation by Sophie Gale
 - Brooklyn Theatre Fire of 1876 Memorial**, erected by the City of Brooklyn
 - Angel of Music** (2012), monument honoring composer and pianist Louis Moreau Gottschalk (1829-1869), sculpted by Giancarlo Biagi and Jill Burkee
 - Van Ness Parsons Mausoleum** (1921), unique monument encompassing Christian and Egyptian symbols
 - Civil War Soldiers' Monument** (1869), dedicated by the City of New York in 1876
 - Minerva and the Altar to Liberty** (1920), commemoration of the Battle of Brooklyn (1776), sculpture by Frederick Wellington Ruckstull
 - Civic Virtue** (1922), controversial sculpture by Frederick MacMonnies, brought to Green-Wood in 2012
 - Prospect Park West Entrance** (1925-1926), designed by Warren and Wetmore
 - L'Ours (The Bear)** (2002), memorial to artist William Holbrook Beard (1825-1900), by Dan Ostermiller FNSS
 - Our Drummer Boy** (1886), monument honoring Clarence McKenzie (1848-1861), Brooklyn's first casualty of the American Civil War, by Monumental Bronze Company
 - Pierrepoint Monument**, memorial to the family of Green-Wood's founder, Henry Evelyn Pierrepoint (1808-1888), by Richard Upjohn
 - Stonewall Mausoleum** (1870), memorial to the piano-making family, the largest mausoleum at Green-Wood, designed by John McElft
 - Niblo Mausoleum**, memorial to the family of William Niblo (1790-1878), prominent theater owner
 - Valentine Angel**, memorial to Charles Valentine (d. 1901), by Italian sculptor Adolfo Apolloni
 - The Catacombs** (1850s), thirty family vaults which offer above-ground burial, without the expense of a free-standing mausoleum
 - Monument to Rose Merello Guarino** (1909), striking bronze memorial to Guarino who was fatally shot at a young age, artist unknown
 - Azrael, the Angel of Death**, memorial to Brooklyn major Charles Schieren (1842-1915), and his wife, Mary Schieren (1839-1915), sculpture by Solon H. Borglum
 - Fort Hamilton Parkway Entrance** (1876-1877), a NYC landmark, designed by Richard Michell Upjohn

MEMORIALS

- Over 560,000 people are interred at Green-Wood
- Do-Hum-Mo** (1825-1843): Sac (or Sauk) Native American Princess
 - Louis Comfort Tiffany** (1848-1933): pioneer of the decorative arts
 - De Witt Clinton** (1769-1828): NYC mayor, senator and governor of New York State, and driving force behind the Erie Canal
 - Margaret Pine** (1778-1857): last enslaved African-American in New York
 - Leonard Bernstein** (1918-1990): composer and conductor
 - Charles Ebbs** (1859-1925): owner of the Brooklyn Dodgers
 - Henry Chadwick** (1824-1908): baseball pioneer; inventor of the box score, author of first rulebook
 - William "Boss" Tweed** (1823-1878): notorious Tammany Hall politician
 - Samuel F.B. Morse** (1791-1822): inventor of the telegraph, artist
 - Lola Montez** (1821-1861): actress, performer, and famous courtesan
 - Freedoms Lots** established in the 1840s; encompasses seven public lots where approximately 1,350 African-Americans are interred
 - Laura Keane** (1826-1873): actress on stage when President Lincoln was assassinated
 - Sarah Cairns** (1737-1854): mother of twenty-two children, died at age 117, the oldest person at Green-Wood
 - Roosevelt Family Lot**: President Theodore Roosevelt's first wife, father and mother, and many relatives are interred here
 - Peter Cooper** (1791-1883): philanthropist and inventor
 - John La Farge** (1835-1910): stained glass innovator



- Henry Bergh** (1811-1888): founder of the Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)
- Henry Ward Beecher** (1813-1887): abolitionist preacher
- James Renwick, Jr.** (1818-1895): architect of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan
- Frank Morgan (Wuppermann)** (1890-1949): actor who portrayed "The Wizard" in "The Wizard of Oz"
- Jean-Michel Basquiat** (1960-1988): neo-expressionist painter
- Henry Halleck** (1815-1872): commander-in-chief of all Union Armies during the U.S. Civil War
- Susan Smith McKinney-Steward** (1847-1919): first African-American woman to earn an M.D. in New York State
- James Weldon Johnson** (1871-1938): civil rights leader, poet, composer of the song "Lift Every Voice and Sing" (1900)
- Charles Feltman** (1841-1910): inventor of the hot dog