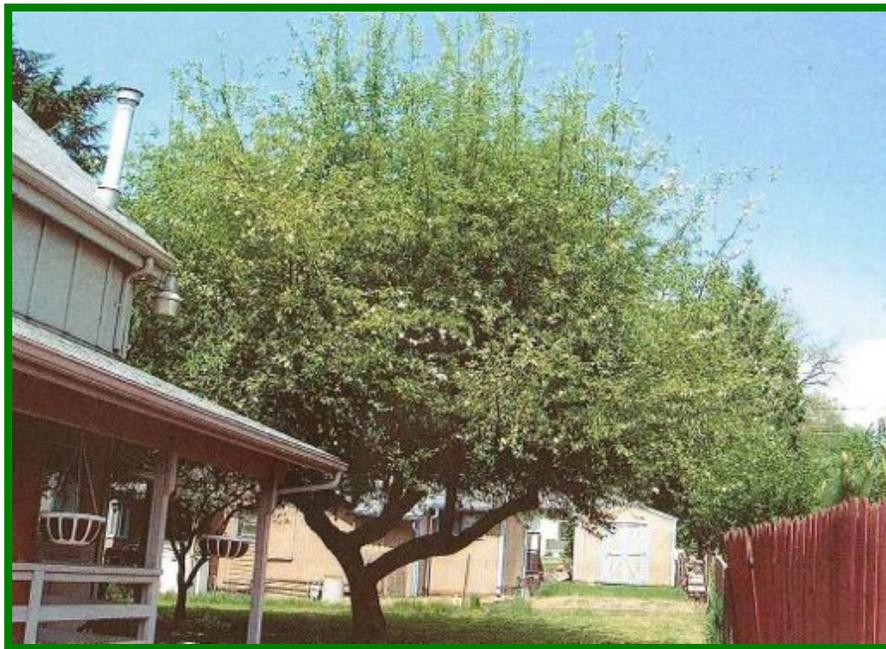


Clackamas County Heritage Tree

Milwaukie Museum Yellow bellflower apple (*Malus domestica*)

🌲 Location: Milwaukie Museum, 3737 SE Adams Road, Milwaukie



🌲 **Significance:** *Specimen* – a tree of exceptional size, form or rarity, or horticultural value. *Historic* – A tree recognized by virtue of its age, or its association with or contribution to a historic structure or district or with a noted person or historic event. *Landmark* – Trees that are a prominent identifying feature of a community.

🌲 **Measurements** (approximate):

- Height: 45'
- Circumference (meas. at 4 ½'): 4' 8"
- Crown Spread: 50'
- Age: 33 - 45 years, planted 1976

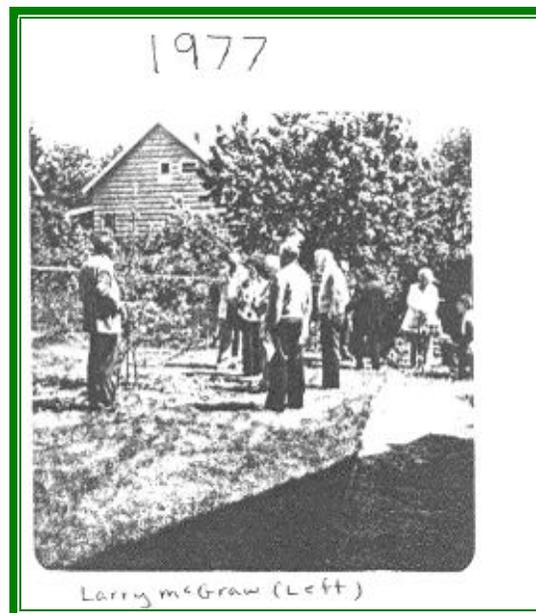
🌲 **Dedication Ceremony:** April 30, 2009

🌲 **Additional Information:** This Clackamas County Heritage Tree, the **Milwaukie Museum Yellow bellflower apple tree**, is a descendent of a tree located in Portland, the “*Dosch Yellow bellflower apple*”, a 2009 Oregon Heritage Tree. In the 1970’s, after much research by the then president Larry McGraw of the Home Orchard Society in Oregon, it was determined that the “*Dosch Yellow bellflower apple*” in Portland was the oldest living, “grafted-standard-fruit-variety” tree” in the western United States, planted around 1850 or 1851. It is likely that the *Dosch* tree was grafted from a cutting from the Luelling ‘wagon box’ fruit trees that were transported over the Oregon Trail in 1847. This would make the *Dosch* apple tree one of the earliest fruit trees sold from the Luelling & Meek nursery in Milwaukie.

🌲 .There is an apple tree at Ft. Vancouver, Washington planted by members of the Hudson’s Bay Company that may be as much as 25 years older than the *Dosch* tree, but it was grown from seed.

🌲 In 1976 on Arbor Day, in honor of the historic “*Dosch Yellow bellflower apple*” tree, the Home Orchard Society and the Milwaukie Historical Society planted a scion tree from the historic apple tree on the grounds of the Milwaukie Museum in Clackamas County. This is the subject tree: the Milwaukie Museum Yellow bellflower apple

A scion tree is a detached shoot or twig containing buds from a woody plant, used in grafting. This commemoration of the nation’s bicentennial was to pay tribute to a pioneer fruit variety, tribute to Henderson Luelling and William Meek, and tribute to the city where the orchard and nursery industry began for the Pacific Coast – Milwaukie, Oregon. The Home Orchard Society continues to offer scions from this tree at their annual fundraising tree sale event.



History of the parent tree – the “Dosch Yellow bellflower apple Tree”

This 2009 Oregon Heritage Tree is located on Campbell Court in Portland, Oregon. The tree still bears fruit and provides shade and beauty. In 1850 a pioneer minister, Reverend Albert Kelly, from Kentucky reportedly planted an orchard on his homestead in what is now the Hillsdale district in southwest Portland. The “Dosch Yellow bellflower apple” is one of these original orchard trees. It is believed that Mr. Kelly purchased fruit trees for his orchard from the historic Leulling & Meek Nursery of Milwaukie, Oregon. This nursery was the first grafted fruit tree nursery on the west coast and was started when Henderson Luelling brought the first wagon loads of grafted fruit varieties over the Oregon Trail in 1847, Henderson Luelling and his son-in-law William Meek, and joined later by Henderson’s brother Seth Lewelling established the nursery on land that is now Waverly Country Club in Milwaukie along the Willamette River. Col. Henry E. Dosch and his wife Marie purchased the property in about 1888. *From Oregon Heritage Tree program materials*

A poem by Henry E. Dosch
MARGUERITTE

“Who plants a tree knows not, nor thinks for whom
That tree may bloom;
But some one coming after him will bless
His thoughtfulness.”