

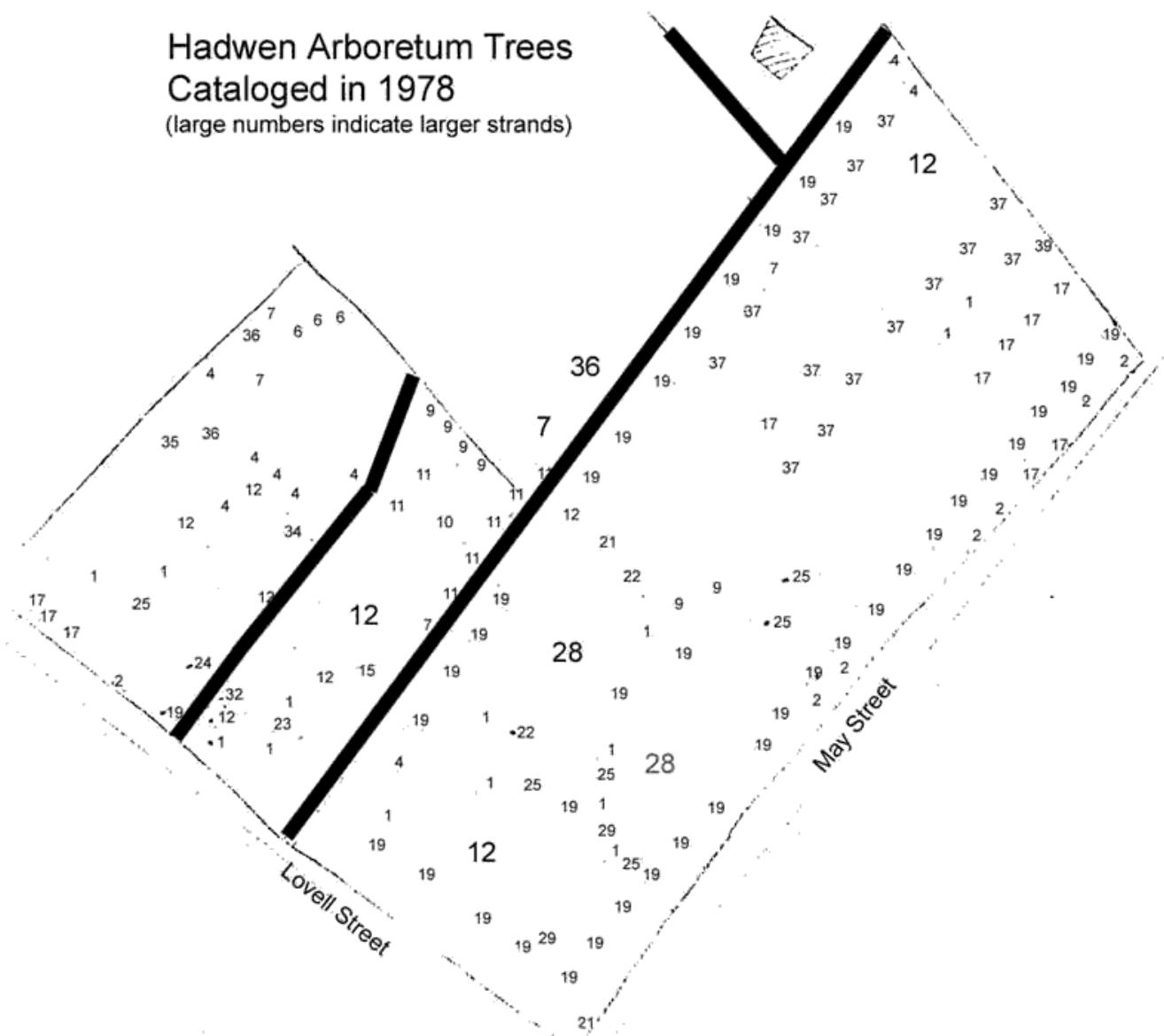
Hadwen Arboretum Historical Notes*

- Arboretum was willed to Clark University by Obadiah Hadwen upon his death in 1907 at age 83.
- Hadwen had been a horticulturalist and Commissioner of Public Parks in Worcester with whom Jonas Clark had worked on city park and tree planting projects. He was also a proud farmer who successfully ran a 60 acre farm.
- From Hadwen's will: *..Said estate to be forever kept for the purpose of educating students in Agricultural, Historical, and Arboreal knowledge scientific and practical. I adopt this course with the purpose in view of preserving the trees and plants growing thereon, being a portion of my life work, shall be preserved as an Arboretum, and an object lesson to assist students in the education of the science and art of Arboriculture and improving the landscape.*
- Hadwen also willed \$1000 to Clark University to be invested, with the annual income used "to embellish the University grounds with ornamental trees and plants."
- Arboretum survived years of neglect, and at several times there was interest in selling it. The Biology Dept., University Trustees, and students had several times (including 1921, 1925, 1952, and 1971) submitted reports and recommendations to clean up the arboretum. The 1971 student report found that many of the Arboretum's original trees were still alive and had produced healthy offspring.
- A 1978 report by two Clark students cataloged 40 different types of trees at the arboretum and concluded that "the area ...be returned to full and operational Arboretum status. The area shows immense potential and an intrinsic value to the University with regard to the study of Biology, Geography, Geology, and their various subdivisions."
- Trustees in 1985 made a firm decision not to sell the land, and began restoration efforts. In particular, the clearing underbrush had an immediate visual effect and improved tree health.

*These notes were compiled by the Clark University Outing Club in August, 2006, as "talking points" for Arboretum tours which were being offered by the club as part of an event. All information was obtained from materials in Clark University's Goddard Library special collections archive. The accompanying tree map is a replication of the hand drawn map from the 1978 student report noted above.

Hadwen Arboretum Trees Cataloged in 1978

(large numbers indicate larger strands)



- 1 European and Fernleaf Beech
- 2 European Larch
- 3 Sweet Gum
- 4 Chinese Cork Oak
- 5 Maple
- 6 Scarlet Oak
- 7 Shagbark Hickory
- 8 Pignut Hickory
- 9 White Paper Birch
- 10 American Beech
- 11 Black Locust
- 12 Black Walnut**
- 14 White Oak
- 15 Katsura Tree
- 16 Cucumber Tree
- 17 White Pine
- 18 Sugar Maple
- 19 Norway Maple
- 20 Pin Oak
- 21 Red Oak
- 22 White Spruce
- 23 Japanese Umbrella Tree
- 24 Japanese Maple
- 25 Magnolia
- 26 Giant Arbor Vitae
- 27 American Linden
- 28 Amur Maple
- 29 Tulip Tree
- 30 Hemlock
- 31 Horse Chestnut
- 32 Mountain Laurel
- 33 Eastern Hemlock
- 34 White Walnut
- 35 American Elm
- 36 American Linden
- 37 Red Maple
- 38 Apple
- 39 Red Birch
- 40 Sassafras