

Spring 2009

SIUC Memorial Tree Project

GEOG 433 'Field Methods' Class

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**Department of Geography
and Environmental Resources**
Southern Illinois University Carbondale

SIUC Memorial Tree Project

GEOG 433 'Field Methods' Class Spring 2009
Department of Geography and Environmental Resources

Plant & Service Operations 

Grounds 

About the Project

The SIUC Memorial Tree Project is an ongoing effort begun by the Geography and Environmental Resources Department's 'Field Methods' class in Spring 2009. The project goal was to locate and assess trees (and other objects) dedicated as memorials to individuals and events important to the SIUC community. The Grounds Department of SIUC Physical Plant and Service Operations (PSO) manages the Memorial Tree Program.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank David Tippy, Dennis Kiehna, and the SIUC Grounds Department for advice and support.

We would also like to thank Leah Broaddus and Darla Loftus at Morris Library.



Figure 2. A database of tree location co-ordinates was developed and used to create a "Google Earth" map showing the exact location for each tree across the SIUC campus. The tree location file was also imported into the online "Google Maps" and made publically available.



Figure 4. We also developed a draft webpage describing the Memorial Tree Project and providing links to the Google Map of tree locations and other relevant links such as the PSO, which manages memorial tree planting and maintenance on campus. We plan to continue working with PSO on future assessments and mapping.



Figure 1. Students located memorial trees using old hard copy maps showing the general area of the memorial tree locations. They then collected GPS co-ordinates, photographed and verified species type and other relevant information for each tree.

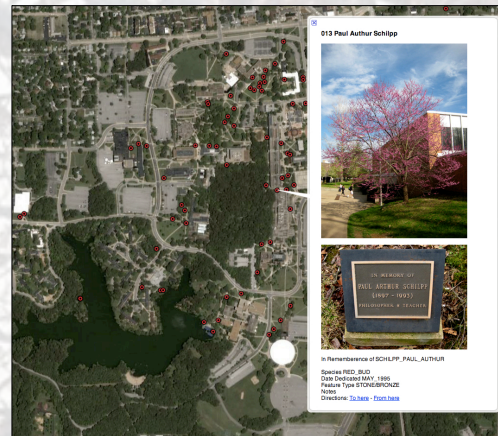


Figure 3. Photographs of the individual Memorial Trees and plaques as well as information about the memorial were placed online and associated with the individual tree location icons in Google Maps. Links to more information about the memorial are also provided.



Figure 5. We are currently working on developing individual web pages for each memorial tree (or structure) that will provide detailed information not only about the memorial itself but also the individuals or events being memorialized. This will include a variety of information including historical documents such as newspaper stories.