

Honey Locust (*Gleditsia triacanthos*)

Origin: Native.

Status in Park: Widespread, especially in the moist lower elevations, in shade or sun.

Characteristics: Height to 80 feet, up to 3 feet in diameter; crown broadly rounded, often with drooping outer branches; bark of mature trees is dark gray, scaly-ridged, furrowed, is smooth and brownish, with horizontal pores, in young trees, trunks usually with menacing large thorns; flowers small, yellowish, in elongated clusters, May-June; fruits flat brown pods up to 1 ½ feet long.

Leaves: Alternate, doubly compound, 6-12 inches long, with 4-10 pinnately compound leaflets on the main stem, but some leaves are singly compound, with 18-30 simple leaflets; edges are smooth; leaves smooth, dark green above, paler beneath.



Location of tagged tree:



Notes: The hard, heavy wood is easily polished but brittle. It has been used for fence posts, furniture, and sometimes for lumber.