

# “CHAMPION” CANALS

Coming by it  
Naturally!

**World Canals Conference**

**Presentation by Ralph Buglass**





“CHAMPION”

~~CANALS~~

Trees





AMERICAN FORESTS

**Nationwide program**

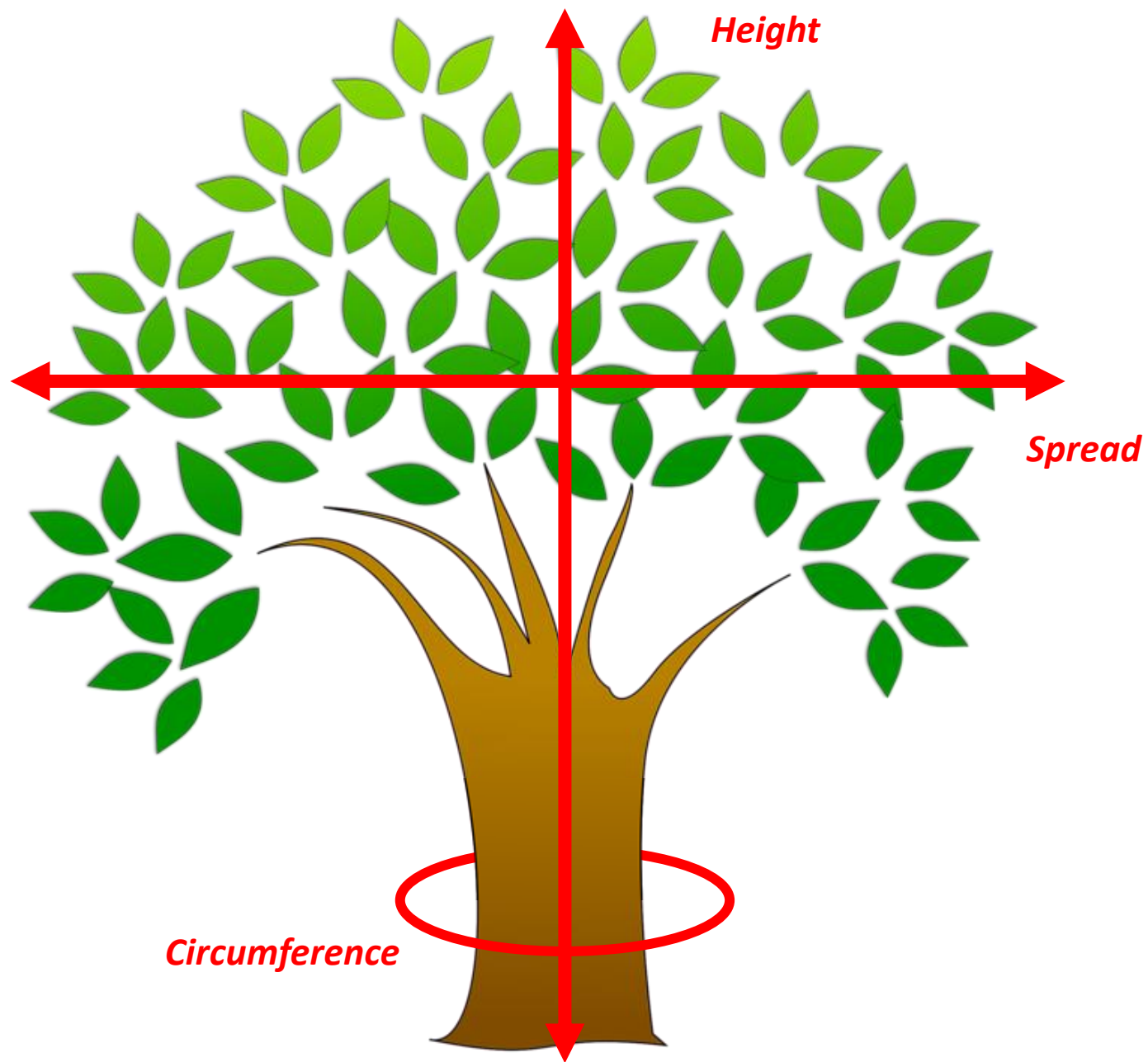
Counties



States



National



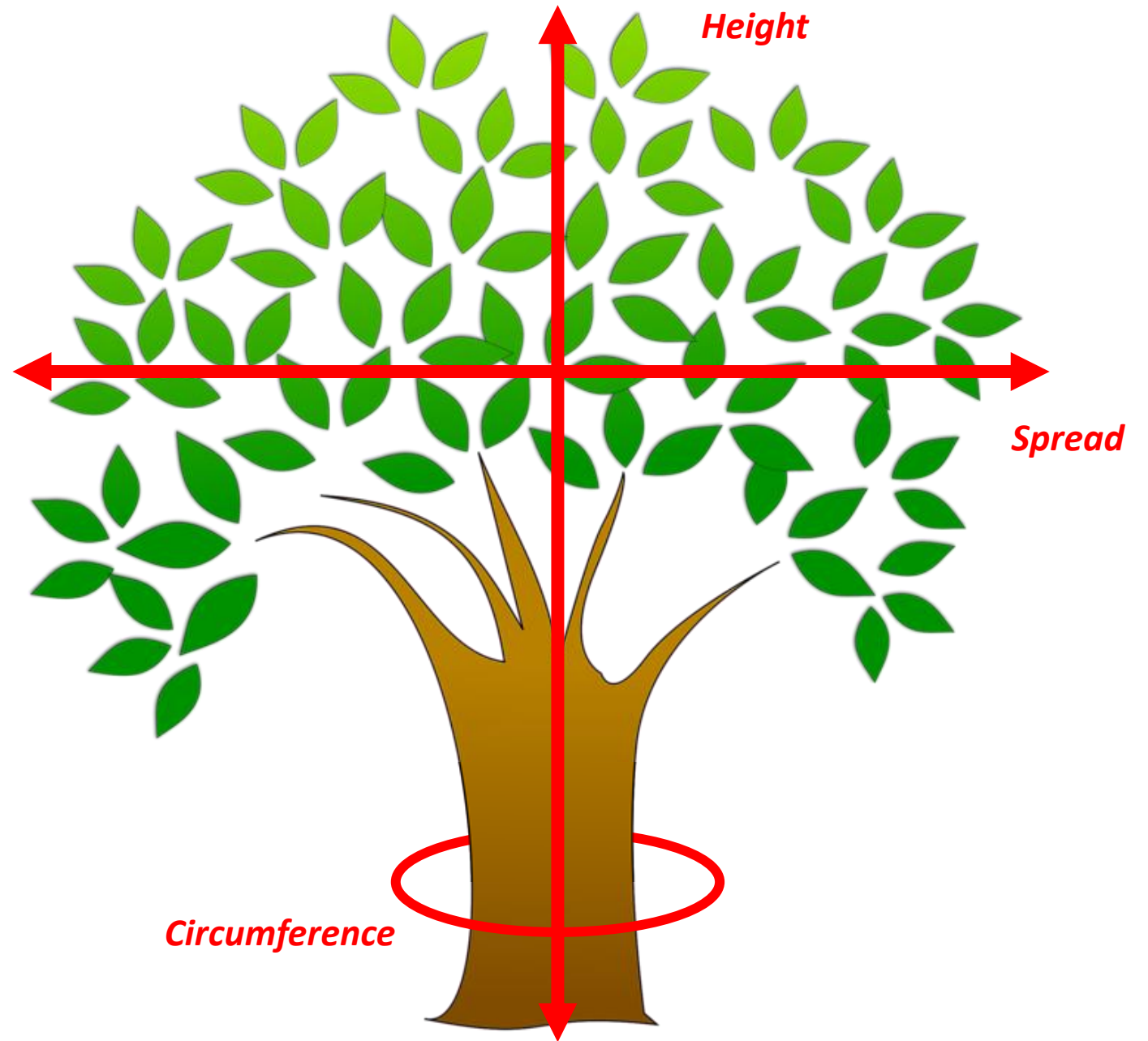


**Fred Besley**

Maryland State Forester

1925 - first Maryland Big Tree Contest

Devised measuring system



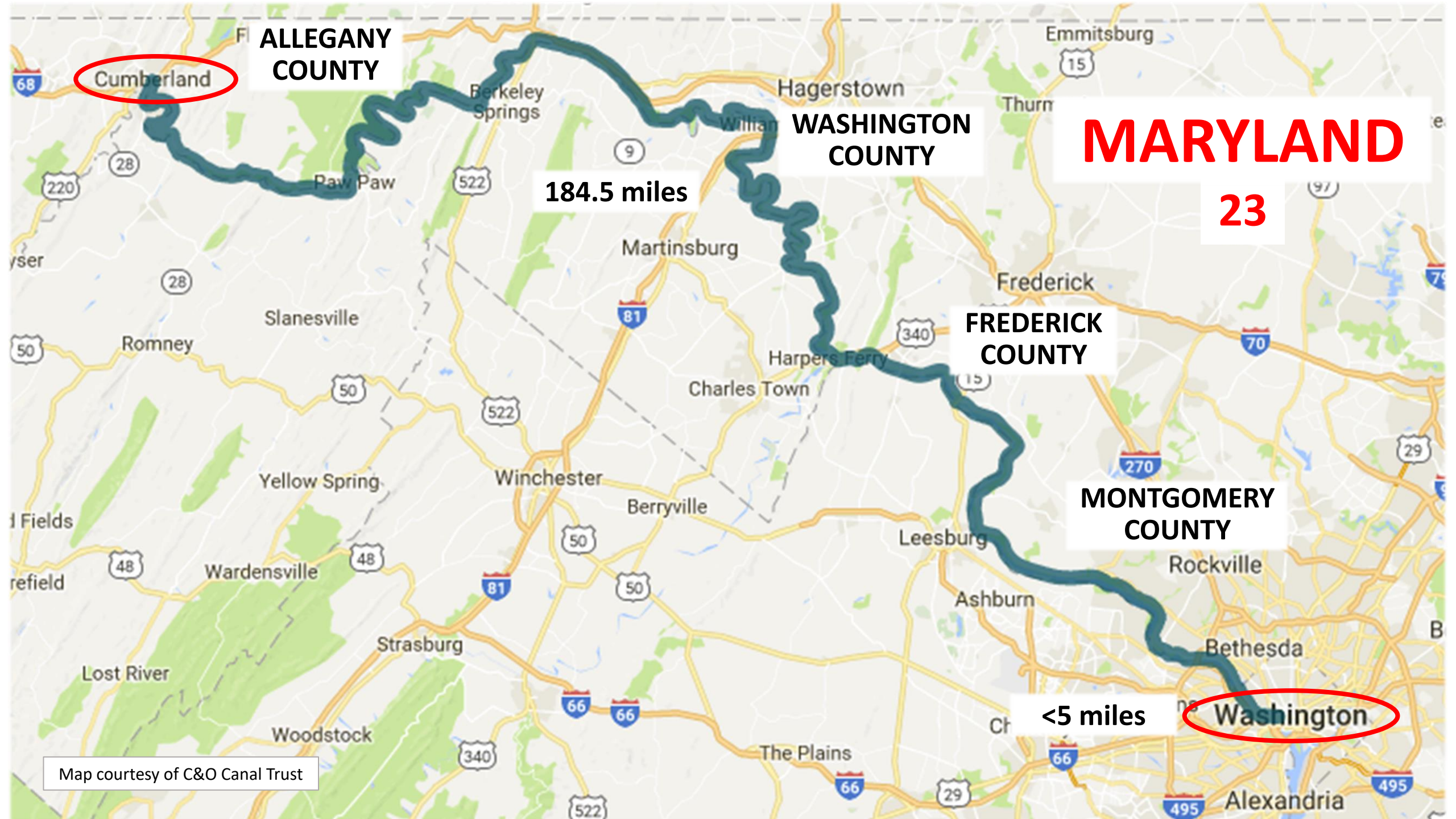


**15 COUNTY CHAMPION TREES**  
**2 STATE CHAMPION TREES**



Chesapeake & Ohio Canal  
National Historical Park





**ALLEGANY  
COUNTY**

**WASHINGTON  
COUNTY**

**MARYLAND**

**23**

**184.5 miles**

**FREDERICK  
COUNTY**

**MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY**

**<5 miles**

**Washington**

Map courtesy of C&O Canal Trust

















## Eastern Cottonwood

County  
champion







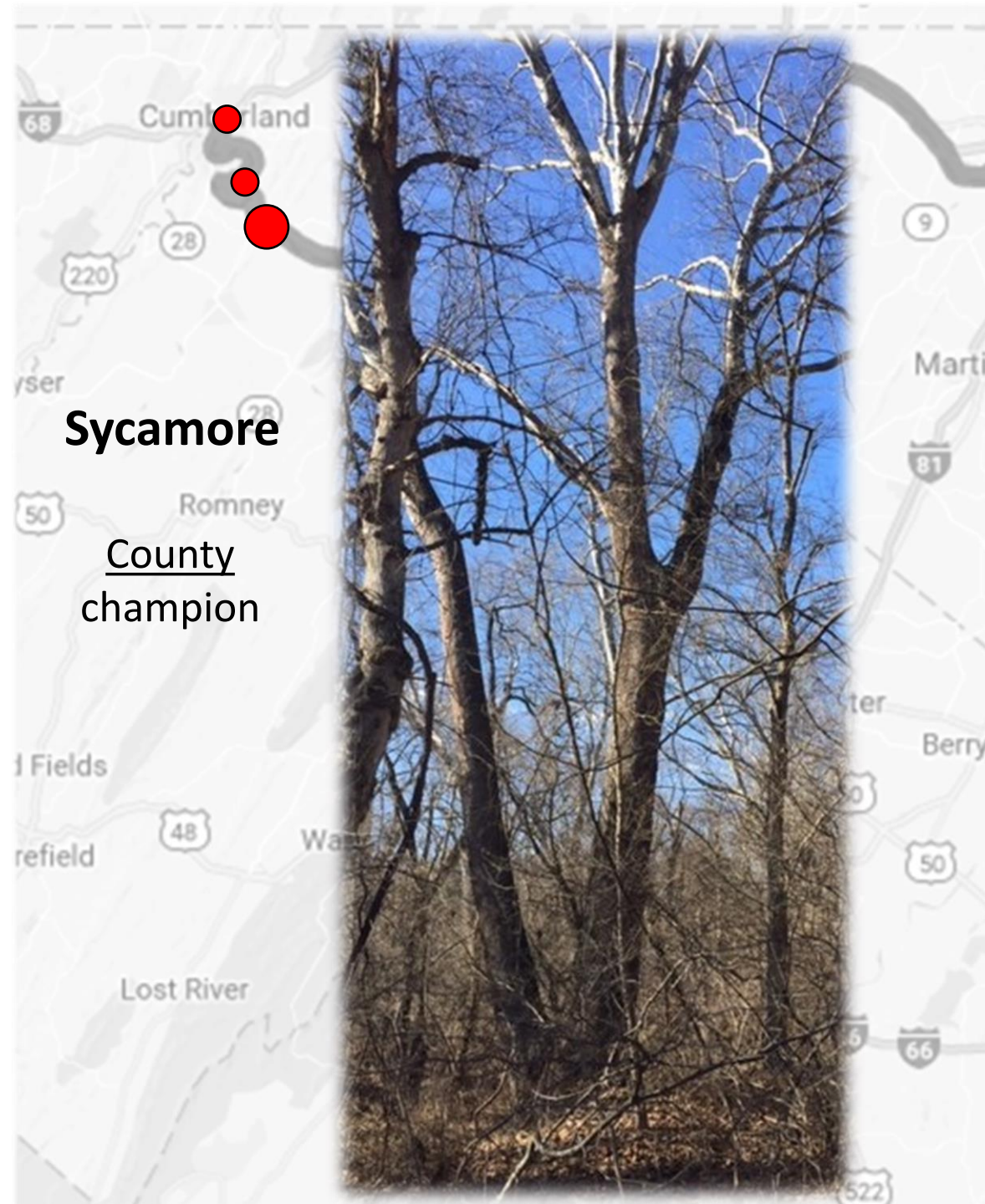
## White Oak

County  
champion

*Maryland's  
official  
state tree*

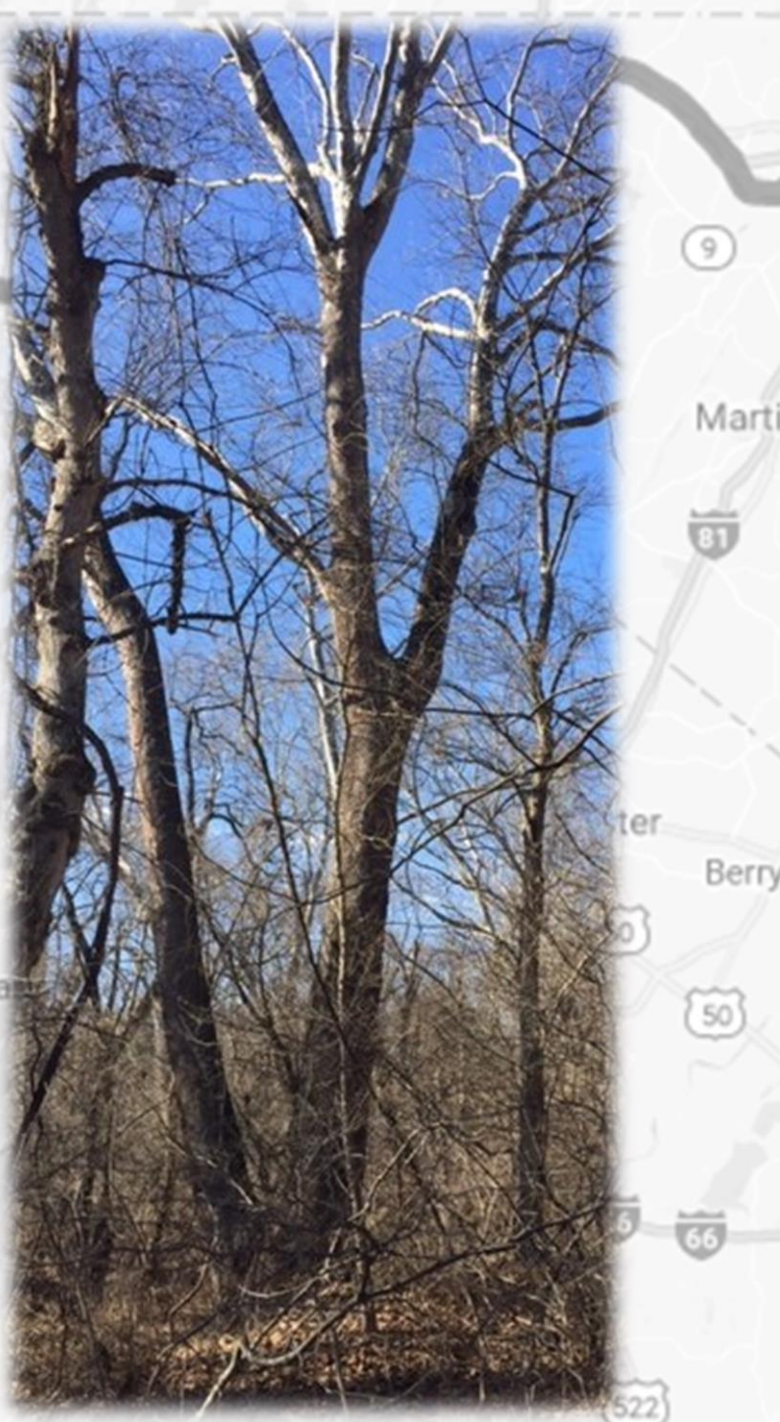






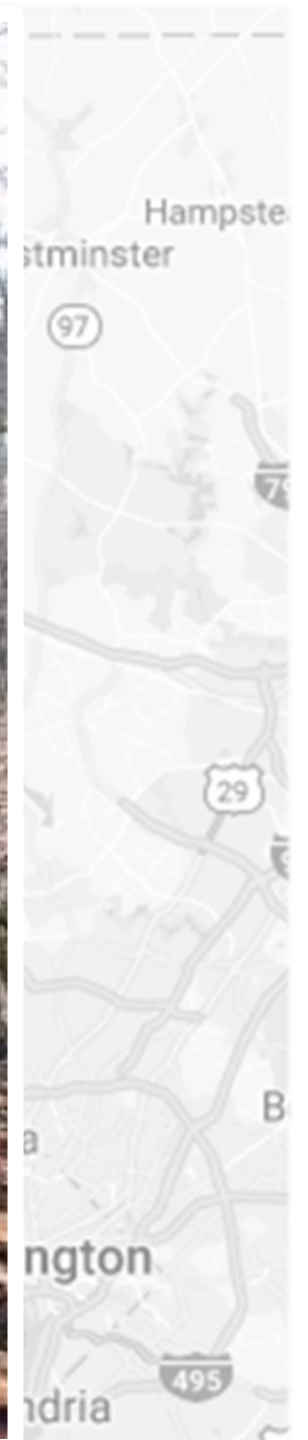
## Sycamore

County  
champion



Diameter 6 feet

233 inches





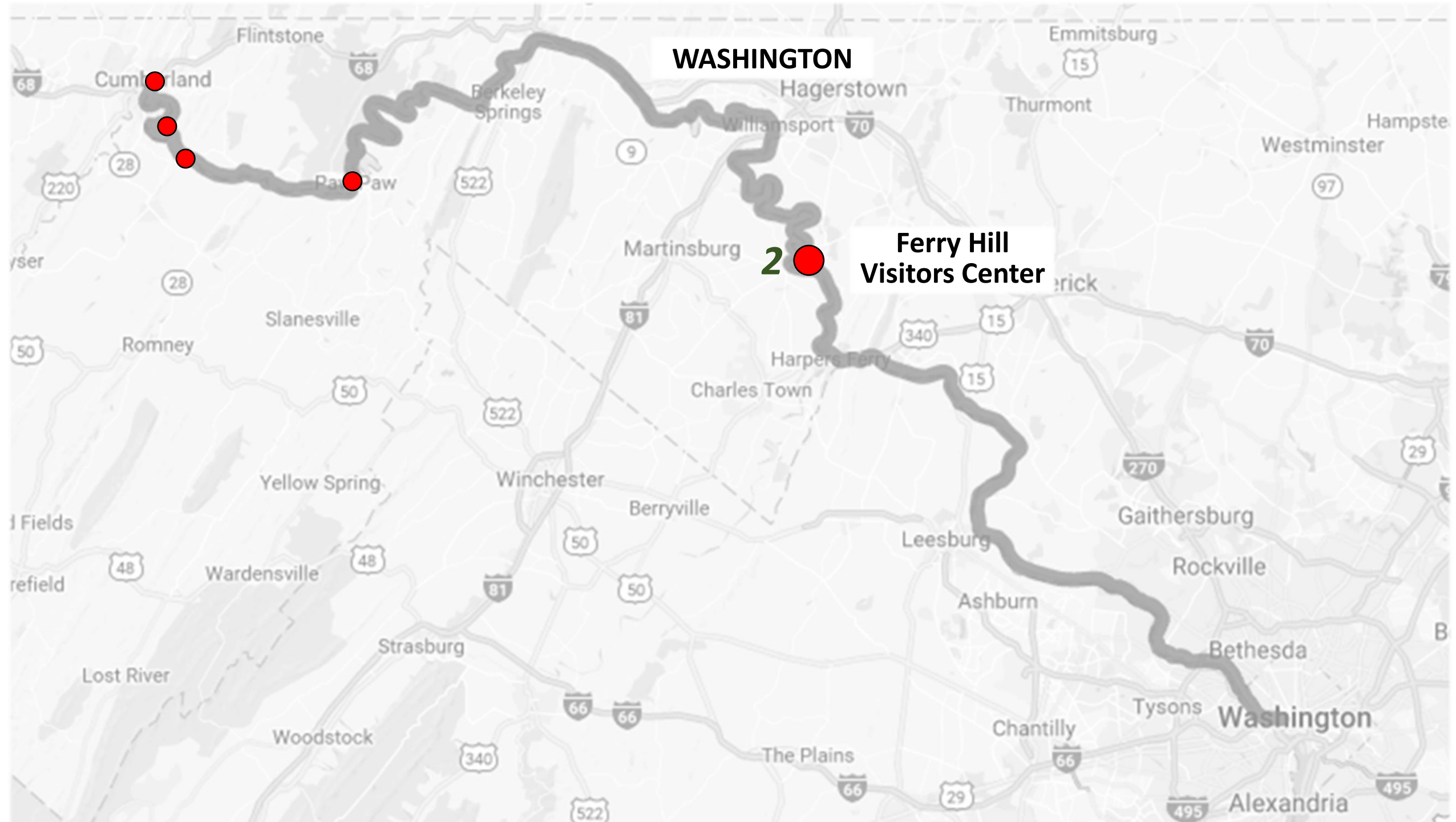
## ALLEGANY

### Black walnut

County  
champion



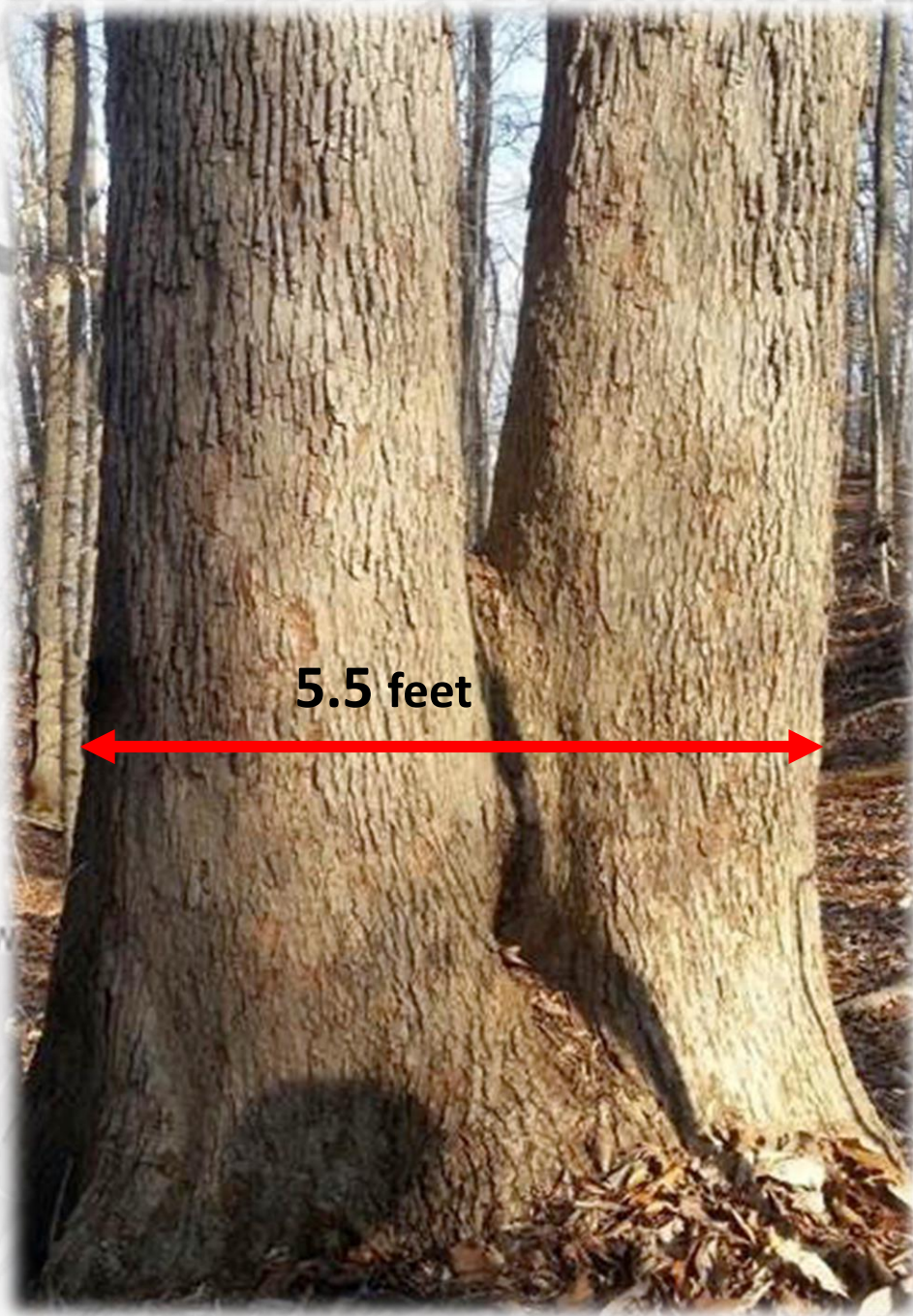






**Cucumber  
Magnolia**

County  
champion



2 ●

**Ferry Hill  
Visitors Center**





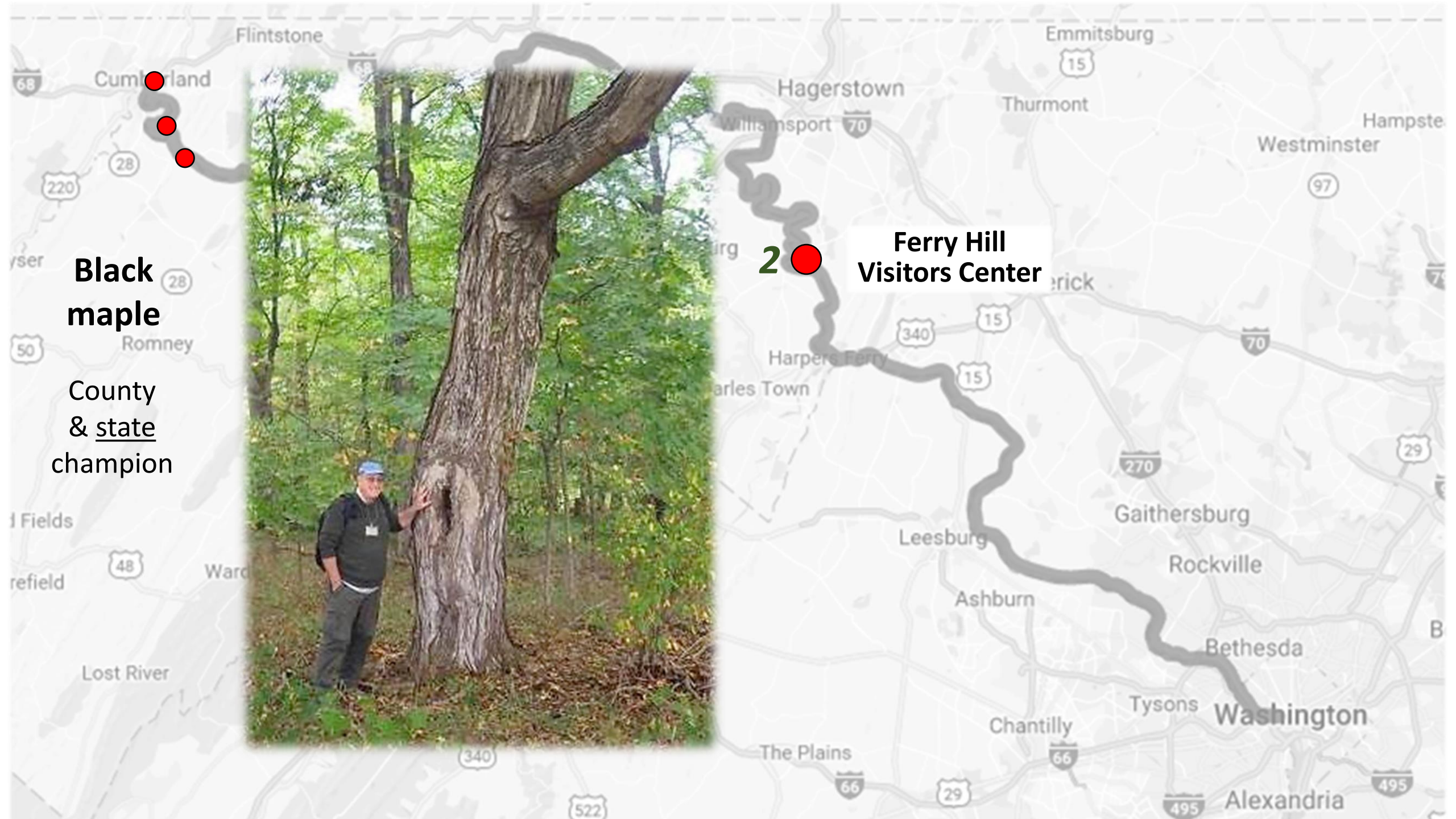
**Black  
maple**

County  
& state  
champion



2

**Ferry Hill  
Visitors Center**

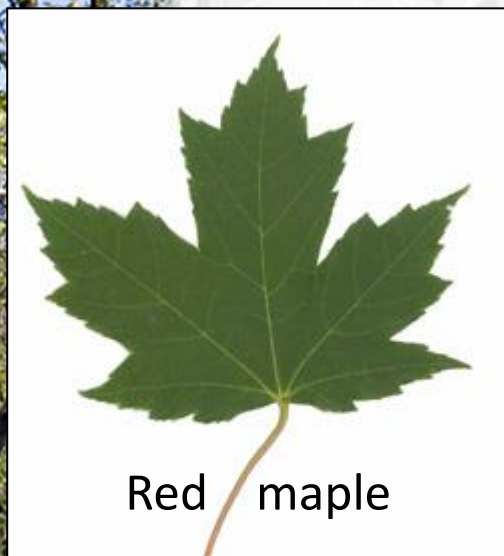




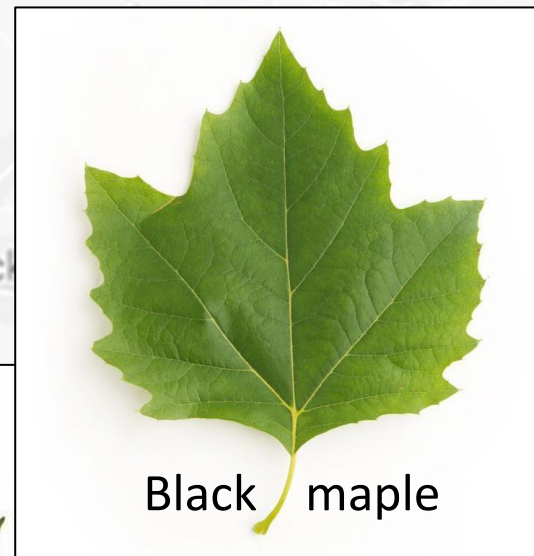


## Red maple

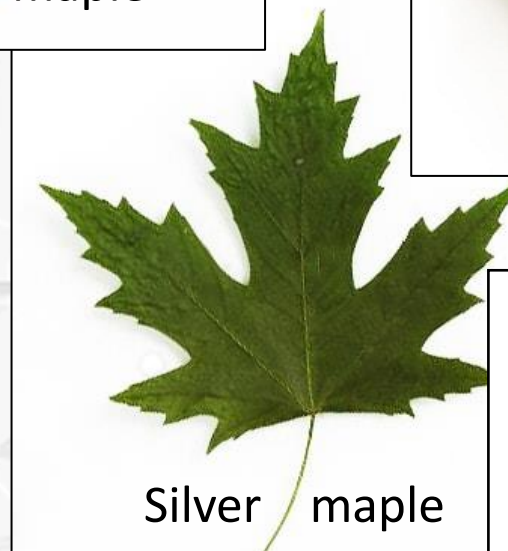
County  
champion



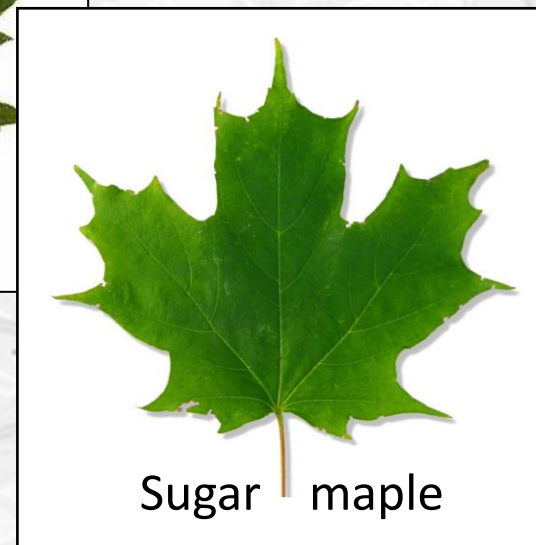
Red maple



Black maple



Silver maple



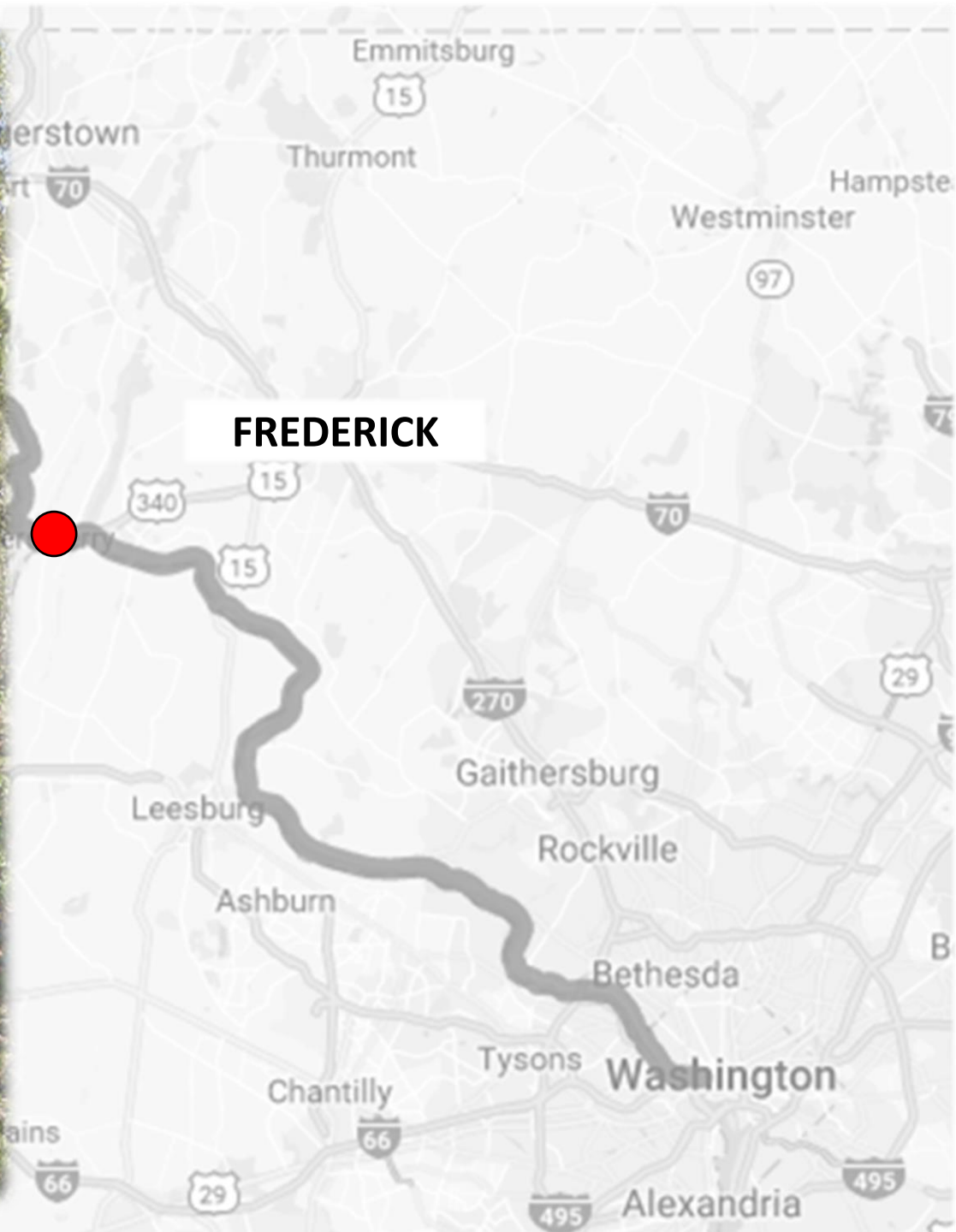
Sugar maple





**Red maple**

County  
champion



**FREDERICK**





## Hackberry

County  
champion



4

**MONTGOMERY**





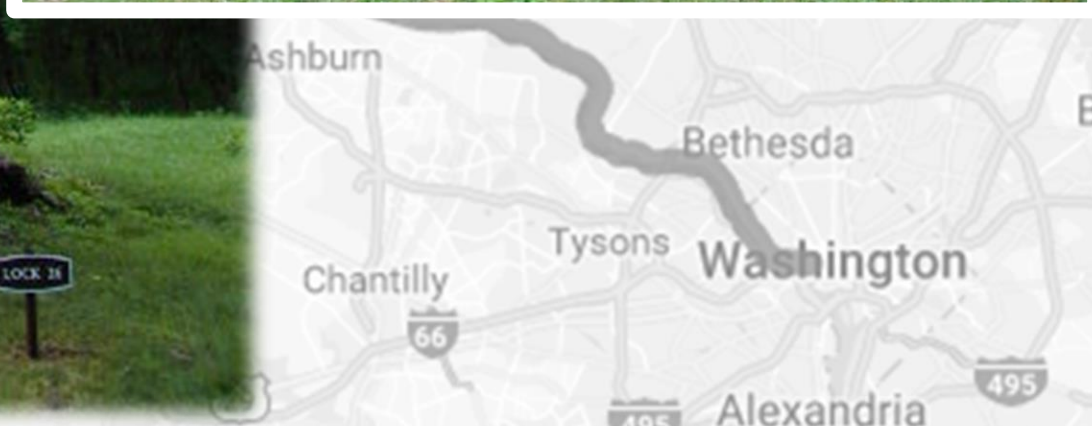
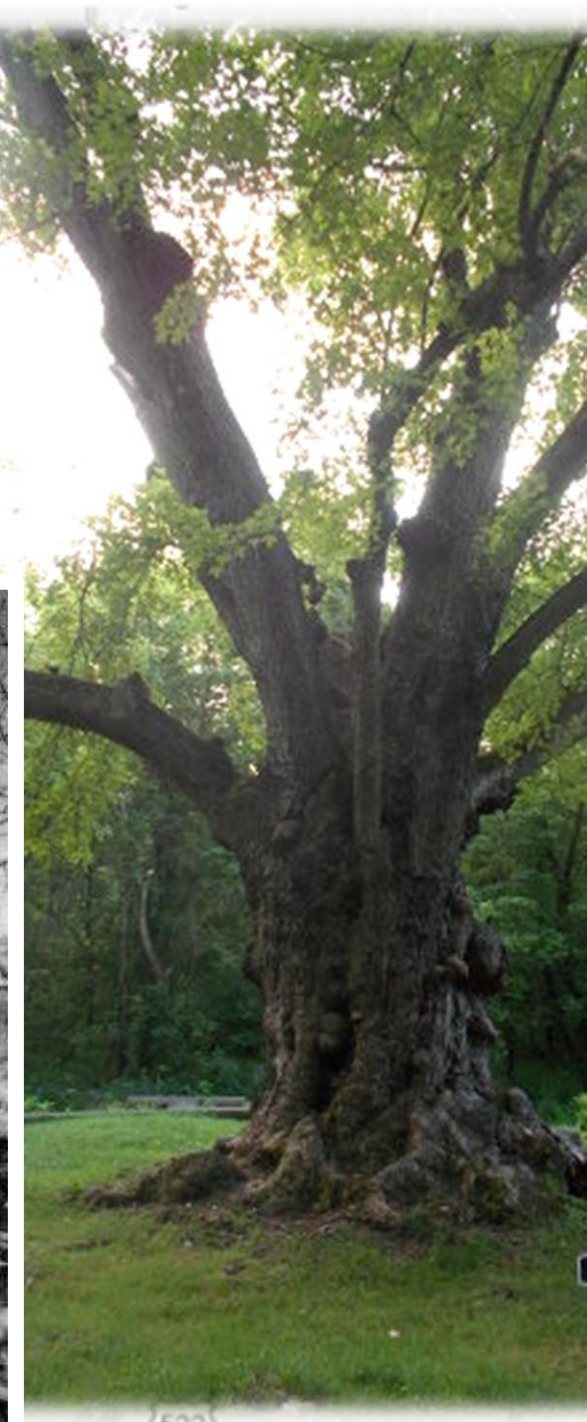
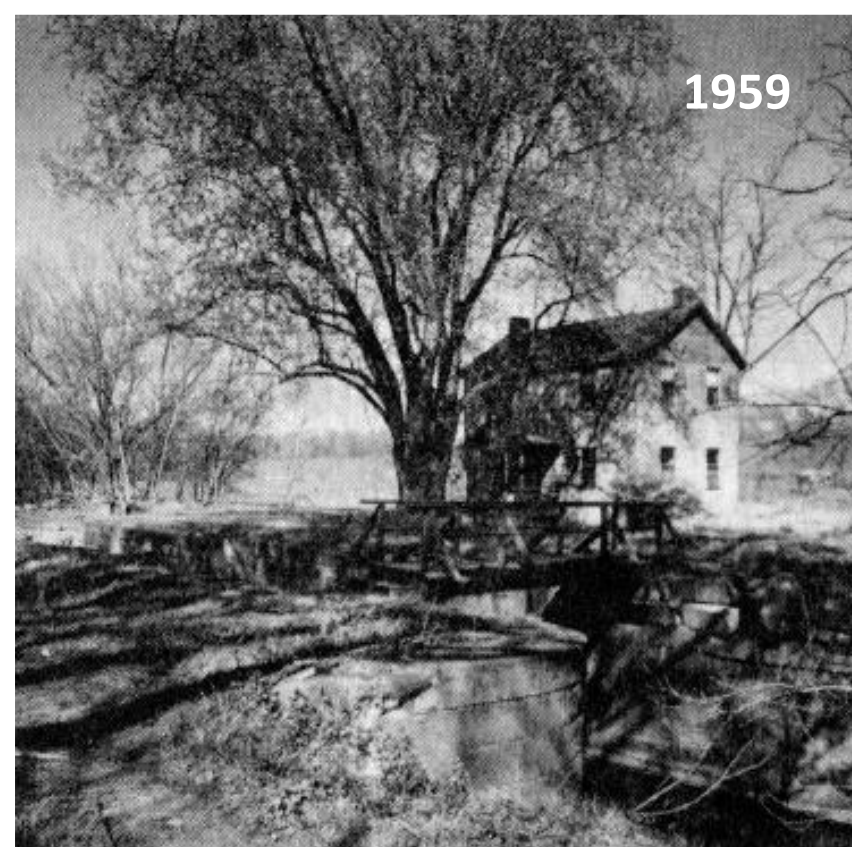




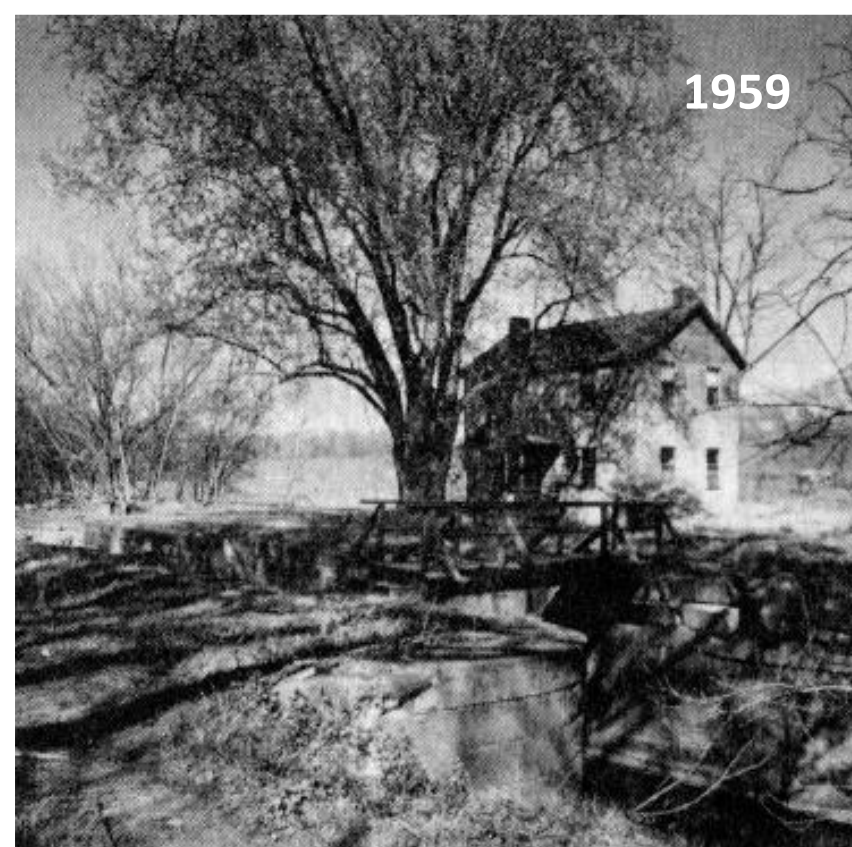
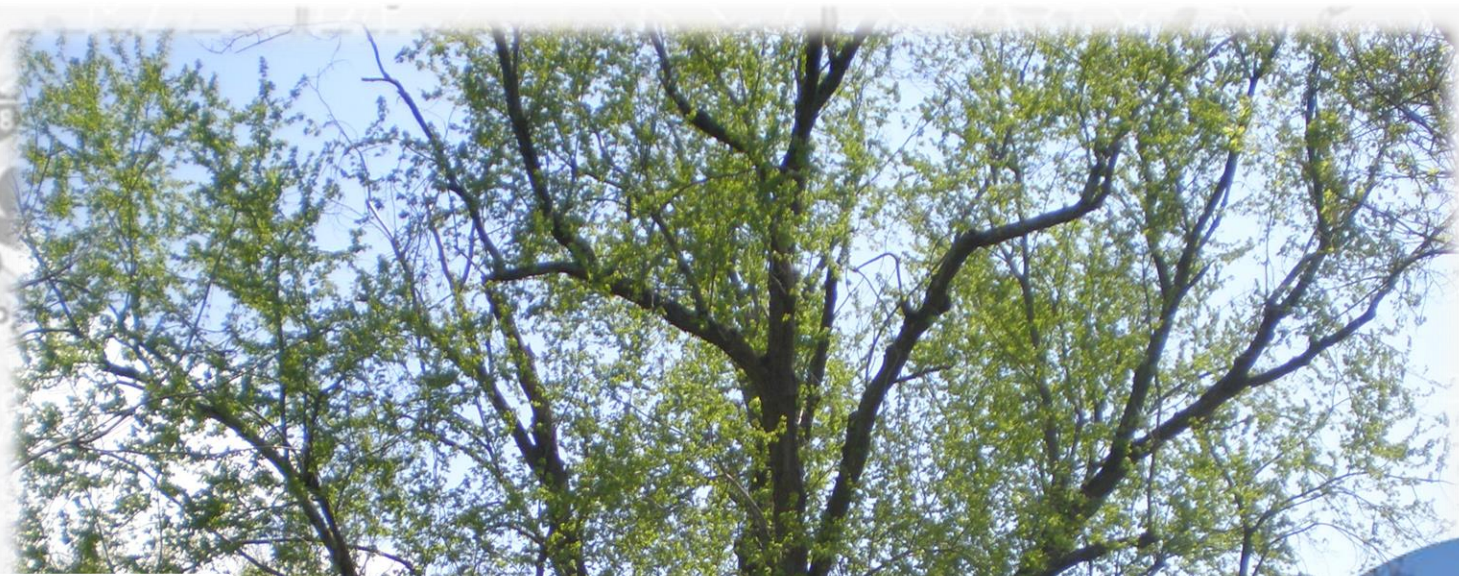
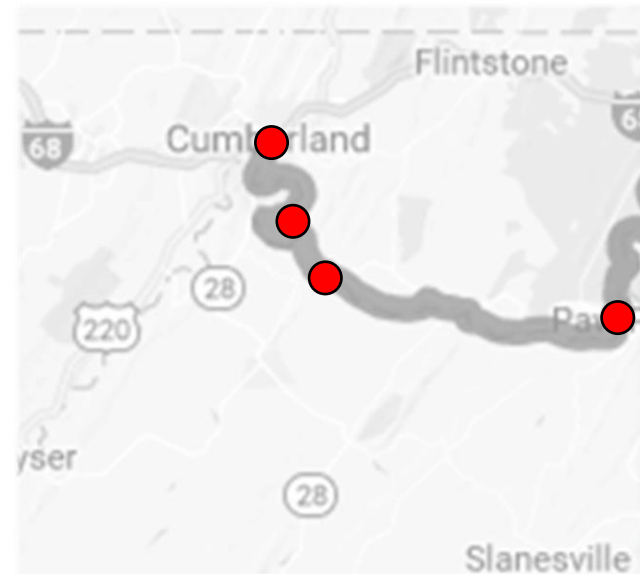




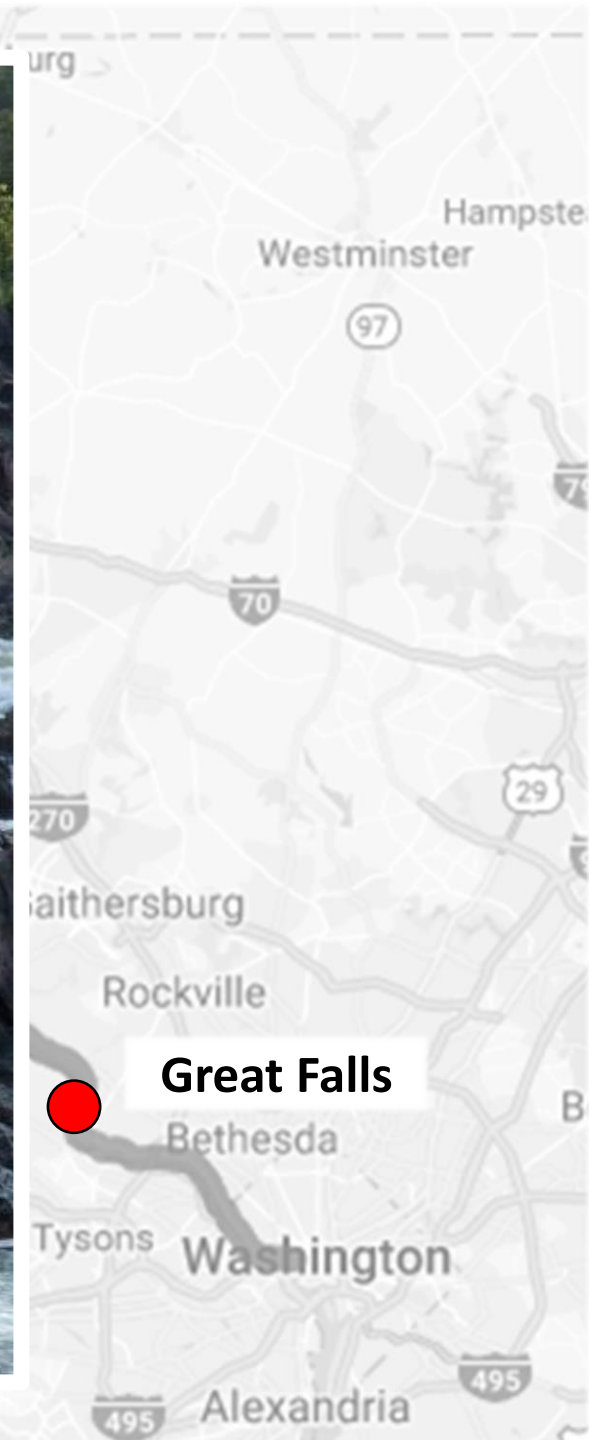




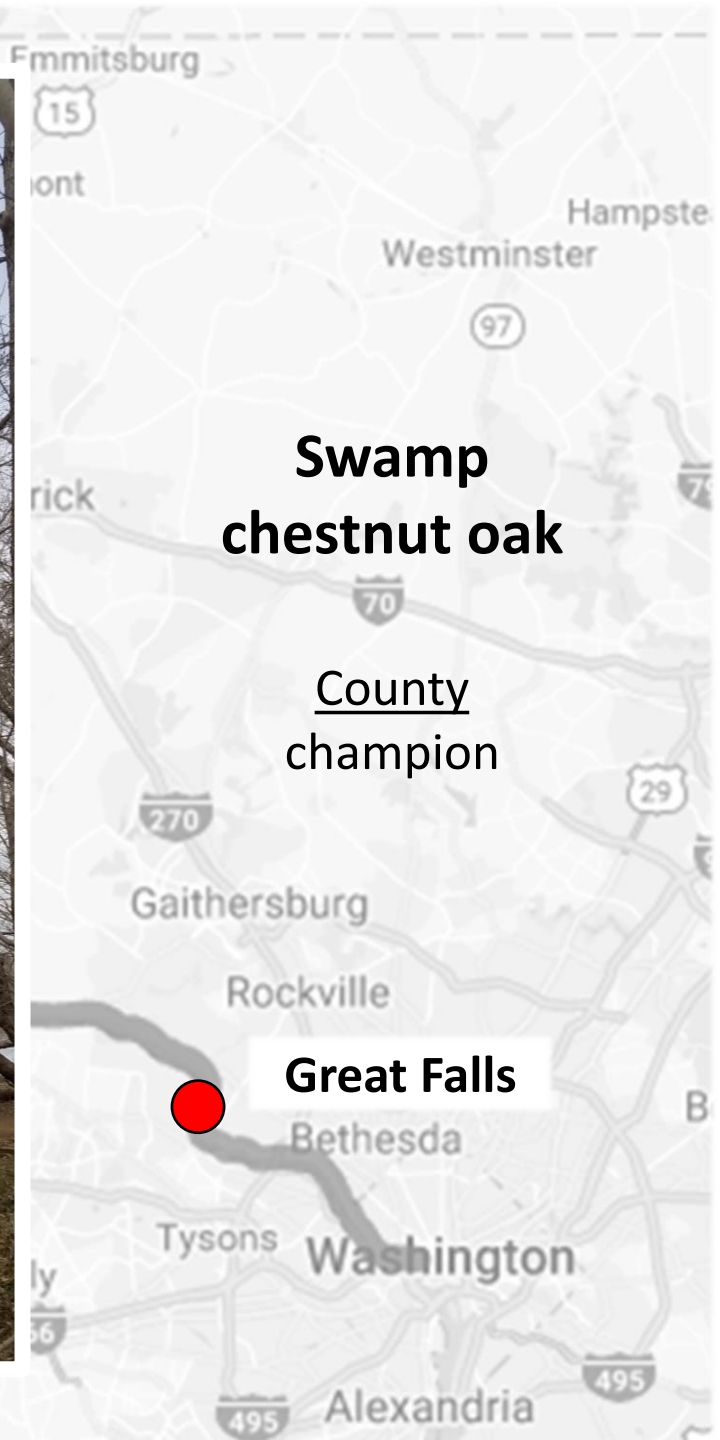










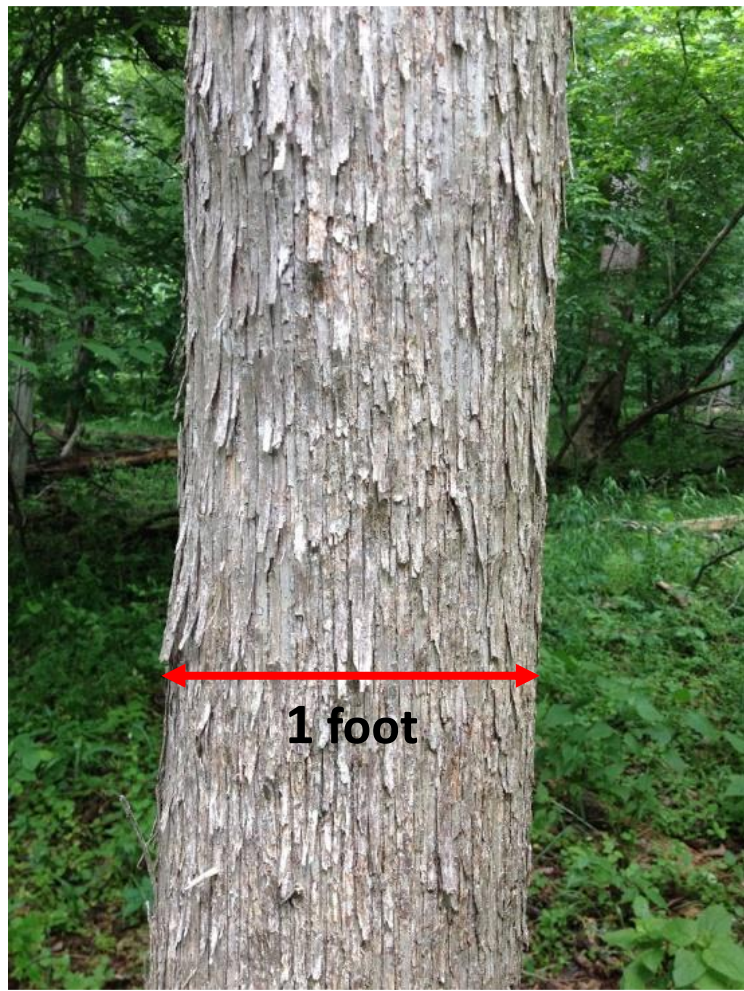


## Swamp chestnut oak

County  
champion

**Great Falls**

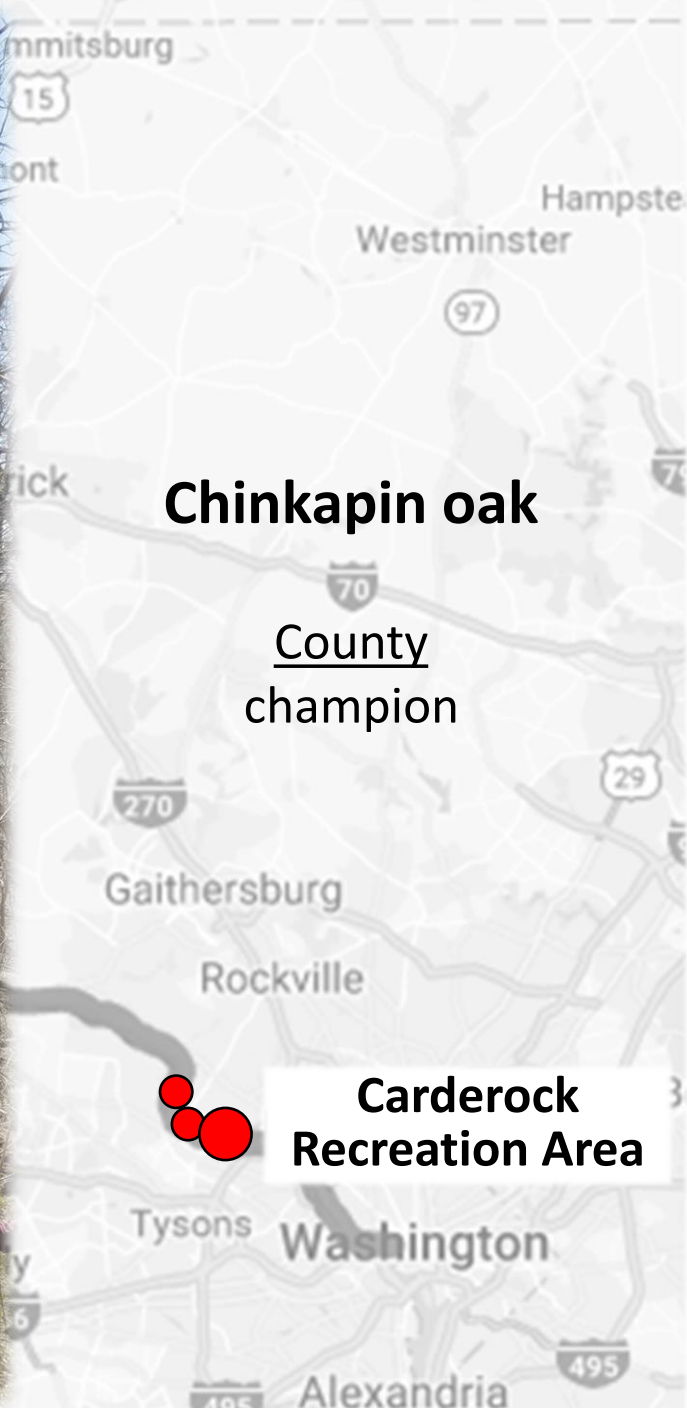




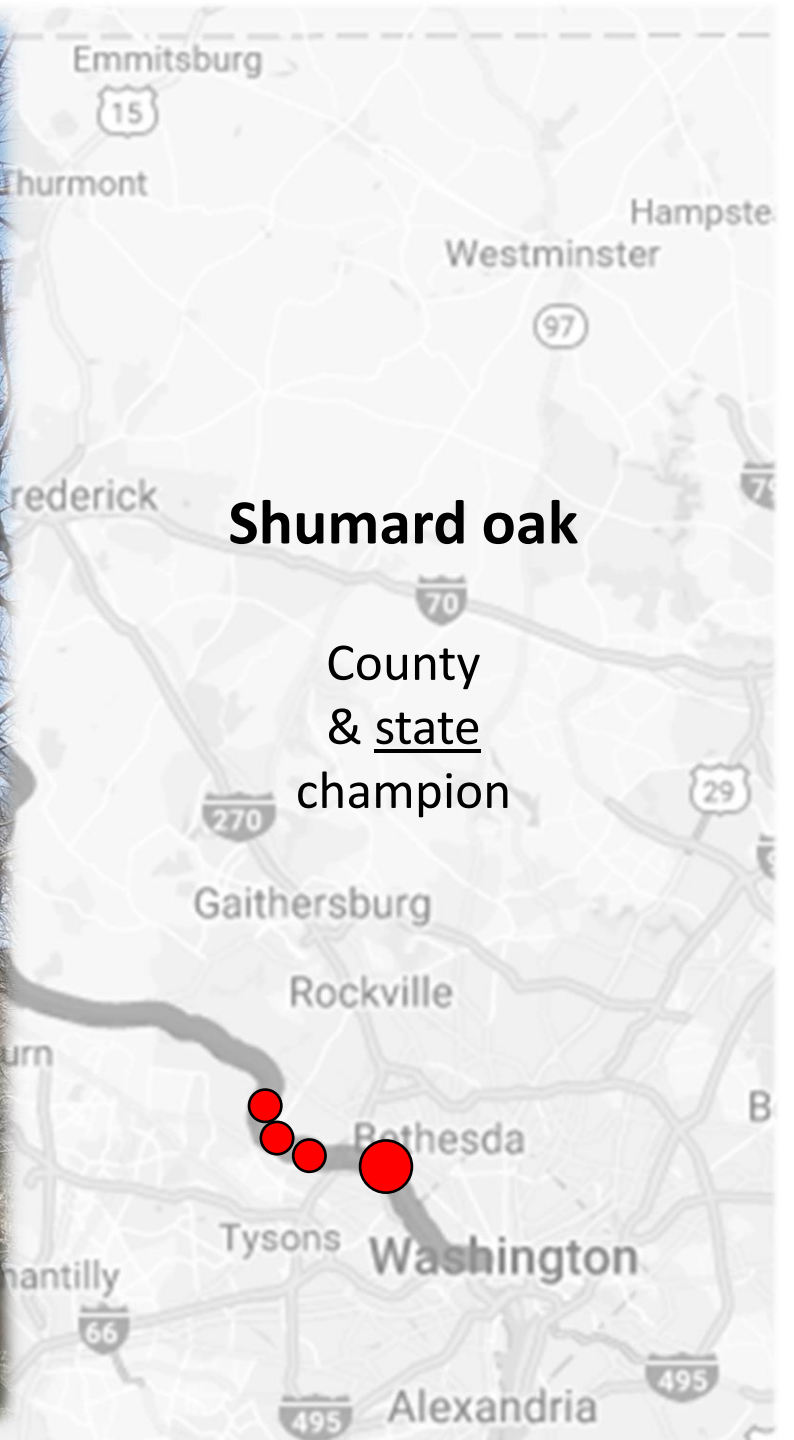
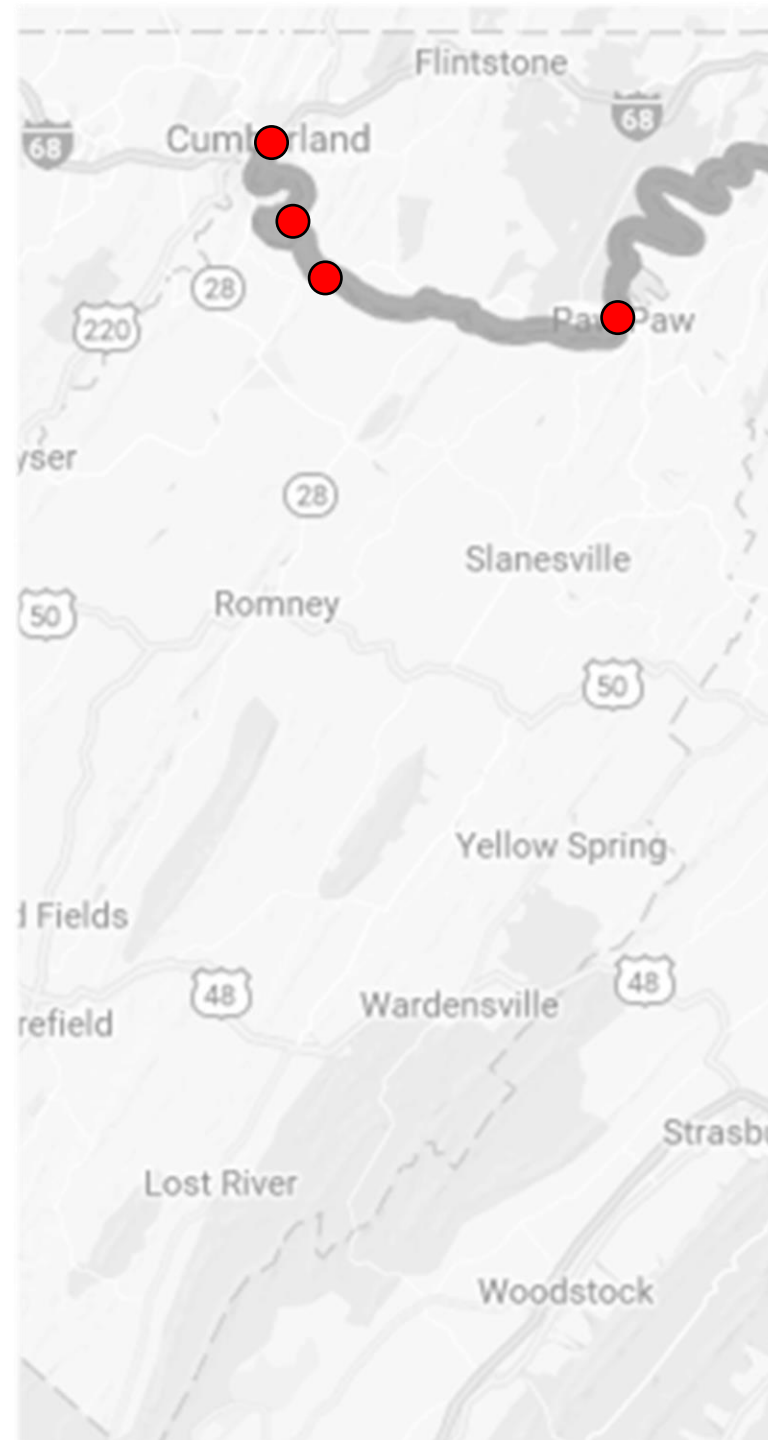
## Hophornbeam

County  
champion







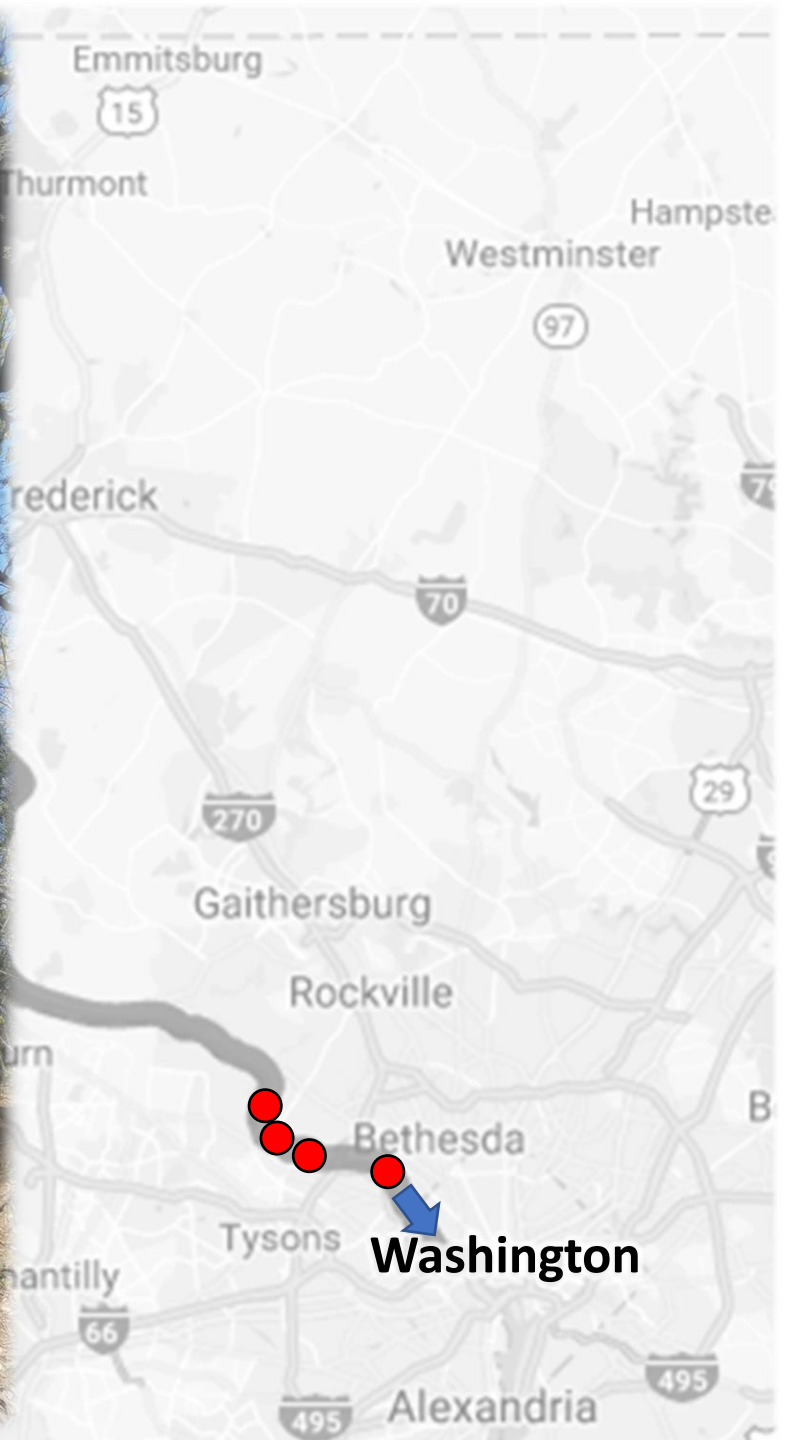
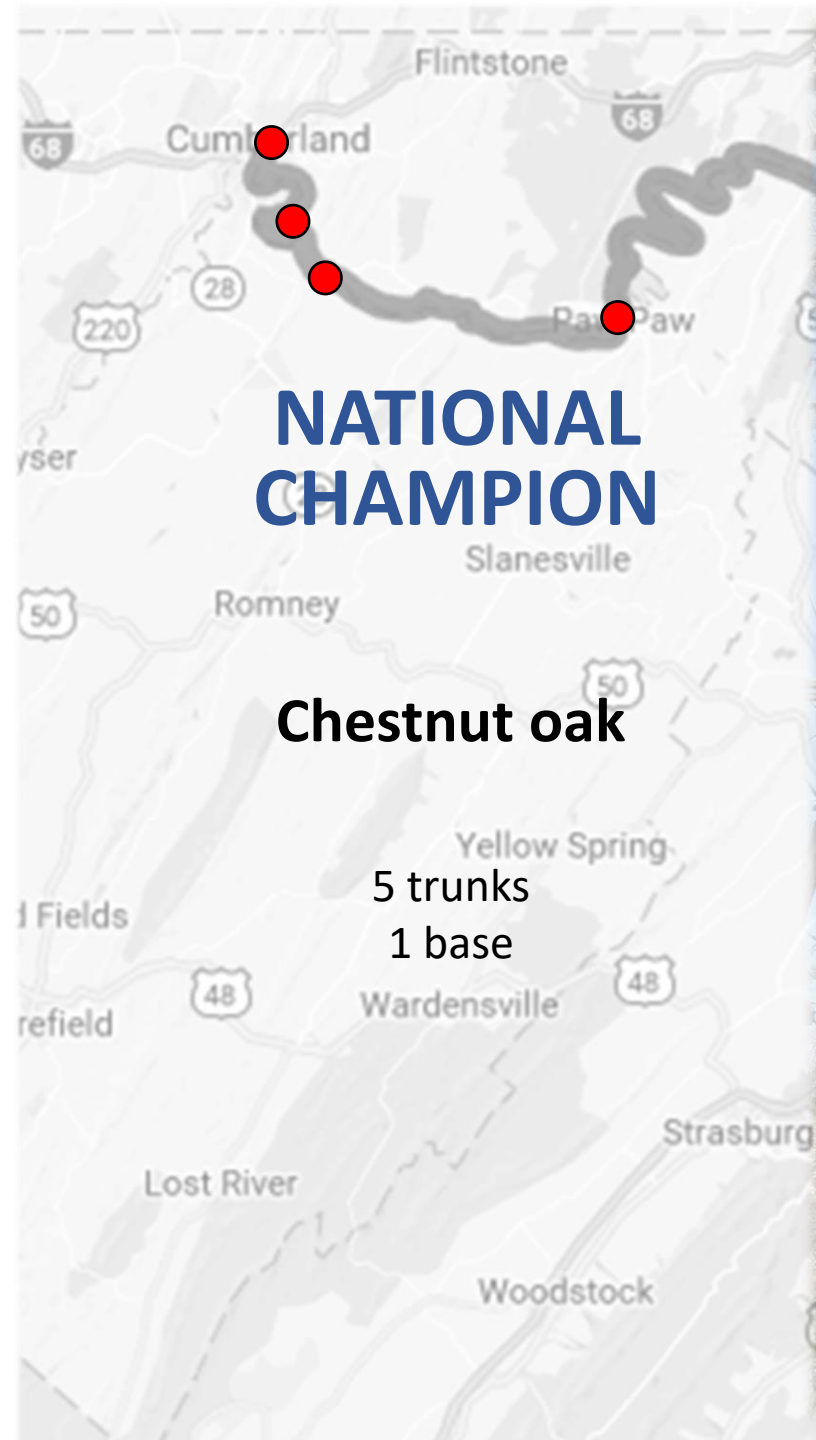


## Shumard oak

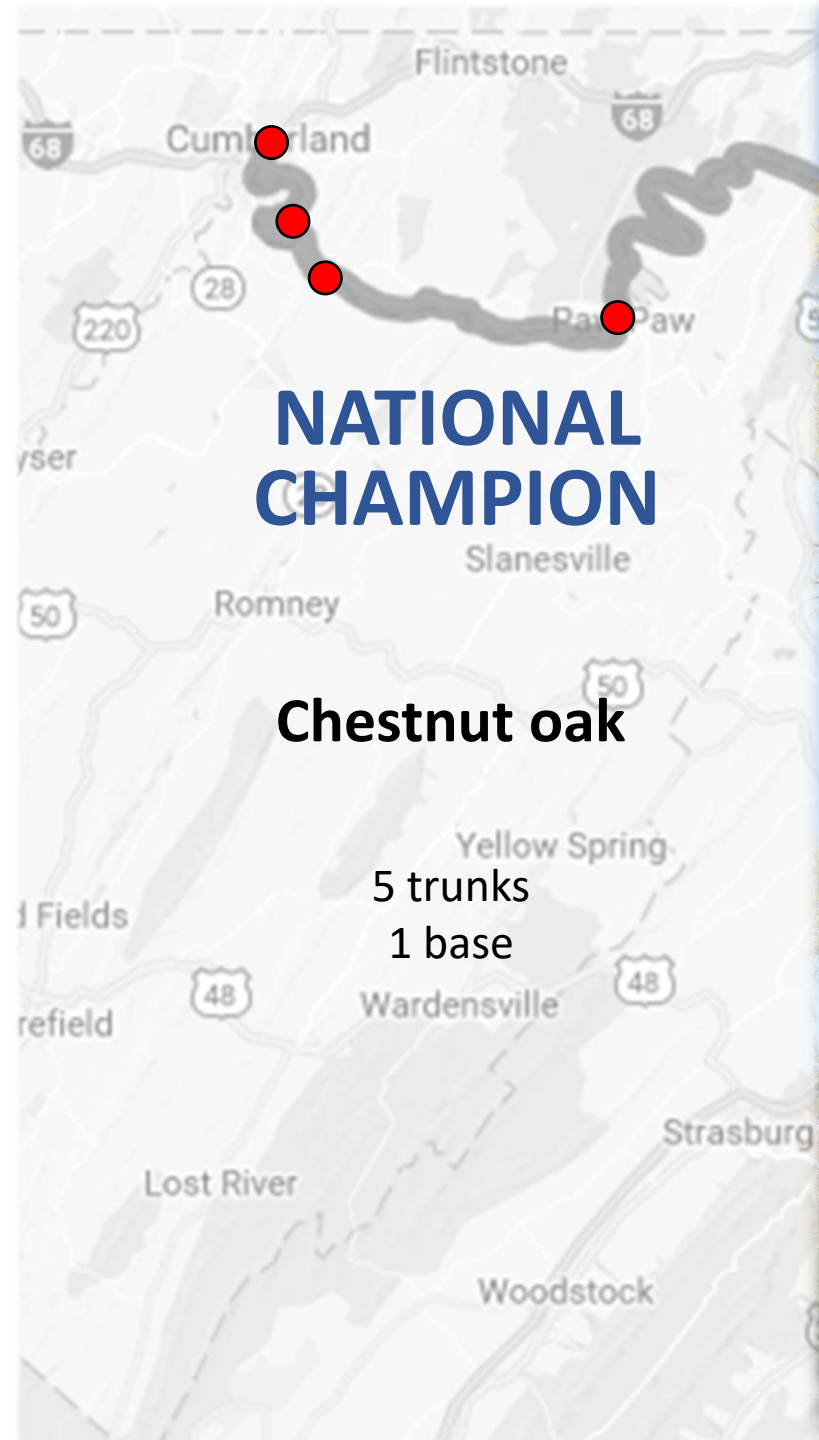
County  
& state  
champion

7 feet





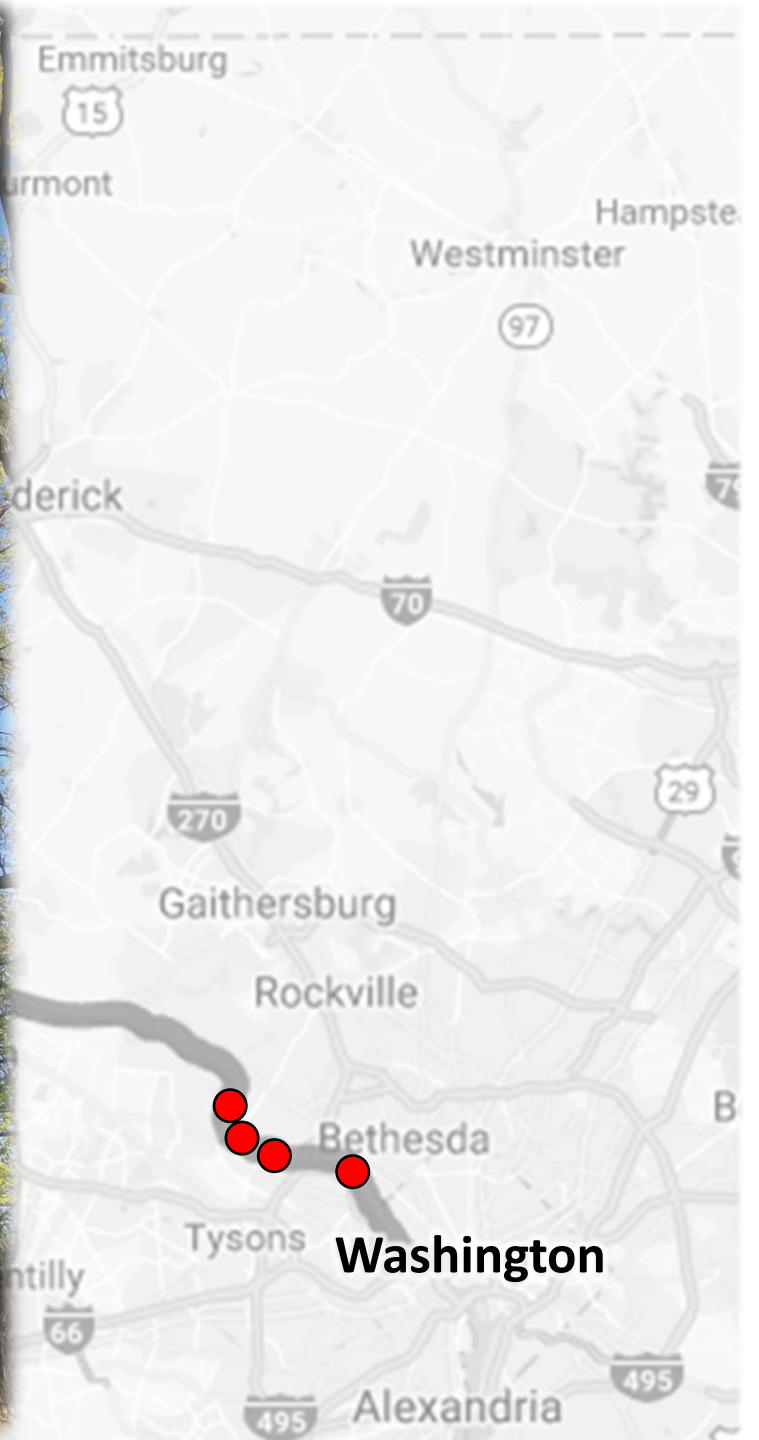




# NATIONAL CHAMPION

Chestnut oak

5 trunks  
1 base





# **NATIONAL CHAMPION**

**Table mountain pine**



Appalachian Mountains





Cumberland

C&O Canal

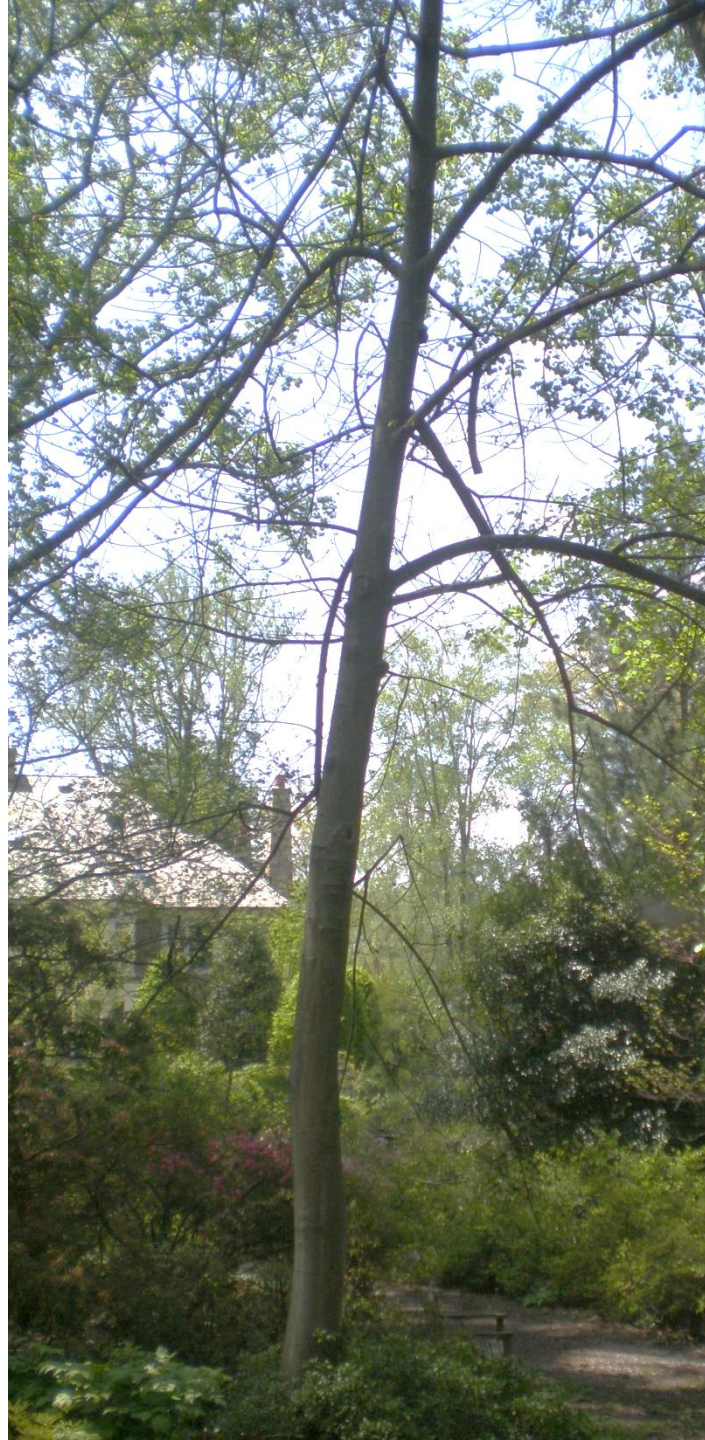
Pawpaw Tunnel

3 miles



# **NATIONAL CHAMPION**

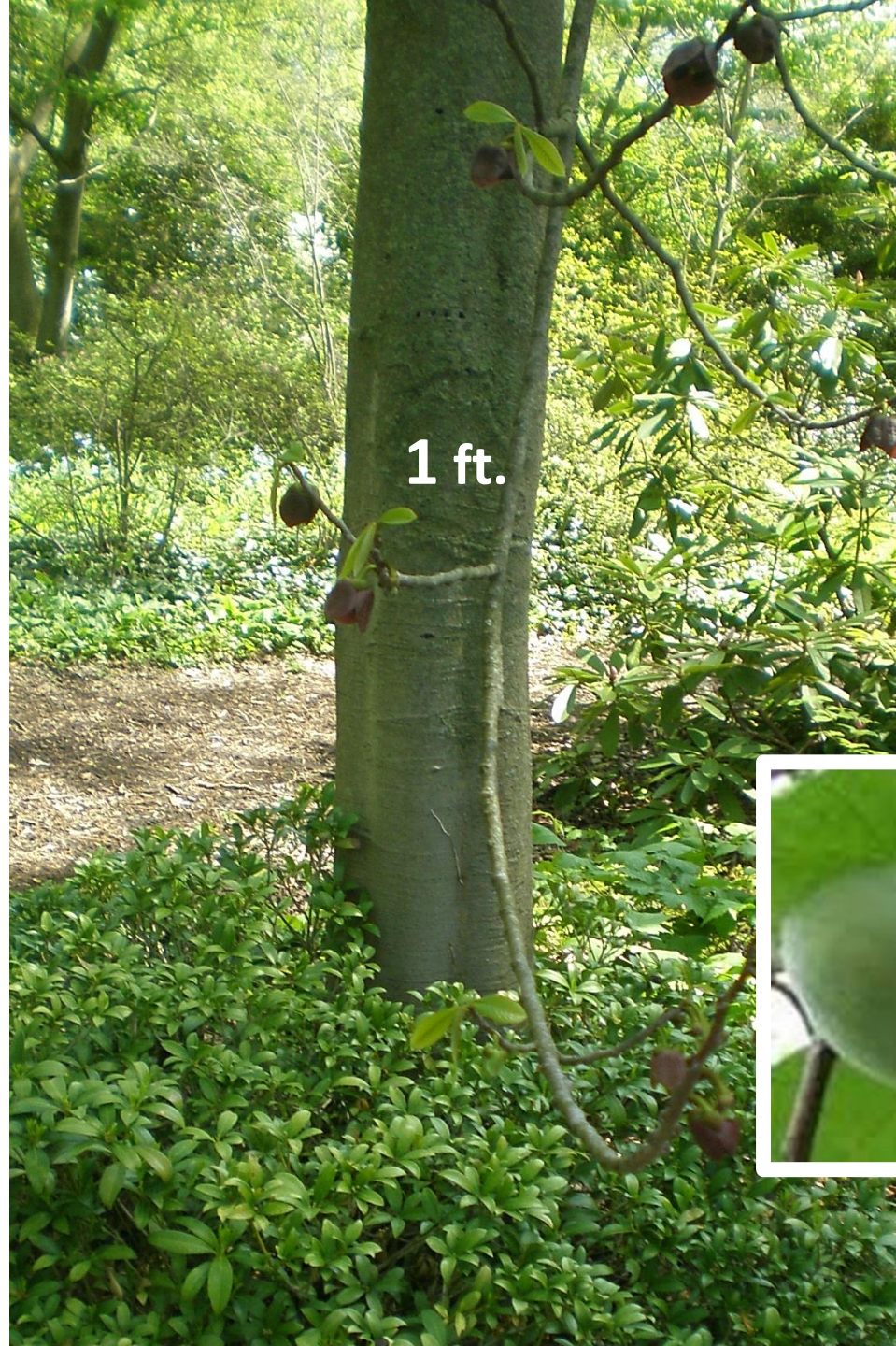
**Pawpaw**





# NATIONAL CHAMPION

**Pawpaw**





State champion  
mockernut hickory





*A tree once so tall and mighty has fallen  
Who will fix this hole in my soul now that you are gone?  
What amazing sights you must have witnessed!  
Who will dance with the wind now that you are gone?  
The memories are kept in your rings of birds  
and squirrels and man's great follies.  
Who will host the wonderful mosses and  
fungi now that you are gone?  
But there is still life around your base in  
soft and dewy moss.  
Now you will live on in another form,  
giving life to myriad organisms.*

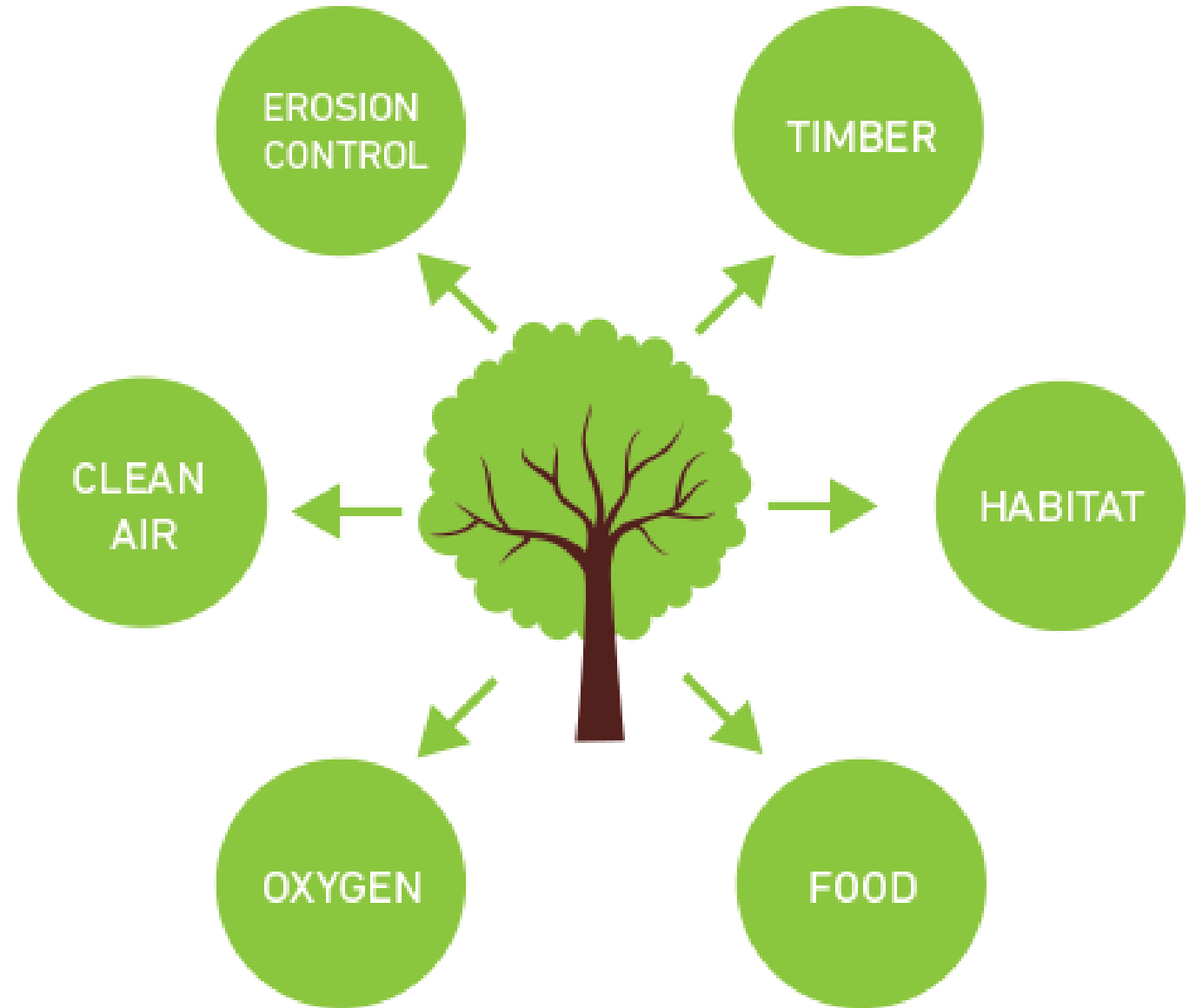
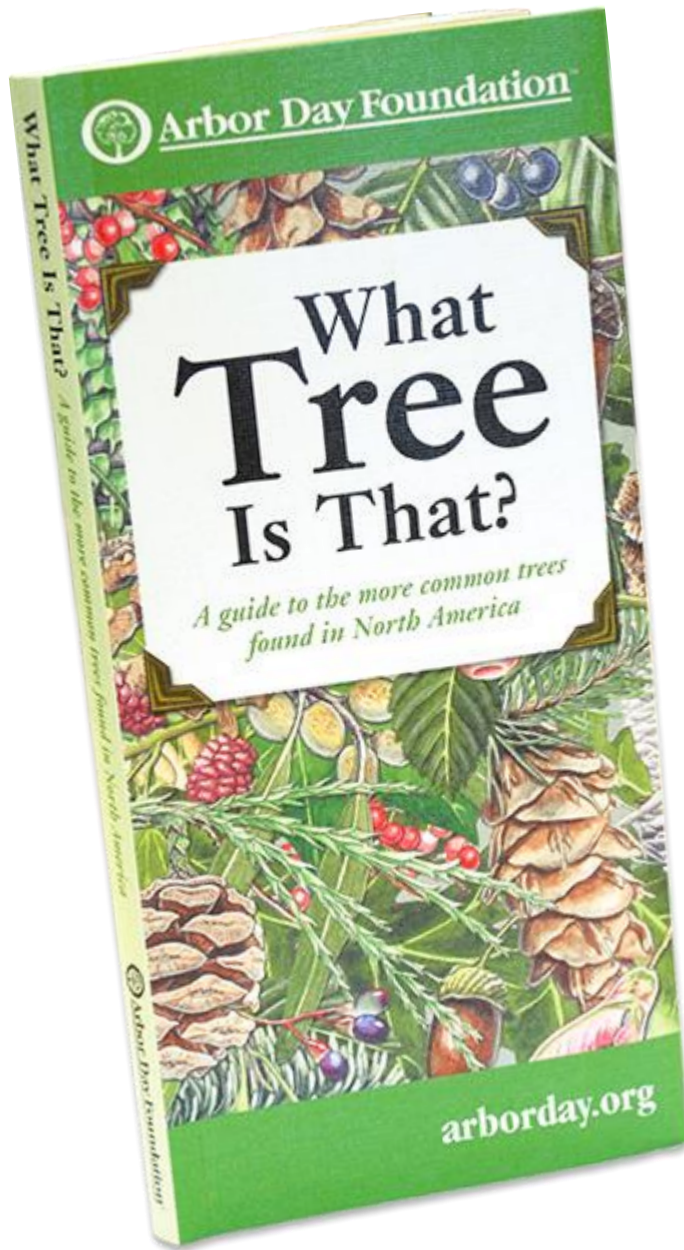


**ALONG THE TOWPATH**  
A quarterly publication of the  
**Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Association**













Painted bunting









AMERICAN FORESTS

<https://www.americanforests.org/get-involved/americas-biggest-trees/champion-trees-national-register>



<https://www.mdbigtrees.info/websitedata>





## Champion Trees - USA

National program coordinated by American Forests:

<https://www.americanforests.org/get-involved/americas-biggest-trees/champion-trees-national-register>

Maryland Big Tree listing:

<https://www.mdbigtrees.info/websitedata>

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*Champion trees along the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal* (all in Maryland; 3 counties; county champions unless otherwise noted with asterisk as state champion also [\*] – largest of its kind in the entire state):

### Allegany County

Eastern cottonwood - N39.647010 W78.762660 (near Cumberland Visitors Center canal boat replica)

White oak - N39.599152 W78.756886 (next to a bench along the towpath)

Sycamore - N39.565901 W78.723801 (approximately 60 feet from towpath towards the Potomac River)

Black walnut - N39.530722 W78.465421 (approximately 1.5 miles upstream from Paw Paw Tunnel)

### Washington County

Cucumber magnolia - N39.44033 W77.79134 (approximately 1,000 feet from east end of Fern Hill  
Visitors Center parking lot)

Black maple\* - N39.43869 W77.79134 (approximately 1,000 feet from east end of Fern Hill  
Visitors Center parking lot)

<https://www>





**2 state champions**



**Hornbeam | Ironwood**



**Weeping willow**



