



LINDA WILLIAMS PALMER Arkansas Champion Trees: An Artist's Journey EASTERN COTTONWOOD

(Populus deltoids) - Co-champion - Crawford County, Van Buren 2010 Colored pencil on paper by Linda Williams Palmer - 53 ½"h x 38"w - framed Detail: Leaves, Eastern Cottonwood by Linda Williams Palmer - 15"h x 15 ½"w - framed

CHAMPION STATISTICS

Circumference: 324" Crown Spread: 104' Height: 87' Bigness Index: 437

Cottonwood trees grow in wet soil near rivers or streams. The bark is gray, thick, rough and deeply furrowed, and is a favorite food of beaver. Cottonwood seeds are surrounded by light fluffy fibers and easily blow about in spring breezes. In autumn, its triangular leaves turn gold. I call this tree the "elephant tree" because if you look closely at the tree trunk, you can see an elephant head and trunk. This cottonwood survived after being struck by lightning. - LWP

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