

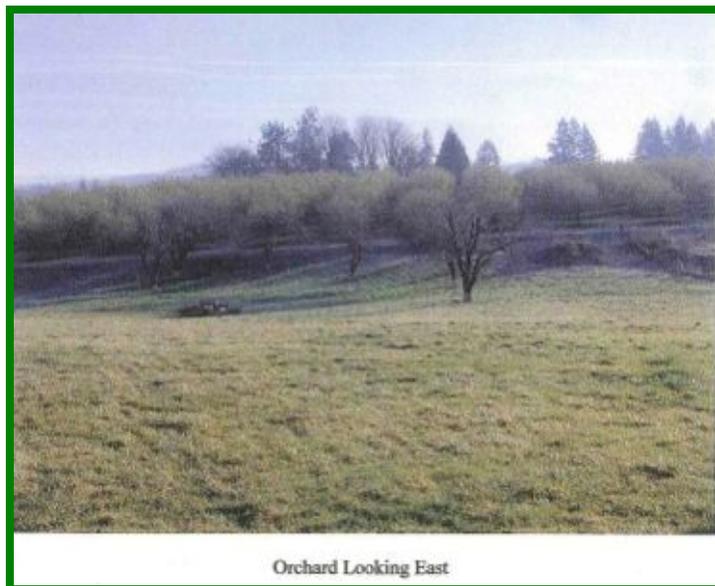
# Clackamas County Heritage Tree

## DAVIS CENTURY FARM

*National Historic Register and Clackamas County Historic Landmark*

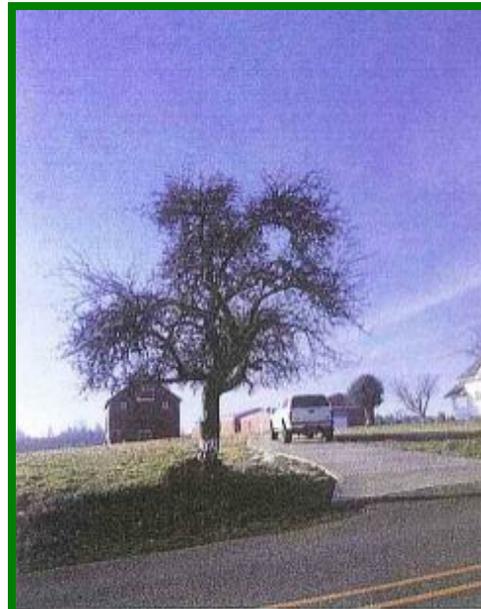
Bosc Pear (*Pyrus Bosc*) and 8 remnant trees from fruit orchard

📍 Location: 13678 S Spangler Road, Oregon City, Oregon

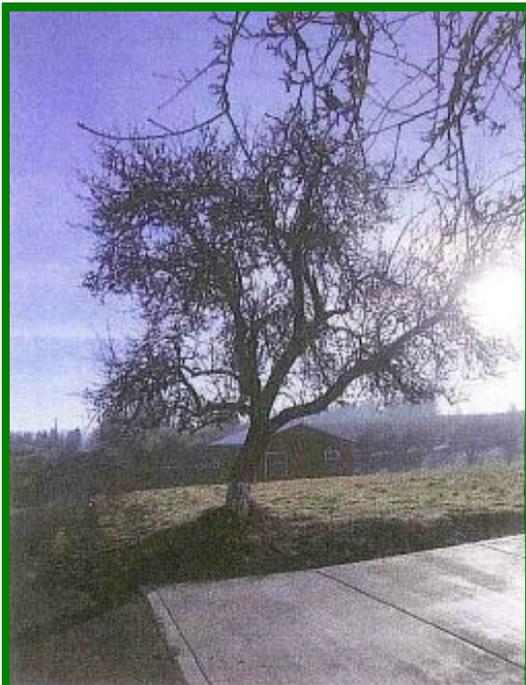




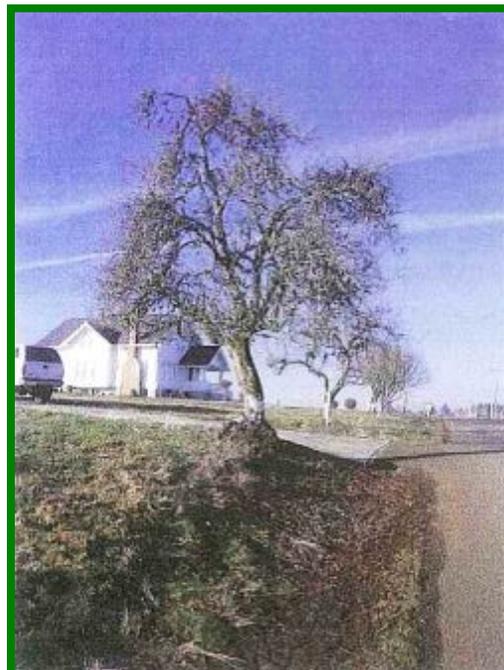
Looking North



Looking South



Looking East



Looking West

## 150 year old BOSCH PEAR, Davis Century Farm

 **Significance:** *Specimen* – a tree/s of exceptional size, form or rarity. *Historic* - A tree recognized by virtue of its age, or its association with or contribution to a historic structure or district; *Collection*: Trees in a notable grove, avenue or other planting.

 **Measurements** (approximate):

- Height: **65** ‘
- Circumference (meas. at 4 ½’): **5’ 3”**
- Crown Spread: **12 - 14’**
- Age: **150 + years**

 **Dedication Ceremony:** April 30, 2009

 **Additional Information:** The Bosch Pear Tree is located on the John and Magdalena Davis Century Homestead Farm. This farm is a Clackamas County Historic Landmark and is on the National Historic Register of Historic Places. The Bosch Pear tree and the remnant 9 fruit orchard trees are believed to have been planted by a family named Kalfleisch who farmed the property prior to William X. Davis who emigrated from Wales. When the Davis family purchased the property in 1886 the fruit orchards including these trees which were already well established on the property. The Bosch Pear tree was a benchmark on the deed to the Davis Family Farm.

In the late 19th century the Davis family first helped establish the prune industry in Clackamas County, drying prunes for sale. Although the entire Davis prune orchard was uprooted during the Columbus Day Storm of 1962, the historic prune dryer is still extant on the property, weathering the force of those ferocious winds.

The Bosch Pear tree is a large pear tree with a long neck that tapers down to a fat round bottom. It has a golden-brown russeted skin and white, juicy flesh with rich, slightly acidic flavor that gives it a sweet-spicy taste. A favorite for eating fresh or cooking. The Bosch Pear tree ripens September to October and needs a pollinator.

The Davis Century Farm Fruit Orchard includes nine surviving trees that were planted approximately 150 years ago. Historic trees in the fruit orchard include: Bing and Royal Anne cherry trees; early species of apples including

Banana, King, Snow, Delicious; Bosc pear trees; and a grafted tree with two species on it.)

The Century Farm has been recognized for the strong women who have farmed the land over time. As Betty Davis (daughter of John and Magdalena “Lena” Davis) wrote in her biography, and recognized in The Agriculture Quarterly Issue 316, Spring 2006 “**From strong women come strong farms**”, by Madeline MacGregor,... the women in her family...

”...were very ordinary, yet very special. They are not well known’ their names will not go down in state history. They have never gained any recognition beyond their own circle of friends and acquaintances within their communities. Most of them have not perceived themselves as special human beings. But theirs are lives which have touched others for the better.”

Descendents of the Davis Family still own the farm and are planting heritage trees to reestablish this orchard, with trees purchased from Home Tree Society for historic trees.

The Century Farm program began in 1958 and when this farm and four others in Clackamas County were added in 2005 there were already 85 century farms in Clackamas County. According to the program’s mission statement, it

“Is a storyteller of much of Oregon’s agricultural history as well as the state’s current commitment to the agricultural industry. It portrays human potential, perseverance and the families’ pride and belief in land stewardship”

