

The Grant Hall Ash tree

- The Grant Hall White Ash Tree was a State of Kansas Champion Tree; that is the largest example of its species in the state. There are ten remaining Kansas Champion Trees on Fort Leavenworth.
- The tree was infected with the Emerald Ash Borer insect now ravaging the state and was damaged in a summer storm in 2015, so it was no longer safe and was therefore removed.
- By a count of the rings it is estimated that the tree began growing in the 1860's.
- The schools that led to the founding of Army U were in the buildings near this tree from 1890-1958.
- Famous students that have passed by the tree when the schools were here include: George C. Marshall, Dwight Eisenhower, George Patton, Omar Bradley, and Henry "Hap" Arnold.
- Less well known but more important for the school were the instructors and administrators that made this a school that could benefit such students and the Nation they served. Names well remembered here like James Franklin Bell, John F. Morrison, Frederick Funston, and Eben Swift.
- Like the tree that grew large and spread its branches Army education is growing up and branching out. Army University is central to that growth and outreach and has a mission much like those famous instructors and administrators – to get more out of what the Army spends on training and education and better benefit the students, the Army, and the Nation.