

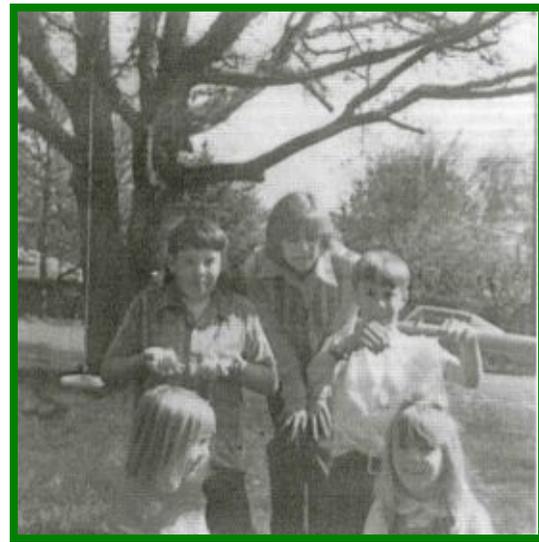
Clackamas County Heritage Tree

Stand of two Oregon White Oak (*Quercus garryana*)

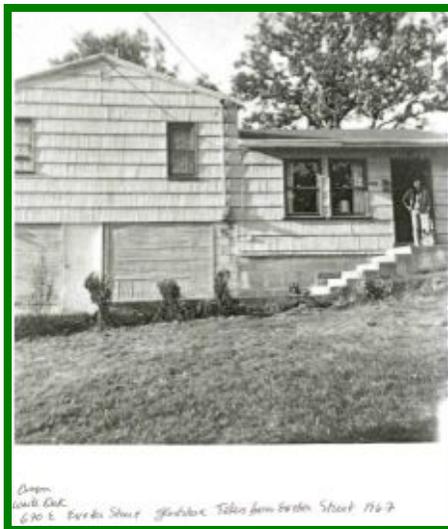
📍 Location: 670 E. Exeter Street, city of Gladstone



2009



1971



Clackamas
Call Oak
670 E. Exeter Street Gladstone. Taken from Exeter Street 1967

1967



Clackamas Co. Ore.
670 E. Exeter Street, Gladstone
New Year Day 1969

1969

 **Significance:** *Specimen* – a tree/s of exceptional size, form, or rarity, or horticultural value.

 **Measurements** (approximate):

- Height: **60**
- Circumference (meas. at 4 ½’): **10’, 9’ 2.5”**
- Crown Spread: **45 – 60”**
- Age: **150+ years**

 **Dedication Ceremony:** April 30, 2009

 **Additional Information:** Both trees have a single trunk and are in natural state, not severely pruned. The two trees probably arose from acorns that sprouted naturally. The trees were much the same size 40 years ago. Ancient Oregon white oaks like these 150+ year old trees were once a common sight on the Oregon landscape. They have become rarer due to development as well as natural causes.

As per the nominator: Nick Rowlette, “That oak (the "northeast oak") clearly withstood the most powerful windstorm on record to date without damage, because no major limbs from it have been cut, which is evident by just looking at the trunk of the tree from the ground up.”

“Since our family has moved to this residence in about 1967, about 50% of the oak trees in this block have been cut down. Most of the remaining ones have been severely pruned. Just recently, two oaks have been entirely cut down on a property to the west (on Chicago St. between E. Exeter and E. Fairfield”...

“I have much more to say on this subject which will be of interest to anyone who is concerned with native trees. I am one of the few "white" people who has ever eaten acorns from the Oregon White Oak, prepared nearly in the same way as the native Clackamas Indians (as a bread made from acorn meal). The acorns from the Oregon White Oak can be eaten without the leaching process that must be used with acorns from other native oaks (e.g. the California native oaks), although they probably must be either be roasted or prepared into a meal and baked (I have never eaten them raw). I was given several pounds of acorns that my father (Dale) had saved one year from a tree (since cut down) from”....a nearby property....”I was telling Dale that I have never seen a large quantity of acorns from the Oregon White Oak before or since them. I told him that perhaps that tree knew that it was going to be cut down (this was about 1992 to 1995).”

Quercus garryana

From Wikipedia

Before the European settlers came into the Willamette Valley, the oaks were mostly open-grown individual trees due to the burning practices of the native Calapuya people (wildfires are almost unknown in the Willamette Valley). Since the settlers did not continue this practice, the intervening land was soon covered with seedling oaks (called "scrub oaks" by the settlers) which grew vertically and formed a closed canopy. Remnants of the old open-grown oaks are still found in these closed oak stands.

Although the wood has a beautiful grain, it is difficult to season without warping and therefore the Garry Oak has not historically been regarded as having any commercial value and is frequently destroyed as land is cleared for development. However, Garry Oaks and their ecosystems are the focus of conservation efforts, including in communities such as Oak Bay, British Columbia, which is named after the tree, and Corvallis, Oregon. (Barnes, Marc (November 2003). "Bald Hill Oak Restoration". Oregon Oak Communities Working Group.)

Quercus garryana –leaves

