

Chinquapin Oak (*Quercus muhlenbergii*)

Origin: Native.

Status in Park: Widespread. Individual trees occur throughout woodlands.

Characteristics: Reaches 100 feet in height, 4 feet in diameter; crown oblong or rounded; bark pale grayish, thin-scaled, flaky; flowers long, slender catkins; fruits are acorns, reddish-brown, up to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long.

Leaves: Alternate, simple, blades 4-8 inches long, widest above middle; edges with 15-30 teeth, each tooth with a tiny, sharp point at the tip; glossy, yellowish-green to deep green above, paler and finely hairy below.



Chiquapin Oak

Notes: The wood is strong and durable, but the species is not common enough to be of much commercial value. It is sometimes planted as an ornamental though. The acorn fruit is sweet and edible, much milder than those from other oaks.