



SF Environment

Our home. Our city. Our planet.

A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael
Director

March 25, 2016

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Board of Supervisors
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

This letter is to inform the Board of Supervisors that the Urban Forestry Council, in response to Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 5-16 (FILE NO. 160053), has recommended a tree at 46A Cook Street for landmark status.

At their meeting on March 25, 2016, the Urban Forestry Council voted in favor of a motion (Ayes: Flanagan, Hillan, Hillson, Lacan, Michael Sullivan, Taylor, Carter, Manzone, Swae; Noes: Short and Andrew Sullivan; Absent: Kida) to issue the following message to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration:

"We urge the Board of Supervisors to protect the hybrid Norfolk Island/Cook Pine tree at 46A Cook Street as a landmark tree, due to its rarity, physical attributes, environmental benefits, and cultural support."

This letter and the enclosed materials from the March 25, 2016, Urban Forestry Council Meeting serve as written findings and nomination recommendations from the Urban Forestry Council.

If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please contact Mei Ling Hui, Urban Forestry Council Coordinator, at 415-355-3731 or meiling.hui@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,

Anthony E. Valdez
Commission Affairs Manager



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City and County of San Francisco Urban Forestry Council

March 25, 2016 UFC Meeting

Explanatory Documents for Item 6 – Hearing on nomination for Landmark Tree Status

1 [Approval of 90-Day Extension for Urban Forestry Council Review of Landmark Tree
2 Designation - 46A Cook Street]

3 **Resolution extending by 90 days the landmark tree designation review period by the**
4 **Urban Forestry Council for a Norfolk Island Pine at 46A Cook Street (Assessor's Block**
5 **No. 1067, Lot No. 032) in accordance with Public Works Code, Section 810(d), and**
6 **referring the matter back to the Urban Forestry Council for further review.**

7
8 WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 17-06, which amended
9 the Urban Forestry Ordinance, Public Works Code, Sections 801, et seq., concerning
10 landmarks and significant trees; and

11 WHEREAS, A copy of said ordinance is on file with the Clerk of the Board of
12 Supervisors in File No. 051458 and is incorporated herein by reference; and

13 WHEREAS, As part of this implementation of Ordinance No. 17-06, the Urban Forestry
14 Council, after duly noticed public hearings, developed criteria and procedures for the
15 designation and removal of landmark trees and recommended that the Board of Supervisors
16 adopt such criteria and procedures; and

17 WHEREAS, Said criteria and procedures were subsequently adopted by Resolution
18 No. 440-06 which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 060487 and
19 is incorporated herein by reference; and

20 WHEREAS, On July 2, 2015, Planning Commission initiated landmark proceedings at
21 the request of Commissioner Dennis Richards by adopting Resolution No. 19404 for one
22 Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*), located at 46A Cook Street, Assessor's Block
23 1067, Lot 032 and; and

24 WHEREAS, The Planning Commission acknowledged the temporary designation of
25 such tree for landmark tree status pursuant to Public Works Code, Section 810(d), and

1 directed the Commission Secretary to forward the Resolution and accompanying documents
2 contained in the file to the Urban Forestry Council and urged the Urban Forestry Council to
3 expeditiously complete the landmark tree designation review for the subject tree; and

4 WHEREAS, On August 6, 2015, the Urban Forestry Council held a public hearing on
5 the landmark tree designation review for the subject tree but continued the matter to October
6 27, 2015, stating that they did not have enough information and needed further historical and
7 species clarification; and

8 WHEREAS, On October 27, 2015, the Urban Forestry Council held a public hearing on
9 the landmark tree designation review for the subject tree and after a motion was made to
10 nominate the tree for landmark status, the nomination failed in a 5-5 vote and instead was
11 referred to the Board of Supervisors without recommendation pursuant to criteria and
12 procedures for designation and removal of landmark trees adopted in Resolution No. 440-06;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Public Works Code, Section 810(d), provides that once a tree is
15 nominated for landmark status the subject tree is temporarily designated as a landmark tree
16 for 215 days so that the tree is protected while the designation proceedings are pending; and

17 WHEREAS, Once this 215-day temporary designation terminates, the tree loses its
18 temporary landmark protection status; however Section 810(d) allows the Board of
19 Supervisors via resolution to extend the protections of temporary designation status for an
20 additional 90 days to allow adequate time to consider the pending landmark designation; and

21 WHEREAS, The temporary landmark status for the Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria*
22 *heterophylla*), located at 46A Cook Street, Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032, expires on
23 February 1, 2016 and the Board of Supervisors does not have adequate information to
24 landmark said tree at this time; now, therefore, be it
25

1 RESOLVED, That the Board, in accordance with Public Works Code, Section 810(d),
2 extends temporary landmark designation status for the Norfolk Island Pine (Araucaria
3 heterophylla), located at 46A Cook Street, Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032, for an additional
4 90 days and refers the matter back to the Urban Forestry Council for further review; and, be it

5 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board directs the Department of Public Works to
6 notify the owner of 46A Cook Street (Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032) of this 90-day extension
7 of temporary designation status and the special permit and approval requirements for
8 maintenance and removal of a landmark tree pursuant to Public Works Code, Section 810.



City and County of San Francisco
Tails
Resolution

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

File Number: 160053

Date Passed: January 26, 2016


Resolution extending by 90 days the landmark tree designation review period by the Urban Forestry Council for a Norfolk Island Pine at 46A Cook Street (Assessor's Block No. 1067, Lot No. 032) in accordance with Public Works Code, Section 810(d), and referring the matter back to the Urban Forestry Council for further review.

January 26, 2016 Board of Supervisors - ADOPTED

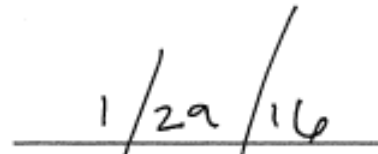
Ayes: 11 - Avalos, Breed, Campos, Cohen, Farrell, Kim, Mar, Peskin, Tang, Wiener and Yee

File No. 160053

I hereby certify that the foregoing
Resolution was ADOPTED on 1/26/2016 by
the Board of Supervisors of the City and
County of San Francisco.


Angela Calvillo
Clerk of the Board


Mayor


Date Approved



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Planning Commission Resolution No. 19404

HEARING DATE JUNE 18, 2015

Date: June 18, 2015
Project Address: **46A COOK STREET**
Zoning: RH-2 (Residential House, Two-Family) District
40-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 1067/032

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

RESOLUTION OF INTENT INITIATING THE NOMINATION OF THE NORFOLK ISLAND PINE (*ARAUCARIA HETEROPHYLLA*) TREE AT 46 COOK STREET FOR LANDMARK TREE STATUS PURSUANT TO PUBLIC WORKS CODE SECTION 810(B), ACKNOWLEDGING THE TEMPORARY DESIGNATION OF SUCH TREE PURSUANT TO PUBLIC WORKS CODE SECTION 810(D), AND AUTHORIZING OTHER OFFICIAL ACTS IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, The Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 17-06, which amended the Urban Forestry Ordinance, Public Works Code Sections 801 et seq. concerning landmark and significant trees. A copy of said Ordinance is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 051458 and is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, As part of this implementation of Ordinance No. 17-06, the Urban Forestry Council, after duly noticed public hearings, developed criteria and procedures for the designation and removal of landmark trees and recommended that this Board of Supervisors adopt such criteria and procedures. Said criteria and procedures were subsequently adopted by Resolution No. 0440-06 which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File No. 060487 and is incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, Trees provide numerous environmental, social, and economic benefits such as reducing storm water runoff, reducing energy use, improving air quality, increasing property values, shading for tenants, and promoting wildlife habitat; and provide residents with a source of serenity in the inner city; and

WHEREAS, The purpose of this resolution shall be to initiate landmarking proceedings for one Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*), located on Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032; and

WHEREAS, The tree that is the subject of this resolution satisfies many of the designation criteria in Public Works Code Section 810(f)(4)(A)-(E); now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, The Planning Commission, pursuant to the Public Works Code Section 810(b), hereby adopts this Resolution of intent to initiate a landmark tree nomination for the Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) located at 46A Cook Street, Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, This Commission acknowledges the temporary designation of such tree for landmark tree status pursuant to Public Works Code Section 810(d); and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Commission directs the Commission Secretary to forward this Resolution and accompanying documents contained in the file to the Urban Forestry Council, and due to the urgent nature of the situation, to urge the Urban Forestry Council to expeditiously complete the landmark tree designation review for the subject tree; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, The Commission urges the Director of Public Works to immediately notify the affected property owner of the nomination and inform said owner of the special permit and approval requirements for removal of landmark trees under Public Works Code Section 810(f) if such notification has not yet occurred.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Commission at its meeting on July 2, 2015.

Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES: Hillis, Johnson, Moore, and Richards
NOES: Fong, Wu, Antonini
ABSENT: None
ADOPTED: July 2, 2015



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Landmark Tree Nomination Case Report

Hearing Date: July 2, 2015
Project Address: 46 Cook Street
Zoning: RH-2-Residential House, Two Family
Block/Lot: 1067/033
Property Owner: Dale T. Rogers Trust
P.O. Box 590814
San Francisco CA, 94159
Staff Contact: Jon Swae – (415) 575-9069
jon.swae@sfgov.org
Reviewed By: AnMarie Rodgers – Senior Policy Advisor
anmarie.rodgers@sfgov.org

1650 Mission St.
Suite 400
San Francisco,
CA 94103-2479

Reception:
415.558.6378

Fax:
415.558.6409

Planning
Information:
415.558.6377

BACKGROUND

On June 18th, the Commission considered whether to approve the nomination of a Norfolk Island Pine tree located in the rear yard of a private property (46 Cook Street) for landmark status. The Commission decided to continue the item until the July 2nd hearing. A neighboring resident has completed a landmark tree nomination application and requested the Commission to consider initiating the nomination and the landmark tree nomination process. On June 10th, the Director of Public Works issued an Emergency Protection Order (EPO) temporarily protecting the tree and requiring a permit and review by Public Works staff of any proposed removal of the tree. The EPO (attached) is currently protecting the tree during consideration by the Commission on whether to pursue the landmark nomination.

Commission approval of the landmark nomination will NOT grant landmark status to the tree. It will start the landmark tree nomination and evaluation process (described below). The action before the Commission is to consider approval of a resolution to nominate the tree on the subject property; thereby enabling further consideration of landmarking by the Urban Forestry Council (hereinafter "UFC") and, upon advice of the UFC, final landmark consideration by the Board of Supervisors.

LANDMARK TREE NOMINATION PROCESS

- Per the Public Works Code (Article 16, [Sec 810](#)), trees are capable of being nominated for landmark designation by the Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, city department heads or by property owners with a tree of exceptional quality or significance on their property. Additionally, members of the public may request one of the authorized nominators above to nominate a tree.
- Once nominated, a tree receives protected status throughout the landmark tree evaluation process. It should be noted that this particular tree has already received protection through an Emergency Protection Order issued by the Director of Public Works.

- Once a nomination is received, the UFC will conduct a formal evaluation of the tree for landmark status and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. This process involves the following:
 1. A hearing at the Urban Forest Council's Landmark Tree Committee where both the property owner and nominating party will have the opportunity to testify and provide evidence about the characteristics of the tree that pertain to landmark decisions. The Landmark Tree Committee will vote on whether to forward the nomination to the full Urban Forestry Council with either a recommendation to landmark the tree, a recommendation NOT to landmark the tree, or with no recommendation.
 2. A hearing at the full Urban Forestry Council, where the UFC will vote on whether to forward the nomination to the Board of Supervisors with either a recommendation to landmark the tree, a recommendation NOT to landmark the tree, or with no recommendation.
 3. Three hearings at the Board of Supervisors including a Committee hearing and two hearings at the Full Board. The Full Board will vote to make the final decision on whether to grant landmark status to a tree or not.

TREE & PROPERTY INFORMATION

As of the writing of this case report, City staff have limited information on the tree proposed for nomination. The nomination application (attached) submitted by the neighboring property owner includes photos of a Norfolk Island Pine tree of large stature located in a rear yard with a stated estimated age of 100+ years.

The Planning Department's Property Information Map indicates that the building (built date of "1900"¹) located on the parcel is a Type A - Historic Resource. Featured in the book, *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage*, the text related to the subject property reads, "46 Cook Street (c. 1870) George J. Smith, a director of the Odd Fellows, planted his estate with many trees which he obtained from the cemetery. Today all that remains on his property is a one-story Italianate home and carriage house."² San Francisco's practice of historic preservation would traditionally protect landscaping on properties identified as known historic resources where the landscaping is determined to be a significant feature of the property or significant to the setting of the property. In this case, the property's designation of "Type A" indicates that property is a known historic resource but the reference to the significance of the "many trees obtained from the cemetery" in relationship to the tree proposed for nomination would need further research. Planning Department staff has determined that no current or proposed projects under the dripline of the tree would be affected by the nomination. The nomination would not result in any delay or interference with a pipeline development project.

If the nomination is approved by the Commission, Urban Forestry Council members and Department of the Environment staff will conduct a site visit to evaluate the tree and conduct a formal evaluation

¹ Properties recorded with a built date of 1900 may indicate the actual built date but more likely indicate an unknown, but early, date of construction.

² Roger Olmsted & T.H. Watkins, *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage* (San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 1978).

including assessments of rarity, physical attributes, historical significance, environment and cultural relevance.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Given the property's historic significance and the images provided in the nomination application, staff feels the tree is worthy for further evaluation for landmarking by the City's designated urban forestry advisory body, the Urban Forestry Council. The Department recommends the Commission initiate the nomination process for the tree located at 46 Cook Street by approving a resolution stating this.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Landmark Tree Nomination Form (46 Cook Street)
- B. Public Works Tree Protection Order (46 Cook Street)

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission Member,

Thank you for taking the time to give this Landmark Tree Nomination Form for the Norfolk Island Pine residing at 46 Cook St. your attention.

This cover letter serves to reiterate the importance of timely and immediate action on this issue, should you choose to participate in the cause. You are the last hope of preserving this final remaining magnificent tree on the property so we hope your interest will align with that of the folks in this neighborhood, and city. This particular tree has provided health and well-being to our neighborhood for over the last century, and preserving it directly aligns with San Francisco's General Plan objective to maintain the desirable quality and unique character of the city.

The Norfolk Island Pine described in this Landmark Tree Nomination Form shares the property with two historically landmarked buildings, sharing a priceless piece of San Francisco history and continuously providing benefits to the local community as described in the form. Additionally, removal of the tree has been deemed unnecessary by several sources, also described in the attached form.

If you feel as strongly as numerous San Francisco residents about the unnecessary removal of this historic tree, an immediate nomination to propose landmark status for this tree is necessary. The crews were on-site all last week and could show up again any day to begin cutting down this tree. The urban forestry office explained that a nomination will result in the tree being temporarily protected while a decision is being made.

Additionally, a local television news channel has been alerted of the situation and is prepared to cover the issue and the organized protest should the tree removal process begin.

We are not asking you to make a decision to save or not save this tree. The city has an established process to determine what types of trees should be protected. All we ask of you is swift action to initiate the established process by nominating this tree for review. We trust the process will render the appropriate decision about whether or not the tree will be landmarked.

Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to a response as soon as possible.

If any additional information is needed, feel free to reach out to any of the following individuals:

Richard Worn (neighbor and landmark tree form submitter): 415.307.9699

Levi Leavitt (property tenant): 808.635.7959

Jen Leavitt (property tenant): 661.373.6970

SAN FRANCISCO URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

Landmark Tree Nomination Form

Disclaimer: Any information you include on this form will be part of the public record. Anyone may request to see the information you submit for a landmark tree nomination. For more legal information, see the last page of this form.

Who can nominate a landmark tree?

- The Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board may nominate a tree.
- The head of a City department or agency may nominate a tree on property under their jurisdiction. City departments and agencies should conduct an internal approval process before nominating a tree.
- A property owner may nominate a tree on his or her property.
- A member of the public may ask an authorized nominator to nominate a tree.

Please note that a permit will be required for any future removal of a landmark tree.

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code 810, the Urban Forestry Council requests the following information.

I am one of the following authorized nominators

- ☐ Property owner
- ☐ Board of Supervisor member
- ☐ Head of a city department or agency
- ☐ Planning Commission member
- ☐ Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board member

Authorized nominator (Supervisor, Planning Commission, Landmarks Advisory Board, Head of City Department, Property Owner):

Name

Address

Address

Phone (day)

Fax #

Email

Member of the public who initiated nomination (if applicable):

RICHARD WORN
Name
60 COOK STREET
Address
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118
Address
415.307.9699
Phone (day)

Fax #
w-chamb@yahoo.com
Email

I am an authorized nominator and I support this nomination.

Signature

Date

I am the property owner and I grant permission for city staff to evaluate the nominated tree on the property with advance notice.

Signature

Date

SAN FRANCISCO URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

2

The Urban Forestry Council will use the following criteria to evaluate each potential landmark tree. If you need more space to describe the tree, please attach additional sheets.

TREE DESCRIPTION

Tree name (species and common name): ARAUCARIA HETEROPHYLLA (NORFOLK ISLAND PINE)

Number of trees: ONE

Street address: 46 COOK STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118

Location of Tree: ☒ Front yard ☐ Rear yard ☒ Side yard ☐ Corner-side yard
☐ Public right-of-way ☐ Public lands ☐ Not sure
☐ Other: _____

If the tree which extends beyond multiple properties:

Which part of the tree does so?

☐ Trunk ☐ Canopy

Where in the neighboring area?

☐ Front yard ☐ Rear yard ☐ Side yard ☐ Corner-side yard

GPS units (OPTIONAL): _____

Height ± 100 feet

Average canopy width 30 feet
Distance from one edge to opposite edge of tree canopy

Circumference at chest level 114 inches
Distance around trunk at 4.5 ft off the ground. <http://www.isa-arbor.com/publications/tree-ord/heritage.aspx>

Circumference at ground level 138 inches
Distance around trunk on the ground where the trunk meets the soil.

Rarity

Rarity: ☒ Rare ☐ Uncommon ☐ Common ☐ Other
 Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: THE URBAN FOREST MAP OF SAN FRANCISCO SHOWS ONLY
110 NORFOLK PINES LISTED IN THE CITY.

Physical

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small
 Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: APPEARS TO BE AMONGST THE TALLEST IN SAN
FRANCISCO PER THE URBAN FOREST MAP AND PHYSICAL OBSERVATION

Age: Significantly advanced age for the species.

Comment: BASED ON A TREE RING COUNT OF THE NORFOLK PINE'S "SISTER"
TREE WHICH WAS RECENTLY REMOVED, THE TREE IS AROUND 120 YEARS OLD.
POSSIBLE DATING CAN ALSO BE DERIVED FROM EXHIBITS B.1-B.3.

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

Describe: THIS NORFOLK PINE'S UNIQUE SYMMETRICAL STRUCTURE
AND SIZE DOMINATES THE NEIGHBORHOOD. SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7.

Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard
 Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe: THE TREE'S HEIGHT AND LOCATION ENABLES IT TO FREQUENTLY
COLLECT FOG FROM THE SKY AND CREATE A MICROCLIMATE, ENSURING
INDEFINITE WATER SUPPLY - TO THE TREE AND SURROUNDING CANOPY.

Historical

Historical Association: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent
 Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Describe nature of appreciation: THE TREE IS IN BETWEEN TWO LANDMARKED
BUILDINGS ON THE PROPERTY - ONE OF THE OLDEST VICTORIAN AND
CARRIAGE HOUSES IN THE RICHMOND DISTRICT.

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☒ Yes ☐ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: SEE EXHIBITS B.1-B.3.

Environmental**Prominent landscape feature:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: THIS STRIKING AND LARGE TREE CAN BE CLEARLY SEEN FROM MANY PARTS OF THE INNER RICHMOND. SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7.**Low tree density:** ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Describe: IT IS THE TALLEST IN IT'S NEIGHBORHOOD, AS WELL AS SEVERAL SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS.**Interdependent group of trees:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

This tree in an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.

Describe: _____

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒ Yes ☐ No

High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Describe: DUE TO ITS HEIGHT, THE TREE IS VISIBLE FROM SEVERAL NEIGHBORHOODS NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, AND WEST. SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7.**High traffic area:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe: ALTHOUGH LOCATED ON A DEAD END STREET, THE TREE IS A 1/2 BLOCK FROM GERRY BLVD, AND A HIGH PEDESTRIAN THOROUGHFARE DUE TO THE PEDESTRIAN PASSAGE WAY TO ELLIOT ST. AT THE END OF COOK ST.**Important wildlife habitat:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

Describe: FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS I HAVE SEEN MANY HAWKS, CROWS, OWLS, ETC UTILIZE THIS TREE FOR THEIR NEEDS.**Erosion control:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe: _____

Wind or sound barrier: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe: SINCE THE REMOVAL OF THIS NORFOLK PINE'S "SISTER" TREE ON 4-20-2015, THE PROPERTY TENANTS AND I HAVE NOTICED THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF ONE LESS TREE. DEFINITELY EXPERIENCING MORE WIND AND SOUND
Page 4 FROM THE NEIGHBORING SCHOOL.
SEE EXHIBITS C.1-C.3.

Cultural**Neighborhood appreciation:**☒

Yes

☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe: WHEN THE "SISTER" TREE WAS REMOVED AND THIS ONE WAS SLATED FOR REMOVAL THE ENTIRE STREET WAS UP IN ARMS. A PETITION CAN BE PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.

Cultural appreciation:☐ Yes☒

None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Describe nature of appreciation: _____

Planting contributes to neighborhood character:☒

Yes

☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: THE TREE IS SO MAJESTICALLY PRESENTED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT IT ALMOST DEFINES THE NEIGHBORHOOD. SEE

EXHIBITS C.1.-C.3.

Profiled in a publication or other media:☐ Yes☒

Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: PERSONAL CONNECTIONS TO THE MEDIA CAN EASILY BE CALLED UPON.

Prominent landscape feature:☒

Yes

☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7 AND C.1-C.3.

Additional comments

PRESERVING THIS TREE PROVES MORE IMPORTANT SINCE IT'S "SISTER" TREE, ANOTHER EQUALLY MAGNIFICENT NORFOLK PINE ON THE PROPERTY, WAS REMOVED ON APRIL 20TH, 2015. TWO ARBORISTS FROM THE SF DEPARTMENT OF URBAN FORESTRY CAME AND DEEMED REMOVAL UNNECESSARY. THE FOREMAN OF THE CREW WHO REMOVED TWO PALMS AS WELL AS THE "SISTER" NORFOLK FROM THE PROPERTY ALSO DEEMED REMOVAL UNNECESSARY, BUT WERE CONTRACTED TO DO THEIR JOB FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER AND SUSPICIONED REAL ESTATE INVESTOR, DALE ROGERS. IT WASN'T UNTIL DALE WAS PRESSURED BY US THAT HE HELD OFF ON CUTTING DOWN THIS LAST LARGE TREE ON THE PROPERTY. HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL UNCLEAR OF HIS INTENTIONS, WHICH MAKES AT LEAST TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF THIS TREE VITALLY IMPORTANT! HIS CREWS COULD SHOW UP ANY DAY FOR REMOVAL OF THIS PRECIOUS TREE. THIS NORFOLK ISLAND PINE PROVIDES HOMES, FRIENDSHIP, AND SOLACE TO MANY LIVING THINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD - AND WE TRUST THE CITY'S PROCESS FOR PROTECTION.

SAN FRANCISCO URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

6

If you have any questions about this form, tree terms or tree concepts, please contact the Urban Forestry Council staff (below). It is acceptable if you cannot provide some of the information requested on this form.

A photograph of the tree must be submitted with this form.

Please attach **optional** supporting documents such as letters, arborist report, etc.

Send to: Urban Forestry Council, c/o Mei Ling Hui, 1455 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
OR meiling.hui@sfgov.org

Any information you submit will be part of the public record.

The Public Records Act defines a "public record" broadly to include "any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used or retained by any state or local agency, regardless of the physical form or characteristics." Govt. Code § 6252(e). The Sunshine Ordinance defines "public information" as the content of "public records" as defined in the Public Records Act. Admin Code § 67.20(b). Pursuant to the Public Records Act and Sunshine Ordinance, this document is a public record and will be available to the public upon request, at the hearing site, at the San Francisco Main Library, and on the Urban Forestry Council's website. Admin Code §§ 8.16, 67.7 (b), and 67.21(a).

Application received date _____	Received by _____
Tree evaluation form _____	UFC recommendation date _____
Board of Supervisors Decision _____	
Landmark Tree # _____	Title recorded date _____

EXHIBIT A.1



EXHIBIT A.2



EXHIBIT A.3

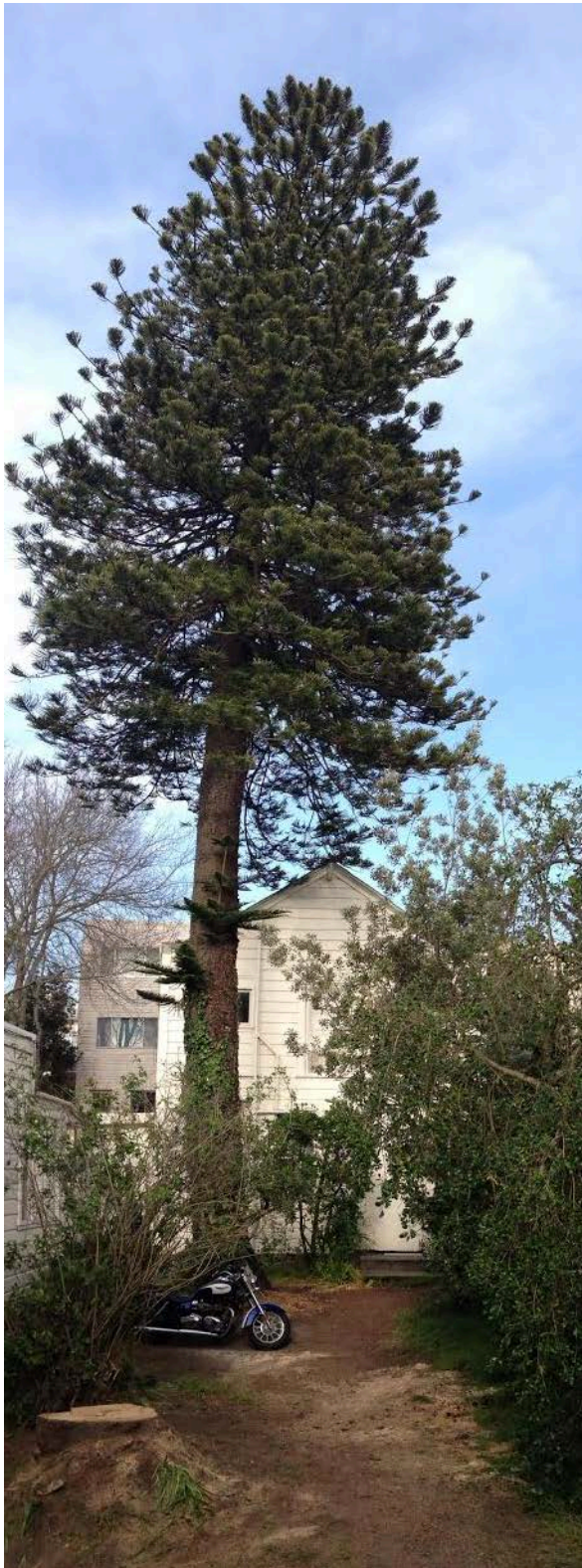


EXHIBIT A.4



EXHIBIT A.5



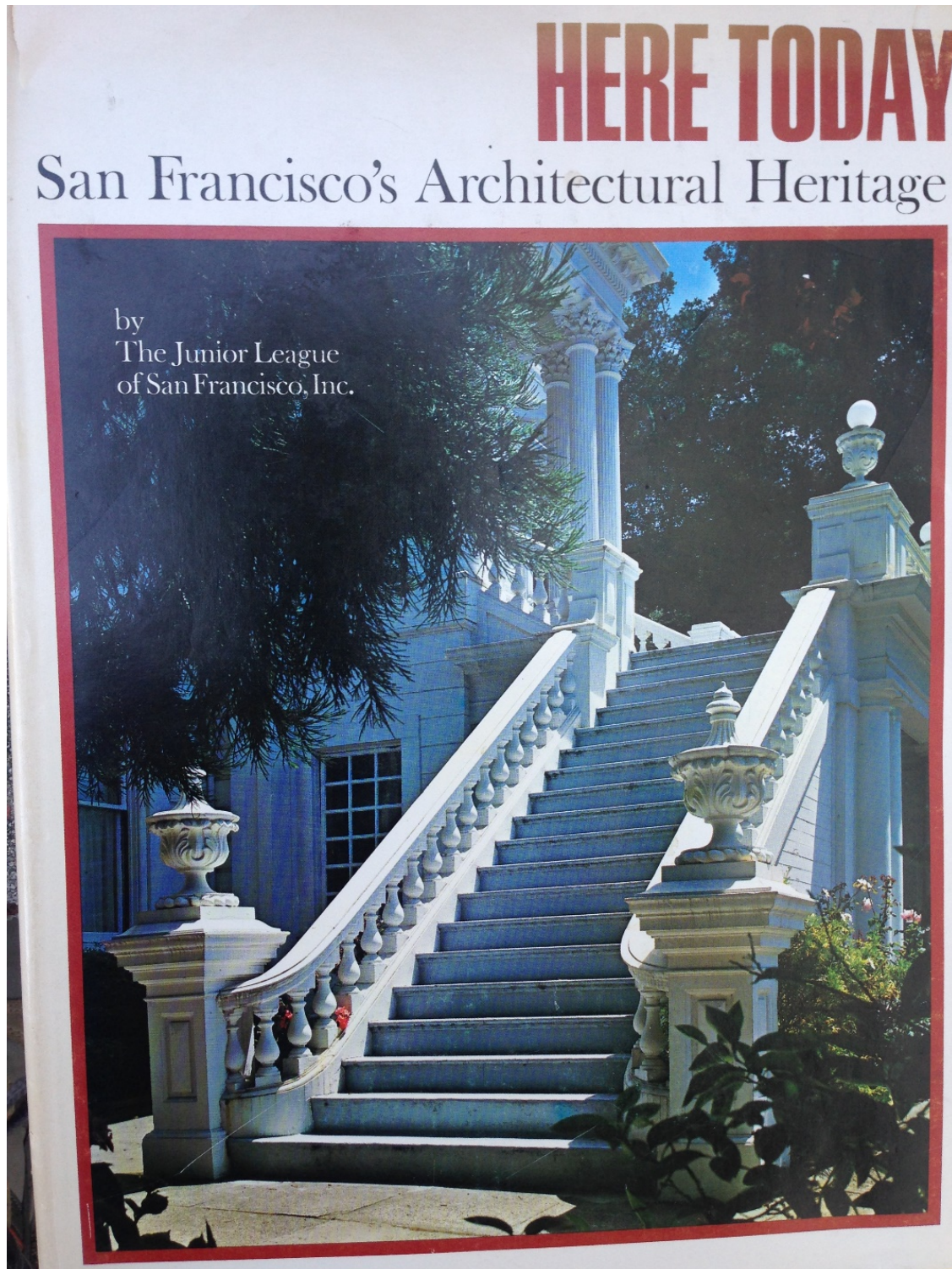
EXHIBIT A.6



EXHIBIT A.7



EXHIBIT B.1



Book Cover of Here Today

EXHIBIT B.2

\$14.95



HERE TODAY

are 2,500 buildings and residences built prior to 1920 in San Francisco, San Mateo and Marin counties which—hopefully—will not be Gone Tomorrow.

HERE TODAY

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HERE TODAY

is a valuable guide to contemporary San Francisco and its environs which time will make a priceless reference work for historians, architects, city planners and all those who love this area.

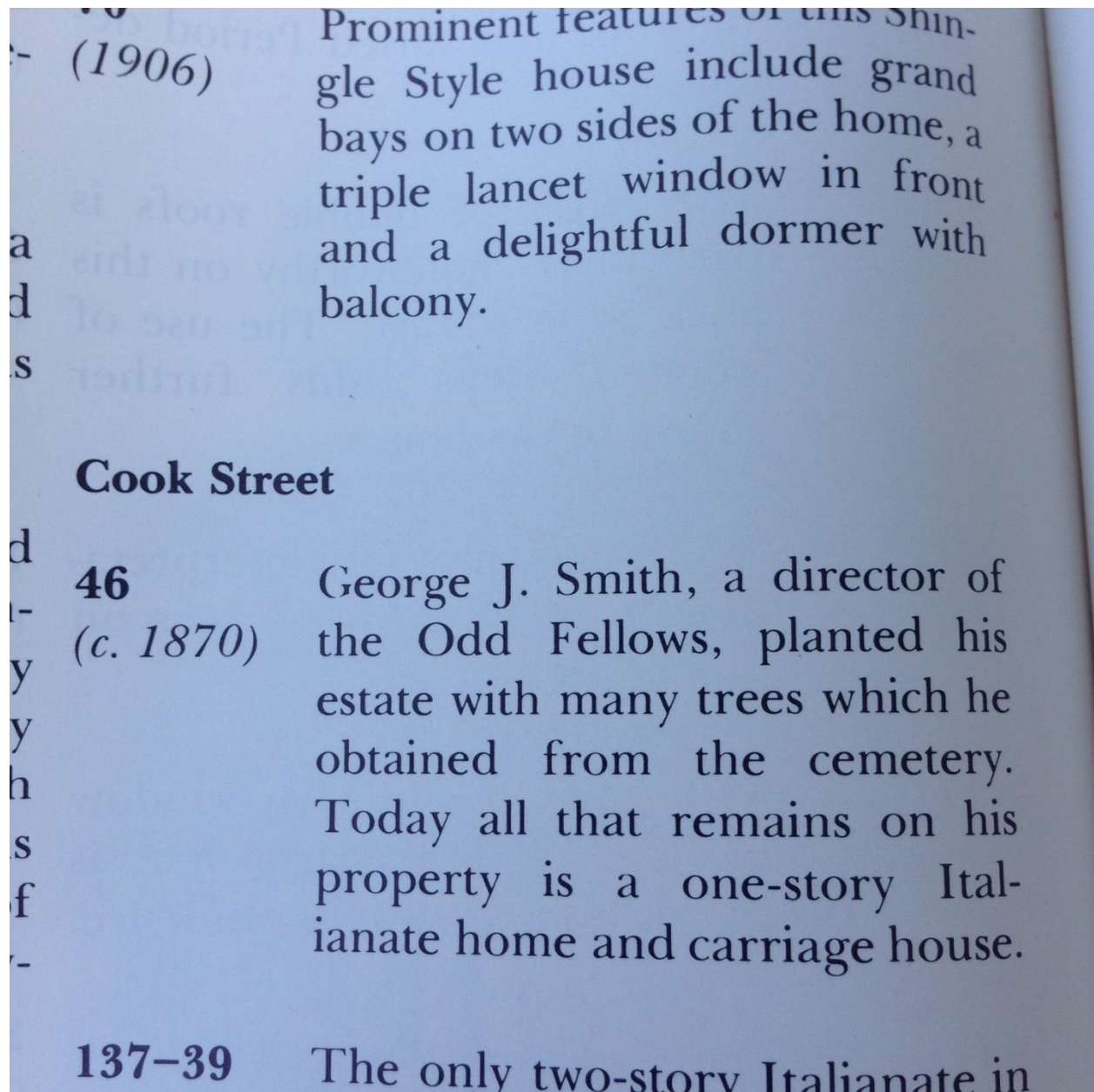


EXHIBIT C.1



Taken 4/20/2015

EXHIBIT C.2



Taken 4/21/2015

EXHIBIT C.3



Taken 4/23/2015



Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Mohammed Nuru
Director

San Francisco Public Works
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Pl.
Room 348
San Francisco, CA 94102
tel 415-554-6920

sfpublicworks.org
facebook.com/sfpublicworks
twitter.com/sfpublicworks

June 10, 2015

DALE T ROGERS TRUST
c/o DALE T ROGERS TRUSTEE
P.O. BOX 590814
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94159

Via email to dalerogers@alumni.haas.org and US Mail

**Re: Designation of Norfolk Pine Tree at 46 Cook St. under the jurisdiction of the
Department of Public Works**

Dear Property Owner,

This letter serves to inform you that a member of the Planning Commission has contacted the Department of the Environment to indicate his intention to nominate the Norfolk Island Pine Tree (*Araucaria heterophylla*) located in the yard of your property at 46 Cook Street (Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032) in San Francisco for Landmark Tree Status. The process to nominate the tree must now go before the Planning Commission, and then will be referred to the Urban Forestry council, which will then forward the nomination to the Board of Supervisors for a hearing in the near future.

In accordance with Section 810 (d) of the Public Works Code, I am issuing an emergency order designating this tree under the jurisdiction of Public Works, and notifying you that the tree cannot be removed without permit:

Director of the Department shall have the authority to issue an emergency order that temporarily designates a tree on private property or on any property under the jurisdiction of the Department to prevent the immediate removal of a tree. Upon initiation of a nomination pursuant to this Section, the entity initiating nomination shall immediately inform the Director who shall immediately cause a notice to be provided to the relevant department or private property owner informing them of the special permit and approval requirements pursuant to Section 810(f).

Therefore, this tree may not be removed without going through the special permit process from the Department of Public Works that is set forth in Public Works Code Section 810(f). Additional rules also apply to maintenance of the tree and any construction work on the property that may affect the tree. We encourage you to review the landmark tree designation process, which involves public hearings at the Urban Forestry Council and Board of Supervisors, and other applicable requirements

that are found in the Public Works Code Section 810. This law can be found at any local library or on-line through the City's website at sfgov.org. Please contact the Urban Forester at (415) 554-5349 if you have any questions regarding this matter or if you would like us to send you the relevant portions of the Public Works Code.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mohammed Nuru', is written over a horizontal blue line.

Mohammed Nuru
Director

Dear San Francisco Planning Commission Member,

Thank you for taking the time to give this Landmark Tree Nomination Form for the Norfolk Island Pine residing at 46 Cook St. your attention.

This cover letter serves to reiterate the importance of timely and immediate action on this issue, should you choose to participate in the cause. You are the last hope of preserving this final remaining magnificent tree on the property so we hope your interest will align with that of the folks in this neighborhood, and city. This particular tree has provided health and well-being to our neighborhood for over the last century, and preserving it directly aligns with San Francisco's General Plan objective to maintain the desirable quality and unique character of the city.

The Norfolk Island Pine described in this Landmark Tree Nomination Form shares the property with two historically landmarked buildings, sharing a priceless piece of San Francisco history and continuously providing benefits to the local community as described in the form. Additionally, removal of the tree has been deemed unnecessary by several sources, also described in the attached form.

If you feel as strongly as numerous San Francisco residents about the unnecessary removal of this historic tree, an immediate nomination to propose landmark status for this tree is necessary. The crews were on-site all last week and could show up again any day to begin cutting down this tree. The urban forestry office explained that a nomination will result in the tree being temporarily protected while a decision is being made.

Additionally, a local television news channel has been alerted of the situation and is prepared to cover the issue and the organized protest should the tree removal process begin.

We are not asking you to make a decision to save or not save this tree. The city has an established process to determine what types of trees should be protected. All we ask of you is swift action to initiate the established process by nominating this tree for review. We trust the process will render the appropriate decision about whether or not the tree will be landmarked.

Thank you for your time and attention. We look forward to a response as soon as possible.

If any additional information is needed, feel free to reach out to any of the following individuals:

Richard Worn (neighbor and landmark tree form submitter): 415.307.9699

Levi Leavitt (property tenant): 808.635.7959

Jen Leavitt (property tenant): 661.373.6970

SAN FRANCISCO URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

Landmark Tree Nomination Form

Disclaimer: Any information you include on this form will be part of the public record. Anyone may request to see the information you submit for a landmark tree nomination. For more legal information, see the last page of this form.

Who can nominate a landmark tree?

- The Board of Supervisors, Planning Commission, and Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board may nominate a tree.
- The head of a City department or agency may nominate a tree on property under their jurisdiction. City departments and agencies should conduct an internal approval process before nominating a tree.
- A property owner may nominate a tree on his or her property.
- A member of the public may ask an authorized nominator to nominate a tree.

Please note that a permit will be required for any future removal of a landmark tree.

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code 810, the Urban Forestry Council requests the following information.

I am one of the following authorized nominators

- ☐ Property owner
- ☐ Board of Supervisor member
- ☐ Head of a city department or agency
- ☐ Planning Commission member
- ☐ Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board member

Authorized nominator (Supervisor, Planning Commission, Landmarks Advisory Board, Head of City Department, Property Owner):

Name

Address

Address

Phone (day)

Fax #

Email

Member of the public who initiated nomination (if applicable):

RICHARD WORN

Name

60 COOK STREET

Address

SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118

Address

415.307.9699

Phone (day)

Fax #

w-chamb@yahoo.com

Email

I am an authorized nominator and I support this nomination.

Signature

Date

I am the property owner and I grant permission for city staff to evaluate the nominated tree on the property with advance notice.

Signature

Date

SAN FRANCISCO URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

2

The Urban Forestry Council will use the following criteria to evaluate each potential landmark tree. If you need more space to describe the tree, please attach additional sheets.

TREE DESCRIPTION

Tree name (species and common name): ARAUCARIA HETEROPHYLLA (NORFOLK ISLAND PINE)

Number of trees: ONE

Street address: 46 COOK STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94118

Location of Tree: ☒ Front yard ☐ Rear yard ☒ Side yard ☐ Corner-side yard
☐ Public right-of-way ☐ Public lands ☐ Not sure
☐ Other: _____

If the tree which extends beyond multiple properties:

Which part of the tree does so?

☐ Trunk ☐ Canopy

Where in the neighboring area?

☐ Front yard ☐ Rear yard ☐ Side yard ☐ Corner-side yard

GPS units (OPTIONAL): _____

Height ± 100 feet

Average canopy width 30 feet
Distance from one edge to opposite edge of tree canopy

Circumference at chest level 114 inches
Distance around trunk at 4.5 ft off the ground. <http://www.isa-arbor.com/publications/tree-ord/heritage.aspx>

Circumference at ground level 138 inches
Distance around trunk on the ground where the trunk meets the soil.

Rarity

Rarity: ☒ Rare ☐ Uncommon ☐ Common ☐ Other
 Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: THE URBAN FOREST MAP OF SAN FRANCISCO SHOWS ONLY
110 NORFOLK PINES LISTED IN THE CITY.

Physical

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small
 Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: APPEARS TO BE AMONGST THE TALLEST IN SAN
FRANCISCO PER THE URBAN FOREST MAP AND PHYSICAL OBSERVATION

Age: Significantly advanced age for the species.

Comment: BASED ON A TREE RING COUNT OF THE NORFOLK PINE'S "SISTER"
TREE WHICH WAS RECENTLY REMOVED, THE TREE IS AROUND 120 YEARS OLD.
POSSIBLE DATING CAN ALSO BE DERIVED FROM EXHIBITS B.1-B.3.

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No
 Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

Describe: THIS NORFOLK PINE'S UNIQUE SYMMETRICAL STRUCTURE
AND SIZE DOMINATES THE NEIGHBORHOOD. SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7.

Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard
 Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe: THE TREE'S HEIGHT AND LOCATION ENABLES IT TO FREQUENTLY
COLLECT FOG FROM THE SKY AND CREATE A MICROCLIMATE, ENSURING
INDEFINITE WATER SUPPLY - TO THE TREE AND SURROUNDING CANOPY.

Historical

Historical Association: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent
 Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Describe nature of appreciation: THE TREE IS IN BETWEEN TWO LANDMARKED
BUILDINGS ON THE PROPERTY - ONE OF THE OLDEST VICTORIAN AND
CARRIAGE HOUSES IN THE RICHMOND DISTRICT.

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☒ Yes ☐ Unknown
 Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.
 Describe coverage: SEE EXHIBITS B.1-B.3.

Environmental**Prominent landscape feature:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: THIS STRIKING AND LARGE TREE CAN BE CLEARLY SEEN FROM MANY PARTS OF THE INNER RICHMOND. SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7.**Low tree density:** ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Describe: IT IS THE TALLEST IN IT'S NEIGHBORHOOD, AS WELL AS SEVERAL SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS.**Interdependent group of trees:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

This tree is an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.

Describe: _____

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒ Yes ☐ No

High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Describe: DUE TO ITS HEIGHT, THE TREE IS VISIBLE FROM SEVERAL NEIGHBORHOODS NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, AND WEST. SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7.**High traffic area:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe: ALTHOUGH LOCATED ON A DEAD END STREET, THE TREE IS A 1/2 BLOCK FROM GERRY BLVD, AND A HIGH PEDESTRIAN THOROUGHFARE DUE TO THE PEDESTRIAN PASSAGE WAY TO EUCLID ST. AT THE END OF COOK ST.**Important wildlife habitat:** ☒ Yes ☐ No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

Describe: FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS I HAVE SEEN MANY HAWKS, CROWS, OWLS, ETC UTILIZE THIS TREE FOR THEIR NEEDS.**Erosion control:** ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe: _____

Wind or sound barrier: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe: SINCE THE REMOVAL OF THIS NORFOLK PINE'S "SISTER" TREE ON 4-20-2015, THE PROPERTY TENANTS AND I HAVE NOTICED THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF ONE LESS TREE. DEFINITELY EXPERIENCING MORE WIND AND SOUND
Page 4 FROM THE NEIGHBORING SCHOOL.
SEE EXHIBITS C.1-C.3.

Cultural**Neighborhood appreciation:**☒

Yes

☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe: WHEN THE "SISTER" TREE WAS REMOVED AND THIS ONE WAS SLATED FOR REMOVAL THE ENTIRE STREET WAS UP IN ARMS. A PETITION CAN BE PROVIDED UPON REQUEST.

Cultural appreciation:☐ Yes☒

None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Describe nature of appreciation: _____

Planting contributes to neighborhood character:☒

Yes

☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: THE TREE IS SO MAJESTICALLY PRESENTED IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT IT ALMOST DEFINES THE NEIGHBORHOOD. SEE

EXHIBITS C.1.-C.3.

Profiled in a publication or other media:☐ Yes☒

Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: PERSONAL CONNECTIONS TO THE MEDIA CAN EASILY BE CALLED UPON.

Prominent landscape feature:☒

Yes

☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: SEE EXHIBITS A.1-A.7 AND C.1-C.3.

Additional comments

PRESERVING THIS TREE PROVES MORE IMPORTANT SINCE IT'S "SISTER" TREE, ANOTHER EQUALLY MAGNIFICENT NORFOLK PINE ON THE PROPERTY, WAS REMOVED ON APRIL 20TH, 2015. TWO ARBORISTS FROM THE SF DEPARTMENT OF URBAN FORESTRY CAME AND DEEMED REMOVAL UNNECESSARY. THE FOREMAN OF THE CREW WHO REMOVED TWO PALMS AS WELL AS THE "SISTER" NORFOLK FROM THE PROPERTY ALSO DEEMED REMOVAL UNNECESSARY, BUT WERE CONTRACTED TO DO THEIR JOB FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER AND SUSPICIONED REAL ESTATE INVESTOR, DALE ROGERS. IT WASN'T UNTIL DALE WAS PRESSURED BY US THAT HE HELD OFF ON CUTTING DOWN THIS LAST LARGE TREE ON THE PROPERTY. HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL UNCLEAR OF HIS INTENTIONS, WHICH MAKES AT LEAST TEMPORARY PROTECTION OF THIS TREE VITALLY IMPORTANT! HIS CREWS COULD SHOW UP ANY DAY FOR REMOVAL OF THIS PRECIOUS TREE. THIS NORFOLK ISLAND PINE PROVIDES HOMES, FRIENDSHIP, AND SOLACE TO MANY LIVING THINGS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD - AND WE TRUST THE CITY'S PROCESS FOR PROTECTION.

SAN FRANCISCO URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL

6

If you have any questions about this form, tree terms or tree concepts, please contact the Urban Forestry Council staff (below). It is acceptable if you cannot provide some of the information requested on this form.

A photograph of the tree must be submitted with this form.

Please attach **optional** supporting documents such as letters, arborist report, etc.

Send to: Urban Forestry Council, c/o Mei Ling Hui, 1455 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94102
OR meiling.hui@sfgov.org

Any information you submit will be part of the public record.

The Public Records Act defines a "public record" broadly to include "any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used or retained by any state or local agency, regardless of the physical form or characteristics." Govt. Code § 6252(e). The Sunshine Ordinance defines "public information" as the content of "public records" as defined in the Public Records Act. Admin Code § 67.20(b). Pursuant to the Public Records Act and Sunshine Ordinance, this document is a public record and will be available to the public upon request, at the hearing site, at the San Francisco Main Library, and on the Urban Forestry Council's website. Admin Code §§ 8.16, 67.7 (b), and 67.21(a).

Application received date _____	Received by _____
Tree evaluation form _____	UFC recommendation date _____
Board of Supervisors Decision _____	
Landmark Tree # _____	Title recorded date _____

EXHIBIT A.1



EXHIBIT A.2



EXHIBIT A.3

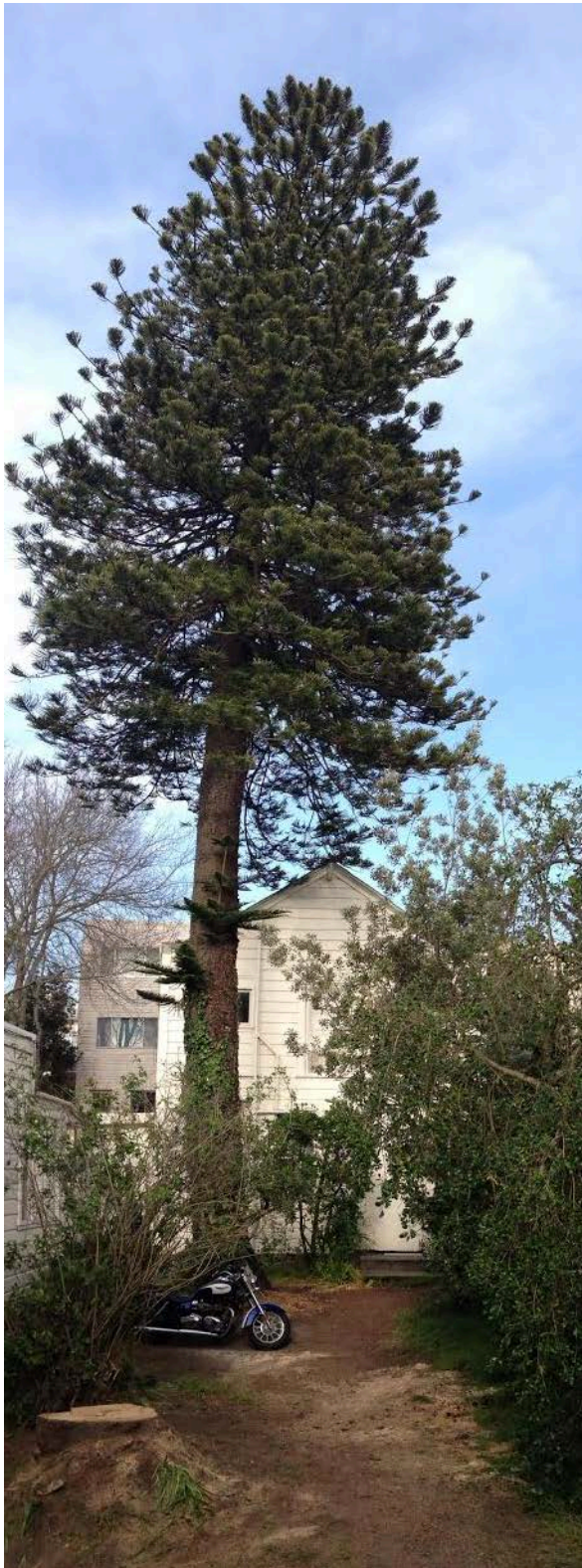


EXHIBIT A.4



EXHIBIT A.5



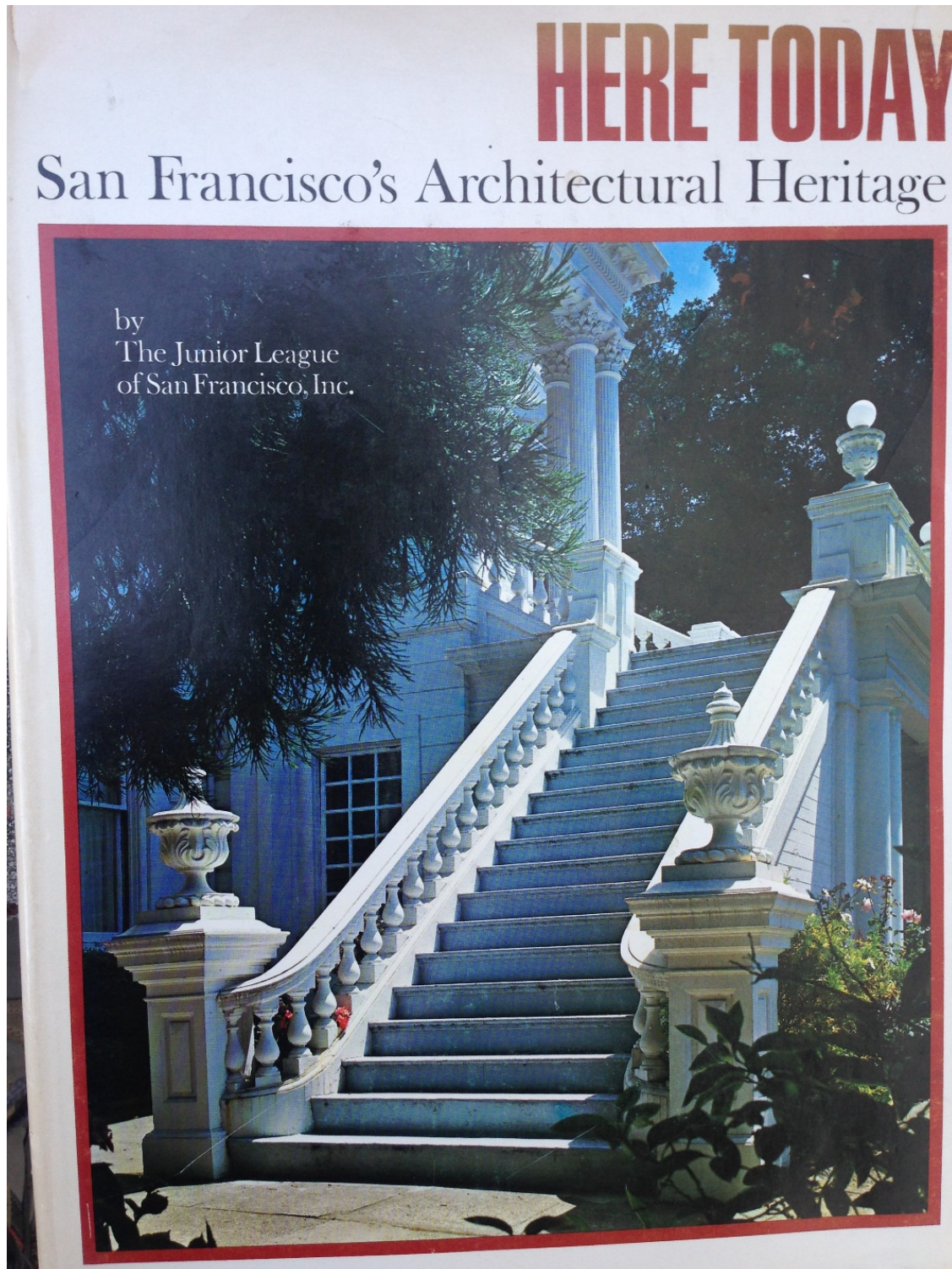
EXHIBIT A.6



EXHIBIT A.7



EXHIBIT B.1



Book Cover of Here Today

EXHIBIT B.2

\$14.95



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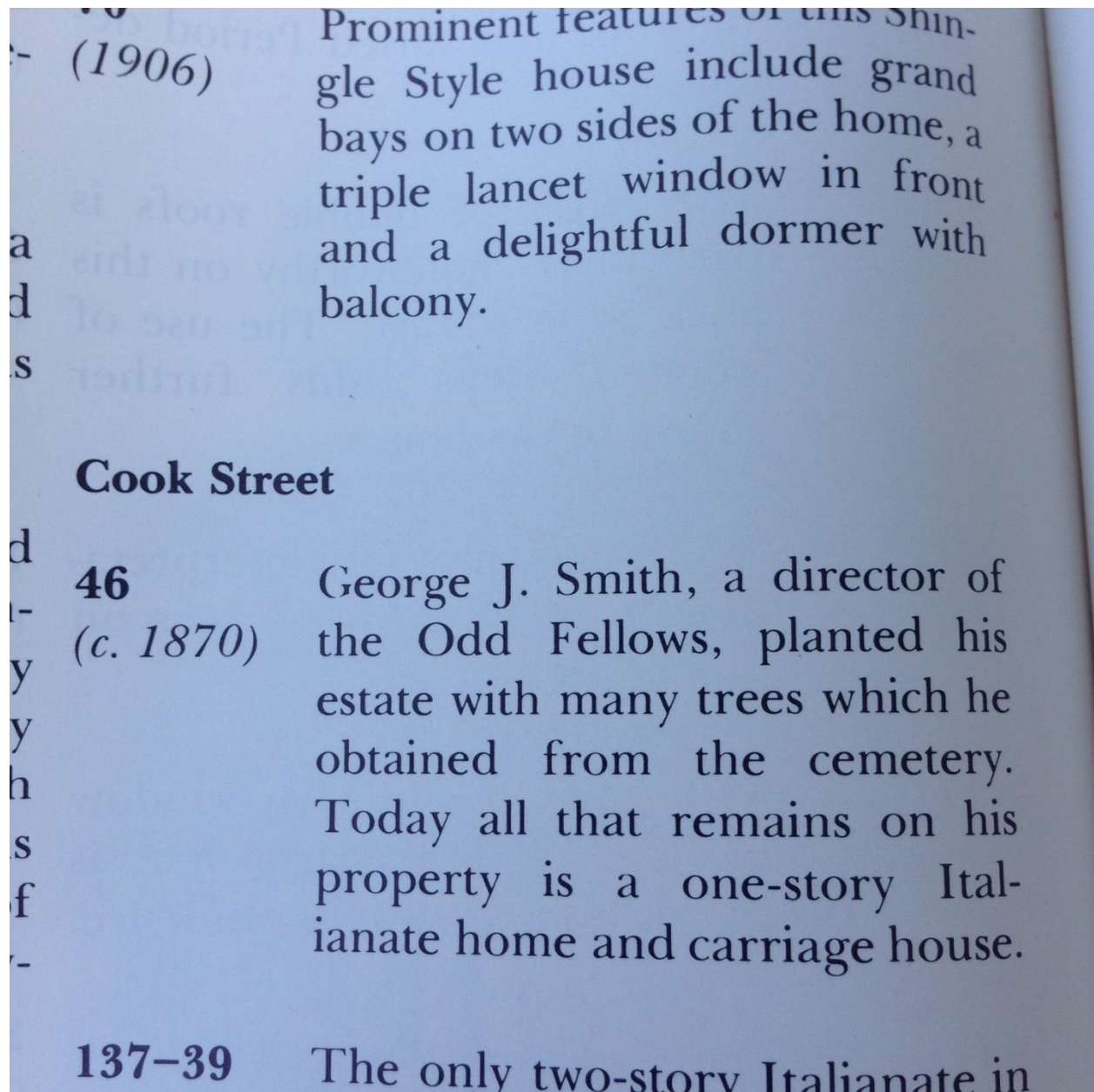


EXHIBIT C.1



Taken 4/20/2015

EXHIBIT C.2



Taken 4/21/2015

EXHIBIT C.3



Taken 4/23/2015

46A Cook St Landmark Tree Nomination

Additional Exhibits:

- 1 Arborist Report
- 2 Letter from Svane family member- property owners of 46 Cook St. from 1908-2012
- 3.1-3.2 Photographs from the SF Assessors Office archives of 46 Cook St. including a view of the height of the tree, taken between 1946 and 1951 (found in the SF Public Library's History Center)
- 4.1-4.5 Notes from SF Public Library's History Center dated March 1966 compiled for *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage* (adopted by the Board of Supervisors; Resolution No. 268-70). See highlighted sections which state:
 - George J. Smith had access to get "marvelous trees etc. on property and did"
 - Peter Svane lived on property beginning in 1908
 - Some of the trees and shrubs George J. Smith planted still surrounded the house in 1966, and the "trees are large and old"
- 5 Email from SF Heritage Senior Project Manager supporting historic preservation of both buildings and landscape of 46 Cook St.
- 6.1-6.9 150 petition signatures from neighborhood residents and others who have a connection to the neighborhood
- 7.1-7.4 Additional 40 online petition signatures
- 8 Letter from SFSU professor/Dr. of Biology detailing this tree's environmental importance
- 9.1-9.2 Photographed sample of birds frequently seen using the tree as a resource (peregrine falcon & mockingbird)
- 10 Email from SF Botanical Gardens Plant Collections Registrar showing rarity by stating they only have one Cook Pine, and it was acquired only 14 years ago



Lic # [961415](#)
77 Blake St Apt D
San Francisco Ca 94118
415 310 7781
guillaume@arboristnow.com
remy@arboristnow.com

Friday, July 31st 2015

Arborist report on one Araucaria columnaris (Cook Pine) at 46 Cook Street, San Francisco

Prepared for Richard Worn

Tree species: Araucaria columnaris (Cook Pine)
Location: 46 Cook st. San Francisco Ca, 94118
Assessed on: 7/28/15
Assessed by Certified Arborist: Remy Hummer WE-10741A

Visual assessment of the Araucaria columnaris on the property of 46 Cook st. notes that the tree exemplifies exceptional health and stature. The base of the tree has a well defined root flare free of any visible decay. The base of tree has adequate spacing from any building foundations or objects that might compromise its health. The excurrent stem before reaching the bottom of the crown has been raised about 20 feet from the ground by past pruning. Two recent pruning cuts are visible on the stem from the ground. The stem is free of any noticeable scars, deadwood, and stubs, indicating a strong tree with no history of limb failure. The tree has a good crown ratio 70/30.

Normal leaf litter is present on the ground. A normal bend/lean is present in the tree. While the lean with an Araucaria c. can be quite obvious it is also a natural, prevalent characteristic which under normal conditions should not be considered a risk (Armstrong, 2010*).

Remy Hummer
Foreman Supervisor
Arborist Now, Inc.

*{Armstrong, W.P. (2010) . The Araucaria Family: Past & Present. *Pacific Horticulture*. Issue: January 2010.
Retrieved from
<http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/the-araucaria-family-past-present/>}

2

Christina Svane
254 Spring St.
Florence, MA 01062

August 3, 2015

Re: Cook (or Norfolk) Pine at 46 Cook Street

To Whom it May Concern:

My grandparents, Jørgen Christian Svane and Carolina Rasmussen Svane purchased the house, farm, and barn at 46 Cook Street in 1908, when my father, Peter Victor Svane, was one year old. Geary Blvd. was a dirt road called Point Lobos then, and the property was outside the city proper, known for its sand dunes, farms, cemeteries and grand trees.

Many trees such as fruit trees and the pine trees, were already growing on the property when my grandparents bought it, but they planted the ornamental trees such as the holly tree and lemon tree to flank the entrance, and the four date palms. Their property extended all the way to Euclid and to Blake Streets, but most of it - their orchard and farm - was taken by the City under 'eminent domain' in order to build a school and playground. (When I went to Denmark to find relatives, I was shown a photograph of my father and a baby palm tree, in front of the house, both about a year old.) My grandfather was known for keeping the property 'groomed like a park,' I was told by all the relatives.

My father especially adored the giant pine in front of the carriage barn, which he always called the 'Monkey Tail tree.' I have since discovered it is not a Monkey Tail tree, but most likely a Captain Cook Pine, which would make sense, as the street is named after Captain Cook, as well. George J. Smith, who had the house built around 1865, was known to have planted it with many trees. (We had his granite carriage step carved with his name on it.) I am not a tree expert, and perhaps it is not a Captain Cook Pine, but a Norfolk Pine. I do know they are often mistaken for each other.

My father prized this tree above all the others around the house, and now and then hired arborists to attend to it, and trim its lower branches. He would often remind us that this tree was so big it was visible from Euclid Avenue. It was also on occasion home to a large family of raccoons. Growing up there, we were raised to treasure the trees on the property as the living legacy not only of our grandparents, who died before we could meet them, but of a glorious period in San Francisco's history, when people would ride in their carriages past Cook Street, heading to the Cliff House for a Sunday outing in the country. The country eventually turned into city, but the glorious trees remained.

Sincerely,

Christina Svane

3.1



3.2



4.1

Cook Street, 46
HERE TODAY
Junior League of San Francisco, Inc.

(me)

PROHIBITION ACT

4.2

Call to A+B from Mrs. Peter Svane, owner
46 Cook St. 3/15/66

Has lived there since wife of
(he is 59, b. 1907) Came from Denmark
~~for many years~~ remembers how enormous
their place looked from his baby-
buggy! Gary was Pt. Lobos Rd. when he
a boy.

Mr. Smith, former owner, left tall
huge ladders on property, picked Smith,
a big S.F. Painter in Starb King Bldg,
now standard on Sansome (over)

III More from Mr. Peter Svane re 46 Cook St.

The house is all redwood, was
on a concrete foundation - since
sand inert & without bugs it
stood - He recently put new
foundation under.

Mr. Smith AND Mr. Svane's parents
are in Oddfellows Columbarium,
(cremation burial place?) altho the
father not Oddfellows. Old cemetery

4.3

He was ^{II} an Odd Fellow & Director of the Odd Fellows Cemetery where he is buried. As such he could get marvelous trees etc. on property & did. He committed

In back of parents' carriage house were sliding floors to stables. Formerly when Mr. Svane was boy there were 5 lots going back to Blake St.

Mr. Svane's 1st wife was an Escamilla. He runs a trucking co. parcel delivery (Was @ Berkeley Lake!)

Oddfellows - went from Geary to Turk. The columbarium is still there behind the market near Coronet Theater. Mr. Smith had large monument. I saw inside of former carriage house - marvelous old solid hand made table & chairs etc. apparently by Mr. Svane. Says he: "My telegrapher employees would sit in chairs & they'd fall apart, so I made some strong ones!"

4.4

46 Cook St. (circa 1870)

George G. Smith, a house and sign painter ^{and painting contractor} with offices in the Starr King Building and at 329 Sutter (were they same?) lived here from 1870 until around 1903. He was prominent in the Odd Fellows Lodge and a director of their cemetery, which extended from Pt. Lobos Rd. (now Geary) to Turk St. This gave him access to the trees and shrubs with which he planted his estate, some of which still surround the house. He left large ladders on the place with the name of his firm, G. J. Smith, and its address.

In 1903 he built the carriage house, now used for a rental dwelling, and put a granite stile on the curb inscribed with his name and the year. ^{This has since been moved to the garden.} Shortly thereafter he is said to have committed suicide.

In 1908 Mr. Smith's widow sold the house to a Danish family, the Svanes. Their son remembers that the carriage house had sliding rear doors opening into the stable; there was also a greenhouse, an old outhouse and fine trees and gardens. He believes that there was a well before a Mrs. Swan (oddly enough no relation to the later Svanes) signed for the first water meter in 1886. At that time the Water Dept. reported 1630 sq. feet of irrigation.

In 1908 the Water Dept. noted 275 Sq. Yds, with signs of horses having been turned out and a trough, but no evidence of horses having been in the stable. In 1914 they still reported 275 sq. yds. of irrigation, with a standing irrigator.

The Fred W. Geary School now occupies most of the former area, except for the present small cottage and carriage house with their gardens.

4.5

The basement floor was on a concrete slab flat on sand; since the sand was inert and insect free it survived over the many years. Work on the foundation has been done recently but otherwise the house, of solid redwood, is as it was.

It is a 1 story cottage with arched windows and Italianate pediments, over arched windows, and an Italianate cornice over the door, which is flanked by simple pilasters. The door features a circle of glass and a transom above. Steps are of stone, with stone jardinières. A carved wood rail encloses the porch. Trees are large and old.

A driveway, dirt, leads through a gate to the carriage house.



5

Fwd: 46 Cook Street

vanessa ruotolo <vanessa123@earthlink.net>
To: Jen Leavitt <jenr.leavitt@gmail.com>

Tue, Jul 21, 2015 at 3:45 PM

Begin forwarded message:

From: Desiree Smith <DSmith@sfheritage.org>
Date: July 21, 2015 2:53:23 PM PDT
To: vanessa ruotolo <vanessa123@earthlink.net>
Subject: FW: 46 Cook Street

Hi Vanessa,

I'm forwarding you some information that our research assistant shared with me about 46 Cook. He and I just spoke and we think this property is definitely worthy of more research and is potentially significant as a historic resource. We encourage your group to consider the entire property as historic, including the building and the landscape. Also, we don't think it would be worth your time to come to our office to do research. Instead, places you might consider doing research include the Water Department and newspaper index (available at the SF Public Library). We have a historical research guide available on our website in case that is helpful: <http://www.sfheritage.org/resources-links/researchguide/>. We do think this property has the potential to be designated as a landmark. If time and funding permitted, we would suggest hiring a professional architectural historian to produce a nomination or historic resource evaluation. Perhaps this is something you could discuss with the Planning Department – they might be able to place the property on their Landmark Designation Work Program. You could always attend a Historic Preservation Commission hearing and speak during public comment about this property. If you make a good case for its significance, they may be amenable to placing the property on the Landmark Designation Work Program, which would require Planning Department staff to produce a nomination. Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!
Desiree



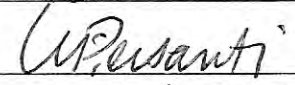

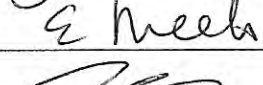



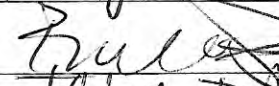


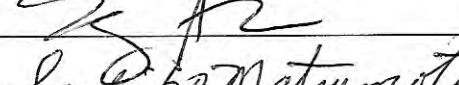
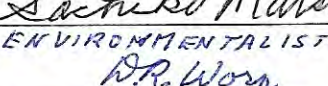
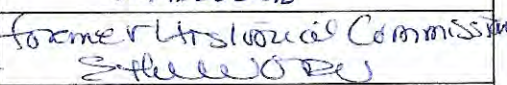
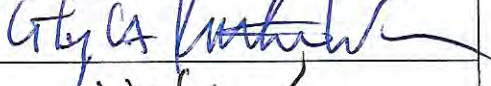
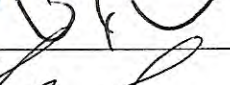
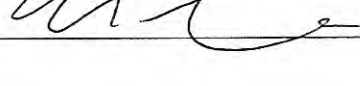


Desiree Smith
Senior Project Manager

6.1

PETITION TO SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE @ 46 Cook Street:

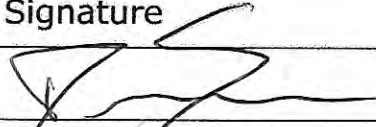



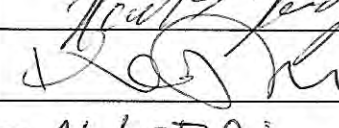
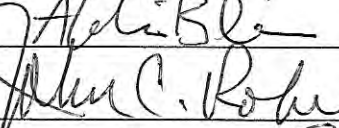


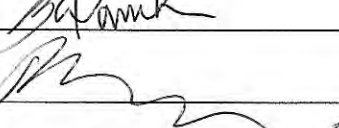
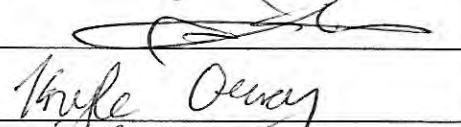
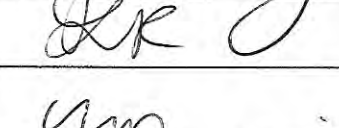



A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
Carlos Avila	845 29 th Ave	
Peter Williams	70 Cook	
Katherine Piersanti	72 Cook	
Sarah Smith	190 Edgewood Ave.	
Elizabeth Meeks	1771 - 33rd Ave	
Patrick Johnson-Whitty	401 43RD AVE	
AND SKID	45 Cook St	
Roxanne Webster	39A Cook St	
NICK SMITH	19 COOK ST	
Richard Duff	2315 42nd Ave	
Tara Threlk	2315 42nd Ave	
Vanessa Ruotolo	60 Cook Ave	
Genie Nie	4028 23rd St	
SAKIKO MATSUMOTO	59-A COOK ST. S.F.	
DONALD WORN	95 WADSWORTH AVE. L.G. CA 95030	ENVIRONMENTALIST D.R. Worn
ETHEL S. WORN	95 WADSWORTH AVE, L.G. CA 95030	former Historical Commission Ethel Worn
Marcia M. Ruotolo	951 Meigs St. Stanford, CA	Marcia M. Ruotolo
Katherine Worn	590 AVOCET Drive Redwood City, CA	
RICHARD WELD	85 CAL ST #9 94117	
Chelsea Michaels	1815 40th Ave	

6.2

PETITION TO SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE @ 46 Cook Street:

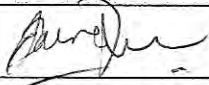

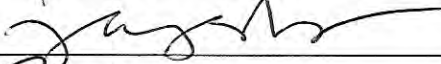
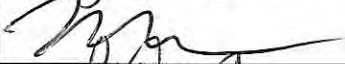
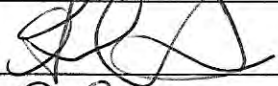
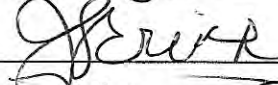


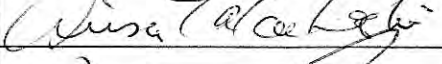
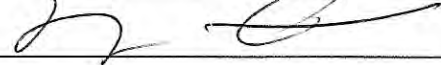

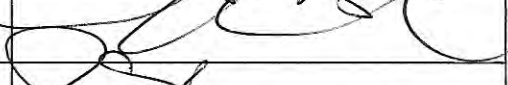




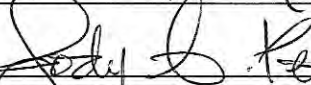
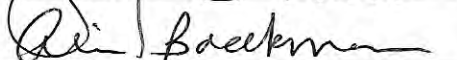

A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
DANIEL SPRIGGS	400 ANZA ST. 9	
JAMES MARRON	205 COLLINS ST	
Joseph Lama	3101 Geary BLVD	
MYUNG KIM	3135 GEARY BLVD	
JAFF WARRING	301a Geary BLVD	
Tina Inda	67 Blake St	
Hector Hernandez	59 BLAKE ST	
Katherine Bruce	395 Euclid Ave	
Abbie Blair	741 Spruce St. #1	
JOHN C. ROBINSON	140 Cook St. #2	
Alex Volker	Commonwealth Ave	
Eric Sore	3138 Geary Blvd	
THOMAS WON	2807 GEARY BLVD	
Brian Bruns Davila	3105 Geary Blvd.	
Robert Sanborn	17 Cook St	
GAY ARBIV	18 Cooks St	
Kyle Oracoy	65 A Cook St.	
Lauren Ratcliff	2346 FULTON	
Barbara Chisholm	20 Cook St SFCA 94118	
Paul Chinn	3715 California St SFCA 94118	

6.3

PETITION TO SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE @ 46 Cook Street:

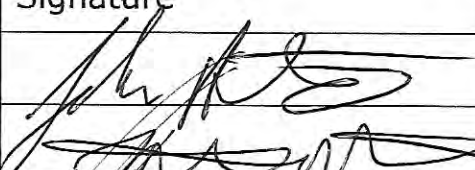
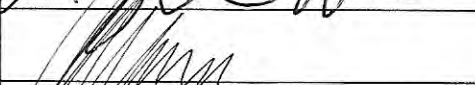





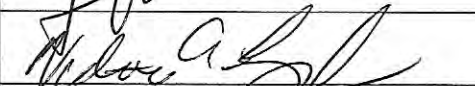



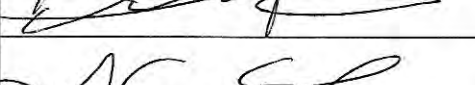

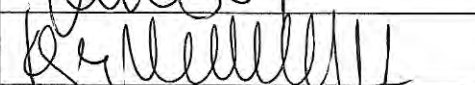
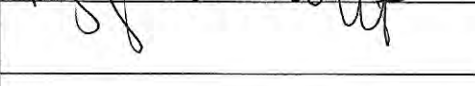


A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
Elaine New	20 Cook St. SF, CA 94118	
MIRIAM HYUN	27 14th Ave. SF, CA 94118	
Jenn. for Just's	442 21st Ave	
Richards W. Orr	60 Cook SF 94118	
Gail Finne	250 Ney St. SF CA 94112	
JULIE ERICH	67 Cook Street SF, CA 94118	
Maria Chew	401 Euclid SF 94118	
SALLY SILVA	461 EUCLID SF 94118	
ARISA TAKAHASHI	401 Euclid SF 94118	
Mike D. By	945 Powell #240	
Molly Trezevant	Molly Trezevant 94118	22 Heather Avenue
Sunnylyn M. Badoux	1326A McAllister St SF 94115	
Lauren Kaufman	4040 24th St	
R. Schultz	730 Presidio Ave SF CA	
Demetrios Demetriades	3145 Geary blvd #406 S.F. CA 94118	
Chris Rodriguez	3109 Geary Blvd 94118	
Chase Eisman	2319 Spaulding Ave Berkeley, CA 94703	
Hannan Paul	656 Spruce St San Francisco	
Jody Pettie	2687 McAllister St SF CA 94118	
Alison Boeckmann	1536 Willard St. 94117	

6.5

PETITION TO SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE @ 46 Cook Street:

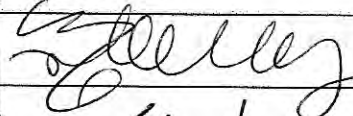
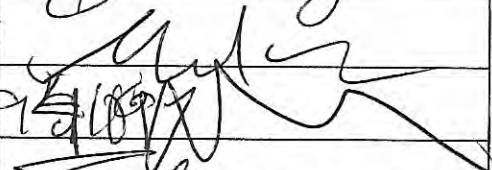
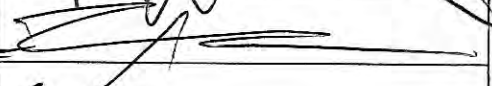
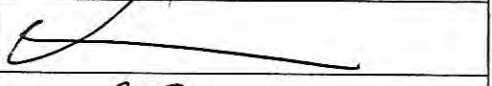
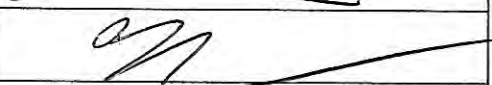


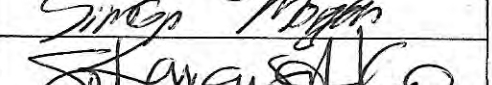


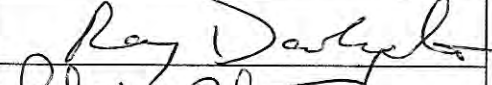
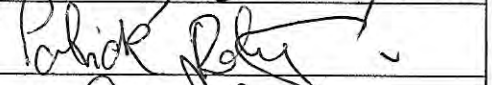

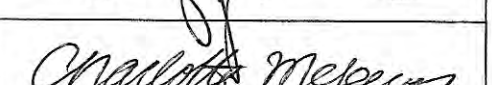
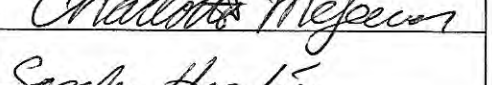



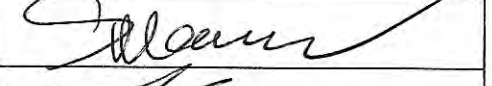
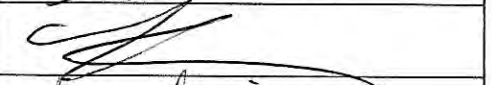
A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
John DeCastro	2634 Post St. SF 94115	
Lisa Rich	2360 15th Ave SF 94116	
CHRIS LEBAR	2729 LOMBARD ST SF 94133	
Brynn Bacon	1177 California St SF 94108	
Michael Bacon	707 Stockton #401, SF, 94108	
Peter Wynne	2729 Lombard #794123	
Adrian	DONT BE A DICK	
Adrian Laker	127 Blah St	
Ken Welch	2629 Anza St.	
Victoria Gonzalez	2038 - 17th Ave -	
Tom Jobe	2038 17th Ave	
Bill Teeling	78 Heather Ave	
John Teeling	235 Collins #1A	
GURINDER CHHOKAR	155 ASHBURY ST. SF	
Adam SANDOVAL	2560 GEARY BLVD	
Jon Leavitt	46A Cook St. SF 94118	
Karap Gyelbrecht	2543 Bryant St. SF 94110	

6.6




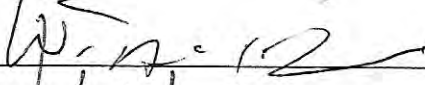




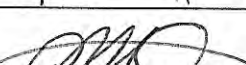




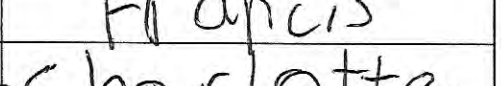
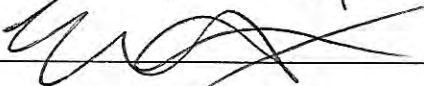



PETITION TO SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE @ 46 Cook Street:

A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
Bernadette Trubatsky	1231 York San Fran. 94110	
Gerald O. Oliver	426 Pierce St SF 94117	
Tami Nordstrom	1811 Leavenworth 94118	
ZACK FAGIN	2088 Broadway 94110	
SAMIRA KUDUROVE	445 Ashbury St 14	
Fergal Poole	2529 Mission St	
Sabine Reyhnaud	2484 39th Ave	
Simon Morgan	553 4th AVE	
Kalast Ka	154 Wood Street #1	
Warren Facke	308 San Benito #3, San Bruno	
RAY DARBYSHIRE	1978 40th Ave SF	
PATRICK DOWERY	207 20TH AVENUE	
Amy McGeever	420 Carl St.	
Charlotte McGeever	420 CARL STREET	
Sarah Hegarty	52 Newton St.	
Anne Kenney	52 Newton St.	
STEVE LARKIN	1644 WASHINGTON ST #11	
Seonille Gann	4th Carl	
Heidi Geiger	2120 24th St. S FCA	
LEVI LEAVITT	46A COOK ST. SF, CA 94113	









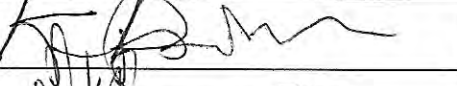
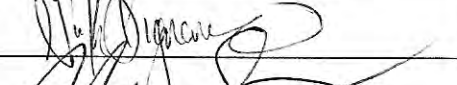
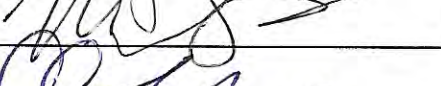

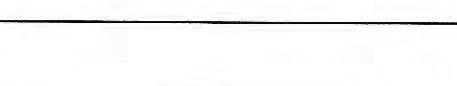
6.7

HELP SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE: A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
Corrie Dedrick	2390 Chestnut St.	
LYNNETTE BECHARD	2390 CHESTNUT ST	
ROGER NETTLE	2310 Chestnut #1	
W.H. Trigg	2837 Baker St	
Karla 2072	3112 Pike St	
Samira Wang	3714 Prosser St	
Theresa Cameron	378 Waller St	
VASSI KOUSAFTH	675 C PORTOLA ST	
ARMELLE HELLOUIN	765 C PORTOLA ST	
Maria Koutsof	765 C Portola St	
Sabine Labrecque	765 C Portola St	
Cristina Pachano-Lauderdale	716 24th Ave	
Beth Michel	2300 Chestnut	
ANTONIA P. HOTUNG	1030 CHESTNUT ST	
Francis Wraith	11807 Green St	Francis
Charlotte	11807 Green St	Charlotte
GARY WRATH	1187 GREEN ST CA 94109	
Kerry Ricards	1187 green street SF CA 94109	
SCOTT Berkhause	355 19th AVE SFC	
Olivia Shafer	1444 7th Ave, SF, CA	

6.8

HELP SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE: A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature
MARC LEONE	175 LUNADO WAY	
Jared Nangle	4372 Montgomery St	
Mayra Arreguin	2837 Baker st	
Erin Williams	1238 Page St	erin williams
James Trigg	2837 baker	gaden
Brenda Goldskin	2490 Chestnut St	
Chris Economou	1229 Taylor	
Jonathan Ruiz	34 Richardson Ave	
L. Lindsey Weiberg	3090 Chestnut	
Stu Weiberg	3090 Chestnut	
JAMES JERKINS	2337 Chestnut St #41	
Tom Potelb	1674 Washington St #3	
Nicki Stagnorino	12608 Canon	
Mark Sanchez	919 Mandela Pkwy	
Olivia Giger	371 Broadway	

**PETITION TO SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE
@ 46 Cook Street:**

A LAUREL HEIGHTS/RICHMOND DISTRICT CULTURAL AND HISTORIC LANDMARK

[illegible]

change.org

7.1

San Francisco Urban Forestry Council and Board of Supervisors

Greetings,

HELP SAVE HISTORIC NORFOLK ISLAND PINE TREE: A Laurel
Heights/Richmond District Landmark

Signatures

7.2

Name	Location	Date
Jen Leavitt	, United States	2015-07-23
Vanessa Ruotolo	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Peter Ruotolo	Dublin, Ireland	2015-07-23
Cristina Ruotolo	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Nina Fojaco Reed	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Jeremy Konick	Newark, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Adelle Kearns	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Bridget MacRae	Germany	2015-07-23
Patricia Mitchell	San Jose, CA, United States	2015-07-23
KRIS YENNEY	Los Gatos, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Rachel Goldeen	Mountain View, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Jenny Amador	Carmel-by-the-Sea, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Rita Lee	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-23
Ashley Wolfson	privatenottellingyou, NJ, United States	2015-07-24
Dennis Kaplan	Mayfield Heights, OH, United States	2015-07-24
Jessica Boelter	Millbrae, CA, United States	2015-07-24
Jamie Rogers	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-24
Anne Fetter	New York, NY, United States	2015-07-24
Valerie Tisdell	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-24
Patricia Drury	Pleasanton, CA, United States	2015-07-24
Randy Wiederhold	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-25
Corrie Dedrick	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-25
Ross Thompson	Southborough, MA, United States	2015-07-25
Jessie Smith	boulder, CO, United States	2015-07-25
Lynnette bechard	Boulder, CO, United States	2015-07-25
Caitlin Bush	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-25
Marie Flexer	Tracy, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Sergi Goldman-Hull	Oakland, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Zulema Rubalcava	Oakland, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Ivo Bokulic	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-27

7.3


Name	Location	Date
Stacey Pelinka	Berkeley, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Kelley Maulbetsch	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-27
emanuela nikiforova	alameda, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Maria Christoff	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Katy Juranty	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-27
Barbara Rogers	Cotati, CA, United States	2015-07-28
Susan Shalit	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-28
Kale Cumings	Pittsburg, CA, United States	2015-07-28
kate stenberg	San Francisco, CA, United States	2015-07-28
emily Onderdonk	Oakland, CA, United States	2015-07-29

7.4

Susan Shalit 

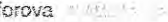
7 days ago · Like 0

Trees are important to everyone in the neighborhood

Barbara Rogers 


7 days ago · Like 0

Please stop and think long and hard before cutting down this treasure. Let this tree live and thrive where it is.

emanuela nikiforova 


7 days ago · Like 0

It would be a shame and a crime to kill this beautiful tree, that has been standing for this incredible amount of time!

Stacey Pelinka 


7 days ago · Like 0

I have always loved this tree. I used to live next door and always admired its majestic branches. I hope that San Francisco can demonstrate how it values history by preserving this tree.

Sergi Goldman-Hull 


7 days ago · Like 0

These trees are/were just as much important landmarks as the property they sunk their roots into. You've already allowed 3 magnificent trees to be cut down (SHAME ON YOU FOR THAT!), please don't let this last one go and preserve what little original natural beauty SF has left! If you don't vote to keep this beautiful tree, you have no heart and I will lose complete confidence in this Council...I urge you to do the right thing here!

marie flexer 

7 days ago · Like 0

Removing the tree will significantly impact the historic, aesthetic, and environmental value of the property and its surroundings.

Lynnette bechard 


7 days ago · Like 0

its a shame people are allowed to do so much unnecessary damage to our earth!

Rachel Goldeen 


7 days ago · Like 0

Trees make the houses look good, not the other way around.

KRIS YENNEY 


17 days ago · Like 0

The Tree is More Valuable than any "Improvements" we could make here...

Patricia Mitchell 

17 days ago · Like 0

It's a beautiful tree and we NEED the beauty.

Nina Fojaco Reed 

17 days ago · Like 0

Keep San Francisco green! These trees are old and provide good homes for birds and clean the air and shade and help the neighborhood feel less urban.

17 days ago · 16 views in last 6 days

16 views in last 6 days

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San Francisco Urban Forestry Council and Board of Supervisors



San Francisco Urban Forestry Council and Board of Supervisors
HELP SAVE HISTORIC NORRIS K
ISLAND PINE TREE: A Large
Heritage Richmond District
Landmark

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[https://www.change.org/p/san-](https://www.change.org/p/san-francisco-urban-forestry-council-and-board-of-supervisors-help-save-historic-norris-k-island-pine-tree-a-large-heritage-richmond-district-landmark) Copy link

Sponsor an ad to show this petition to more potential supporters

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8



Ravinder N. M. Sehgal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Department of Biology
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA 94132-1722
Tel: 415/405-0329
Fax: 415/338-2295
sehgal@sfsu.edu
<http://userwww.sfsu.edu/~sehgal>

25. July. 2015

I would like to give my support to the efforts to save an old tree on Cook Street in San Francisco. I am a professor at San Francisco State University and my research focuses on how deforestation affects birds and biodiversity. Large old trees are critical ecological structures because, relative to their size, they are disproportionate providers of resources crucial to wildlife. A recent study has reported that the loss of large old trees leads to an overall loss of urban biodiversity¹. These trees are home to numerous bird species and other wildlife, and in particular, I believe that the tree on Cook Street, serves as a stopover point for raptors and other birds flying between the Presidio and Golden Gate Park. In order to preserve the urban wildlife of San Francisco, it is essential to add new trees to city blocks, and it would certainly be detrimental to remove existing ones. Given the scientific evidence regarding the importance of old urban trees to wildlife, I would encourage all efforts to preserve this unusual tree in the Richmond District.

Sincerely,

Ravinder Sehgal, PhD.

¹ Le Roux, Darren S., et al. "The future of large old trees in urban landscapes." (2014) *Plos One*: e99403.

9.1



9.2



10

From: Mona Bourell <MBourell@sfbg.org>
Date: July 30, 2015 1:03:49 PM PDT
To: vanessa ruotolo <vanessa123@earthlink.net>
Subject: RE: Araucaria columnaris

We have one tree on our Conifer Lawn Bed 45B [central part of bed W of large Nothofagus] , bed map of the Garden attached.

It was acquired in 2001 from David Deutsch, of Gondwana Gardens, Livingston (Vallejo) California. This is all the information we have in our records.

Mona

Mona Bourell
Plant Collections Registrar
San Francisco Botanical Garden Society
1199 Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way
San Francisco, CA 94122

Monday - Thursday 8am - 4:30pm

415-661-1316, ext. 405
415-661-3539 FAX

From: vanessa ruotolo [mailto:vanessa123@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2015 12:12 PM
To: Mona Bourell
Subject: re: Araucaria columnaris

Dear Mona,

I was given your name and contact by Frank Almeda at California Academy.

I was wondering whether you may have any records of the species *Araucaria columnaris* at the Botanical Gardens.

If so, is it possible to find out where they got it and how long they have been there?

Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code Section 810, the UFC has developed these criteria for evaluating potential landmark trees in San Francisco. When evaluating or considering potential landmark trees, please consider the context of the tree within its site location. For example, a tree on PUC land may not have the same community importance that a street or park tree would. Use comment sections, as appropriate, to explain or support evaluation. Attach sheets if more space is needed.

Evaluator's name: Mei Ling Hui

Date of evaluation: July 14, 2015

Scientific name: *Araucaria columnaris* / *Araucaria cookii*

Common name: Cook Pine

Street address: 46a Cook Street, San Francisco, CA 94118

Cross streets: Geary Blvd.

Rarity ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Rarity: ☒ Rare ☐ Uncommon ☐ Common ☐ Other

Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: This tree was originally reported to be a Norfolk Island Pine, but new info was received identifying the tree as a Cook Pine. Two key distinguishing characteristics of the Cook Pine species are the bark and the canopy shape. Cook Pines have flakey peeling bark. The canopy shape can be described as a "rocket" shape, with a narrower spread than Norfolk Island Pines. In the images I took from next door and the street view on July 14th, flakey, peeling characteristics to the bark are evident as is the narrow, "rocket" shaped canopy.

These two species can be difficult to tell apart. The columnar form of this specimen may be caused by wind or by the proximity of buildings and trees that were recently removed. I am unfamiliar with this species and understand that is frequently misidentified as Norfolk Island Pine.

The rarity rating noted here assumes that the tree is a Cook Pine. If the tree is a Norfolk Island Pine, these trees are not especially common nor uncommon and I would amend my rating to "partially" for this section.

Physical Attributes ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small

Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: We weren't able to get close enough to the tree to perform measurements. The tree is visible from the street and appears to be the tallest tree in the neighborhood.

Age: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Significantly advanced age for the species.

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

2

Comment: We have received several estimates for the tree's age, placing it between 70-120 years old. At the low end, this is still a very mature tree.

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure. Describe: Norfolk Island and Cook Pines are difficult to distinguish; as such I will provide comments for either species. As a Cook Pine, it appears to be an ideal form for the species. As a Norfolk Island Pine, the crown is narrower than would be typical. The tree appears healthy and robust and is a prominent visual feature from neighboring lots and the public street.

Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard

Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe: Both arborists reports that have been submitted have identified the tree as healthy. It appears that lower limbs were recently pruned away, raising the overall tree canopy. The canopy is as full as would be typically for a Cook Pine and has more density than would be expected with a Norfolk Island Pine.

Historical ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Historical Association: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Describe nature of appreciation: The tree is located adjacent to a carriage house that is a "Type A - Historic Resource." George J. Smith, the individual who built the house and who may planted the tree, was the Director of the Odd Fellows and was well know figure whose untimely death was reported in several papers.

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☒ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: There is a reference which may refer to this tree in the book *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage*, the text related to the subject property reads, "46 Cook Street (c. 1870) George J. Smith, a director of the Odd Fellows, planted his estate with many trees which he obtained from the cemetery. Today all that remains on his property is a one-story Italianate home and carriage house."

Environmental ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: This is the tallest tree and is visible from the public right of way.

Low tree density: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Interdependent group of trees: ☐ Yes ☒ No

This tree in an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒ Yes ☐ No

High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

3

Describe: The tree is the tallest tree in the area and is clearly visible from the roadway.

High traffic area: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe: Cook is a short street that dead ends. There doesn't appear to be a high amount of vehicle or pedestrian traffic on the small street.

Important wildlife habitat: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

Describe: Because it is the tallest tree around, it is likely that birds use the tree for a perch and for shelter.

Erosion control: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe: The area is flat.

Wind or sound barrier: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe: Neighbor report an increase in wind and noise with the recent changes to the landscape.

Cultural ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Neighborhood appreciation: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe: The nomination was initiated by a neighbor. Petitions to support the nomination have been supplied as part of the meeting documents, which include comments from individuals on the value that the tree has for them.

Cultural appreciation: ☐ Yes ☒ None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Planting contributes to neighborhood character: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: It is a lovely tree.

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☒ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: Describe coverage: There is a reference which may refer to this tree in the *book Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage*, the text related to the subject property reads, "46 Cook Street (c. 1870) George J. Smith, a director of the Odd Fellows, planted his estate with many trees which he obtained from the cemetery. Today all that remains on his property is a one-story Italianate home and carriage house."

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

4

Describe, attach photo if possible: As described above, the tree is visible from public areas, is the tallest tree around, and is an attractive and healthy tree.









Tree Management Experts

Consulting Arborists

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email RCL3@mindspring.com

Prepared for Richard Worn
60 Cook Street
San Francisco, CA 94118

RE: Landmark Tree Nomination
46 Cook Street, San Francisco

Date: 8/6/15

ARBORIST REPORT

Assignment

- Review two conflicting Arborist Reports regarding the nominated tree:
 - Report by Remy Hummer dated 7/31/15
 - Report by James MacNair dated 8/3/15
- Provide an analysis of conflicting statements.
- Evaluate tree and site characteristics and offer opinions based on observations.
- Provide an Arborist Report of my analysis, findings and recommendations.

Analysis of Arborist Reports

Two Arborist Reports have been created, and each report is quite different. Certain fundamental facts such as the proper identification of the tree are even in conflict. After having read both of these reports in great detail, and having visited the site and surrounding neighborhood to view the tree, I have determined the following:

Species Identification

The correct species for this tree is Cook pine (*Araucaria columnaris*). This is a well-documented species that is often confused with Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria columnaris*) by inexperienced retailers and consumers. I am in shock that Mr. MacNair cannot tell these two species apart. Without having a fundamental ability to identify this tree correctly as a Cook pine, it is my professional opinion that the tree cannot be properly evaluated for purposes of a Landmark Tree Nomination and that Mr. MacNair is not qualified for this task.

Documents are attached that conclusively identify this species:

<http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/the-araucaria-family-past-present/>

www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au/listing/52.pdf[http://tree-](http://tree-species.blogspot.com/2007/12/norfolk-island-pine-vs-cook-pine.html)

[species.blogspot.com/2007/12/norfolk-island-pine-vs-cook-pine.html](http://tree-species.blogspot.com/2007/12/norfolk-island-pine-vs-cook-pine.html)

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Bailey, Liberty Hyde and Ethel Zoe Bailey. *Hortus Third*. Revised and Expanded by the Staff of the Liberty Hyde Bailey Hortorium. New York: MacMillan Publishing Company, 1976

Grace, Julie, ed. *Know Your Garden Series Ornamental Conifers*. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 1983

Barwick, Margaret. *Tropical & Subtropical Trees; An Encyclopedia*. 2nd printing. Portland, Oregon: Timber Press, 2004.

Apparently Mr. MacNair did not fully read the Pacific Horticulture article he cites, nor did he view the photograph depicting the Cook pine and Norfolk Island pine that are side by side. This article clearly shows the Cook pine, and in a manner that compares closely to the subject tree.

The botanical descriptions from Hortus Third are fundamental, but are more scientific than most people would understand. Distinctive and characteristic features are summarized in various web sources and other reference books, as cited above. The following table summarizes several of these distinctive features:

Cook Pine	Norfolk Island Pine
Columnar (narrow) crown form	Spreading (triangular) crown form
Shorter internodes of 1 to 2 feet (closer branches)	Longer internodes of 4 to 6 feet (thinner and more open branches)
Bark with larger peeling sheets	Bark with small peeling flakes
Downward angled branch attachments	Upward angled branch attachments
Sweep in trunk	Straight trunk

Rarity

Common species are found by the thousands in San Francisco and include species such as Monterey cypress and Tasmanian blue gum eucalyptus. Uncommon tree species may be found here or there, but are only seen if you know where to look. A rare species may only have a few examples.

Mr. MacNair has characterized this tree as fairly common. Based upon my 25 years of working throughout San Francisco, I would estimate that there are perhaps 20 or 30 examples of mature Cook pines in San Francisco. Some of these trees might be a bit larger than this one, but not by much if at all. I think the a more accurate statement would be that these trees are fairly commonly noted or are obvious due to their prominence in the landscape. There is no way that a Cook pine would go unnoticed. Prominence is not equivalent to common. These trees are certainly uncommon.

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Size

The height of the tree cannot be accurately determined with a laser range finder. The laser must reflect off of a surface and such devices cannot reliably do so from the top of a tree. As a part of a test group of 5 Consulting Arborists during a "Tool Day", we each found laser range finders to be unreliable when compared to an optical clinometer, our industry standard measuring device. Each of the Consulting Arborists in the test group consistently measured shorter heights with the laser range finders with tree heights typically being 10 to 20 feet taller.

Despite the unreliable method of measurement used by Mr. MacNair, tree height is not of critical importance in evaluation of this tree. The tree has a normal, mature form for the species as found in our environment. Based on my estimate from adjacent buildings and the use of a clinometer, the height is approximately 100 feet tall.

Age

This is a mature tree for this species, and is at a mid-point for attainable age. Although Landmark designated trees could be the oldest example of their species, age is largely unknown or uncertain. It is pure conjecture that this tree has produced annual growth rings of ½ inch diameter increase each year. Every year produces a different ring thickness depending on water availability, and a growth ring is not necessarily produced at all during certain years. The last 4 years have been a drought, and we had a drought of several years back in the 1980's. With even a slightly thinner average annual ring, a few missing rings and the 10 or 12 drought year rings this tree is likely much older than Mr. MacNair claims. The tree may or may not be 120 years old, but it certainly could be that old.

Distinguished Form

The form of this tree is characteristic and represents a distinguishing form for the species. This tree is an excellent example of a distinguished form for the Cook pine.

Tree Condition

This tree is in good condition and is sustainable for many decades to come. There were no broken branches or stubs from broken branches found. It is unlikely that there would be a limb failure, and if one occurred it is unlikely that it would cause anything more than minor damage or harm. This is a low risk and healthy tree.

Prominence and Visibility

This tree is very prominent and can be seen from most locations throughout this neighborhood and even from adjacent neighborhoods. Parts of Laurel Village area, the Geary Boulevard corridor and parts of Lone Mountain all see and enjoy this tree.

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Conclusions and Recommendation

This is a characteristic, structurally sound and healthy mature example of Cook pine. Although this tree and the species of tree is prominent when mature, it is an uncommon species to encounter.

Based on my evaluation of the tree and its setting, it is my opinion that this tree meets sufficient criteria and is important enough to be granted Landmark Tree status.

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Assumptions and Limiting Conditions

1. Any legal description provided to the consultant is assumed to be correct. Title and ownership of all property considered are assumed to be good and marketable. No responsibility is assumed for matters legal in character. Any and all property is appraised or evaluated as though free and clear, under responsible ownership and competent management.
2. It is assumed that any property is not in violation of any applicable codes, ordinances, statutes or other governmental regulations.
3. Care has been taken to obtain all information from reliable sources. All data has been verified insofar as possible. The consultant can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.
4. Various diagrams, sketches and photographs in this report are intended as visual aids and are not to scale, unless specifically stated as such on the drawing. These communication tools in no way substitute for nor should be construed as surveys, architectural or engineering drawings.
5. Loss or alteration of any part of this report invalidates the entire report.
6. Possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply right of publication or use for any purpose by any other than the person to whom it is addressed, without the prior written or verbal consent of the consultant.
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8. This report represents the opinion of the consultant. In no way is the consultant's fee contingent upon a stipulated result, the occurrence of a subsequent event, nor upon any finding to be reported.
9. The consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court by reason of this report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of an additional fee for such services as described in the fee schedule, an agreement or a contract.
10. Information contained in this report reflects observations made only to those items described and only reflects the condition of those items at the time of the site visit. Furthermore, the inspection is limited to visual examination of items and elements at the site, unless expressly stated otherwise. There is no expressed or implied warranty or guarantee that problems or deficiencies of the plants or property inspected may not arise in the future.

Disclosure Statement

Arborists are tree specialists who use their education, knowledge, training, and experience to examine trees, recommend measures to enhance the beauty and health of trees, and attempt to reduce the risk of living near trees. Clients may choose to accept or disregard the recommendations of the arborist, or to seek additional advice.

Arborists cannot detect every condition that could possibly lead to the structural failure of a tree. Trees are living organisms that fail in ways we do not fully understand. Conditions are often hidden within trees and below ground. Arborists cannot guarantee that a tree will be healthy or safe under all circumstances, or for a specified period of time. Likewise, remedial treatments, like any medicine, cannot be guaranteed.

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Treatment, pruning, and removal of trees may involve considerations beyond the scope of the arborist's services such as property boundaries, property ownership, site lines, disputes between neighbors, and other issues. An arborist cannot take such considerations into account unless complete and accurate information is disclosed to the arborist. An arborist should then be expected to reasonably rely upon the completeness and accuracy of the information provided.

Trees can be managed, but they cannot be controlled. To live near trees is to accept some degree of risk. The only way to eliminate all risk associated with trees is to eliminate the trees.

Certification of Performance

I, Roy C. Leggitt, III, Certify:

- That we have inspected the trees and/or property evaluated in this report. We have stated findings accurately, insofar as the limitations of the Assignment and within the extent and context identified by this report;
- That we have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or any real estate that is the subject of this report, and have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;
- That the analysis, opinions and conclusions stated herein are original and are based on current scientific procedures and facts and according to commonly accepted arboricultural practices;
- That no significant professional assistance was provided, except as indicated by the inclusion of another professional report within this report;
- That compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party.

I am a member in good standing of the American Society of Consulting Arborists and a member and Certified Arborist with the International Society of Arboriculture.

I have attained professional training in all areas of knowledge asserted through this report by completion of a Bachelor of Science degree in Plant Science, by routinely attending pertinent professional conferences and by reading current research from professional journals, books and other media.

I have rendered professional services in a full time capacity in the field of horticulture and arboriculture for more than 25 years.

Signed: _____

Date: 8/6/15

Hortus Third

A Concise Dictionary of
Plants Cultivated in
the United States and Canada

Initially Compiled by
LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY
and ETHEL ZOE BAILEY

Revised and Expanded by
THE STAFF OF THE
LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY HORTORIUM

A Unit of the
New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
a Statutory College of the
State University at Cornell University

MACMILLAN PUBLISHING COMPANY
New York
COLLIER MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS
London



ARALIACEAE. A, *Hedera Helix* cv. 'Pedata': Aa, sterile leafy stem with aerial roots, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; Ab, adult foliage with young fruiting inflorescence, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; Ac, flower, $\times 2$; Ad, ovary, cross section, $\times 4$; Ae, fruit, $\times \frac{1}{2}$. B, *Brassia actinophylla*: Ba, flowering branch, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; Bb, umbel of buds and flowers, $\times \frac{1}{2}$; Bc, petal, $\times 3$; Bd, flower, vertical section (corolla largely abscised), $\times 2$; Be, ovary, cross section, $\times 3$; Bf, fruit, $\times 2$. (Aa-Ae from Bailey, *Manual of Cultivated Plants*, ed. 2.)

Didymopanax, *Dizygotheca*, *Fatsia*, *Hedera*, *Kalopanax*, *Meryta*, *Neopanax*, *Opiopanax*, *Oreopanax*, *Panax*, *Polyscias*, *Pseudopanax*, *Schefflera*, *Stilbocarpa*, *Tetrapanax*, *Tetrapleura*, *Trevesia*, and *Xylocarpus*.

Economically the family is of minor importance. Besides those species grown as ornamentals, *Tetrapanax papyrifera* is the source of Chinese rice-paper, and *Panax ginseng* provides ginseng roots, used in medicinal preparations. When grown as pot plants in the home, many species remain in similar juvenile stages and are difficult to identify.

ARAUCARIA Juss. *Araucariaceae*. About 15 spp. of tall, evergreen, usually dioecious, coniferous trees, native in S. Hemisphere from S. Amer. to Australia and Pacific Is.; brs. symmetrically whorled; lvs. stiff, awl-shaped or flat, usually closely overlapping; male cones solitary or in clusters, female cones large, woody; seeds 1 to a scale, mostly winged on each edge and united to the scales, maturing in 2 or 3 years. Young trees of different spp. may be closely similar and the juvenile form persists until trees are large, often to 20-50 ft. Old trees usually have flat, ragged heads above essentially naked trunks. Juvenile lvs. of all spp. are larger than adult lvs. and may differ from them also in form and arrangement.

Most species produce useful timber and one an edible seed. *Araucarias* are grown as ornamentals in warm regions and as pot plants in juvenile form. They can be planted in the open only in the warmer parts of the country, as in Fla. and Calif. (Zone 10), except *A. araucana*, which is much hardier. For culture see *Conifers*.

angustifolia (Bertol.) O. Kuntze [*A. brasiliana* A. Rich.; *A. brasiliana* Lindl. var. *gracilis* Hort. ex Carrière; *A. gracilis* Hort.]. PARANÁ PINE. BRAZILIAN P. Lvs. locally overlapping, oblong-lanceolate, sharp-pointed, glaucous-green, to $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long on sterile brs., shorter and denser on fertile brs.; male cones 3-4 in. long, $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam. S. Brazil and adjacent Argentina, where an important timber tree. Zone 10.

araucana (Mol.) C. Koch [*A. imbricata* Puv.]. MONKEY-PUZZLE. MONKEY-PUZZLE TREE. CHILEAN PINE. Lvs. closely overlapping, ovate-lanceolate, 1-2 in. long, leathery, sharp-pointed; male cones erect, 3-5 in. long, 2 in. wide, female cones 4-7 in. long, 3-5 in. in diam. Chile, where it is the most important coniferous timber tree. Zone 7.

Bidwillii Hook. BUNYA-BUNYA, BUNYA-BUNYA PINE. Juvenile lvs. spreading, mostly in 2 rows, ovate to oblong-lanceolate, to 2 in. long,

sharp-pointed, firm and glossy, adult lvs. overlapping, spiral, ovate, to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, acute, rigid, woody; male cones 3-5 in. long, $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam., female cones 7-9 in. long, 8-9 in. in diam. N. Australia. Zone 8.

brasiliana *A. angustifolia*.

brasiliana var. *gracilis* *A. angustifolia*.

columnaris (C. Forst.) Hook. [A. Cookii R. Br. ex Endl.; *A. arceles* (Lamb.) R. Br.]. NEW CALEDONIA PINE. To 200 ft., shedding lower brs. and developing short secondary brs., mature trees appearing columnar below an abruptly spreading short crown, juvenile lvs. awl-shaped, deep green, firm, to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long; adult lvs. overlapping, lanceolate-ovate to triangular, to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, obtuse, rigid, with blunt incurved apex and prominent midrib; male cones $1\frac{1}{2}$ - $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam., female cones ovoid to ellipsoid, 4-5 in. long, the micro at tip of scales elongate, recurved. New Caledonia, New Hebrides. Zone 10. Young trees, up to 25 ft. with only juvenile foliage, are difficult to separate from *A. heterophylla*, but the habit of mature trees is distinctive; *A. columnaris* has deeper green foliage and cluster tiers of brs. and makes a better ornamental tree except in age. The name *A. arceles* was long used incorrectly for *A. heterophylla*.

Cookii *A. columnaris*.

Cunninghamii D. Don. HOPE PINE. MORETON BAY P. Mature tree with tufted twig clusters at ends of naked brs., juvenile lvs. needlelike, laterally compressed, to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, spiny-pointed, often recurved, adult lvs. awl-shaped to lanceolate, incurved, overlapping, male cones 2-3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam., female cones ovoid, $2\frac{1}{2}$ -3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. in diam. E. Australia, where an important timber sp. Zone 10.

exelsa *A. columnaris*, but most material cult. as *A. exelsa* is *A. heterophylla*.

gracilis a listed name of no botanical standing, occasionally used for *A. angustifolia*.

heterophylla (Salisb.) Franco. NORFOLK ISLAND PINE, AUSTRALIAN P., HOUSE P. Mature trees to 200 ft., pyramidal; juvenile lvs. awl-shaped, incurved, laterally flattened, decurrent, light green, soft, to $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long; adult lvs. closely overlapping, lanceolate to ovate-triangular with blunt incurved apex and obscure midrib; male cones $1\frac{1}{2}$ -2 in. long, female cones subglobose, 3-5 in. long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ -6 in. in diam., the micro at tip of scales short, not recurved. Norfolk Is. Zone 10. Long known incorrectly as *A. exelsa*. The usual sp. grown by Boris for indoor pot plants. Prop. by cuttings of vigorous, erect shoot tips.

imbricata *A. araucana*.

ARAUCARIACEAE Henkel & Hochst. **ARAUCARIA** FAMILY. Gymnosperms; 2 genera of resinous, evergreen, coniferous trees, native to the S. Hemisphere; lvs. alt., awl-shaped to broadly ovate, often leathery; male cones cylindrical, female cones usually large, subglobose, scales woody, falling when seeds are ripe; differing from the *Pinaceae* in the lvs. and in having cone scales without distinct bracts and with only 1 ovule. The family includes some of the most important timber trees of the S. Hemisphere as well as species supplying hard resins for industry. *Agathis* and *Araucaria* are grown in conservatories or outdoors where climatic conditions permit.

ARAUJA Brot. *Asclepiadaceae*. About 5 spp. of glabrous or mealy-pubescent, climbing shrubs, native to Argentina and Brazil; lvs. opp., simple; fls. in few-fl., peduncled, axillary cymes, calyx large and leafy, without glands, corolla salverform or campanulate, tube inflated at base, corona lobes attached to corolla tube, anthers terminated by small inflexed projection; fr. a follicle, leathery, sometimes inflated.

Grown under glass from cuttings or outdoors from seeds started indoors in early spring.

sericea Brot. Lvs. oblong to triangular-oblong, to 4 in. long, broadly cuneate to somewhat sagittate, mucronate, dark green above, white-pubescent beneath; corolla white, often streaked with maroon inside, $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 in. across; follicles inflated, deeply grooved, to 5 in. long, 3 in. broad. S. Brazil. Material offered as *Schubertia albena* may be this sp.

ARBORETUM. Literally, an arboretum is a collection of living trees; as now used, the term denotes a plantation of many kinds of woody plants permanently maintained for purposes of study, research, and education, as distinct from a grove, forest, nursery, or park. It is often part of a botanical garden.

Issue: January 2010

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The Araucaria Family: Past & Present

By: Wayne P Armstrong

Topics: Perspectives

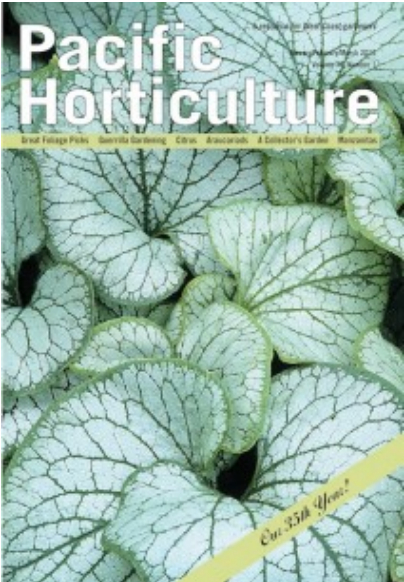
Regions: Northern California, Oregon, Southern California, Washington/British Columbia



Monkey puzzle trees (*Araucaria araucana*) in habitat on volcanic slopes in Chile.
Photograph by RGT

The ancient araucaria family (Araucariaceae) contains three genera (*Araucaria*, *Agathis*, and *Wollemia*) and forty-one species of cone-bearing trees native to forested regions of the Southern Hemisphere, including South America, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, and New Caledonia. During the Jurassic Period, the family had an extensive distribution in both hemispheres, extending as far north as England, Greenland, and

This Issue



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Sweden. In majestic size and beauty, araucariads rival the grander members of the pine family (Pinaceae); both families are conifers (Pinophyta). Fossil evidence indicates that ancient araucaria forests resembling present-day species date back to the age of dinosaurs. Today, araucaria forests are limited to the Southern Hemisphere and are considered a counterpart to the pine and spruce forests of the Northern Hemisphere.

Although sometimes referred to as “pines,” members of the araucaria family have seed cones and foliage that are distinctly different from those of the pine family. Trees in the pine family have cone scales with a pair of winged ovules (seeds) on the upper surface; members of the araucaria family have only one ovule per scale. The seed of *Araucaria* is fused to the scale and falls with the scale when the cone disintegrates. In *Agathis*, the seed is winged and free from the scale. Unlike the typical, slender, needlelike leaves of the pine family, the sharply pointed leaves of the araucaria family are quite variable; depending upon the species, they range from scale-like or awl-shaped to linear or oblong. Some species have broad leaves that superficially resemble the leaves of flowering plants.



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Patchy exfoliating bark characterizes kauri pine (*Agathis australis*) in a second growth forest near the northern tip of New Zealand. Photograph by RGT

Wollemia—a Surprising Discovery

Of the three genera of Araucariaceae, the most primitive is *Wollemia*. In 1994, David Noble discovered an unknown cone-bearing tree in the rugged Blue Mountains of Wollemi National Park, northwest of Sydney, Australia. The generic name commemorates this park and is derived from an Australian aboriginal word meaning “watch out, look around you”—an appropriate warning for anyone hiking the complex canyons and precipitous sandstone escarpments characteristic of the tree’s habitat. About forty trees in a deep narrow canyon turned out to be an undescribed species. They were named Wollemi pine (*Wollemia nobilis*), a remarkable “new” member of the family. Fossils resembling *Wollemia* and possibly related to it are widespread in Australia, New Zealand, and Antarctica, but *W. nobilis* is the sole living member of its genus. This rare conifer was thought to be extinct: its last fossil record was dated about two million years ago. Typical of genetic bottlenecks in small populations, chloroplast DNA studies show no discernable genetic variation among the wild trees. Like the Torrey pine (*Pinus torreyi*) of San Diego County, which also has little genetic variability, this is truly a relict population that was more widespread millions of years ago. The Wollemi pine is a great botanical discovery—a “living fossil.”

Dinosaur skeletons and fossils of juvenile and mature foliage of a supposedly extinct conifer have been found together throughout western Queensland in rocks dating back 120 million years. Foliage of the just-discovered Wollemi pines closely matches these fossils. Further evidence comes from live and fossilized pollen. Pollen grains of extinct plants are well preserved in ancient strata because of their durable exine coating made from a substance called sporopollenin. Although it contains only carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, sporopollenin is one of the most stable organic compounds known. Throughout Australia and New Zealand, fossil pollen called *Dilwynites* has been collected from Jurassic age sediments. It has also been collected in fifty-million-year-old sediments from Antarctica’s continental shelf. Similar to araucariad pollen, it differed in its coarse, grainy coating. When compared with pollen from living Wollemi pines, there was a perfect match.



Bunya-bunya (*Araucaria bidwillii*) seed cone (left) and Coulter pine (*Pinus coulteri*) cone (right), two of the most massive cones among the conifers; both cones can weigh up to ten pounds or more. Author’s photographs, except as noted



Records from paleobotanists now prove that Wollemi pines were common in moist forests on the Australian continent for countless millions of years, growing with ferns, other gymnosperms such as cycads and ginkgos, and early flowering plants. According to McLoughlin and Vajada, Wollemi pines have survived raging forest fires and the asteroid collision on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula that drove the dinosaurs extinct and ended the Cretaceous. Hidden away in narrow sandstone ravines for millions of years, the Wollemi pine receives the humidity and moisture necessary for its vital symbiotic mycorrhizal fungi. These habitats provided shelter from firestorms that raged in the eucalyptus forests atop the sandstone plateaus. The tree's habit of resprouting from the base (coppicing) probably helped it recover from occasional fires within the deep, generally moist ravines.

Wollemi pines are now being propagated from both seeds and through tissue culture, and are already being cultivated in a few botanical gardens on the Pacific Coast. Time will tell if this intriguing conifer enters the commercial trade, following in the horticultural path of maidenhair tree (*Ginkgo biloba*) and dawn redwood (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*)—both considered to be living fossils.

Wollemi pines have beautiful light green foliage composed of flattened, linear leaves. In the juvenile stage, leaves are twisted at the base to form a flattened, two-ranked arrangement similar to those of a coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*). Adult leaves are four-ranked and spirally arranged around the stem. In their native habitat, the trees have multiple

trunks; younger stems emerge from the base of the tree and gradually replace older trunks. Because of this strong coppicing habit, tree-ring dating will never reveal the actual age of an old tree. The trees are frost and shade tolerant and can also grow in full sun.



Cook pine (*Araucaria columnaris*), on left, showing a dense, slender crown; cultivated trees often lean in one direction. Norfolk Island pine (*A. heterophylla*), on right, showing widely-spaced, horizontal branches

One caveat to the cultivation of this rare conifer is its susceptibility to various pathogenic soil fungi (water molds). In November 2005, wild Wollemi pines were discovered infected with a root rot fungus (*Phytophthora cinnamomi*); this fungus is the cause of avocado root rot, the scourge of avocado growers in San Diego County. Park rangers in Australia believe spores of this virulent water mold were introduced on the shoes of unauthorized visitors to the site; for this reason, the location of the groves has been undisclosed to the public. This vulnerability is typical of small populations with little genetic diversity. The survival of Wollemi pines in the wild could be seriously threatened, not only by such exotic diseases, but also by environmental and climatic changes.



Branchlets of five species of *Araucaria*, from the top: Cook pine (*Araucaria columnaris*), Norfolk Island pine (*A. heterophylla*), hoop pine (*A. cunninghamii*), bunya-bunya (*A. bidwillii*), and paraná pine (*A. angustifolia*)

The Araucarias

The genus *Araucaria* includes approximately nineteen species, all confined to the Southern Hemisphere in markedly disjunct distributions. Most of the extant araucarian taxa have evolved since early Tertiary time; extensive evolution and adaptive radiation have occurred in the islands of Australasia, where most of the species are found. Two species occur in South America and two in New Guinea (one of which also occurs in Australia), one is endemic to mainland Australia, and another is found only on Norfolk Island in the Tasman Sea. The remaining thirteen species are endemic to New Caledonia, where they occur from sea level to 3,000 feet elevation. This is a striking pattern, according to biologist Timothy Waters, because it means that this family of conifers has been successful in a tropical rain forest environment where angiosperms (flowering plants) are generally thought to have replaced conifers. He suggests that the Australasian success of araucarians may be governed more by their ability to adapt to conditions of their physical environment (including precipitation, fire, and edaphic factors), rather than their ability to compete effectively with angiosperms.

The type genus *Araucaria* is derived from the Arauco region of central Chile, where the Araucani Indians live. This is the land of the monkey puzzle tree (*A. araucana*), so named because the prickly, tangled branches would be difficult for a monkey to climb. It has been suggested that an armor of dagger-like leaves on ancient araucariads might have discouraged hungry South American herbivorous dinosaurs, such as the enormous *Argentinosaurus* that weighed an estimated eighty to a hundred tons! Monkey puzzle trees do not grow well in Southern California, but are occasionally planted in parks and gardens of Northern California. They grow much better in the colder, wetter climates of Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia. Another ancient South American species called pino paran  or paran  pine (*A. angustifolia*), native to southern Brazil and Argentina, is occasionally grown in coastal California.

Australian members of the Araucariaceae commonly grown in California include the tall, prickly-leaved bunya-bunya (*A. bidwillii*) of Queensland, with huge pineapple-shaped cones, hoop pine (*A. cunninghamii*), an important Australian timber tree, and Norfolk Island pine (*A. heterophylla*), native to Norfolk Island. The latter species is commonly grown in parks and gardens in the San Francisco Bay Area, and in containers in Southern California; it is often sold as star pine, because of its horizontal tiers of radiating branches. Norfolk Island pine was discovered by Captain James Cook on his second voyage to Australia and New Zealand aboard the *HMS Resolution* (1772-1775). Bunyabunya also has an unmistakable silhouette, with barren, horizontal limbs tufted at the ends with spiny leaves. Its huge seed cones pose a serious threat to unsuspecting persons standing beneath the canopy. Unlike most conifer species, wild populations of *Araucaria* are typically dioecious, with pollen-bearing and seedbearing cones on separate male and female trees. Trees are occasionally monoecious, and there are remarkable but unsubstantiated reports of trees that change sex with time.

In Southern California, there are also trees that resemble Norfolk Island pines, but with more closely spaced limbs and a narrow, columnar, crown that resemble Cook pines (*Araucaria columnaris*). According to Angela Keplar's *Trees of Hawaii*, most of the trees called Norfolk Island pine in Hawaii are actually Cook pines. They have naturalized throughout the Hawaiian Islands and have been exported as lumber and container-grown "Christmas trees" to the US mainland. Both species were introduced to Hawaii in the late 1800s. Some botanists consider the narrow-growing trees in Southern California to be hybrids of the two species, while others insist they are the true Cook pine.

In general, the interval between tiers of limbs is greater on Norfolk Island pines, particularly on younger trees, and the horizontal limbs are longer than those of Cook pines; the latter has a slender, spire-like crown with shorter, more closely spaced horizontal branches. When the two species are compared side-by-side, the differences between them are striking; however, there are also trees with intermediate branching patterns. Leaf shape and size is variable and not particularly useful in separating these two species. Although *A. columnaris* is not listed in the latest *Sunset Western Garden Book*, there are confirmed specimens of this tree in Southern California at Quail Botanical Gardens, Huntington Botanical Gardens, and the Palomar College Arboretum.

Phylogenetic studies comparing chloroplast DNA have shown that the Norfolk Island pine's closest relatives are a group of thirteen species of *Araucaria* endemic to New Caledonia, including Cook pine. Although New Caledonia is a relatively small island of only 19,000 square kilometers, it contains a rich conifer flora of forty-three endemic species, including two-thirds of the world's *Araucaria* species and five of the twenty-one species of *Agathis*. The New Caledonian species are seldom cultivated in California, except by the occasional passionate collector.



The rare Wollemi pine (*Wollemia nobilis*) has flattened, linear leaves arranged spirally on the stem, but twisted at the base to appear two-ranked. They are quite distinct from species of *Araucaria* and *Agathis*

The Resinous *Agathis*

The genus *Agathis* includes thirteen species of large, resinous, broad-leaved conifers scattered throughout Australia, New Zealand, and the Malay Archipelago. Several species are the source of timber and valuable copal varnish, including kauri pine (*A. australis*) of New Zealand, Amboina pine (*A. dammara*) of Malaysia, and Queensland kauri (*A. robusta*) of eastern Australia. One of the largest kauri pines found on New Zealand's North Island was documented at 169 feet tall with a trunk forty-five feet in circumference; it is thought to be a little more than 2,000 years old. The Maori name for this individual is Tane Mahuta, which means "god of the forest."

Kauri pines and Queensland kauri are occasionally found in the collections of various botanical gardens in both Northern and Southern California. Their extremely slow growth rate and ultimate great size may limit their use in private gardens. Both are notable for their relatively smooth trunks with bark that exfoliates in irregular patches.

Copals are a group of resins that form particularly hard varnishes.

Dammars are another group of hard, durable varnishes that turn shiny and transparent when dry. Although some species of *Agathis* are named dammar, most dammar resins come from tropical Asian trees of the genus *Shorea* in the Diptocarpaceae. Copal and dammar resins improve the drying qualities and provide the luminous depth and brilliance for which oil paintings are known.



Diorama of an *araucariad* forest from 200 million years ago, when all the continents were united into the vast supercontinent Pangaea. Whether any logs at Petrified Forest National Park came from trees such as these is unknown at this time. From all the thousands of petrified logs, one can only imagine the extent and diversity of this ancient forest of giant trees. (Diorama on display at the Rainbow Forest Museum, Petrified Forest National Park)

The Fossil Story

Fossil evidence indicates that the araucaria family reached its maximum diversity during the Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, between 200 and 65 million years ago, with worldwide distributions. At the end of the Cretaceous, when dinosaurs became extinct, so did the Araucariaceae in the Northern Hemisphere. Until about 135 million years ago, trees of the Araucariaceae grew in forests of the ancient southern supercontinent called Gondwana, which combined the land masses now known as South America, Africa, Antarctica, India, and Australia. By sixty-five million years ago, the continents had drifted into positions resembling their present-day configuration.

Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona protects hundreds of acres of perfectly preserved logs from an ancient conifer forest dating back to the late Triassic Period (approximately 225 million years ago). Streams carried fallen logs into this once swampy lowland region where they were buried in sediments rich in volcanic ash. Over countless centuries, the woody tissue of the logs was replaced with minerals and gradually turned into stone. Many of the reddish, agatized logs do not show any cellular detail; however, there are some permineralized specimens in which minerals permeated the porous cell walls and filled the cell cavities (lumens). Thin sections of these samples, when viewed under a microscope, reveal remarkable cellular detail.

The trees of this extinct forest coexisted with dinosaurs. Most of the petrified logs were previously assigned to the extinct *Araucarioxylon arizonicum*, a presumed distant relative of *Araucaria*. Although that binomial has been used in botanical literature for more than a century, Rodney A Savidge of the University of New Brunswick has concluded that it is superfluous and therefore an illegitimate name. He examined thin sections of the original three specimens housed at the Smithsonian

Institution upon which the species was first described by FH Knowlton in 1889 and found that they represented three different species within two new genera of extinct trees. Only one of the three specimens was retained as the new type *Pullisilvaxylon arizonicum*. Savidge examined several other logs previously identified as *A. arizonicum* and concluded that they represented additional new genera and species. His extensive anatomical studies indicate that the majority of logs in the Petrified Forest National Park do not belong to a single species but rather to a complex of extinct conifers. Based solely on the xylem structure of permineralized wood (including resin canals, rays, and tracheid pitting), and without seed cones or DNA evidence, it is difficult to be certain which trees (if any) in this complex are ancestral relatives of the araucaria family.

Trees in this diverse forest grew to a height of 200 feet with a trunk diameter of from four to nine feet. According to paleobotanists Sidney R Ash and Geoffrey T Creber, the living trees did not closely resemble any of the present-day *Araucaria* species of the southern hemisphere. The branches did not occur in whorls as they do in most conifers but grew irregularly along the trunk, nor did the bark resemble that of living species. These ancient trees flourished during a time when all of the continents were united into the vast supercontinent Pangaea, which broke up in the middle of the Jurassic period. The area of Petrified National Park was, at that time, located near the equator, at approximately the latitude of present-day Central America. The trees grew in a tropical rain forest with marshes, rivers, and lakes—an environment totally unlike today's Arizona landscape.

Another rich fossil area for Jurassic age araucarian forests is Cerro Cuadrado Petrified Forest National Monument in Patagonia, Argentina. Some of the largest logs in this arid desert region are ten feet in diameter, the remnants of trees that were over 200 feet tall. Seed cones of *Araucaria mirabilis* from this site are remarkably preserved in every detail. The cones clearly show one seed per scale and resemble modern cones of Norfolk Island and Cook pines. The oldest documented record for resin canals comes from cone scales of this extinct conifer.



Broad leathery leaves and spherical cones of kauri pine (*Agathis australis*). Photograph by RGT

Resins: Beautiful and Useful

Amber is ancient plant resin that has metamorphosed into a hard, plastic-like polymer over millions of years. Insects often become trapped in the sticky sap and are perfectly preserved in a transparent tomb of fossilized resin. Baltic amber dates back to the early Tertiary Period, approximately fifty million years ago. Ninety percent of this amber appears to be from a single plant source. For decades, Baltic amber (succinite) had been arbitrarily assigned to an extinct pine (*Pinus succinifera*) because of the presence of succinic acid; however, infrared spectroscopy studies now show that Baltic amber may be more closely related to resins of broad-leaved conifers of the Araucariaceae. According to biologist Jean H Langenheim, an authority on resins, Baltic amber contains pinaceous inclusions (wood fragments and cones) but with araucarian chemical characteristics, so the origin of these vast deposits remains an enigma.

In New Zealand, living araucariad forests of kauri pine produce copious amounts of resin that once formed a thriving industry for hard, durable varnishes and linoleum. Large lumps of hardened resin (up to one hundred pounds in size) were dug out of the ground in extensive forested areas of the North Island. Forests such as this may have once flourished

in the Baltic region sixty million years ago. Throughout the world, the most copious resin-producing trees occur in tropical regions. These complex mixtures of terpene resins may have evolved to serve as a chemical defense against the high diversity of plant-eating insects and parasitic fungi found in the tropics.

Relevant today for their practical uses and their distinctive character in the landscape, members of the araucaria family resonate for us through time. A walk along shaded pathways lined with araucariads reveals a view deep into the geologic past. Having changed little during the past 180 million years, these living fossils are resilient, successful, cone-bearing trees that link us to a time when dinosaurs ruled the earth.



Petrified Forest National Park in Arizona contains hundreds of acres of perfectly preserved logs from an ancient tropical flood plain, over 200 million years ago

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Norfolk Island Pine vs. Cook Pine

A. heterophylla

A. columnaris



The two trees side by side in "Finca de San Jose" - Malaga

Photographes by Dan for www.tree-species.blogspot.com

This is a series of images comparing the *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine) and the *Araucaria columnaris* (Cook Pine). I've been studying four different species in the *Araucaria* genus for about three years now. These two in particular are often mistaken one for the other and in fact I did not realize they were two tree species until I started getting a good look at them. The image above is about a half mile from my house on a historic peace of property called the "Finca of San Jose". It used to be a weathly persons large estate with a mansion but now it is an insane asylum. The original family owned a shiping company and had many exotic species of plants brought back which they planted on their estate. The reason the Cook Pine (on the right) is bent is that the top part of the tree died and a new top formed from below the dead portion. Norfolks are a lot less pointy at the top than Cooks.

A. heterophylla

A. columnaris



Comparison of bark detail

Photographes by Dan for www.tree-species.blogspot.com

The bark is one of the key differences in these two trees. The Cook pine has flaky bark that peels off in small rolls. The Norfolk only has a slight amount of flaking on a much smaller scale.

A. heterophylla



A. columnaris



Comparison of young trees

Photographes by Dan for www.tree-species.blogspot.com

Young Norfolks are much less filled out than Cooks with more distace between the rings of branches. I've also notices that the branches of the cooks have more "leaves" then the Norfolks. Also Cooks almost always have a charactaristic lean and their trunk is often slightly bent. Norfolks on the other hand are very straight and upright.

A. heterophylla



A. columnaris



Comparison of bark and branches

Photographes by Dan for www.tree-species.blogspot.com

I've noticed that the branches of the Cooks slope down and then curl up on the ends. The Norfolk tend to be straight out or sloped slightly up. The branches of the Norfolk also tend to be a lot longer than the Cooks (see the top image).

A. heterophylla



Mature tree

A. Columnaris



Mature tree

lean of the Cook pine.

I've seen similar female cones on both of these trees but much more frequently on the Norfolks.

I recently came across the image below at...

<http://merricks-merricks.blogspot.com/2007/12/norfolk-island-pine-in-bloom.html>

The author had it listed as a Norfolk Pine. It looks to me more like a Cook pine however as I have seen these same "blossoms" on other Cooks.



Araucaria Columnaris.

The image above shows the characteristic

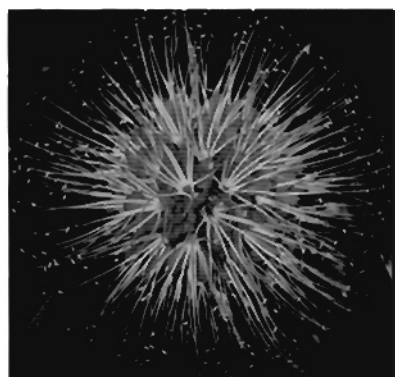
Below is a picture that I took from a



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Araucaria heterophylla

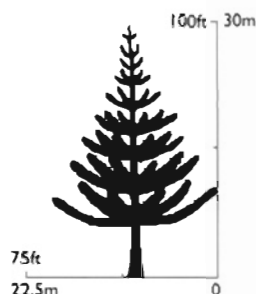
NORFOLK PINE

(Salisb.) Franco

18-19 spp

A. excelsa

ARAUCARIACEAE



ARAUCARIA HETEROPHYLLA is a popular columnar tree endemic to the small island of Norfolk, which lies between New Zealand and the island of New Caledonia in the South Pacific. *A. heterophylla* is a superbly structured species, with stout limbs whorled in horizontal planes around a mast-like axis. The stiff, leathery leaves are held spirally on the main axis and oppositely or alternately on lateral shoots. *A. heterophylla* is a gymnosperm, closely related to the *Agathis* genus, and bears both male and female cones. In some regions, this stately, coastal tree has earned a bad reputation, particularly in some parts of Trop. America, where it is often planted singly as an accent in small, suburban gardens and, decorated with lights, used as a Christmas tree during the festive season. In urban areas, however, *A. heterophylla* suffers from pollution, which strips its protective wax coating, making the foliage susceptible to salt damage. Nevertheless, this magnificent, seaworthy giant is extensively planted in Hawaii and Australia along coastal regions and is the signature of many of Australia's celebrated surfing beaches, where it provides shade and stabilizes the sandy shoreline. *A. heterophylla* has been cultivated commercially on Ascension Island, in the S Atlantic, to make masts for sailing ships. Contrary to popular theory, it is not necessary for this *Araucaria* to be left to grow with a single trunk; an excellent shape may be formed if the leader is cut away when it is young, causing the tree to develop a multiple crown, which encourages sturdier, fuller and shorter growth. *Araucaria* species may be propagated by layering lateral limbs, but the resulting young plant will never produce a leader, but continue a plagiotropic growth. Several cultivars of *A. heterophylla* are available, including those with variegated, striped or glaucous foliage, and others with compact or dwarf forms.

ORIGIN	Norfolk Is, endemic
HEIGHT	up to 60 m (197 ft)
TYPE	evergreen, dioecious, very large foliage tree
STATUS	threatened
HABITAT	coastal lowlands; along strand
GROWTH	fast
FLOWG	spring
DRY TOL	high
SALT TOL	high
LIGHT	full sun
SOIL	tolerant, very well-drained
NUTRIT	high-nitrogen fertilizer, annually
HAZARDS	spiny
PROBLEMS	scale; fungus
ENVIRON	seeds for birds
PROPAG	seeds; layers
LEAVES	linear; dark green; stiff, leathery; spiralled around stems
FLOWERS	male cones, catkin-like, dense, cylindrical; female cones, much larger, with spiralled scales
FRUIT	female cones to 8.5 cm (3.5 in.); solitary; seeds winged for dispersal
USE	seaside; accent; wind barrier; public open space; large container; conservatory; xerophytic
ZONE	9-11



A. heterophylla; Norfolk Island Pine is popular for seaside shade along the coasts of Australia. Apart from providing shade, this sp. binds and stabilizes the beach sand.



A. heterophylla; when the leader is cut, the tree develops a multiple crown.



A. heterophylla; often planted as a living Christmas tree in the W Indies. Here it adorns a small cottage by the sea.



A. bidwillii; huge, pineapple-like cones with edible sds; cones have a tendency to drop without warning.



Araucaria columnaris; ([Forst.] Hook.), (syn. *A. cookii*), New Caledonia, up to 60 m (197 ft). Known as COOK PINE, as Capt. Cook discovered it on the famous Isle of Pines, New Caledonia. In its natural habitat, this sp. often masses in monocultural forests. Distinguished by its very narrow, column-like crown, the numerous, scale-like, narrowly triangular lvs are sharp-pointed, to 1.5 cm (0.59 in.). Female cones are ovoid, to 10 cm (4 in.). Photographed at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Sydney, Australia. (9-11)



Araucaria cunninghamii; (D. Don.), endemic of E. Australia, up to 60 m (197 ft). HOOP PINE is found on mountain slopes, river banks and coast. forests of E Australia. *A. cunninghamii* has stiffly erect, sturdy limbs with an asymmetrically, rounded crown. Foliage is compact at the tips of its limbs; it is dense and lvs are needle-like, not scaly. Fr. are smaller than *A. bidwillii*, up to 10 cm (4 in.). Shown here in Qld, where this sp. is popular for highway and seaside planting. (9-11)



Araucaria bidwillii; (Hook.), Qld. Australia endemic, to 50 m (164 ft). BUNYA-BUNYA PINE, native of coast, and upland rainforests, loses its conical apex with maturity, forming a rounded crown. Its shiny, prickly foliage is tasselled towards

the ends of slender, descending limbs. The fr. has overlapping scales of up to 30 cm (12 in) long, pineapple-like cones weighing up to 4.5 kg. (10 lbs) with edible sds. Timber is very desirable, being hard and lightweight. (9-11)

KNOW YOUR GARDEN SERIES

ORNAMENTAL CONIFERS

General Editor
Julie Grace



TIMBER PRESS
Portland, Oregon
1983



28 *Araucaria bidwillii*. Winter. Toowoomba, Queensland.



29 *Araucaria bidwillii*. Foliage.

Araucaria bidwillii

Bunya-Bunya.

28, 29 This native of the coastal regions of Queensland, Australia, has found its way as an ornamental into many parts of the world where the climate is sufficiently mild to allow its establishment. It makes a broad, uniformly pyramidal tree of up to 50m (165ft) in favourable climates, and lower and more rounded in marginal areas, the rich glossy green, prickly foliage seemingly held in large bunches at the ends of the branches. The large, edible seeds are borne in cones weighing up to 4.5kg (10lb) each, and are much prized by the Aborigines for food. In ten years' growing one may expect a tree of 4-5m (13-16ft) in height. It produces a good-quality softwood timber, and could well be forested more in areas unsuitable to other pines.

Hardiness 7.



30 *Araucaria heterophylla*. Spring. Queensland, Australia.

Araucaria heterophylla

Norfolk Island Pine.

30 A beautiful symmetrical tree, found originally only on Norfolk Island, which is now a popular ornamental in warm temperate zones throughout the world, as well as being an indoor pot-plant in less temperate countries. It has a height potential of 60m (200ft), grows incredibly straight, the branches originating in whorls from the trunk and spaced in almost perfect regularity up the trunk, giving a tapered many-tiered effect reminiscent of a Chinese pagoda. One is, however, able to change the character of this tree completely by removing its leader when young, and if this is done repeatedly it grows into a very dense, conical shrub not unlike some types of cryptomeria. Although not regarded as hardy, it is not a difficult tree to establish in marginal areas provided it has some frost protection until up to the 3 or 4m (10 or 13ft) level. Previously known as *A. excelsa*.

Hardiness 8.



31 *Athrotaxis laxifolia*. Foliage and cones.

Tree Management Experts

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Curriculum Vitae

Roy C. Leggitt, III

Consulting Arborist and Plant Scientist

Education:

Bachelor of Science, California State University – Fresno.
Plant Sciences, Ornamental Horticulture

Professional Qualifications

Member, American Society of Consulting Arborists
Graduate, ASCA 2003 Consulting Academy
Certified Arborist WE-0564A, International Society of Arboriculture
Tree Risk Assessor Qualified (TRAQ)
California State Contractor License for Tree Service C61/D49 #885953

Continuing Education / Topic or Seminar Titles

Selection of methodology in tree appraisal
Tree Appraisal Workshop
Tree Appraisal Theory and Practice: An Advanced Seminar
Testifying Skills for Consulting Arborists
Trees and the Law
Understanding Soils
Soil Compaction
Roots and Soils
Reforestation in the Forest, Suburbia and the City
Palm Cultivation
Sudden Oak Death
Tree Preservation During Construction
Hazard tree risk assessment and management
National Tree Failure Program
Body Language of Trees
Tree Physiology
Davey Operational Safety program
Fire Risk Management
Riparian zone conservation
Resistograph® Certification Seminar

Areas of Specialized Study

Plant physiology and biology
Plant taxonomy
Arboriculture
Irrigation technology
Soil science
Landscape design
Plant pathology and mycology
Risk assessment
Arboricultural biomechanics

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Related Fields of Study

Agronomy and viticulture
Geological science
Computer sciences and programming
Mathematics
Physics

Employment:

1987-Present Self-employed Consulting Arborist and Horticultural Consultant.
2011-Present Member of the Opine Experts group.
1992-2002 The Davey Tree Expert Co., Inc.: project management, representative, consultant.
1989-1992 Golden Coast Environmental Services, Inc.: project management and northern California representative.
1988-1989 City of Fresno: supervised team of 4 data collectors to develop citywide inventory. Developed and adapted software throughout project.
1987-1988 Center for Irrigation Technology: research on sprinkler distribution patterns using laser scanning to measure droplet size.

Agency Certifications:

Small Business Administration: Certified Small Business DUNS# 12-783-9798

San Francisco Human Rights Commission: Certified Local Business Enterprise (LBE) and Certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE). Certification number: HRC020914873

San Francisco Redevelopment Agency: Certified Small Business Enterprise (SBE). Certification number: 113-10706-013

Consultant:

Municipal and Agencies

1988-1989: City of Fresno: managed an in-house street tree inventory project, including staff training and management, data quality control, software modifications and implementation of database.

1989: City of Palo Alto: managed data collection and software implementation for a City-wide street and right-of-way tree inventory.

1989-1990: City of Visalia: managed data collection and software implementation for a street tree inventory and a valley oak conservation study of all areas within City limits.

1990: City of Manteca: City-wide street tree inventory and management plan.

1990: City of Lancaster: City-wide street sign inventory.

1990: City of Pasadena: City-wide inventory of street trees, street lighting, sidewalk damage survey; site-specific sidewalk redesign specifications to accommodate tree needs.

1990-1992: City of Los Angeles: managed 6 staff data collectors. Oversaw data quality and localized data base installations in field offices.

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1994-1997: City and County of San Francisco, Housing Authority: tree surveys, tree management planning and contract administration for Sunnydale (phase I), Hunter's View, Potrero Terrace and Potrero Annex.

1999-2000: City of Pacifica: risk assessment tree survey for 639 trees including a recommendation for removal of 119 trees. Represented the City on a panel to answer over 200 citizen inquiries. Represented the City to administer the tree service contract.

1999-2000: National Park Service, Fort Mason: inspections and reports to facilitate tree management decisions. Evaluation based on safety and neighbor concerns. Conducted 3-hour training session for staff on proper pruning techniques.

2002: National Park Service, Muir Woods National Monument: deconstruction planning, hazard evaluation and construction planning in tree-sensitive areas.

2002-Present: City of Pacifica: site-specific inspections and recommendations for management decisions, risk assessment and dispute resolution.

2003: City of Pacifica: tree risk assessment and tree management study. Field report and geographic information system developed to implement tree removal, reforestation and replacement tree conservation in a residential neighborhood and riparian zone parks.

2003-2006: USDA Research Station, Albany: soil nutrition and hydrology survey; plant location, size and health survey; comprehensive interpretive report with map inserts.

2004: City of San Pablo: site assessment, tree health assessment and recommended remediation for 44 palm tree planting sites in a commercial district.

2004-2005: City of Oakland: Leona Quarry Redevelopment Master Plan; plan review, project compliance with conditions of approval.

2005-2006: City of Oakland: City-wide tree inventory; estimated 300,000 tree sites. Vector-mapping by block side, PDA data collection, database development, GIS implementation.

2006-2007: City of Pacifica: tree risk assessment and tree management study for all large trees managed by the City that are located in streets and parks.

2006-2007: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission with Ecology & Environment, Inc: Crystal Springs Pipeline No. 2 project. Provided the tree survey and arborist memorandum for an environmental impact report. Tree protection and mitigation measures were evaluated at the Municipal, County and State levels, including considerations under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and SB-1334.

2006-2011: Federal Building, Golden Gate Plaza: with PGA Design, provided design review, species selection and site management and monitoring specifications. Provided ongoing monitoring and evaluations, and design and installation of new landscape areas.

2007: City of Pacifica: Author of DPW publication *Trees for Pacifica: Tree Selection and Planting Guide* to provide appropriate species selection based on site assessment, wind, coastal influence, tree size and growth rate with ornamental and native species.

2008: State Compensation Insurance Fund: tree health and site assessment with recommendations for tree care. Review of new plaza design to preserve existing trees during construction.

2008: National Park Service, San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park: tree health and risk assessment with recommendations.

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2008-2009: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission with ESA/Orion Joint Venture: Crystal Springs Pipeline No. 2 project. Provided project refinement and enhancement of options through inclusion of tree impacts caused by use of helicopters, temporary bridge construction and installation of cathodic protection.

2008-2009: City of Oakland, with PGA Design: City sidewalk repair specifications, monitoring and stress tests.

2008-2011: General Services Administration, National Archives, San Bruno: provided a tree survey and management plan, ongoing contract management and re-evaluation for health and hazard trees.

2009-2010: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Bay Division Pipeline 5. Completed the initial tree study with Merrill Morris Partners. Completed training, job hazard analysis and safety work plans for Hernandez Engineering. Completed pre-construction tree survey with an inventory and mapping of the western reaches for Mountain Cascade.

2010-2012: City of Emeryville: Provided City Arborist services for the installation of 12 new date palms at the west end of Park Avenue, and follow-up monitoring and recommendations.

2011: BART through Flatiron Construction. Completed a landscaping and tree survey for vegetation losses caused by construction of the Oakland Airport Connector.

2009-Present: City of Alameda Housing Authority: provided tree surveys in 2009 and 2011 with scale drawings and a management plan for all properties containing trees. Provided tree hazard evaluation for all removals, and ongoing inspections and reports.

2010-Present: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. As-needed projects as a sub-consultant for MWH and HDR contracts. Most recent project is a tree risk assessment study for the trees at Lake Merced.

2013-Present: San Francisco Department of Public Works, with Empire Construction: provided inspections, root pruning and low limb pruning for street trees during sidewalk repairs.

2013-Present: Santa Clara County with Hexagon Transportation and URS: species lists for various tree planting typologies for over 600 miles of roads throughout Santa Clara County.

2015: City of Pacifica: tree risk assessment and tree management study for all large trees managed by the City that are located in streets and parks.

Association Management Planning

1998-1999: Laguna Heights Co-op Corp.: tree inventory and mapping for 450-tree association property. Tree management plan and 10 year maintenance cost projections.

2003-Present: Treasure Isle HOA: database tree inventory, tree maintenance and management plan, creation of a fully cross-indexed management manual and project management. Ongoing assistance with vendor oversight, conflict resolution and interfacing with City staff. 16-acre site.

2003-Present: Bohemian Club, San Francisco: management for intensely used urban planting sites for Boston ivy, trees and shrubs.

2004: La Salle Heights HOA, San Francisco: tree and vegetation study for a 16-acre site with 800 trees, native plants, invasive exotic plants and landscaping. Data and analyses included pest and disease management, species selection, fire risk assessment, irrigation assessment, erosion, soil properties and preparation of a site map.

2004-Present: Longwater HOA, Foster City: tree inventory, site mapping and management plan for 207 trees in common areas. Many young trees were inspected with nursery, planting and

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cultivation problems. Management planning included species suitability, planting density, remediation strategies and maintenance recommendations. Large trees primarily required health and risk assessment with maintenance recommendations. Ongoing inspections.

2004-2013: Barron Square HOA, Palo Alto: tree inventory, site mapping and management plan for 259 trees of 37 species in common areas. Primary areas for recommendations were risk assessment, planting density, irrigation, drainage, infrastructure conflicts and maintenance. Ongoing inspections.

2004-2011: Edgewater Isle South HOA, San Mateo: tree inventory, site map and management plan for 135 trees in common areas. Site assessment and tree planting plan in 2006. Ongoing inspections.

2005-2012: Edgewater Isle Master Association, San Mateo: tree inventory, digital site mapping, comprehensive management plan and field manual. Tree health, risk assessment and infrastructure conflicts evaluated. Site assessment and tree planting plan in 2006. Ongoing inspections.

2005: Serravista HOA, South San Francisco: site assessment, tree health assessment, species recommendations and Planning Department documents

2006-Present: Alverno Hill HOA, Redwood City: construction impacts and landscape plan review from neighboring property development and a fire risk assessment report. Tree inventory and management plan for all common areas. Ongoing inspections.

2006-Present: Whaler's Island HOA, Foster City: tree inventory, digital site mapping, comprehensive management plan and field manual. Tree health, risk assessment and infrastructure conflicts evaluated. Ongoing inspections.

2007-2009: Glenridge Apartments Co-operative: tree risk assessments and recommendations.

2007-2009: Oak Commons HOA, Gilroy: tree health and risk assessment of 3 large oaks with recommendations. Evaluation of new tree health, crowded plantings and installation and nursery defects for over 900 new trees within new development landscaping with recommendations.

2007-Present: Pitcairn HOA, Foster City: tree health and risk assessment with cultivation recommendations with updates. Ongoing inspections.

Construction Mitigation

1995-2001: Proulx properties: 7-year project to combine 4 large estates including management of natural areas, private golf course design/build impacts, new infrastructure, private vineyard and orchard.

1998-2002: Presidio Hill School: building and utility service design modifications necessary to preserve 3 large trees during historic building preservation and new construction over 4 1/2 years.

1998-2004: Bay Area Discovery Museum: preservation of historic eucalyptus trees from design stages through construction during a 15,000 square foot expansion over 5 years.

2001: #1 Front Street: comprehensive report to assess problems and recommend remedial steps for cultivation of 41 trees in containers on high-rise roof terraces.

2002-2003: Marina Chateau: 8th floor deck-installed design including a decorative screen and selection of containers and plants.

2002-2007: Laguna Honda Hospital: tree preservation and conservation of a historic arboretum, and tree preservation at various new building construction sites within a 63-acre site to be executed over 10 years.

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2004-2006: GK Builders: tree protection and preservation planning for residential development.

2004-2006: Sal Caruso Design Corporation: tree protection and preservation planning for various condominium conversion projects and for the Fremont Child Care Center.

2004-2007: Simpson Design Group: tree protection and preservation planning for residential development.

2004-2007: Worldco Company, Ltd: tree protection, planning, tree and landscape design issues.

2004-2008: Equity Community Builders, Cavallo Point and Healing Arts Center (The Retreat at Fort Baker), Sausalito. Site assessment, health assessment, construction modification, tree protection and preservation recommendations, co-author and lead consultant for a 10-year tree management plan.

2004-2010: The Altheim, Oakland: tree survey and report to conserve a rare plant and historic landscape of 6.2 acres during an adaptive reuse construction project. Ongoing work during redevelopment with Eden Housing.

2005: EDAW, Inc.: project planning, including tree protection, preservation and species selection.

2005-2007: Devcon Construction: tree protection and preservation planning, on-site inspections during construction, mitigation recommendations, maintenance recommendations.

2005-2008: Safeway, Inc: tree assessment, site assessment, design review, tree protection measures and new planting recommendations.

2006-2012: DES Architects & Engineers: tree assessment, site assessment, appraised values and tree protection during construction.

2007-2008: Royston Hanamoto Alley and Abey (RHAA): City College of San Francisco. Provided design review, analysis of site conditions, species recommendations and spacing requirements for the re-design of the core areas of the campus and expanded areas adjacent to the reservoir.

2008: Hanover Company: tree health and risk assessment for the Candlestick Cove project in San Francisco.

2008-2009: LaLanne Group, University Village: provided a tree survey and tree protection plan for redevelopment of a historic arboretum site that was formerly part of UC Berkeley.

2009-2010: Webcor Construction, Inc: San Francisco General Hospital. Provided pre-construction evaluation of trees and soil conditions, recommending removal, transplanting, pruning and tree protection measures. Project Arborist for new construction and utilities.

2009-2010: San Francisco Botanical Garden, pathway improvement project. Provided ongoing inspections and reports for many rare tree species. Worked on behalf of the paving contractors, AAA Construction and Trinet Construction, in cooperation with Botanical Garden and City staff.

2010-2013: California Pacific Medical Center, St. Luke's Hospital replacement, through HerreroBoldt. Provided a tree survey and management plan, tree removal recommendations, reports and a hearing for City permitting, design modifications for accommodation and protection of a San Francisco Landmark Tree.

2012: Office of Cheryl Barton: Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino: Provided design review services and specifications for soil harvesting, storage and replacement, drainage issues, planting specifications and species selected for new entry gardens.

2012: Office of Cheryl Barton: Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, San Jose: Provided a tree survey, soil testing and analysis for horticultural properties, and Master Plan team participation.

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2013-2014: Town School for Boys: various tree and landscape issues for tree protection planning and ongoing care issues during demolition and excavation.

2010-Present: Cypress Lawn Memorial Park. Provided a tree survey and management plan update, designated as the Project Manager for Water Efficient Landscape Regulations ordinance revisions, management of construction impacts, historic arboretum conservation and interpretation, in-house training programs and public outreach programs.

Maintenance Management

2004-2014: Bay Area Discovery Museum: maintenance planning and maintenance policy development for outdoor educational exhibit areas.

2003-Present: Bohemian Club, San Francisco, providing conservation and management of extensive Boston ivy, trees, shrubs and irrigation at their downtown site.

2004-2011: Kaiser Permanente hospitals, 2 sites in San Francisco, provided management of all tree-related decisions and maintenance.

2010-Present: Cypress Lawn Memorial Park: maintenance planning and oversight during implementation.

2013-Present: Parkmerced: tree risk assessment study and management plan, digital mapping. Maintenance scheduling for bi-monthly tree service.

2013: Bentley School in Oakland: coast redwood tree risk assessment, preservation specifications and oversight for implementation.

2014-Present: Camp Tawonga: tree risk assessment for all trees near use areas. Ongoing inspections and assessments.

Customized Services

2009-2011: Hartmann Studios: Developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for ongoing care, maintenance and handling of nursery stock used for special event plant rentals. All illustrations, photographs and text were original work that was translated into Spanish.

2010: Quality of Life Foundation: Designed and implemented a program for volunteer-based tree plantings at schools and parks.

Natural Areas

2001-2003: Presidio Trust: ongoing volunteer participation including site restoration, maintenance and monitoring for quail habitat sites.

2001-2004: Kirsch property; riparian zone site evaluation, recommendations, re-vegetation planning and monitoring requirements, vineyard impacts and management issues.

2004-2005: City of Oakland, with PGA Design: Leona Quarry Redevelopment Master Plan; plan review, project compliance with conditions of approval integrating with natural areas.

Small Projects

1987-Present: Consultation and Arborist Reports: routinely created as guidance to project sponsors, contractors, Architects, landscape maintenance companies, commercial property managers, residential owners, concerned neighbors, Municipalities and insurance companies. Projects are throughout the San Francisco bay area with a concentration on the Peninsula, in San Francisco and in Marin County. Projects are too numerous to list separately.

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Public Hearings

Representation at local government public hearings is a routine assignment. A list of Expert Public Testimony is available upon request.

Appraisals and Claims Settlement

1987-Present: Trespass and Negligence: routinely provide inspections, reports and appraisals for small trespass and negligence cases, generally negotiated, mediated, arbitrated, settled out of court or settled in small claims court.

1992-2002: The Davey Tree Expert Co., Inc.: provided all tree appraisals for the district office serving San Mateo and San Francisco counties.

1992-2011: California State Automobile Association: routinely provide inspection and appraisal information for claims settlement on both homeowner policies and automobile policies.

1994-Present: Farmer's Insurance: routinely provide inspection and appraisal information for claims settlement on real estate policies.

1999-Present: City of Pacifica: forensic investigations and technical report writing as an expert for tree dispute resolution.

2004-Present: State Farm Insurance: provide inspection and appraisal information for claims settlement.

2008: Shelter Ridge HOA, San Rafael: tree health and appraisal for damaged trees.

2008-2011: Allied Insurance: provide inspections, forensic investigations and appraisals for claims settlement.

Expert Witness

Routinely provide expert opinion and testimony on tree and horticulture issues to areas of legal practice that include Land Use, Real Estate, Trespass, Negligence and Personal Injury.

Trained and certified within the field of Arboriculture in technical report writing, forensic sciences, expert case preparation, deposition procedure and trial procedure.

Partial list of attorney-clients:

David Balch, esq. of Kennedy, Archer & Harray for defendants

Steven A. Booska, esq., for plaintiffs and defendants

Matthew Davis, esq. of Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger for plaintiffs

Robert A. Ford, esq., Rene I. Gamboa, esq., and Katherine A. Higgins, esq.
of Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith for defendants

Brian Gearing, esq., of Gearing Law Group for plaintiff

Michael D. Green, esq. of Abbey, Weitzenberg, Warren & Emery for plaintiff

Robert Harrison, esq. of Wright, Robinson, Osthimer and Tatum for defendant

James C. Hazen, esq. of Gray & Prouty for defendant

Richard Herzog, esq., for defendant

Robert S. Jaret, esq. and Phillip A. Jaret, esq. of Jaret & Jaret for plaintiffs

Ryan Kahl, esq. of R. Rex Parris Law Firm for plaintiff

Brendan Kunkle, esq. of Abbey, Weitzenberg, Warren & Emery for plaintiff

Michael D. Liberty, esq. for plaintiff

Stephen K. Lightfoot, esq. of Ropers Majeski Kohn Bentley for defendants

Peter Lynch, esq. of Cozen O'Connor for plaintiff

Michael J. Macko, esq. of Fores Macko for plaintiff

Todd Master, esq. of Howard, Rome, Martin & Ridley for defendant

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Thomas J. McDermott, esq. of Bragg & Kuluva for plaintiff
Cynthia McGuinn, esq. of Rouda Feder Tietjen McGuinn for plaintiff
Timothy Tietjen, esq. of Rouda Feder Tietjen McGuinn for plaintiff
Mark Mosley, esq. of Seiler Epstein Ziegler & Applegate for plaintiff
Michael P. Reid, esq. for defendant
Dan Reilly, esq. for defendant
Kerry Renn, esq. for plaintiff and defendant
Michael R. Reynolds, esq. of Rankin, Sproat, Mires, Beaty & Reynolds for defendant
Andy Sclar, esq. of Ericksen Arbuthnot for defendant
Richard Shoenberger, esq. of Walkup, Melodia, Kelly & Schoenberger for plaintiffs
Marc D. Stolman, esq. for defendant
Megan Symonds, esq. of Santana & Hart for defendant
Peter Van Zandt, esq. of Bledsoe Law Firm for defendant
R. J. Waldsmith, esq., Eric Abramson, esq. and William B. Smith of
Abramson Smith Waldsmith for plaintiffs
Joseph L. Wright, esq. of Dambacher, Trujillo and Wright for plaintiffs

Confirmed Expert Witness in Superior Courts: San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Monterey and Tuolumne Counties.

Lectures and Presentations:

1995: Three one-hour lecture sessions to College of San Mateo General Ornamental Horticulture class titled: "From Planting to Pruning of Woody Ornamentals in the Landscape."

1998: Three one-hour lecture sessions to College of San Mateo General Ornamental Horticulture class titled: "From Planting to Pruning of Woody Ornamentals in the Landscape."

1999: One-hour slide lecture at the Presidio to National Park Service Landscape Architects from across the country. Lecture topic: *History in Pruning: historic plantings and historic pruning.*

April 2002: Urban forestry presentation to San Francisco Department on the Environment

May 2002: Presentation to Tree Advisory Board on Landmark Tree Nominations in San Francisco

October 2004: Two-hour presentation for a Certified Arborist examination preparation class titled: "Assessment and Risk Management"

October 2004: Presentation of industry-specific use of scientific tools at Tool Day

November 2004: Presentation titled: "Tree Health During Construction"

January 2005: Presentation with handouts titled: "Air-spade: Uses, Limitations and Specifications"

March and April 2006: Leader of two tree walks in Palo Alto for Canopy

August 2006: PowerPoint presentation to the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) with handouts titled: "Integration of Risk Reduction Pruning to Municipal Management Systems"

May 2007: PowerPoint presentation to Bay Area staff from The Care of Trees®, Inc. with handouts titled: "Risk Reduction Pruning"

September 2007: PowerPoint presentation to the Western Chapter International Society of Arboriculture (WCISA) with handouts titled: "Integration of Risk Reduction Pruning Into Municipal Management Systems"

November 2008: One-hour presentation with 8 page handout titled "Tree Assessment and Risk Management", for a Certified Arborist examination preparation class

Tree Management Experts

Consulting Arborists

3109 Sacramento Street
San Francisco, CA 94115

Member, American Society of Consulting Arborists
Certified Arborists, Certified Tree Risk Assessors



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June 2009: One-hour presentation at Merritt College with 8 page handout titled "Tree Assessment and Risk Management", for a Certified Arborist examination preparation class

August 2009: Landmark Tree Tour leader volunteer for City of San Francisco, Department of the Environment

May 2010: Two-hour PowerPoint presentation titled: "Pruning Standards for San Francisco" for City of San Francisco staff, as a volunteer for the Department of the Environment

March 2011: Two one-hour kid-friendly tree tours for the City of Palo Alto Arbor Day celebration

April 2011: One-hour PowerPoint presentation and lecture: *Celebrating Historic Trees and Landscape at Cypress Lawn*.

June 2011: Presentation to Colma Town Council on revisions to the Water Efficient Landscape Regulations ordinance.

July 2012: Opine Experts Panelist at the Bay Area Chapter of the Forensic Expert Witness Association.

February 2013: Two-hour lecture and field demonstrations on fruit tree pruning to the Fort Mason Community Garden, San Francisco.

June 2013: One and a half-hour presentation the San Francisco Botanical Garden titled "Tree Assessment and Risk Management" for a Certified Arborist examination preparation class

August 2013: One-hour presentation to the Society of Forensic Engineers and Scientists titled "Trees in Urban Areas: Why Risk Assessment Matters"

October 2013: One half hour presentation to the Western Chapter – International Society of Arboriculture (WC-ISA) titled "Pruning with Care: When and How to Prune to Avoid Harming Birds"

Media and Publications:

Featured by Printed Media

American Way: September 15, 1989, [Mini-Splendored Things](#)

The Fresno Bee: May 14, 1990, Editorials, [Tree Spirits in Visalia](#)

Visalia Times-Delta: 1991, [Arborist takes Visalia's trees to heart](#)

The Fresno Bee: 1991, [Taking stock of Visalia's roots](#)

Stockton Record: 1991, [Sizing Up Manteca's Trees](#)

Bay Guardian: April 16, 1997, [Endangered species](#)

San Francisco Chronicle: May 14, 2008, [City takes the case of mystery manzanita](#)

San Francisco Examiner: April 27, 2009, [Art project may be putting trees at risk](#)

Speaker via Media

Storm Report of December 1994

ABC Television: 20-minute storm report interview

ABC Radio: 10-minute interview

Publications

SF Apartment Magazine, October 2003, [Tree Dispute Resolution](#)

Canopy: Trees for Palo Alto newsletter, Fall 2005, [Ask the Arborist](#) column

Opine Experts, web article, [The Credible Expert Witness: Callous Hands that Touch Trees](#)

Opine Experts, web article, [The Importance of Narrative in Technical Report Writing](#)

Opine Experts, web article, [A Reality Check for Would-be Forensic Experts](#)

City of Pacifica: Author of DPW publication [Trees for Pacifica: Tree Selection and Planting Guide](#)

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Golden Gate Audubon Society, Co-author of a brochure *Healthy Trees, Healthy Birds; Bird-Friendly Tree Care for the San Francisco Bay Area*

Public Policy:

Tree Advisory Board (volunteer): regular attendance and participation from June 1995.
Appointed as voting Member by the Director of the Department of Public Works in June 1998.
Appointed by the Board as Chair of the Landmark Tree Committee.

City of San Francisco: developed a partnership between corporate tree care and the Clean City Coalition to benefit DPW. Provided pro bono recommendations to DPW staff.

City of San Francisco: developed a maintenance agreement strategy to allow proper maintenance by an outdoor advertising company of previously city-maintained trees.

Tree Summit, Friends of the Urban Forest (volunteer): panel member for discussion of Urban Forestry among public and private sector stakeholders to develop the State of the Urban Forest Report, 2000.

City of San Francisco: assisted in modifications to Department of Public Works code Article 16. Ordinance changes include integration of various departments, the creation of the Bureau of Urban Forestry, and creation of the Urban Forest Council.

2008: EDAW, Inc.: San Francisco Urban Forestry Master Plan for the San Francisco Planning Department. The Consulting Arborist for a team to develop a Master Plan to integrate Arboriculture, Urban Design, infrastructure conflicts, sustainable ecology, funding strategies and maintenance alternatives.

Conservatory Foundation (non-profit): served 6 years on the Board of Directors to preserve the rare plant collection and the building, Golden Gate Park Conservatory of Flowers, San Francisco.

City of East Palo Alto: pro bono assistance to City staff in developing a heritage tree protection ordinance.

Canopy (non-profit): pro bono assistance in formulating a public-private partnership with the City of East Palo Alto and their citizens for the first volunteer-oriented public tree planting project. Assistance to Canopy with a grant funds application to the California Department of Forestry.

Friends of the Music Concourse: provided expert assistance over more than 1 year and public testimony on several occasions to achieve landmark status for historic trees in the Music Concourse of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. The Music Concourse and the historic grid of trees were declared a City Landmark in December 2005.

Canopy (non-profit): Board member from February 2007 to 2012. Board Secretary from 2008 to 2012.

Cypress Lawn Memorial Park: Project development, Town negotiations, management of the consulting team and author of the draft ordinance for water efficient landscape regulations ordinance revisions under AB 1881, designed to accommodate cemetery landscapes in the Town of Colma.

Professional Affiliations and Memberships:

American Society of Consulting Arborists (ASCA), Member
International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Life Member
Western Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture (WC-ISA), Member

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Related Affiliations and Memberships:

California Invasive Plants Council
California Native Plant Society
California State Parks Foundation
Canopy, Trees for Palo Alto
Conservatory of Flowers
Friends of the Urban Forest
Golden Gate Audubon Society
National Audubon Society
Natural Resources Defense Council
Nature Conservancy
Pacific Crest Trail Association
San Francisco Botanical Garden Society
Sempervirens Fund
Sierra Club

Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code Section 810, the UFC has developed these criteria for evaluating potential landmark trees in San Francisco. When evaluating or considering potential landmark trees, please consider the context of the tree within its site location. For example, a tree on PUC land may not have the same community importance that a street or park tree would. Use comment sections, as appropriate, to explain or support evaluation. Attach sheets if more space is needed.

Evaluator's name: Malcolm Hillan

Date of evaluation: 7-14-'15

Scientific name: Araucaria heterophylla

Common name: Norfolk Island Pine

Street address: 46 Cook Street

Cross streets: Geary

Rarity ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☒ No

Rarity: ☐ Rare ☐ Uncommon ☒ Common ☐ Other

Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: ---

Physical Attributes ☐ Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small

Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: --

Age: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Significantly advanced age for the species.

Comment: Older tree, but not "significantly advanced"

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

Describe: Excellent form. In good condition. Representative of species

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

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Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard

Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe: Good health—not an unusual hazard. Some hazard exists by virtue of the size of the tree. _____

Historical ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Historical Association: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Describe nature of appreciation: Reported by neighbors. Awaiting fuller description of historical association.

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☒ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: _____

Environmental ☐ Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: ☐ Tree literally stands out in sparsely planted neighborhood by virtue of height.

Low tree density: ☒ Low ☐ Moderate ☐ High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Describe: ☐ There is a dearth of trees of this stature in the neighborhood _____

Interdependent group of trees: ☐ Yes ☒ No

This tree is an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.

Describe: ☐ -- _____

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒ Yes ☐ No

High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Describe: ☐ Tree stands tall above surrounding buildings. Highly visible. _____

High traffic area: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe: ☐ Far off of Geary _____

Important wildlife habitat: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individ _____ Not observed _____

Erosion control: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe: ☐ -- _____

Wind or sound barrier: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe: ☐ -- _____

Cultural ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Neighborhood appreciation: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe: ☐ Strong neighbor appreciation of tree _____

Cultural appreciation: ☐ Yes ☒ None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Describe nature of appreciation: _____

Planting contributes to neighborhood character: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: ☐ Tree is, quite literally, a landmark by virtue of its size and form. Former planting had much greater character, sadly lost. Tree serves as a reminder of past planting. _____

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☒ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: _____

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Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: _____

Additional comments

Historical association appears to justify landmark status.

Also, while far from unique, and probably not the best example of A, heterophylla in the city, this tree now serves literally as a landmark by virtue of its size and location in an area relatively devoid of large trees.

Recommend to landmark.

Would have preferred to see this landmarked with its former complement before threat of removal developed.

Urban Forestry Council

Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code Section 810, the UFC has developed these criteria for evaluating potential landmark trees in San Francisco. When evaluating or considering potential landmark trees, please consider the context of the tree within its site location. For example, a tree on PUC land may not have the same community importance that a street or park tree would. Use comment sections, as appropriate, to explain or support evaluation. Attach sheets if more space is needed.

Evaluator's name: Rose Hillson _____

Date of evaluation: July 14, 2015 _____

Scientific name: *Araucaria heterophylla* _____

Common name: Norfolk Island Pine _____

Street address: "46A" Cook Street _____

Cross streets: between Euclid and Geary Blvd. _____

Rarity ☐ Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No

Rarity: ☒ Rare ☒ Uncommon ☐ Common ☐ Other

Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: This Norfolk Island Pine is one of the larger ones in the City. There are reported 16 of this species in San Francisco on the tree map on urbanforestmap.org. It is uncommon in San Francisco with the tree map only showing 16 – one is in error in that it is a Brisbane Box – so it's really 15 and the majority are too small compared to this tree.

The International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List has the Norfolk Island Pine as a species at high risk of extinction in the wild due to "fragmented distribution" and decline in quality of native habitat (Australia). It is the world's main authority on the conservation status of species.¹ The Royal Botanic Gardens of Melbourne show the species as "Rare and Endangered Australian Native." It is endemic to Norfolk Island (800 miles east of Australia). So in this geographic region, the tree is rare and endangered.

I was shown a large, roughly 10-inch long by 3-inch diameter mature female cone with seeds from the tree. I read the ones with big cones are rare in cultivation. These trees can be monoecious or dioecious.² I am uncertain on the breakdown of male to female to hermaphroditic for *A. heterophylla* in the city. What about in relation to those in its home country? Could this be one of the rarer sex? I was also shown a few smaller male elongated cones that varied from 3" to 5" long. The foliage was like a whip, tightly woven, green and at least one foot long (see **PHOTO** below).

¹Wikipedia

² Ibid.

Physical Attributes ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small

Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: This tree was difficult to photograph in whole due to the large size of what I estimate to be 90 - 95ft. tall. I was unable to get any up close to do any hands-on evaluation because the property owner did not grant the Council members permission to enter the property to evaluate the tree. The DBH is approximately 3.1ft. (9.7 ft. circumference). (See **PHOTOS** below of a tape measure held across the tree

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trunk and the measurement value on the tape.) The average canopy width is approximately 25 - 30ft. This Norfolk Island Pine is visually a “can’t miss” tree whether at ground level or other vantage points.

The tallest Norfolk Island Pine is at Tedeschi Winery on Maui at 169.94’ tall (Norfolk Island Pine Strybing).

Age: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Significantly advanced age for the species.

Comment: Based on availability of both cone types and the shape of the tree and size, this is a mature tree. This tree has both the large female cones as well as the elongated smaller male cones. Another Norfolk Island Pine on the north side of the main house on the property was removed and the neighbor stated that he figured it was over 100 years old from the count of annual rings I saw to be closely-spaced (1/8”-1/3” wide) rings. According to the “Gymnosperm Database,” male cones do not appear on the tree unless it is older than 40 years old. Female cones appear on trees older than 15 years old. Norfolk Island Pines have an old fossil record that dates from the Jurassic period, 200 million years ago (Norfolk Island Pine Strybing). It is one example of a long-lived “fossil” tree.

As a mature tree in San Francisco where there is much urban development, it is unusual to see any tree even close to 100 years old. This is a mature large tree but overly mature so it is not senescent as they appear to have long lives. It, too, could be 100+ years old compared to the other Norfolk Island Pine that was on this same property that was cut down. Also, based on tree ring count done by the neighbors of the other Norfolk Island Pine cut down, it may be that both trees were indeed part of Mr. Smith’s plantings from the cemetery.

The Norfolk Island Pine in the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne was planted in 1851 by John Dallacy, the second Director of the Botanic Gardens. This tree is 164 years old.

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

Describe: The form is recognizable and classic for Norfolk Island Pine. Truly majestic, amazingly vertical and nicely grown despite the winds that day that made the flag at the Post Office on Geary Blvd. and Parker Ave. blow straight east. Imposing and a magnificent single-trunked tree. The tree looks to form the characteristic point at the top and the very symmetrical branch structure spaced very comfortably in whorls along the trunk. Literature states: Straight vertical trunks and symmetrical branches even in the face of incessant onshore winds. It is rare to find such a large and magnificent mature tree near Geary Boulevard.

Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard

Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe: Appears to not be senescent, good vigor, nice tapering upwards. Good branch structure as well. Good clean bark condition on what was viewed considering evaluation could not be done within hands-on distances. No insects or disease seen. Literature states it is pest and disease resistant.

Historical ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Historical Association: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Describe nature of appreciation: The first European known to have sighted Norfolk Island was Captain James Cook in 1774 on his second voyage to the South Pacific in HMS *Resolution*. He found the Norfolk Island Pine trees (though not really a true pine).

“46 Cook” (includes “46A Cook” or any other historical address for the 75-ft. wide lot) had, until fairly recently the following large trees: one Norfolk Island Pine on the north side of the main Victorian house

in the center, one of the same species on the south side of the house, one palm tree at the front of the house, one palm on the south side. The palm on the south was removed as well as the Norfolk Island Pine on the north side. The last remaining Norfolk Island Pine is on the south near the main Victorian house and in front of the back Victorian carriage house (see **EXHIBIT A** for map, locations of trees --removed and existing).

One historic photo from 1885 from the Bancroft Library below shows the property (see **PHOTO** below).

The original inhabitant of “46 Cook” was George J. Smith. “He was born in New York state... served in the Union Army during the Civil War.” He had a business in painting and decorating.¹ He was a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), Yerba Buena Lodge though at his “impressive” funeral, “a large delegation” from three organizations.² He appears in a newspaper article, “Feted In High Masonry” for the installation of the Members of the Oriental Lodge of which he was a member.³ Mr. Smith appears to have had the means and stature to have a large lot with a main fully detached house in the front and a rear carriage house in the southeast corner of the lot with enough room for a horse and buggy to go down the driveway on the south side.

In the 1871 SF Directory, there is a listing “Smith, George J., (*Smith & McBride*) dwl Cook nr Point Lobos Avenue.” In a later directories, the listing gets more focused, e.g. “E s Cook nr Point Lobos Road,” and in the Crocker-Langley 1897 City Directory as being at “46 Cook” with his son, Henry J.

In the book Here Today, the plantings on this property are associated with the cemeteries, e.g. Odd Fellows Cemetery, via the connection with the original owner of the lot, George J. Smith, a member of the IOOF and also the affiliation thus with the Odd Fellows Cemetery and Association from which they took its name.

The IOOF was a cultural and fraternal society that took care of its members with mutual benefits, financial, employment, library, etc. The IOOF was a very powerful group and had a key role in building the city of San Francisco. The first lodge was established on September 9, 1849 as California Lodge No. 1.

The “odd fellowship” practice came from the United Kingdom and after many attempts, Thomas Wildey established the first lodge in North America – here in San Francisco. Famous people including Franklin Delano Roosevelt was an Odd Fellow. The Odd Fellows Cemetery land of 17 acres as the first cemetery in the City was donated in 1851 to the IOOF society by Samuel Brannan of which a street in the City is named after. Brannan in March 1848 walked through the streets of San Francisco yelling, “Gold! Gold! Gold in the American River!” and the gold rush was on.⁴ The IOOF assisted with the efforts to get the City back on its feet after the 1906 earthquake and fire. Many members of the IOOF sat on the Committee of Vigilance created in 1851 to rein in the growing crime in the city.⁵

The IOOF did many other works, including entertainment events and gave support to the City during the gold rush, and other times as described in the book referenced herein.

The property is shown to be a “Category A” (historic resource present per CEQA) lot with main Victorian house about mid-lot and the rear carriage house in the rear southeast corner. The historical association tells the tale of the early formation of the city and the significance of the property as it relates to the IOOF. A 1975 survey by the Junior League of San Francisco has a picture and details of the property (see **PHOTO** of survey page below).

The City started to expand beyond the “big divide” of Divisadero Street and the addition was called the “Western Addition” in those days. There were sparse dwellings on the west side of present-day Divisadero Street during the time of the 1870s when this structure was built. The property and grounds pre-date the “Richmond District” and is one of the few earliest examples of dwellings around the “Big Four” cemeteries – Laurel Hill Cemetery (formerly Lone Mountain Cemetery; University of San

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San Francisco sits on Lone Mountain...it used to be called Lone Mountain College), Odd Fellows Cemetery, Calvary Cemetery, and Masonic Cemetery. The site of the Norfolk Island Pine tree ("46 Cook") was surrounded by all four cemeteries. (See **MAP** of cemeteries below.)

According to the Landmark Tree Nomination Form, the circa 1870 residence and plantings are associated with the cemetery in the Here Today book.

As more people moved into the city, land was becoming more valuable. The greatest land holders were the "Big Four" cemeteries. Strong ocean winds were blowing the sand dunes and exposing the caskets in the western cemeteries. There was a big push to move the cemeteries to Colma "for health reasons." Most of the bodies have ended up there but not all. Occasionally, when people in Laurel Heights, Lone Mountain or former cemetery lots dig up their land for remodel work, there are findings. Today, former cemetery stone rubble and monuments line paths such as in Buena Vista Park or are found at the San Francisco marina. Some are seen at low tide at Ocean Beach. The Odd Fellows Cemetery Association monument can be seen today in Colma (See **PHOTO** below.).

An Odd Fellows Hall was located at 325 Montgomery Street and dedicated in 1863.⁶ (See picture below.) The Odd Fellows Building where the Grand Lodge was located is still located at 7th and Market Streets. This is where the IOOF had its library and held meetings. There are still active IOOF members belonging to various lodges and Rebekahs (for women IOOF members).

An event related to George J. Smith made him famous nationwide. He was involved in a bad elevator fall accident. He was awarded \$38,808.51 on October 9, 1888 in a lawsuit against Whittier, Fuller & Co. which took about 12 years to litigate.⁷ The award was also the largest sum ever awarded to a plaintiff in an injury case anywhere in California then.

After years of issues with his injury and health with rheumatism, he shot himself in the heart with a 42 caliber Colt. He left a note about the payment of outstanding debts, the handling of his business and the dispensation of his "considerable property" both in San Francisco and in Sonoma County.⁸ He had a son named Henry who also is listed in the 1898 Crocker-Langley SF Directory at 46 Cook (entire lot as shown in **SANBORN MAP** below).

(See under "Cultural" below in this report also.)

¹ San Francisco Call, Vol. 83, No. 36, January 5, 1898

² San Francisco Call, Vol 83, No. 38, January 7, 1898

³ San Francisco Call, December 23, 1896

⁴ www.newstalk.com/reader/47.339/45862/0/

⁵ The History of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the City of San Francisco, Sellars, Peter V. 2007, 200 pages.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ The Morning Call, August 7, 1892

⁸ San Francisco Call, Vol. 83, No. 36, January 5, 1898

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☒_X_ Yes ☐_Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: The trees that once existed (palms, removed Norfolk Island Pine) on the 75ft. wide parcel are seen in a 1975 survey photo (See **Exhibit B**). They are also seen on Google maps (See **Exhibit C**). Mention is made in the 1975 "Here Today" architectural heritage survey (see ORIGINAL LANDMARK TREE NOMINATION FORM submitted elsewhere).

Environmental ☒_X_ Yes ☐_Partially ☐_No

Prominent landscape feature: ☒_X_ Yes ☐_No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

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Describe, attach photo if possible: Very large and imposing landmark which can be seen from many vantage points including from the front of the property at the public sidewalk (see various **PHOTOS** below).

Low tree density: ☒_X_ Low ☐_Moderate ☐_High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Describe: Geary Boulevard has a handful of small street trees and small plantings but not any large trees in the area. Geary Boulevard near Cook and Blake are not of moderate tree density and the Geary School is treeless, boasting a chain-linked fenced off paved parking lot/playground area. There are hardly any trees on the one street to the east of Cook called Blake. With the other large trees cut down on the property now, there are now less trees of this size in this area.

Interdependent group of trees: ☐_Yes ☒_X_No

This tree in an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.

Describe: There is another palm tree that is near the front of the property to within 10 feet of the public sidewalk. It does not appear that the two trees are an interdependent group of trees. The trees that were cut down that were part of the landscape of the lot may have protected this last remaining Norfolk Island Pine to some minor degree, but it may not have since it is so large and able to withstand the winds that were present the date of the evaluation. Part of the cemetery plantings and Victorian gardens was to have unusual imported plantings.

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒_X_Yes ☐_No

High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Describe: A prominent tree. This tree is very highly visible from many public and private vantage points. The specimen can be clearly seen from the front property line even though there are at least 6 (six) cypresses lined at the front fence that creates a hedge.

(See also above under "Prominent Landscape Feature.")

High traffic area: ☒_X_Yes ☐_No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe: Lot of foot traffic going up the stairs that lead to Euclid Avenue due to the Nursery School on Euclid and the people coming off of Geary and people headed to the shops on California street. Passengers riding the 38 Geary bus line which carries at least 60,000 passengers a day and thousands of vehicles per hour can see the tree from Geary.

Important wildlife habitat: ☒_X_Yes ☐_No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

The mourning doves are seen in the tree per the neighbors. They are known to have inhabited much of the cemetery lands. It is a common bird in the City but is getting harder to see due to the influx of other birds which the neighbors also reported as being seen in or around the tree. They include hawks, owls, crows, mockingbirds, scrub jays, "woodpecker," and at one point a Great Blue Heron nearby; also raccoons, skunks, "white butterflies." Seeds are a food source for the native parrots on Norfolk Island.

Erosion control: ☐_Yes ☒_X_No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe: The land is flat there. No erosion control per se on the sandy lot.

Wind or sound barrier: ☒_X_Yes ☐_No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe: Wind was not very bad in the rear part of the yard at ground level even though the winds appeared to be strong enough to stick the large U.S. flag at Geary and Parker straight out at the time.

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The wind was about 5-7 mph in the yard with no leaves or debris being kicked up from the ground. The wind was blowing the top of the tree some but the entire tree was not swaying. The wind seemed to be blowing at 12mph due to the swiftness of the white clouds blowing above and on the street out front. I believe the tree baffles the wind well.

(See also "Additional Comments" below in this report.)

Cultural ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Neighborhood appreciation: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe: Neighbors were the proponents of landmarking a tree they felt have been part of their community for a long time. They stated they enjoy its beauty and ecological benefits as well as the history behind the tree and property owner, George J. Smith.

Cultural appreciation: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Describe nature of appreciation: The IOOF landscaped their cemeteries with many trees as did the other "Big Four" cemeteries. It was the Victorian style to have picnics in the cemeteries much as people enjoy Golden Gate Park today.

Today, people in the United States as a tradition use the Norfolk Island Pine as Christmas trees. It is sometimes called the star pine.

The Norfolk Island Pine rates among the most famous native *Araucaria* species for its valuable softwood timber.¹ The *Araucariaceae* is one of three families of gymnosperms (conifers) that give good amber production. Amber is used in jewelry, art objects and religious objects. When amber encases biological specimens, they yield important scientific information.² A species within the *Araucaria* family is used by the Australian aborigines for the meat of the "pine" cones which are edible. The seeds of the Norfolk Island Pine are also edible.

¹ Medicinal Plants in Australia, Volume 2: Gums, Resins, Tannin and Essential Oils, Williams, Cheryl.

² Non-wood Forest Products 12, Non-wood forest products from conifers, Ciesla, William M., Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 1998.

Planting contributes to neighborhood character: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: The smaller streets perpendicular to Geary that dead-ended into what is now Euclid Avenue were once abutting Laurel Hill Cemetery. According to the Nomination Form submitted, the Here Today book references the trees from the cemetery for this property. The tree is a past reminder of the neighborhood character of that era. This property yields information on the cemeteries and the IOOF cultural group through the association with the landscaping and the structures and the original inhabitant. Few homes were built west of Divisadero in the 1870s as part of the "Western Addition."

As described in "Historical" above, the fraternal community of the IOOF, in establishing their own cemetery, shows the power this society had in the formation and direction of the city of San Francisco. They focus on brotherly love, family and good deeds.

The community of the IOOF and the "Big Four" cemeteries – Odd Fellows, Laurel Hill, Masonic and Calvary plays a role not only to educate the citizens of this city about the undertaking history but also about the role they played after the 1906 earthquake when bodies had to be buried. Also, George J. Smith's connection to IOOF is but one piece of the undertaking culture and history of San Francisco. The Odd Fellows Cemetery was bounded by Parker Avenue on the easternmost street, Geary to the north, Turk to the south and Arguello to the west. When one examines the history behind the street name for

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Parker Avenue, one finds that it was also associated with the IOOF as being named after Samuel H. Parker, the First Grand Master of California (May 17, 1853) of the IOOF.¹ Parker Avenue lies about three blocks west of the Norfolk Island Pine tree site. It is now the street that runs from the old Odd Fellows easternmost line to the established neighborhoods of Laurel Heights and Jordan Park which were created when the cemeteries got moved to Colma in the 1920s – 1940s. All is tied back to Lone Mountain, the cemeteries and the famous politicians and figures of San Francisco who were once buried there. The only remaining building of the Odd Fellows Cemetery is the Columbarium at 1 Lorraine Court, south of Geary, San Francisco Landmark No. 209, currently run by the Neptune Society for cremations.

This Norfolk Island Pine is a focal point for the neighbors on this block of Cook St. and the surrounding neighborhood. It is also a tree known to many native San Franciscans. It is a beloved tree to the community of neighbors.

(See under “Historical” above in this report also.)

¹ The History of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the City of San Francisco, Sellars, Peter V. 2007, 200 pages.

Profiled in a publication or other media: ____ Yes X Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: There is a picture of the property in a book, Page 10.¹

¹ Images of America, San Francisco's Richmond District, Ungaretti, Lorri, Arcadia Publishing, 2005.

Prominent landscape feature: X Yes ____ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: (See also under “Environmental” and below pictures)

Additional comments:

Weather: Mostly sunny, blue sky, low clouds on evaluation date.

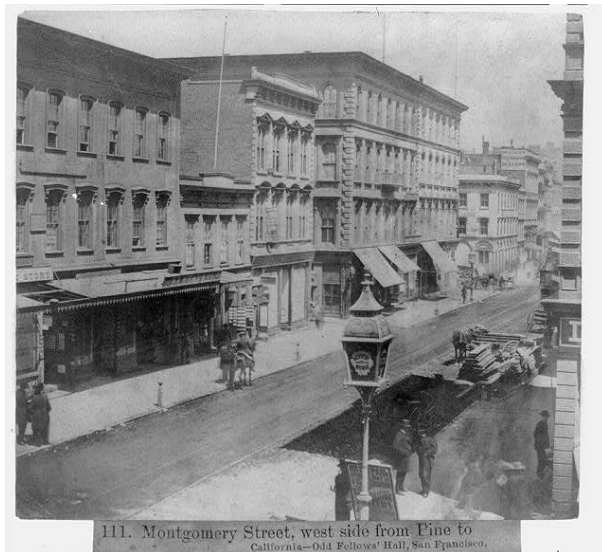
Conditions seen: No overhead wires seen over or near the tree to cause issues in future.

No construction work except that on the roof of the main house seen. Near the tree base, there was a ladder (?) placed horizontally on the ground between the main house and this tree.

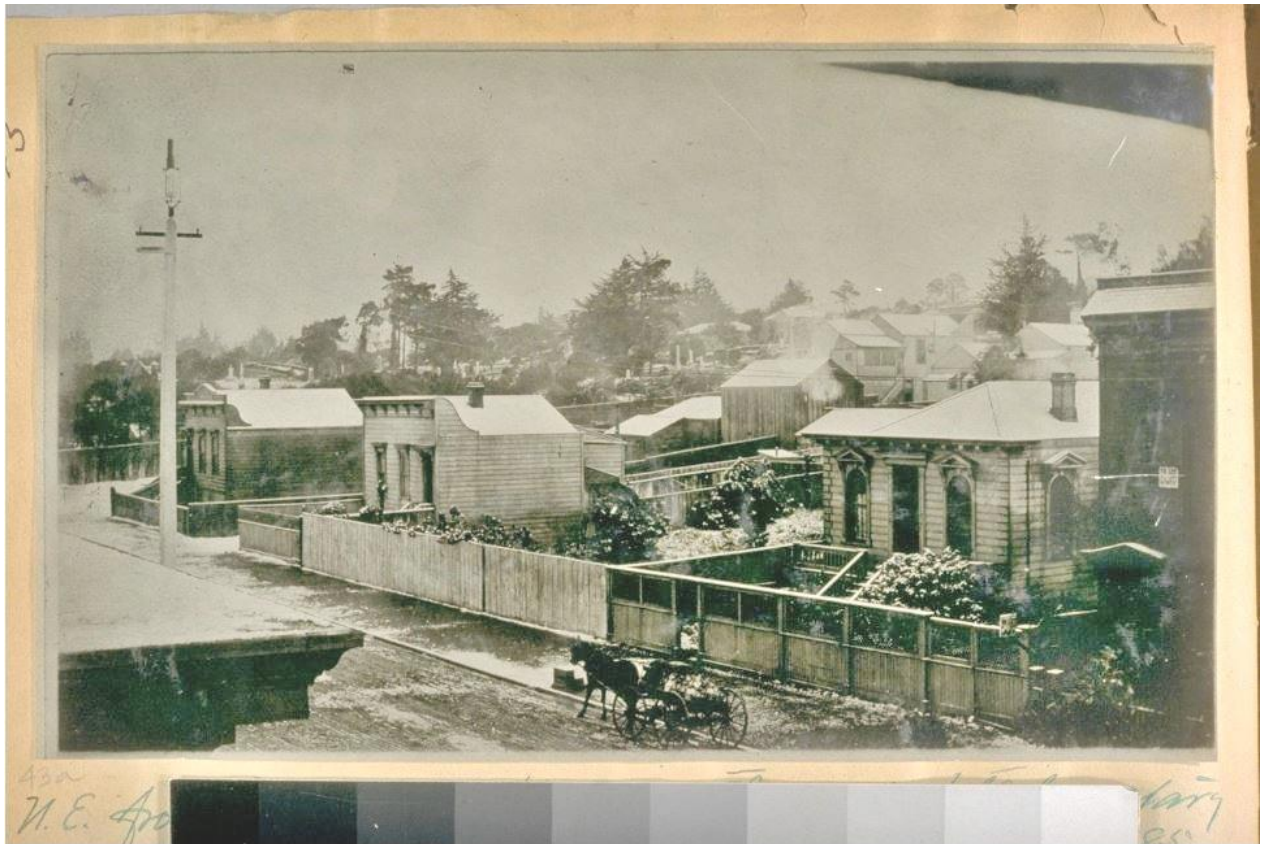
Other environmental benefits: A Norfolk Island Pine of 30” diameter has a \$90.60 yearly eco impact. 4,384 lbs. of CO₂ reduction, 27,113 gallons of H₂O conserved, 2,581 kWh conserved, 7 lbs. pollutants reduced and \$606 total benefits saved per urbanforestmap.org information.

In the International Journal of Phytoremediation, 2013, Sept. 1, V. 15, No. 8, Taylor & Francis Group, pp.756-773, ISSN 1549-7879, in “Potential Use of Leaf Biomass, *Araucaria heterophylla* for Removal of Pb⁺²” (electronic resource), there is an abstract that states that the “maximum biosorption was found to be 95.12% at pH 5 and biosorption capacity (q_e) of Cd⁺² is 9.643 mg/g” and that the conclusion was that “*A. heterophylla* leaf powder can be used as an effective, low cost, and environmentally friendly biosorbent for the removal of Pb⁺² from aqueous solution.”¹

¹ Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Library



Odd Fellows Hall, corner Montgomery St. (Library of Congress-George S. Lawrence & Thomas Houseworth Collection) – dedicated 1863



Courtesy of UC Berkeley, Bancroft Library

<http://www.oac.cdlib.org/ark:/13030/tf5r29p1qz/?order=1>

Title: N.E. from Cook St. showing Laurel Hill Cemetery [Cemetery], Richmond District, San Francisco, 1885

Contributing Institution: UC Berkeley, Bancroft Library

EXHIBIT A (Sanborn map):

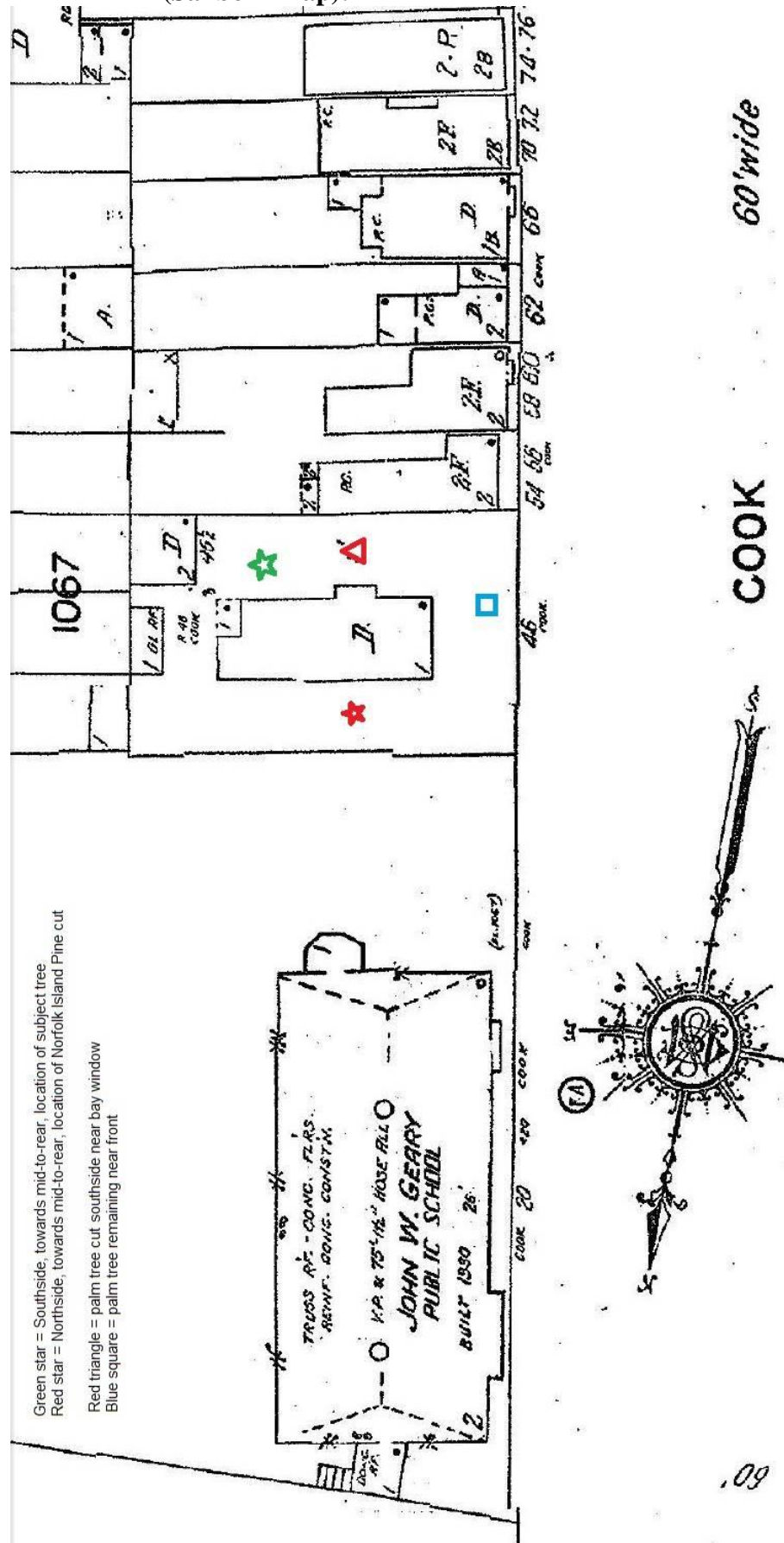
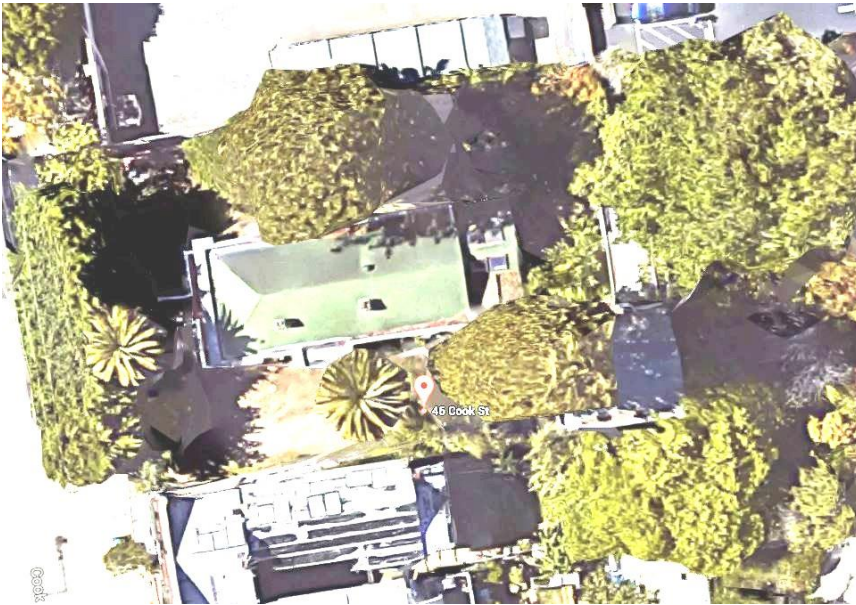


EXHIBIT B (1975 Survey of property):

Page 10

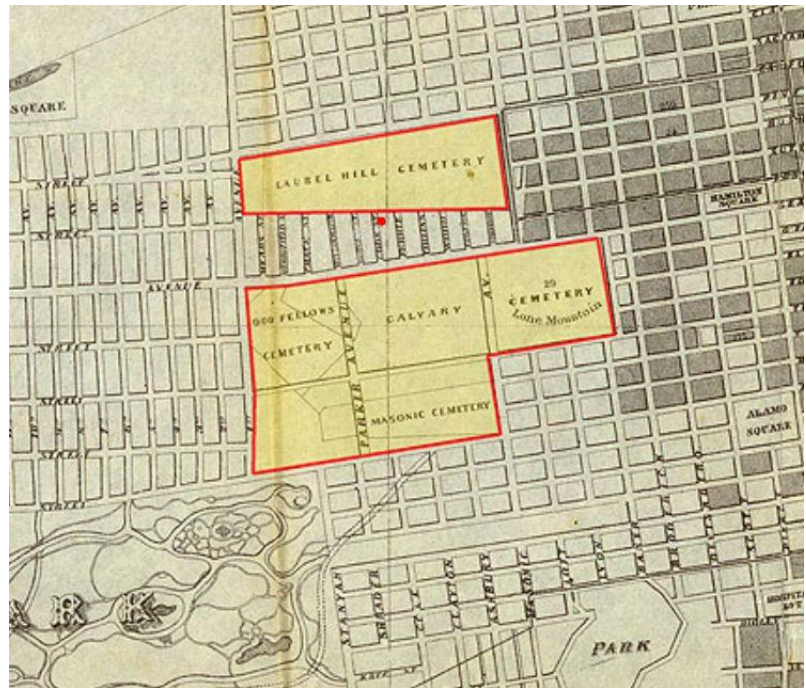
EXHIBIT C:



This picture is courtesy of Google. It shows the palms and the Norfolk Island pine that used to be there until a couple of months ago. The subject Norfolk Island Pine is shown by the red Google map pin.



* A *



* B *

(A) Odd Fellows Cemetery Association (established in 1856) monument in Colma

(B) 1870 Map -- red dot is location of Norfolk Island Pine tree on Cook St. surrounded by the “Big Four” cemeteries. (Courtesy of David Rumsey Map Collection & [sffound](#) website)



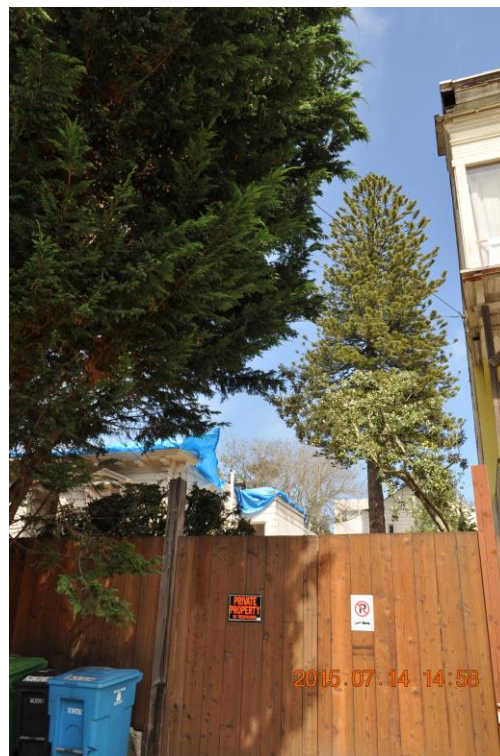
View of tree facing north from south adjacent property.



Foliage of Norfolk Island Pine from south adjacent property.



* A *



* B *

- (A) View of tree from front of property (NORTH side of lot) facing east from Cook Street.
(B) View of tree from front of property (SOUTH side of lot) facing east from Cook Street.



Base of tree trunk near main house on property.



* C *

(C) Close-up of trunk base, blackish gray brown in color, rough.



* D *

(D) Tape measure shows 3-ft. 1-1/2-in. for diameter (9.7 ft. circumference).



* E *

(E) Close-up of above measurement on tape (slightly past 3 ft. mark (black arrow on tape)).



* F *

(F) Foliage (approx. 12-inch "whip") and cone

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* G *



* H *

(G) Facing northeast, from south side of Geary at Cook Street.

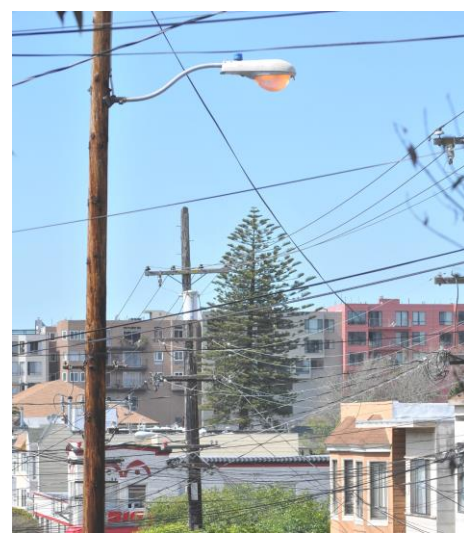
(H) Facing west towards Cook Street from Blake St., one block east of Cook.



* I *



* J *



* K *

(I) Facing northwest, from south side of Geary Blvd., between Cook St. and Blake St.

(J) Facing northeast from west side of Parker Avenue in front of the Odd Fellow Cemetery carpenter's home located between Anza and Geary.

(K) Facing north from Cook St. at Anza at the base of Lone Mountain (USF Campus)



* L *



* M *

(L) Facing northwest on Blake St., one block east of Cook St. The red-tinted building is on Euclid Avenue, the old south line of Laurel Hill Cemetery; no trees up this part of the block.

(M) Facing west towards Seacliff with Roosevelt Middle School tower on left



Facing west-southwest, Norfolk Island Pine as seen from Blake Street one block east of Cook.

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August 3, 2015

San Francisco Urban Forestry Council
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Review of Landmark Tree Nomination- Norfolk Island Pine, 46 Cook Street, San Francisco

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of Dale Rogers, the property owner, I have reviewed the Landmark Tree Nomination form nominating the Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) growing at 46 Cook Street and submitted to the San Francisco Urban Forestry Council. The purpose of this review is to verify the accuracy of the information provided in the nomination form and provide my opinion as to whether this tree would qualify for "Landmark" status pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code 810.

Following is a listing of the tree description and nomination criteria and my comments¹.

Height: Using a laser range finder I determined the height at 85 feet and not 100 feet as stated on the nomination form.

Average Canopy Width: Concur at approximately 30 feet.

Circumference at 4.5 feet: Using a diameter tape I measured the circumference at 110 inches (35 inch diameter).

Circumference at Ground Level: Concur at 138 inches.

Rarity: The nomination form lists this species as rare. I disagree. The species is common in coastal California and other Mediterranean climates, including San Francisco. The most limiting factor on distribution is this tree's susceptibility to cold damage, which limits the tree to coastal areas. Two references supporting this opinion are the Wikipedia discussion and a Pacific Horticultural article from 2010.

Wikipedia:

The distinctive appearance of this tree, with its widely spaced branches and symmetrical, triangular outline, has made it a popular cultivated species, either as a single tree or in [avenues](#). When the tree reaches maturity, the shape may become less symmetrical. Despite the endemic implication of the species name Norfolk Island pine, it is distributed extensively across coastal areas of the world in

¹ My curriculum vitae setting forth my qualifications is attached hereto.

8/3/15

Mediterranean and humid-subtropical climate regions due to its exotic, pleasing appearance and fairly broad climatic adaptability.

As well as their eponymously native Norfolk Island, these conifers are planted abundantly as ornamental trees throughout coastal areas of Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, and coastal areas of the United States, such as southern California and the east and west coasts of Florida, as well as the northwestern most coast of Mexico.

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Araucaria_heterophylla)

Pacific Horticulture:

*Australian members of the Araucariaceae commonly grown in California include the tall, prickly-leaved bunya-bunya (*A. bidwillii*) of Queensland, with huge pineapple-shaped cones, hoop pine (*A. cunninghamii*), an important Australian timber tree, and Norfolk Island pine (*A. heterophylla*), native to Norfolk Island. The latter species is commonly grown in parks and gardens in the San Francisco Bay Area, and in containers in Southern California; it is often sold as star pine, because of its horizontal tiers of radiating branches. - See more at:*

<http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/the-araucaria-family-past-present/#sthash.x26NCVko.dpuf>

Physical:

Size: This is a mature tree, but at 85 feet in height, is not exceptional. The Sunset Western Garden Book describes this species as having a moderately fast growth rate to 100 feet. I would rate this size in the medium category for this species.

Age: The nomination form estimates the age of the tree at 120 years based upon another tree previously removed. My estimate of the tree's age is 70 to 80 years based upon a conservative growth rate of .5 inches in diameter per year. This is a low to moderate growth rate for a moderately fast growing coniferous species. Additionally, the tree's location is 8.5 feet from the house foundation and in, what I assume, is the original driveway access to the carriage house. This location indicates the tree was a volunteer seedling from another tree and was allowed to grow after access to the carriage house was no longer used for vehicular storage.

Distinguished Form: The tree has the typical crown and limb structure for this species, although not unique compared to other Norfolk Island pines. There does not appear to be anything particularly unique or "distinguished" about this form.

Tree Condition: The tree is in good health and moderate structural condition with no severe defects. The live crown to height ratio is lower than preferred at approximately 50%. This moderately low ratio could increase the risk of lower limb breakage. The cones are moderately large (5 to 7 inches) and heavy, which is a concern in high use areas as the cones can cause injury if dislodged and strike a person. Otherwise, the tree has a low to moderate risk of failure projected over a three-year period.

Historical:

Historical Association: Given the tree's probable age and location in the carriage house driveway, the tree most likely dates to the 1940s. It could be a seedling from an older tree on the property, but has no apparent historical association of note, or at all.

Environmental:

Prominent Landscape Feature: This is a large tree, although it is set back from the front fence 81.5 feet. The property owner does not view this tree as an important (prominent) landscape feature.

Low Tree Density: I agree that the neighborhood has a moderate tree density.

Interdependent Group of Trees: I agree that the tree is not an integral member of a group of trees.

Visible or Accessible from Public Right-of-Way: The tree is visible from only a limited number of vantage points. From Cook Street, I could only see it unobstructed from one location. It may be visible from other streets at higher elevations. As stated, it is set back 81.5 feet from the sidewalk and therefore has low visibility.

High Traffic Area: In its location on a dead end street and significantly set back from the street, I do not believe the tree has any traffic calming effect and no high visibility as noted above.

Important Wildlife Habitat: As a non-native ornamental species, the primary wildlife benefit is likely limited to a perching site for birds of prey, but otherwise not a habitat. The cones are likely a potential food source for squirrels and rodents.

Erosion Control: I agree there are no erosion control benefits.

Wind or Sound Barrier: Because of the low live crown to height ratio and narrow crown form, there are no significant wind or sound barrier benefits.

Cultural:

The property owner does not believe the tree adds any "cultural" value to the neighborhood.

Summary:

Based upon my observations and information provided to me by the property owner and discussions with previous SFUFC members, this tree does not seem to meet the criteria for designation as a landmark tree. It is a large stature tree, but relatively common, not unique, not likely historically significant, and does not provide significant environmental benefits, other than marginal aesthetics.

8/3/15

Please contact me with any questions, or if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by James MacNair

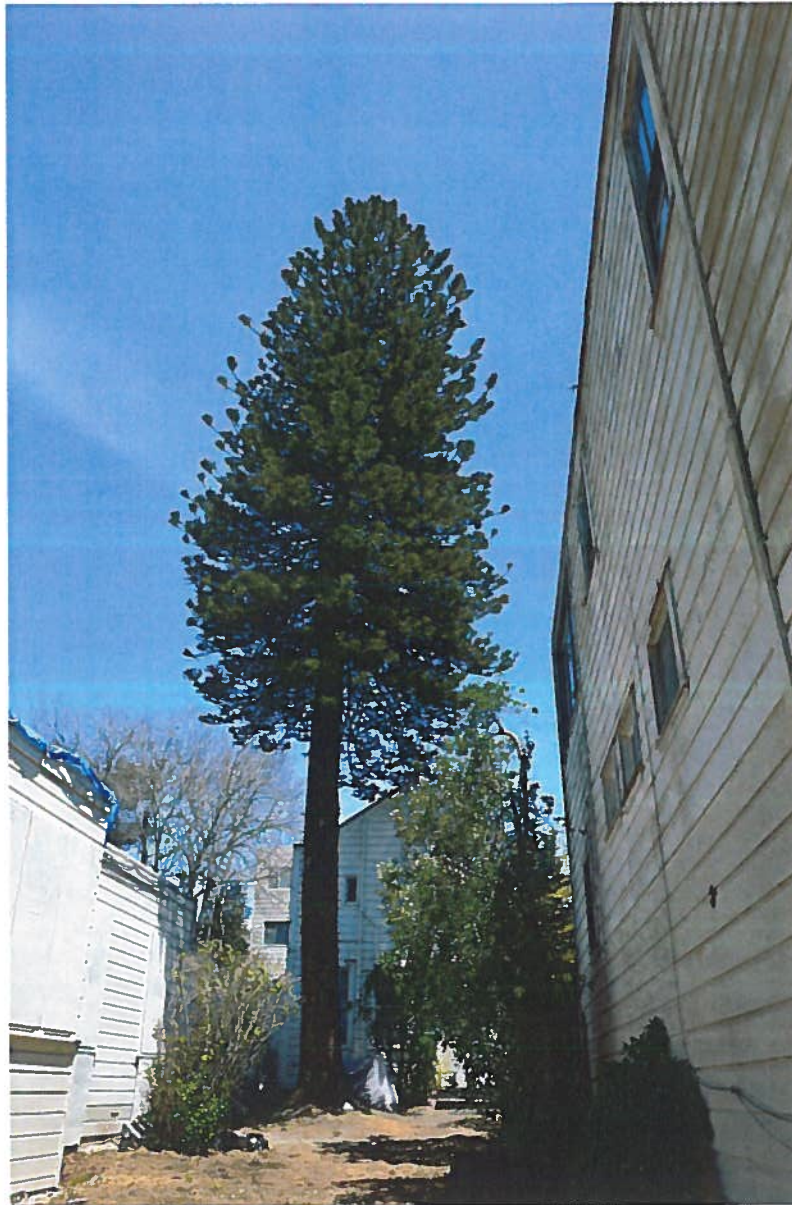
Date: 2015.08.03 19:32:23 -07'00'

James MacNair

International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist WC-0603A

International Society of Arboriculture Qualified Tree Risk Assessor

Tree Images:



View of tree from front portion of lot inside fence. Tree is 81.5 feet from fence at sidewalk.

8/3/15



View of tree from Cook Street. Cypressess along sidewalk frontage generally obscure views from the street.

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FIRM QUALIFICATIONS

MacNair and Associates is a professional arboricultural and horticultural consulting firm providing a complete range of landscape management and evaluative services. Clients include landscape architects, attorneys, corporations, government agencies, property managers, and professions within the construction industries.

MacNair and Associates and its predecessor, Horticultural Technical Services, have successfully completed over 3000 projects throughout the Western United States with services ranging from expert witness testimony to specialized landscape management manuals and vegetation studies. MacNair and Associates is known for providing accurate and practical recommendations supported by site-specific technical data and clearly written documentation.

James MacNair, Principal

James MacNair is a consulting arborist and horticulturist (International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist WE-0603A, ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor.)

Professional experience in the horticultural industry began in 1973 and includes work as a production manager of a viticulture nursery and as owner and vice-president of Skylark Wholesale Nursery. Skylark Nursery was known for the introduction and promotion of Mediterranean and California native plants. Mr. MacNair's extensive knowledge of landscape ornamentals has resulted in lectures and articles discussing their appropriate use and care in the landscape.

Mr. MacNair was a regular guest speaker at water conservation conferences throughout the state in the 1980s and has lectured at various colleges and universities. He received a recognition award for exemplary effort in the promotion and implementation of Xeriscape water conservation in the urban landscape.

From 1984 to 1990, James MacNair was a principal partner of Horticultural Technical Services and since 1990 is the principal of MacNair and Associates. Areas of specialization include arboricultural evaluations and risk assessments, expert witness services, tree loss appraisals, landscape planning for sites with special soil or water chemistry problems, irrigation strategies and plant selection for sites using reclaimed water, and irrigation management techniques including the development of computer scheduling software.

From 1991 through 1997, James MacNair was a principal of Irrigation Management Group (IMG), developers of the water conservation software ET Calc™. Mr. MacNair served as software designer, technical writer, and irrigation management consultant.

In 2010, Mr. MacNair developed the tree/plant appraisal software TreeValue™ for use in the 2007 San Diego County fire litigation cases. He is lead arborist expert for San Diego Fire Lawyers and has supervised the evaluation and documentation of tree and landscape losses for over 200 properties involving 80,000 trees. Advanced database designs, appraisal cost models, electronic field data collection, and GPS locations/mapping procedures were developed as part of this work.

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ARBORICULTURAL and HORTICULTURAL SERVICES

Arboricultural Appraisals and Evaluations

- Use of advanced tree appraisal software (developed by Mr. MacNair) including electronic field data collection, and GPS locations/mapping procedures. Tree appraisals performed using CTLA (Council of Tree and Landscape Appraiser) methods as described in the Guide for Plant Appraisal (9th Edition). Specialized cost models developed and used for analyzing costs for site and landscape remediation.
- Tree evaluations for heritage tree ordinances, including tree preservation, construction protection, mitigation specifications, and long range tree management programs.
- Tree surveys for evaluation of health and structural conditions, including risk assessment.
- Management programs establishing guidelines for pruning, cultural care, and pest and disease control.

Expert Witness

- Forensic documentation and analysis of tree failures.
- Extensive forensic and claim damage experience in over 20 wildfire cases.
- Appraisals of properties damaged by fire, storm, trespass, or accident. Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers plant appraisal methods used to determine opinions of value.
- View obstruction reports and recommendations.
- Landscape construction defects.

Site Analysis

- Soil sampling for determination of soil fertility, physical characteristics, and identification of chemistry problems. Site specific recommendations developed for effective use of fertilizers and amendments.
- Review of all environmental parameters likely to affect plant growth. Site analysis provides criteria for appropriate plant selection to ensure successful and functional landscapes.

Landscape Management Manuals

- Performance oriented management specifications for protection and care of the landscape. The Landscape Management Manual provides:
 - Equitable bid evaluations
 - Verification of contract performance
 - Establishment of long-term maintenance program
 - Quarterly task schedules and report formats
 - Documentation of all pesticide and herbicide use
 - Budget analysis and cost projection

- Periodic walk-through evaluations ensure that maintenance is appropriate and allows adjustments in procedures as a landscape matures.

Irrigation Management Programs

- Site specific programs designed to conserve water usage, while promoting plant health. Proper irrigation management reduces incidence of pests and diseases, lowers plant replacement costs, and decreases fertilizer and pruning requirements.
- Site specific procedures for modifying existing irrigation programs. Water requirements are evaluated for maximum conservation of water and reduction of water costs.

James MacNair was a participant in the Department of Water Resource's Landscape Water Management and Master Auditor Training Programs. He has designed computer software (ET Calc™) for calculating landscape water use and irrigation schedules. He was a member of the committee responsible for the publication Water Use Classification of Landscape Species for the Department of Water Resources and the University of California Cooperative Extension.

Plant Selection

- Plant selection for unusual, difficult, or adverse site conditions. Plant selection matrices designed to provide accurate and comprehensive data in an easy to read format. Recommendations are based on extensive field experience and latest horticultural research.
- Review of planting and irrigation plans for cultural compatibility and maintenance efficiency. Pest and disease control, irrigation, fertilization, and pruning requirements are evaluated for minimizing future maintenance costs and optimizing performance.

Plant Procurement Contracts

- The establishment and administration of growing contracts for future projects to ensure availability and quality of plant material. Contract growing protects project quality, without adding to project cost.

Landscape Installation Evaluations

- Plant quality inspections evaluating for proper size, branch structure, root health, and presence of pests or disease. This service assures the installation of quality plants for optimum performance and landscape success.
- Site evaluations to verify conformance to design specifications for plant quality, planting techniques, soil amending, staking, irrigation, and initial maintenance.

Landscape Problem Analysis

- Horticultural evaluation of existing landscape maintenance programs reviewing specific problems or management procedures. Site specific recommendations provided to improve plant health and vigor and protect the landscape improvement asset.

Environmental Restoration and Management

- Complete evaluative and management services for environmentally sensitive projects.
- Vegetation analysis of existing plant species for preservation, revegetation, or management planning.
- Riparian vegetation preservation plans and tree protection guidelines to protect and preserve existing riparian areas and specimen trees during construction and maintenance.
- Revegetation plans for restoring native plant communities. Specifications and procedures developed for specific site requirements. Administration and supervision of seed and cutting collection, propagation and growing contracts, installation, and maintenance.
- Seeding and planting recommendations for effective, long term slope protection and erosion control.

Seminars and Training Programs

- MacNair and Associates is available to provide lectures or training seminars on such topics as plant selection, designing for maintenance efficiency, water conservation, and landscape management.

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Professional Resume for James MacNair

Educational Background

1972- SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY, Bachelor of Arts, Psychology, graduation with honors.

Subsequent areas of college level study include Arboriculture, Botany, Environmental Science, Irrigation Management, Irrigation With Municipal Wastewater, Plant Ecology, Plant Pests and Diseases, Plant Taxonomy, Soil and Water Analysis, and Viticulture.

Professional Background

1973-1975 **Sonoma Grapevine**, Santa Rosa, California, and, **VINEYARD TECHNICAL SERVICES**, St. Helena, California. Production Manager of greenhouse operations producing bench-grafted grapevines and potted foliage crops. Mr. MacNair was responsible for the production of over one million grapevines planted in Napa and Sonoma counties.

1975-1984 **SKYLARK WHOLESALE NURSERY**, Santa Rosa, California. Principal, Vice-president, and Sales Director with responsibilities including marketing, re-wholesale plant purchasing, production, inventory control, and corporate duties. Special emphasis was placed upon the introduction of Mediterranean and California native plants to the landscape trade. Because of his knowledge of the growth habits and cultural requirements of these plants, Mr. MacNair has lectured and written numerous articles on their use in the landscape.

1984-1989 **HORTICULTURAL TECHNICAL SERVICES**, Santa Rosa, California. Principal/Consulting Horticulturist and Arborist. Professional consulting firm providing horticultural expertise to landscape architects, federal, state and municipal agencies, developers, and homeowners associations.

1991-1997 **IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT GROUP**, Union City, California. Principal. IMG specializes in the production of irrigation and horticultural computer software. Mr. MacNair served as software designer, technical writer, and irrigation management consultant.

1990-Present **MACNAIR AND ASSOCIATES**, Glen Ellen, California. Principal/Consulting Arborist (Certified ISA WE-0603A and Member American Society of Consulting Arborists) and Horticulturist. Areas of specialization include arboricultural evaluations, software design, expert witness services, tree damage appraisals, irrigation management, plant selection, and landscape management.

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SELECTED ARBORICULTURAL PROJECTS

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (CALTRANS)- Roadside Vegetation Management Study

- A comprehensive study of Caltrans roadside vegetation management policies and practices, including a detailed inventory of 271 roadside plantings. The study provided an evaluation of Caltrans directives, policies, and procedures as they are implemented through landscape design, construction, and roadside maintenance programs. A cost/benefit analysis was performed comparing four years of maintenance costs associated with the various landscape planting categories.
- The Roadside Vegetation Management Handbook was written for use by Caltrans personnel throughout California. This 350-page management manual covers such topics as irrigation management, plant selection, soil management and fertilization, pruning and tree maintenance, and pest and disease control. Special emphasis was placed on water conservation management practices.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION- Broadway Eucalyptus Evaluation and Resistograph Study

- Consulting arboricultural services provided to Caltrans. This project involved a detailed risk evaluation of mature blue gum eucalyptus growing along Hwy 12 (Broadway) in the City of Sonoma. A research project evaluating the effectiveness of the Resistograph™ for detection of internal decay was also performed as part of the evaluation.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION- El Camino Real Eucalyptus Evaluation and Resistograph™ Study

- Consulting arboricultural services provided to Caltrans. This project involved a detailed health and structural evaluation of mature blue gum eucalyptus growing along El Camino Real in the City of Burlingame and internal decay analysis utilizing the Resistograph™.

CALPINE- Audubon v. Calpine Wildfire Damage

- Expert witness services assessing the fire damage and claims associated with this 13,000 acre fire. The assignment required extensive damage documentation, repair and mitigation cost analysis, and direct participation in mediation and settlement conferences.

CITY OF EL CERRITO- Landscape Management Plan and Urban Forestry Plan

- This contract was performed in collaboration with Vallier Design Associates of Point Richmond, CA. The project required a review of Government Accounting Standard Board (GASB) requirements as applied to El Cerrito public sites.
- Forty-eight public sites were evaluated and inventoried. Each property was surveyed for the number and condition of trees, landscape characteristics including shrubs and groundcovers occurring, and current maintenance levels and deficiencies. All trees were

described using trunk diameter classifications, health and structure ratings, and any potential hazardous conditions observed. Data spreadsheets and site maps were prepared showing inventory results as well as renovation, replacement, and maintenance costs associated with the landscape plantings and hardscape areas.

- A public survey was conducted to obtain public perceptions, use patterns, and maintenance goals for landscape facilities. An Integrated Pest Management plan was prepared for future implementation.
- An Urban Forestry Plan was completed and included a street tree inventory and city street master plan components.

CITY OF HEALDSBURG- Contract City Arborist

- Contract Arborist providing tree evaluations and risk assessments of city parks and public properties. Review services for Heritage tree removal requests and projects located within Landscape Improvement Districts.

CITY OF RICHMOND- Hilltop Landscape Maintenance District

- This contract included arboricultural recommendations, ongoing landscape planting and maintenance evaluations, landscape irrigation evaluations, irrigation scheduling recommendations, review of existing landscape maintenance program, and program quality control implementation.

CITY OF SONOMA- Broadway Improvements, City Street and Heritage Tree Inventory, and Sonoma Plaza Tree and Landscape Management Plan

- Species selection and nursery procurement for the Broadway Improvement Project. Computerized inventory for identification and assessment of city street and historic trees. Preliminary report for establishment of a city street tree master plan.
- The Sonoma Plaza Tree and Landscape evaluation documents the health and condition of the historic plants growing at the plaza and provides recommendations for their long-term maintenance and care. The evaluation will include a review of current tree and landscape maintenance practices, drainage problems, and the functionality of the irrigation system.

LETTERMAN DIGITAL ARTS CENTER, PRESIDIO, SAN FRANCISCO- Arboricultural and Landscape Development

- This project provides comprehensive services ranging from development of a historic tree protection program, health and structural evaluations of mature trees, reclaimed water use in the landscape, plant selection review, landscape tree procurement, and preparation of a landscape management plan.
- Over 570 specimen trees were selected and purchased under the direction of Lawrence Halprin and Associates. A tree nursery was established in the Presidio for holding and transplanting of project trees.

SAN DIEGO FIRE LAWYERS- Old Guejito, Rice Canyon, and Witch Creek Fires: Tree/Woodland Damage Assessments and Appraisals

- The assessment of over 180 properties in San Diego County impacted by the October 2007 wildfires. Services include the inventory and documentation of trees killed or damaged by the fires. Currently over 40,000 trees have been evaluated.

- Specialized database software was created to document tree species, trunk diameters, pre-fire condition, and severity of fire damage. Advanced database, electronic field data collection, and GPS locations/mapping procedures were developed and utilized in the evaluations and damage appraisals. Cost models were developed for analyzing for site remediation requirements and cost of cure opinions of value.

SILVERADO HIGHLANDS, NAPA, CA- Arboricultural Evaluations and Native Tree Revegetation

- Evaluation of trees and oak woodland prior to construction of the Silverado Highlands residential development. Tree evaluations included hazard evaluations and assessment of construction impact. Extensive public hearings required and tree protection supervision during construction.

SILVERADO COUNTRY CLUB AND RESORT, NAPA, CA, Tree Inventory and Management Plans

- Tree inventory and management plans for resort areas and 36 hole golf courses. Computerized inventory software used to track requirements of 2,000 trees in this well-known resort and championship golf course.

STANLY RANCH, NAPA, CA- Eucalyptus Windrow Evaluation and Tree Management Plan

- This project has 4600 eucalyptus trees in historical windrow plantings. The City of Napa required an evaluation of the windrow plantings as part of the project Environmental Impact Report.
- Preparation of windrow management plan which consisted of (a) master schedule for phased replacement of individual trees, (b) protocols for: (i) removal of individual trees in a manner which minimizes impact on adjacent trees, (ii) planting of replacement trees, and (iii) protection of remaining trees during construction, (c) program for monitoring and maintaining trees until replacement, (d) monitoring and reporting program for any required mitigation measures, and (e) an initial five year budget for implementation of the Windrow Management Plan.

STERN GOVE FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION, SAN FRANCISCO, CA- Arboricultural Evaluations, Tree Preservation and Protection Plan, Construction Observation

- Evaluation of trees within the project limits of the Stern Grove Concert Meadow. A comprehensive tree protection plan was prepared for this historic site. Tree protection observation was provided throughout the project construction. Detailed resistograph and air spade diagnostic procedures were used for evaluation of a historic eucalyptus tree.

STONEBRAE COUNTRY CLUB, HAYWARD, CA- Arboricultural Evaluations, Tree Preservation and Protection Plan, Construction Observation, Tree Growing Contract

- Documentation and database management of over 3000 trees. A tree preservation and mitigation plan was prepared as part of the project's conditions of approval as well as ongoing tree protection observation. An oak protection brochure was prepared for use by the Homeowners Association.
- Management of a large tree growing contract designed to provide the project with availability of the specified trees, a high quality standard, and purchased at a competitive cost.

MACNAIR
&
ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING ARBORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS



James MacNair
Articles, Books, Presentations, and Professional Papers

Date	Title	Publication/Conference Proceedings
1977-1980	Plant Profiles- California Native and Mediterranean Plant Introductions- Article Series	California Landscape Magazine (CLCA)
June 1985	Oak Forest- A Lester Hawkins Legacy	Pacific Horticulture
December 1985	Plant Selection- A Pragmatic Approach	Paper and Lecture- 1985 Xeriscape Conference
May 1986	Native Plants for Planting with Oaks	Landscape and Irrigation News
January 1987	Water Conservation in the Landscape- A Horticultural Perspective on the Interaction of Design, Installation, and Maintenance	Paper and Lecture- 1987 Marinscape Conference
July 1991	Roadside Vegetation Management Handbook	California Department of Transportation
February 1991	Water Conservation and Maintenance- The Technical Requirements	Paper and Lecture- 1991 Northern California Xeriscape Conference
February 1992	Estimating Water Use and Irrigation Schedules for Ornamental Landscapes	Paper and Lecture- 1992 Water Efficient Landscaping Conference
February 1992	Water Use Classification of Landscape Species	Project Participant. University of California Cooperative Extension
June 1993	ET Calc User's Handbook	ET Calc- Water Conservation Software for Landscape Design and Maintenance
February 1994	Estimating Water Use in Landscapes	Landscape and Irrigation News
January 1995	Water Conservation in Commercial Landscapes	CAI Magazine
August 1995	Calculating Irrigation Schedules for Overhead Sprinkler Systems	Landscape and Irrigation News
February 1996	Trees for Rhododendron Gardens	American Rhododendron Society
January 2003	Detection Study Using the Resistograph- Structural Evaluation of <i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	Study conducted for Caltrans. Presentation to the City of Sonoma City Council.

Date	Title	Publication/Conference Proceedings
October 2005	Letterman Digital Arts Center- Landscape Construction and Historic Tree Protection.	Presentation to the Bay Area Landscape Supervisors Association.
January 2006	Root Failure- Douglas Fir	Presentation to the Annual Tree Failure Conference
April 2011	Tree Damage Assessment and Appraisal Mediator Orientation	Presentation to mediators assembled for the Witch Creek and Rice Fire Litigation Cases.
September 2013	WUCOLS Redux- Selecting the Right Plants for California's Future- Plant Water Use Ratings: Inside the Committee Process	Presentation to the WUCOLS 2013 Conference.
January 2015	Wildfire Tree Damage 2007 Witch Creek Fire	Presentation to the 14 th Annual Pest and Disease Symposium
June 2015	Irrigating Effectively with Drip Systems	Presentation to the Trees and Drought- Using Water Wisely Workshop.

MACNAIR
&
ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING ARBORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS



August 3, 2015

San Francisco Urban Forestry Council
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Review of Landmark Tree Nomination- Norfolk Island Pine, 46 Cook Street, San Francisco

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of Dale Rogers, the property owner, I have reviewed the Landmark Tree Nomination form nominating the Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) growing at 46 Cook Street and submitted to the San Francisco Urban Forestry Council. The purpose of this review is to verify the accuracy of the information provided in the nomination form and provide my opinion as to whether this tree would qualify for "Landmark" status pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code 810.

Following is a listing of the tree description and nomination criteria and my comments¹.

Height: Using a laser range finder I determined the height at 85 feet and not 100 feet as stated on the nomination form.

Average Canopy Width: Concur at approximately 30 feet.

Circumference at 4.5 feet: Using a diameter tape I measured the circumference at 110 inches (35 inch diameter).

Circumference at Ground Level: Concur at 138 inches.

Rarity: The nomination form lists this species as rare. I disagree. The species is common in coastal California and other Mediterranean climates, including San Francisco. The most limiting factor on distribution is this tree's susceptibility to cold damage, which limits the tree to coastal areas. Two references supporting this opinion are the Wikipedia discussion and a Pacific Horticultural article from 2010.

Wikipedia:

The distinctive appearance of this tree, with its widely spaced branches and symmetrical, triangular outline, has made it a popular cultivated species, either as a single tree or in [avenues](#). When the tree reaches maturity, the shape may become less symmetrical. Despite the endemic implication of the species name Norfolk Island pine, it is distributed extensively across coastal areas of the world in

¹ My curriculum vitae setting forth my qualifications is attached hereto.

Mediterranean and humid-subtropical climate regions due to its exotic, pleasing appearance and fairly broad climatic adaptability.

As well as their eponymously native Norfolk Island, these conifers are planted abundantly as ornamental trees throughout coastal areas of Australia, Brazil, Chile, New Zealand, Peru, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, and coastal areas of the United States, such as southern California and the east and west coasts of Florida, as well as the northwestern most coast of Mexico.
(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Araucaria_heterophylla)

Pacific Horticulture:

Australian members of the Araucariaceae commonly grown in California include the tall, prickly-leaved bunya-bunya (A. bidwillii) of Queensland, with huge pineapple-shaped cones, hoop pine (A. cunninghamii), an important Australian timber tree, and Norfolk Island pine (A. heterophylla), native to Norfolk Island. The latter species is commonly grown in parks and gardens in the San Francisco Bay Area, and in containers in Southern California; it is often sold as star pine, because of its horizontal tiers of radiating branches. - See more at:
<http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/the-araucaria-family-past-present/#sthash.x26NCVko.dpuf>

Physical:

Size: This is a mature tree, but at 85 feet in height, is not exceptional. The Sunset Western Garden Book describes this species as having a moderately fast growth rate to 100 feet. I would rate this size in the medium category for this species.

Age: The nomination form estimates the age of the tree at 120 years based upon another tree previously removed. My estimate of the tree's age is 70 to 80 years based upon a conservative growth rate of .5 inches in diameter per year. This is a low to moderate growth rate for a moderately fast growing coniferous species. Additionally, the tree's location is 8.5 feet from the house foundation and in, what I assume, is the original driveway access to the carriage house. This location indicates the tree was a volunteer seedling from another tree and was allowed to grow after access to the carriage house was no longer used for vehicular storage.

Distinguished Form: The tree has the typical crown and limb structure for this species, although not unique compared to other Norfolk Island pines. There does not appear to be anything particularly unique or "distinguished" about this form.

Tree Condition: The tree is in good health and moderate structural condition with no severe defects. The live crown to height ratio is lower than preferred at approximately 50%. This moderately low ratio could increase the risk of lower limb breakage. The cones are moderately large (5 to 7 inches) and heavy, which is a concern in high use areas as the cones can cause injury if dislodged and strike a person. Otherwise, the tree has a low to moderate risk of failure projected over a three-year period.

Historical:

Historical Association: Given the tree's probable age and location in the carriage house driveway, the tree most likely dates to the 1940s. It could be a seedling from an older tree on the property, but has no apparent historical association of note, or at all.

Environmental:

Prominent Landscape Feature: This is a large tree, although it is set back from the front fence 81.5 feet. The property owner does not view this tree as an important (prominent) landscape feature.

Low Tree Density: I agree that the neighborhood has a moderate tree density.

Interdependent Group of Trees: I agree that the tree is not an integral member of a group of trees.

Visible or Accessible from Public Right-of-Way: The tree is visible from only a limited number of vantage points. From Cook Street, I could only see it unobstructed from one location. It may be visible from other streets at higher elevations. As stated, it is set back 81.5 feet from the sidewalk and therefor has low visibility.

High Traffic Area: In its location on a dead end street and significantly set back from the street, I do not believe the tree has any traffic calming effect and no high visibility as noted above.

Important Wildlife Habitat: As a non-native ornamental species, the primary wildlife benefit is likely limited to a perching site for birds of prey, but otherwise not a habitat. The cones are likely a potential food source for squirrels and rodents.

Erosion Control: I agree there are no erosion control benefits.

Wind or Sound Barrier: Because of the low live crown to height ratio and narrow crown form, there are no significant wind or sound barrier benefits.

Cultural:

The property owner does not believe the tree adds any "cultural" value to the neighborhood.

Summary:

Based upon my observations and information provided to me by the property owner and discussions with previous SFUFC members, this tree does not seem to meet the criteria for designation as a landmark tree. It is a large stature tree, but relatively common, not unique, not likely historically significant, and does not provide significant environmental benefits, other than marginal aesthetics.

Please contact me with any questions, or if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

James MacNair
International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist WC-0603A
International Society of Arboriculture Qualified Tree Risk Assessor

Tree Images:



View of tree from front portion of lot inside fence. Tree is 81.5 feet from fence at sidewalk.



View of tree from Cook Street. Cypressess along sidewalk frontage generally obscure views from the street.

Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code Section 810, the UFC has developed these criteria for evaluating potential landmark trees in San Francisco. When evaluating or considering potential landmark trees, please consider the context of the tree within its site location. For example, a tree on PUC land may not have the same community importance that a street or park tree would. Use comment sections, as appropriate, to explain or support evaluation. Attach sheets if more space is needed.

Evaluator's name: Carla Short
Date of evaluation: 7/14/15
Scientific name: Avicennia heterophylla
Common name: Norfolk Island Pine
Street address: 46A Cook St.
Cross streets: Geary

Rarity ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Rarity: ☐ Rare ☐ Uncommon ☒ Common ☐ Other

Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: not rare but tree of this size is rare

Physical Attributes ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small

Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: Large for SF not esp. for species overall

Age: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Significantly advanced age for the species.

Comment: could be 100+ years. Species can live to 150

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

Describe: ~50% live crown ratio, good structure, good trunk flare, radial branching, good canopy vigor

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

2

Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard
Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard
Describe: _____

Historical ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Historical Association: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent
Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.
Describe nature of appreciation: appears to be related to historic
building and may have come from cemetery

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☒ Yes ☐ Unknown
Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. Attach documentation if appropriate.
Describe coverage: the site profiled in book

Environmental ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No
A striking and outstanding natural feature.
Describe, attach photo if possible: _____

Low tree density: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.
Describe: Cook St itself has quite a few trees
but neighborhood overall = moderate

Interdependent group of trees: ☐ Yes ☒ No
This tree is an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.
Describe: _____

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒ Yes ☐ No
High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Describe: visible from euclid steps, visible from
street

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

3

High traffic area: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe: low ped volume lead-end street

Important wildlife habitat: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

likely to provide habitat to birds.

Erosion control: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe: _____

Wind or sound barrier: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe: _____

Cultural ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Neighborhood appreciation: ☒ Yes ☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe: Neighbors very supportive of tree
multiple signatures

Cultural appreciation: ☐ Yes ☒ None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Describe nature of appreciation: _____

Planting contributes to neighborhood character: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: _____

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

4

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☐ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: _____

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: notable from nearby view
points & like Euclid Steps.

Additional comments

Species is endangered in wild.
This is a very large and healthy
tree with no obvious structural
defects. If the nearby tree was
similar in age - as expected due
to size, it is quite old, particularly
for San Francisco.

Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code Section 810, the UFC has developed these criteria for evaluating potential landmark trees in San Francisco. When evaluating or considering potential landmark trees, please consider the context of the tree within its site location. For example, a tree on PUC land may not have the same community importance that a street or park tree would. Use comment sections, as appropriate, to explain or support evaluation. Attach sheets if more space is needed.

Evaluator's name: Jon Swae

Date of evaluation: July 14, 2015

Scientific name: Araucaria heterophylla

Common name: Norfolk Island Pine

Street address: 46A Cook Street

Cross streets: Geary Boulevard

Rarity ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☒ No

Rarity: ☐ Rare ☒ Uncommon ☐ Common ☐ Other
Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment:

Norfolk Island Pine is not necessarily rare in San Francisco as it is planted throughout the Bay Area, but they are not very common and need sufficient space to grow and reach maturity such as this specimen located in a backyard.

Physical Attributes ☐ Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No

Size: ☒ Large ☐ Medium ☐ Small

Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment:

With an estimated height of 85'-100', this tree appears as a large tree for San Francisco.

Age: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Significantly advanced age for the species.

Comment:

I am not an expert on tree age. The property owner's arborist report states the age as approximately 70-80 years old (based on a growth rate of .5 inches in diameter per year). On-line research shows that these trees can live up to 150 years. The nominator estimates age as 120 years old per a tree ring count of a similar tree removed on the property. The tree's diameter was measured at 35 inches (110 inch circumference).

Distinguished form: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

2

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

Describe:

The tree exhibits a healthy mature shape and form that is visible from the street and above the house as well.

Tree condition: ☒ Good ☐ Poor ☐ Hazard

Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe:

Observation and arborist reports seem to indicate the tree is in good health with no major structural defects.

Historical ☐ Yes ☒ Partially ☐ No

Historical Association: ☐ Yes ☒ None apparent

Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Describe nature of appreciation:

This was one of the most challenging aspects of the evaluation.

The Planning Department's Property Information Map indicates that the building (built date of 1900 or earlier) located on the parcel is a Type A - Historic Resource. Featured in the book, *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage*, the text related to the subject property reads, "46 Cook Street (c. 1870) George J. Smith, a director of the Odd Fellows, planted his estate with many trees which he obtained from the cemetery. Today all that remains on his property is a one-story Italianate home and carriage house." San Francisco's practice of historic preservation would traditionally protect landscaping on properties identified as known historic resources where the landscaping is determined to be a significant feature of the property or significant to the setting of the property. In this case, the property's designation of "Type A" indicates that property is a known historic resource but the Department and the nominator have been unable to deliver conclusive evidence that the nominated tree was indeed planted as part of the original estate. The property owner's arborist also suggests that the location of the tree in front of the carriage house raises questions about whether the tree was planted later when the carriage house and driveway approach was no longer used for carriages but instead became housing.

If conclusive evidence had revealed that the nominated tree or other landscaping were original to this historic property and its original owner, a strong case could be made for not only landmarking the buildings but also the relevant trees or landscaping onsite. Current research, while in depth and well done, seems unable to make this case. For further research see nominator's packet of "Additional Exhibits."

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☒ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage:

The property was mentioned in the book *Here Today: San Francisco's Architectural Heritage* (1978) but no specific publication mentions the particular nominated tree.

Environmental ☐ Yes ☐ Partially ☒ No

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible:

The tree is impressive, beautiful and a good example of the species, it is visible from streets and surrounding properties. The recent removal of three other mature trees (two palms and another pine) make this tree more of a prominent feature in the absence of these others

Low tree density: ☐ Low ☒ Moderate ☐ High

Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Describe:

According to Urban Forest Plan's neighborhood tree canopy map, the property appears to fall between the Inner Richmond (9.5% tree canopy) and Presidio Heights (11.5% tree canopy). Compared to other neighborhoods in the city, this would be considered "moderate" tree canopy. Aerial maps show street trees and a significant number of trees located in backyards.

Interdependent group of trees: ☐ Yes ☒ No

This tree is an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.

Describe:

The tree is not part of an interdependent group of trees. Although it was situated with three other mature trees on the property that have been recently removed by the property owner.

Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way: ☒ Yes ☐ No

High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.

Describe:

The tree is visible (not accessible) from the street and surrounding streets. Its height allows it to stand above the roofline of nearby homes.

High traffic area: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.

Describe:

The property is located on a dead end (Cook Street). However, a school located on the block (now closed?) could generate significant traffic.

Important wildlife habitat: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

4

Describe:

The tree is a non-native species. However, neighbors describe the tree being popular with birds and have provided some firsthand accounts of the tree being used for perching by a peregrine falcon and mocking bird.

Erosion control: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree prevents soil erosion.

Describe:

No erosion control benefits that I am aware of.

Wind or sound barrier: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Describe:

Neighbors report additional wind and sound from removal of other large trees on the property. I am not aware of a large wind or sound issue in the neighborhood (potentially Geary Blvd).

Cultural ☒ Yes ☐ Partially ☐ No

Neighborhood appreciation: ☐ Yes ☐ None apparent

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

Describe:

Large showing of public support for tree by immediate neighbors. Petition submitted by nominator includes 150 signatures many from nearby residents.

Cultural appreciation: ☐ Yes ☒ None apparent

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Describe nature of appreciation:

Planting contributes to neighborhood character: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Describe contribution: N/A

Profiled in a publication or other media: ☐ Yes ☒ Unknown

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

Describe coverage: N/A

Prominent landscape feature: ☒ Yes ☐ No

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

5

Describe, attach photo if possible:

Surrounding neighbors consider this a strong landscape feature.

Additional comments

While the pine is a beautiful and mature tree that provides significant cultural value to neighbors and contributes to neighborhood character, in my assessment the lack of species rarity and proven historical association do not make it a successful candidate for landmarking. Under the Public Works Code, the distinction of a “landmark tree” is uniquely reserved for trees of exceptional quality, rarity or historical significance. I do feel it is extremely unfortunate that the property owner has decided to pursue removal of other large trees on the property including possibly this one. This is a loss both to the neighborhood and the city. The Council is not able to landmark each tree throughout the city that faces a similar fate. However, I feel given the frequency at which we are seeing increasing mature tree removals due to real estate speculation or other motivations, I would like to encourage the Urban Forestry Council to gain a better understanding of the issues that motivate property owners to remove these trees, what options other than landmarking may be available for protecting trees on private property and how the City can support property owners in persevering these trees for our city and the many ecological, cultural and economic benefits they provide.

Timeline of Historical Continuity for Cook Pine Tree at 46A Cook St.

An evidential walkthrough proving the existing Cook Pine tree located at 46A Cook St. as one of the few remaining physical landmarks of one of San Francisco's most significantly historical cemeteries.

c. 1870-- Per "Here Today's"* description of 46 Cook St., "George J. Smith, a director of the Odd Fellows, planted his estate with many trees which he obtained from the cemetery." (Note: 44, 46, and 46A Cook St. all fall under the same inseparable deed.) **[See Attachment A]**

1908-- The Smith family sells the property to Jorgen and Carolina Svane. Per their granddaughter, Christie Svane, "Many trees such as fruit trees and pine trees were already growing on the property when my grandparents bought it" and "My grandfather was known for keeping the property 'groomed like a park'". Christie's father, Peter Svane Sr., who was 1 year old when his family purchased the property "especially adored the giant pine in front of the carriage barn" (the tree under review). **[See Attachments B.1-B.2]**

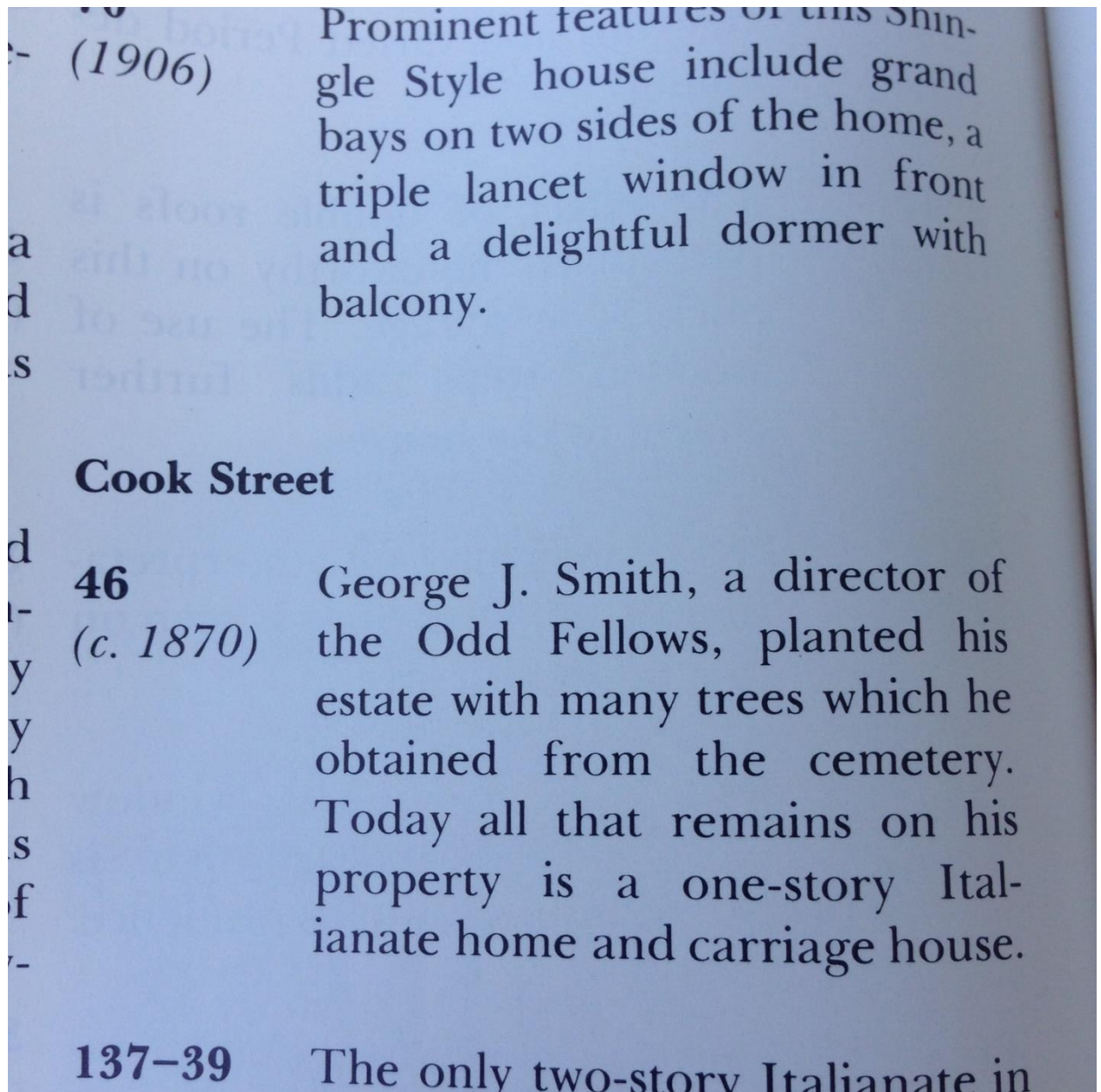
1946-1951-- Photograph of the tree from the SF Assessor Archives shows the height to be taller than the neighbors three story house. **[See Attachment C]**

1966-- The researchers of "Here Today" visit the property and state in their notes that some of the trees and shrubs that George J. Smith planted on his estate from the cemetery still surround the house. They describe the trees as "large and old." **[See Attachment D]**

2012-- After the Svane family has owned and lived on the property for 104 years, Peter Svane Jr. sells the property to Dale T Rogers Trust. **[See Attachment E]**

**Note: "Here Today" is a book published in 1968 by the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. It is the result of a historic resource survey developed in response to a loss of historic resources in San Francisco through demolition or neglect. The survey was adopted by the SF Board of Supervisors under Resolution Number 268-70 on May 11, 1970.*

Attachment A: "Here Today" page 260 (Out of context, one can assume the trees are no longer on the property, but in context with the Junior League notes below in Attachment D, the original trees are clearly still standing.)



Attachment B.1: Letter from Christie Svane

Christina Svane
254 Spring St.
Florence, MA 01062

August 3, 2015 Re: Cook (or Norfolk) Pine at 46 Cook Street

To Whom it May Concern:

My grandparents, Jørgen Christian Svane and Carolina Rasmussen Svane purchased the house, farm, and barn at 46 Cook Street in 1908, when my father, Peter Victor Svane, was one year old. Geary Blvd. was a dirt road called Point Lobos then, and the property was outside the city proper, known for its sand dunes, farms, cemeteries and grand trees.

Many trees such as fruit trees and the pine trees, were already growing on the property when my grandparents bought it, but they planted the ornamental trees such as the holly tree and lemon tree to flank the entrance, and the four date palms. Their property extended all the way to Euclid and to Blake Streets, but most of it - their orchard and farm - was taken by the City under 'eminent domain' in order to build a school and playground. (When I went to Denmark to find relatives, I was shown a photograph of my father and a baby palm tree, in front of the house, both about a year old.) My grandfather was known for keeping the property 'groomed like a park,' I was told by all the relatives.

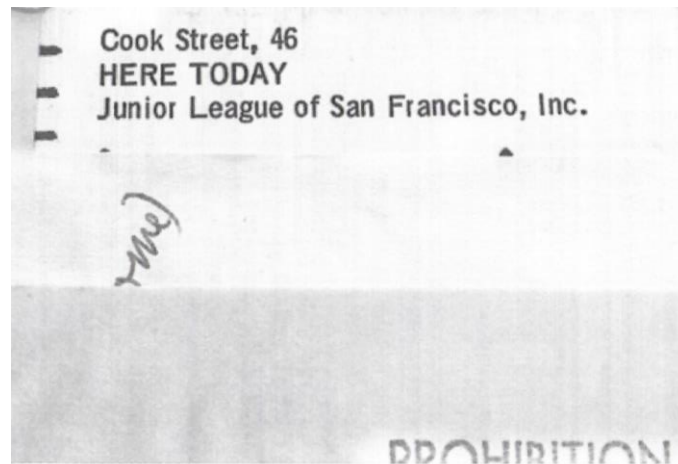
My father especially adored the giant pine in front of the carriage barn, which he always called the 'Monkey Tail tree.' I have since discovered it is not a Monkey Tail tree, but most likely a Captain Cook Pine, which would make sense, as the street is named after Captain Cook, as well. George J. Smith, who had the house built around 1865, was known to have planted it with many trees. (We had his granite carriage step carved with his name on it.) I am not a tree expert, and perhaps it is not a Captain Cook Pine, but a Norfolk Pine. I do know they are often mistaken for each other.

My father prized this tree above all the others around the house, and now and then hired arborists to attend to it, and trim its lower branches. He would often remind us that this tree was so big it was visible from Euclid Avenue. It was also on occasion home to a large family of raccoons. Growing up there, we were raised to treasure the trees on the property as the living legacy not only of our grandparents, who died before we could meet them, but of a glorious period in San Francisco's history, when people would ride in their carriages past Cook Street, heading to the Cliff House for a Sunday outing in the country. The country eventually turned into city, but the glorious trees remained.

Sincerely,

Christina Svane

Attachment B.2: "Here Today" research notes (found in SF Public Library's Historical Center)



Call to A+B from Mrs. Peter Svane owner
46 Cook St. 3/15/66

Has lived there since age of
1 (he is 59, b. 1907) Came from Denmark
~~for Norway?~~ remembers how enormous
their place looked from his baby
buggy! Geary was Pt. Lobos Rd. when he
a boy

Mr. Smith, former owner, left tall
huge ladders on property marked Smith,
a big S.F. Painter in Starb King Bldg.
now Standard Oil on Sansome (over)

He was an Odd Fellow & Director of the
Odd Fellow's Cemetery where he is buried.
As much he could get marvelous
trees etc. on property & did. He committed
suicide.

Attachment C: Photograph from the SF Assessors Office archives dated between 1946 and 1951 (found in SF Public Library's Historical Center). The tree is 13 feet behind the back wall of the house, and is clearly taller than the building, when the angle of the photograph is taken into account.



Attachment D: "Here Today" research notes (found in SF Public Library's Historical Center)

46 Cook St. (circa 1870)

George G. Smith, a house and sign painter with offices in the Starr King Building and at 329 Sutter (were they same?) lived here from 1870 until around 1903. He was prominent in the Odd Fellows Lodge and a director of their cemetery, which extended from Pt. Lobos Rd. (now Geary) to Turk St. This gave him access to the trees and shrubs with which he planted his estate, some of which still surround the house. He left large ladders on the place with the name of his firm, G. J. Smith, and its address.

In 1903 he built the carriage house, now used for a rental dwelling, and put a granite stile on the curb inscribed with his name and the year. ^(This has since been moved to the garden.) Shortly thereafter he is said to have committed suicide.

In 1908 Mr. Smith's widow sold the house to a Danish family, the Svanes. Their son remembers that the carriage house had sliding rear doors opening into the stable; there was also a greenhouse, an old outhouse and fine trees and gardens. He believes that there was a well before a Mrs. Swan (oddly enough no relation to the later Svanes) signed for the first water meter in 1886. At that time the Water Dept. reported 1630 sq. feet of irrigation.

In 1908 the Water Dept. noted 275 Sq. Yds, with signs of horses having been turned out and a trough but no evidence of

Attachment D (cont): "Here Today" research notes (found in SF Public Library's Historical Center)

46 Cook St.

-2-

The basement floor was on a concrete slab flat on sand; since the sand was inert and insect free it survived over the many years. Work on the foundation has been done recently but otherwise the house, of solid redwood, is as it was.

It is a 1 story cottage with arched windows and Italianate pediments, over arched windows, and an Italianate cornice over the door, which is flanked by simple pilasters. The door features a circle of glass and a transom above. Steps are of stone, with stone jardinières. A carved wood rail encloses the porch. Trees are large and old.

A driveway, dirt, leads through a gate to the carriage house.

Attachment E: Deed transfer from Peter V. Svane to Dale T Rogers on 5/11/2012. One deed for all three addresses of the property.



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125%

Attributes Confirming 46A Cook St. Cook Pine Species:

	Attribute	Cook Pine (Araucaria Columnaris)	Norfolk Island Pine (Araucaria Heterophylla)	46A Cook St. Pine	Source
A.	Cone Shape	Ovoid to Ellipsoid <i>(Ovoid: egg-shaped Ellipsoid: Plane sections are ellipses)</i>	Subglobose <i>(Subglobose: almost spherical or having a globular form)</i>		"Hortus Third: A Concise Dictionary of Plants Cultivated in the United States and Canada", Cornell University, pg. 98 [See Exhibit A]
B.	Mucro at Tip of the Scale <i>(Mucro: A short, sharp, abrupt spur or spiny tip)</i>	Elongated and Recurved <i>(Recurved: curved downward or backward)</i>	Short and Not Recurved		"Hortus Third: A Concise Dictionary of Plants Cultivated in the United States and Canada", Cornell University, pg. 98 [See Exhibit A]

C.	Trunk	Characteristic Lean	Straight and Upright		<p>Pacific Horticulture Society http://www.pacifichorticulture.org/articles/the-araucaria-family-past-present/</p> <p>“A Tropical Garden Flora” <i>[See Exhibit B]</i></p> <p>National Register of Big Trees, AU http://www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au/listing/52.pdf</p>
D.	Branch Direction	Slope down	Straight out or slightly sloped up		<p>National Register of Big Trees, AU http://www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au/listing/52.pdf</p>

E.	Bark	Flaky sheets, Peels off	Slight flake only		National Register of Big Trees, AU http://www.nationalregisterofbigtrees.com.au/listing/52.pdf
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“One popular theory holds that many “Norfolk Island” pines in the Hawaiian Islands are of hybrid origin, but pollen of the two species is shed six months apart, making hybridization unlikely; these purported hybrid trees are virtually all Cook pines.”

-“A Tropical Garden Flora”, Staples and Herbst, pg. 58 [See Exhibit B]

Exhibit A

Hortus Third

A Concise Dictionary of
Plants Cultivated in
the United States and Canada

Initially Compiled by
LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY
and ETHEL ZOE BAILEY

Revised and Expanded by
THE STAFF OF THE
LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY HORTORIUM
A Unit of the
New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
a Statutory College of the
State University at Cornell University

MACMILLAN PUBLISHING CO., INC.
New York
COLLIER MACMILLAN PUBLISHERS
London

Exhibit A (cont)

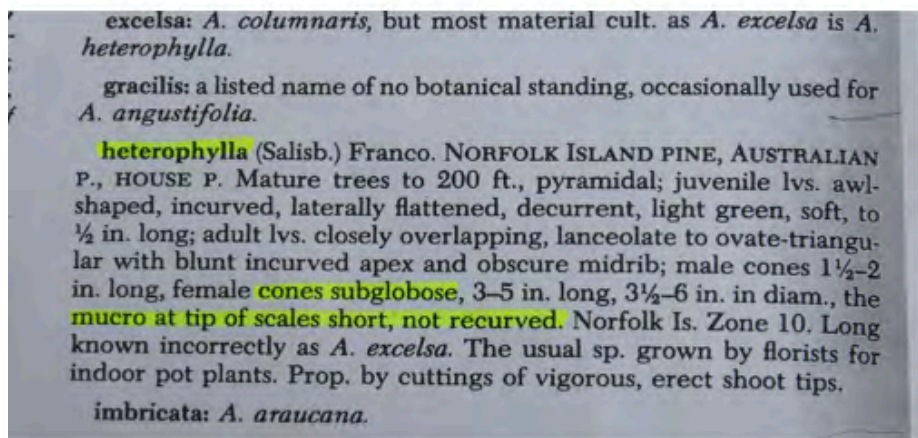
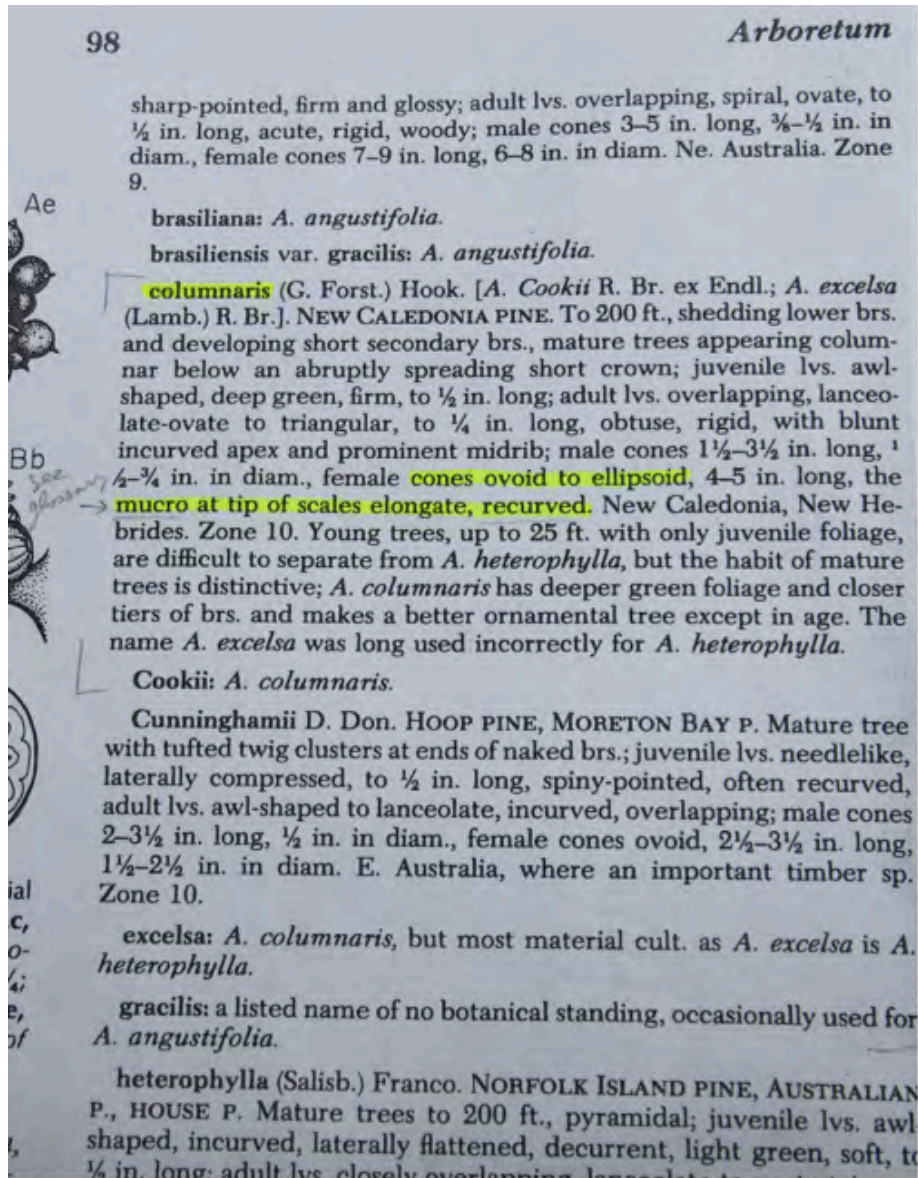


Exhibit A (cont)

<p>Locuncidat. See <i>Dehiscence</i>.</p> <p>Lodicule. One of two or three minute scales below the stamens and appressed to the base of the ovary in most Gramineae, believed to be rudiments of ancestral perianth parts.</p> <p>Loment. A leguminous fruit that is contracted between the seeds, the one-seeded segments separating at fruit maturity.</p> <p>Lorate. Strap-shaped.</p> <p>Lunate. Crescent-shaped.</p> <p>Lyrate. Pinnatifid, but with an enlarged, rounded, terminal lobe and smaller lateral lobes.</p> <p>Marginal placentation. See <i>Placentation</i>.</p> <p>Macrospore. Megaspore.</p> <p>Mamillate, mammillate. Having nipplelike protuberances.</p> <p>Marcescent. Withering but persisting.</p> <p>Marcot. A branch that, for purposes of propagation, is air-layered by having a rooting medium bound to it.</p> <p>Megasporangium. A sporangium containing only megaspores.</p> <p>Megaspore. The larger of the two kinds of spores produced by heterosporous plants, developing into a female gametophyte; also called macrospore.</p> <p>Megastrophyll. A strobilophyll that bears megaspores; in an-</p>	<p>Monopetalous. 1) Laterally, with a single petal; 2) gamopetalous.</p> <p>Monophyletic. Derived from a single ancestral line. Compare <i>Polyphyletic</i>.</p> <p>Monopodial. Having growth and prolongation of the stem or rhizome continuing indefinitely, usually without branching, as in the orchid genera <i>Vanda</i> and <i>Phalaenopsis</i>. Compare <i>Sympodial</i>.</p> <p>Monotypic. In reference to a genus, comprising a single species.</p> <p>Motile. Self-propelling, as spores or sperms, by means of cilia or elaters.</p> <p>Mucro. A short, sharp, abrupt spur or spiny tip.</p> <p>Mucronate. Terminated by a mucro.</p> <p>Mucronulate. Diminutive of <i>mucronate</i>; terminated by a small mucro.</p> <p>Multi- A prefix meaning many, as <i>multiculate</i>, many-ovuled.</p> <p>Multicarpellate. Referring to a compound pistal or ovary, formed by the union of several carpels.</p> <p>Multiciliate. With many cilia.</p> <p>Multiple fruit. A "fruit" formed by the connation of the individual fruits of several flowers in a cluster, as the pineapple (<i>Ananas</i>) or mulberry (<i>Morus</i>).</p>
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<p>Prophyll</p> <p>the branches of an inflorescence, as in the Palmae.</p> <p>Prop root. A stiff aerial root that arises from the stem, reaches the ground, and helps to support the stem.</p> <p>Prostrate. A general term for lying flat on the ground.</p> <p>Protandrous, proterandrous. Said of a flower in which the anthers mature and release their pollen before the stigma of the same flower is receptive.</p> <p>Prothallium, prothallus. The gametophyte stage or generation of ferns and some other cryptogams, a usually small, delicate, flattened, thalluslike structure growing on the ground, bearing the sexual organs, the antheridia and archegonia.</p> <p>Protogynous, proterogynous. Said of a flower in which the stigma is receptive before the anthers of the same flower are mature.</p> <p>ruinose. Having a bloom on the surface. See <i>Bloom</i>.</p> <p>seud- or Pseudo- A prefix meaning <i>false, not true or typical</i>, as <i>pseudoterminal bud</i>, a bud apparently but not actually terminal.</p> <p>seudobulb. A thickened or bulbiform above-ground stem in certain orchids, varying from globose through clavate to long-cylindrical according to species.</p> <p>seudoterminal bud. The seemingly terminal bud of a twig, but actually the uppermost lateral bud with its subtending leaf scar on one side and the scar of the terminal bud often visible on the opposite side, as in <i>Castanea</i>.</p> <p>berulent, puberulous. Minutely pubescent, clothed with minute, soft, erect hairs.</p> <p>beseent. Strictly, this means covered with soft, short, fine hairs; as commonly used, however, the term means hairy, bearing hairs, in a generalized sense, without reference to</p>	<p>1221</p> <p>Rostellum</p> <p>Ramifying. Branching.</p> <p>Ramose. With many branches.</p> <p>Rank. 1) A vertical row—leaves that are two-ranked are in two vertical rows, and may be alternate or opposite; 2) in nomenclature, the position of a taxon in the taxonomic hierarchy.</p> <p>Raphe. That portion of the funiculus of an ovule that is adnate to the integument, usually represented by a ridge, present in most anatropous ovules.</p> <p>Raphide. A minute, needlelike crystal of calcium oxalate, as in the tuber of <i>Arisaema</i> and vegetative parts of many plants.</p> <p>Ray. 1) A branch of an umbel or an umbel-like inflorescence; 2) a ray flower, or the corolla of a ray flower, or a circle of ray flowers.</p> <p>Ray flower. A ligulate flower, with corolla flattened and straplike above a very short tube, in the Compositae. In many species, ray flowers are present on the margin of the flower head; in the tribe Cichorieae, ray flowers occupy the whole head.</p> <p>Receptacle. The more or less enlarged or elongated end of the stem or flower axis on which some or all of the flower parts are borne; sometimes the receptacle is greatly expanded, as in the Compositae, where it bears many flowers. Also called <i>thalamus</i> and <i>torus</i>.</p> <p>Reclinate, reclining. Bent down or falling back from the perpendicular.</p> <p>Recurved. Curved downward or backward.</p> <p>Reflexed. Abruptly recurved or bent downward or backward.</p> <p>Regular. Actinomorphic.</p>
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Exhibit B

A TROPICAL GARDEN FLORA

PLANTS CULTIVATED IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS AND OTHER TROPICAL PLACES



GEORGE W. STAPLES
DERRAL R. HERBST

assisted by Clyde T. Imada, Katie Anderson, and collaborators

botanical illustrations by Anna Stone



BISHOP MUSEUM

PRESS

Honolulu, Hawai'i

2005

Exhibit B (cont)

Key to *Araucaria*

1. Lvs broad (usu 0.3–0.6") and flat at all stages (2). *A. bidwillii*
1. Lvs <0.3" wide, needle-shaped at juvenile stages, becoming flat later (3). *A. angustifolia*
- 2(1). Lvs strongly variable in size by cycles; seed cone scale with expanded lateral wings *A. columnaris*
2. Lvs not variable in size; seed cone scale without lateral wings *A. columnaris*
- 3(1). Adult lvs nearly as wide as long, to at least 0.2" wide *A. cunninghamii*
3. Adult lvs more than 2× as long as wide, ca 0.05–0.1" wide (4). *A. heterophylla*
- 4(3). Adult lvs sharply 4-angled, lanceolate, ending in needlelike point *A. heterophylla*
4. Adult lvs broader than thick, linear-lanceolate, bluntly acute *A. heterophylla*

Araucaria bidwillii J. D. Hooker, BUNYA-BUNYA

Tree 100–150' tall; mature crown broad, rounded, bran long, sweeping, apex bearing crowded, drooping branchlets. Lvs all flat; juvenile lvs scalelike to ovate-lanceolate on same bran, largest lvs usu 0.7–2" × 0.2–0.6", apex needle-tipped; adult lvs all alike on bran, triangular, ca 0.6" long, 0.4" wide, stiff. Pollen cone axillary, cylindrical, 2.4–8" × 0.4–0.6", scale apex a thickened, triangular process, usu >0.1" long and wide. Seed cone globose to ovoid, 10–12" × 8–11", sharp-spurred all over, seed scales rounded, shieldlike, 4" × 3", laterally winged, apical spur linear, 0.6" long. Seeds ovoid, ca 2" × 1".

Araucaria bidwillii is native to coastal Queensland, Australia, where it grows in disturbed rainforest habitats; in addition, it is widely cultivated in tropical and warmer subtropical regions of the world. The edible seeds—the largest seeds of any conifer—are intensely appreciated by those who know them; they are shed from their supporting seed scales, unlike those of other *araucarias*, and mature in their third year. The massive seed cones may weigh as much as 10 pounds and can be a real hazard if they fall before breaking up.

It takes many years for a bunya-bunya to develop its broad, rounded, mature crown. The lower branches are eventually shed and replaced (if the tree is growing in the open) by a second set of shorter branches, which serve to form a "skirt" below the crown. The branchlets on younger trees and the lower branches of mature trees have reduced, almost scalelike leaves at their base and apex, and the leaves in the middle of the branchlet are larger, 2-ranked, and twisted to a horizontal plane. In contrast, the leaves on fertile shoots and on higher branches of mature trees have uniform leaves along the length of the branchlet.

Young bunya-bunya specimens are indistinguishable from *A. hunsteinii* K. Schumann, the klinki-pine of New Guinea, and older plants resemble the Chilean *A. araucana* (Molina) K. Koch, monkey-puzzle or Chilean-pine, both reported to be growing in Hawai'i. However, the leaves of klinki-pine later become long and uniform in size with an incurved tip, Chilean-pine never possesses irregularly twisted leaves, and both species have smaller seeds and other differences in the reproductive structures.

Araucaria bidwillii was introduced to the Hawaiian Islands in 1851 as part of a shipment of plants from the Botanic Gardens at Sydney, Australia, to the "King of the Sandwich Islands."^{1010,1093} The seedlings were disseminated throughout the Islands; one of them, now a sizable tree, still grows in Foster Botanical Garden, Honolulu.¹⁰⁹³ Other exceptional specimens are located on the grounds of Kāne'ohe Ranch in windward O'ahu and at 'Ulu-palakua Ranch, Maui.¹⁰⁹⁴ Large specimens can also be seen in many older estates, parks, and similar spacious areas. Seedlings of *A. bidwillii* are sometimes used as container plants to take advantage of their unusual foliage.

Araucaria columnaris (G. Forster) J. D. Hooker [Syn.: *A. cookii* Endlicher, *A. excelsa* (Lambert) R. Brown; Misapplied: *A. heterophylla*], COLUMNAR-PINE, COOK-PINE

Columnar tree 100–200' tall, often leaning. Juvenile lvs needle-shaped, spreading, upward-curving, to 0.3" long, gradually broadening as tree grows; adult lvs triangular, overlapping, 0.2–0.3" long, 0.2–0.25" wide, apex incurved, acute (not needle-tipped). Pollen cone terminal, cylindrical, tapering toward apex, 2–4" × 0.6–0.9", flexible; pollen scales widening to triangular apical portion 0.3–0.4" × 0.2". Seed cone globose or ovoid, 4–6" × 3–4", spurs bent flat against cone, seed scales 1.2–1.4" long, lateral wings broad, membranous, apical spur 0.3" long.

Cook-pine is native to the southern coasts of New Caledonia, the Loyalty Islands to the east (where it is the dominant tree), and the Isle of Pines. Dense colonies grow on raised coral reefs, resembling rock formations of columnar basalt when viewed from a distance. It is so widely planted by natives of New Caledonia—as often as the coconut—that it has become the "trademark" of that island. It does not naturalize away from the coastal coral, so isolated trees reliably mark abandoned settlements. Cook-pines do not thrive where frosts occur.

Young Cook-pines have a formal growth habit, with their primary branches arranged in whorls and clothed with 2 crowded rows of secondary branchlets toward their ends. Older trees eventually shed their lower branches and replace them with shorter ones, so the crown may take on the form of a wider cap atop a narrow cone, or, if the primary branches persist longer, of one cone superposed atop another. Seedlings are grown as container plants both indoors and out, and trees are planted in gardens where a bold, formal symmetry is desired. Rows of Cook-pines line many country roads in the Hawaiian Islands,¹⁰⁹⁴ and they make spectacular avenue plantings unless wind damage has broken branches off, resulting in a "telephone pole" effect that may last a few years until replacement branches grow back.¹⁰⁹⁵ Single or multiple rows of trees are planted as windbreaks for macadamia nut orchards or vegetable and fruit crops.¹³²⁶

Cook-pine is by far the most commonly planted *araucaria* in Hawai'i, but because young trees are indistinguishable from Norfolk Island-pine it has led to endless confusion in identification. Cook-pine is not familiar in cultivation outside Hawai'i, and even in Hawai'i young plants are usually mistaken for Norfolk Island-pine. Because of the lack of windstorms here, trees grown in Hawai'i tend not to shed their lower branches as they do in their native habitat, and the characteristic crown shape of wild trees—a dense green column widening abruptly near the apex of a narrow crown—does not develop here. One popular theory holds that many "Norfolk Island" pines in the Hawaiian Islands are of hybrid origin, but pollen of the two species is shed six months apart, making hybridization unlikely;¹⁰⁹⁶ these purported hybrid trees are virtually all Cook-pines.



ORACLE OAK, LLC

146 Jordan Ave, San Francisco CA 94118 • (415) 225-5567 • larrycostello@me.com

Date: 9/30/15

Submitted to: Landmark Tree Committee of the SF Urban Forest Council

Submitted by: Larry Costello, Consulting Arborist

Re: Landmark Nomination of *Araucaria* sp. at 46 Cook St., SF

Members of the Landmark Tree Committee,

As a follow-up to my comments at the Landmark Tree Committee hearing (8/6/15) concerning the *Araucaria* sp. being considered for landmark status, I offer these additional comments:

1. Tree Identification

Based on the following statement made by Dr. Matt Ritter, Professor of Biology, Cal Poly State University, San Luis Obispo (8/31/15), it appears that the tree in question is a hybrid:

I can tell from the images that this is a hybrid between Araucaria columnaris and A. heterophylla. It sounds from your description as well that it is demonstrating characters between the two. There are many hybrids of those two species in California. One of my graduate students is studying the population genetics and lean of these trees and we're hoping to find the markers necessary to clarify which trees are hybrids in California and which trees are just demonstrating within species variation. I'd call this one a hybrid based on the images though. The bark and leaves of both species are virtually identical and the only reliable character to tell them apart in cultivation is the shape of the canopy and the lean.

From this assessment, some questions can be considered:

Is it Norfolk Island pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*)? No

Is it Cook pine (*Araucaria columnaris*)? No

Is it a named hybrid? No

Are hybrids between *A. heterophylla* and *A. columnaris* rare? No

Is it a 50-50 mix of *A. heterophylla* and *A. columnaris*? Don't know – it could be a 75-25 mix.

Does it have traits that make it more desirable than either species? Don't know.

Does it have traits that make it less desirable than either species? Don't know.

Clearly, there is a lot we don't know about this tree. Rather than it being unique, it's

more of an enigma. In my view, the Committee should know exactly what the tree is if it's being considered for landmark status. In this case, there are a lot of questions.

2. Suitability for the Location

For *Araucaria* species, the Sunset Western Garden Book states the following:
Make impressive skyline trees and are seen in that role in many parks and old estates in California --- but they become so towering that they really do need the space they have in a park or large, open property. And they are not trees to sit under --- with age they bear large, spiny 10-15 lb cones that fall with a crash.

Clearly, it is well recognized that this tree is not intended for small properties, as at 46 Cook St. It may have been suitable when the property was much larger (in the late 1800s), but not now. I doubt that anyone on the Committee would recommend it for planting at its current site. Simply, it is a very large tree in a relatively small space. If the tree should fail structurally (trunk break, uprooting, or branch break), the consequences are likely to be severe. Even the cones could cause a serious injury. It is a tree that is not suitable for its location.

3. Unintended Consequences

The Landmark Tree Committee should give serious consideration to the potential for "unintended consequences" associated with the assignment of landmark status. This case may very well set an unfortunate precedent: buyers of new properties (especially developers) may act quickly to remove notable trees from a newly acquired property due to concerns about the tree(s) being nominated for landmark status. If this tree is landmarked without agreement from the property owner, then future property owners may feel at risk. As a result, some very nice trees may be removed simply out of fear of a landmarking action. This would be highly unfortunate.

With the above in mind, I strongly recommend that you to decline the nomination of this tree for landmark status.

Sincerely,

L.R. Costello
Oracle Oak LLC

MACNAIR
&
ASSOCIATES
CONSULTING ARBORISTS AND HORTICULTURISTS



September 30, 2015

San Francisco Urban Forestry Council
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: Review of Landmark Tree Nomination- Norfolk Island Pine, 46 Cook Street, San Francisco-
Report Addendum

Dear Committee Members,

This letter is an addendum to my August 2, 2015 letter in which I expressed my opinion on the nomination of the Norfolk Island pine for Landmark status.

This addendum addresses the issue of species identification, the issue of rarity, and the historical references inferring the possible age of the tree.

Species Identification:

Dr. Matt Ritter is clear in his opinion that this tree is a hybrid between *A. heterophylla* and *A. columnaris*. This explains the different identification opinions that have been presented. Dr. Ritter also commented on the "Summarized Key Attributes" document. He states, *"The sources you are using are not authoritative. Hortus Third is a low quality resource for the genus Araucaria. There are true differences between these species, as demonstrated by the published works of Aljos Farjon and others. None of those differences are delineated in this document. As for the quote from George Staples, I agree with him and he and I have talked about this. Both species are in Hawaii (A. heterophylla is rare and A. columnaris is common). Hybrids are also in Hawaii and in my observations of coning trees in CA, they do overlap in their pollen producing cycles."*

In my experience Cook pine grows in warmer climates than San Francisco. For example, it is very common in Florida and commonly seen in Southern California. While the Urban Forest Map lists 15 occurrences of Norfolk Island pine in San Francisco, there are no listings for Cook pine.

I suspect the hybrids of these two species is more common than previously realized and probably is due to nursery propagation sources and the widespread distribution of this tree as an ornamental. Hybrid status is not necessarily significant, unless a hybrid has exceptional qualities that are deemed preferable or superior to the parent species. In this situation, this tree is in good condition, but is not demonstrated to be superior genetically.

Rarity:

It has been noted by nomination reviewers that the Urban Forestry Map of San Francisco shows 15 Norfolk Island pines. This number has been used to justify a rating of uncommon in the evaluations. I would like to point out that this map inventory is not comprehensive, as even the subject tree is not shown on the map. Further, I checked with Peter Erlich, forester for the Presidio, on the number of Norfolk Island pines in his inventory. He reports that within the Presidio there are at least 20 trees. None of these are recorded on the Urban Forest Map.

Deciding on whether or not a species is common or uncommon depends upon the specific definition. The nomination form provides the guidance “unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions”. Based upon this criteria, and the fact that there are at least 36 documented trees in San Francisco (and probably more) as well as the species is common in coastal California, the species (or hybrids) should be classified as common.

Historical Significance:

I opined in my initial report that the tree probably dates back to the 1940s based upon the trunk diameter, size of the crown, and condition of the tree. A document was produced that purports to show the tree in a 1946-1951 photograph from the SF Assessors Archives. Following are the historical image and a current image from the same perspective.

Attachment C: Photograph from the SF Assessors Office archives dated between 1946 and 1951 (found in SF Public Library's Historical Center). The tree is 13 feet behind the back wall of the house, and is clearly taller than the building, when the angle of the photograph is taken into account.

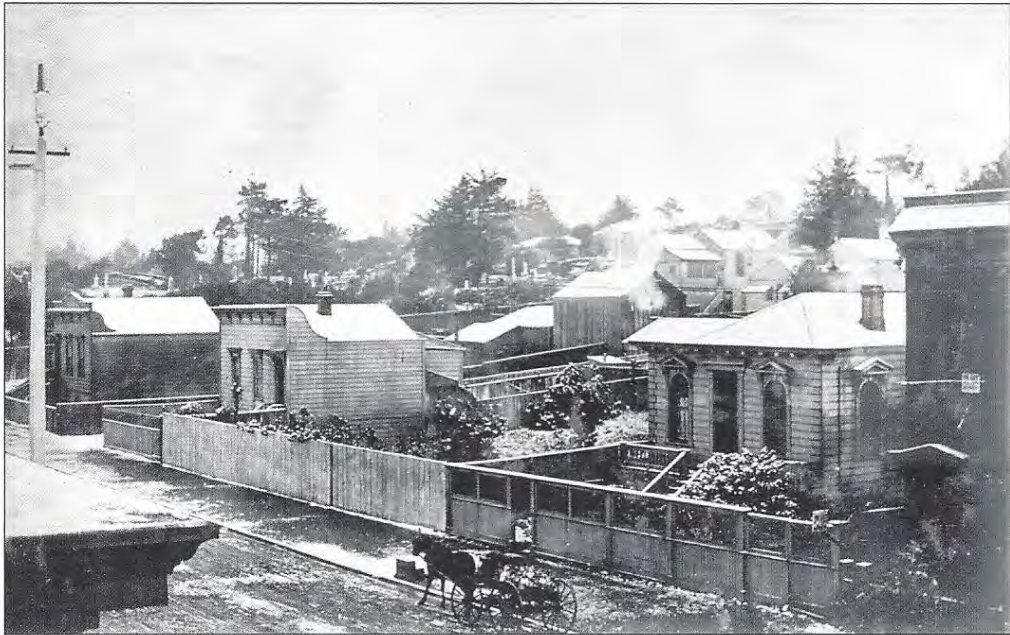


Circa 1946 image showing a Norfolk pine close to the apparent property line. The trunk is barely visible.



Current image showing subject tree located in different location than that shown in the circa 1946 image.

The subject tree is clearly in a different location than the tree shown in the 1946 image. The subject tree is probably a volunteer seedling from the original tree or was planted in that time period. The tree referenced in Christine Svane's August 3, 2015 letter is implied to have been growing in 1908. It is likely that the tree shown in the 1946 image is the 1908 tree that was subsequently removed. The current tree's size and good condition would not be consistent with a tree over 110 years old.



This 1885 image shows no significant trees growing on the property. This image supports the probability that the Norfolk Island pines (or hybrids) were planted after this image, and, one of which is the tree referenced as present in 1908 and shown in the circa 1946 image.



Cook pine in Florida.

Please contact me with any questions, or if additional information is required.

Sincerely,

James MacNair
International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist WC-0603A
International Society of Arboriculture Qualified Tree Risk Assessor



SF Environment

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EDWIN M. LEE
Mayor

DEBORAH RAPHAEL
Director

**URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL
LANDMARK TREE AD HOC COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, Aug. 6, 2015, 4:15 p.m.
City Hall, Room 421
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place
San Francisco, CA 94102**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rose Hillson (Chair), Malcolm Hillan, Dan Kida, Carla Short, Jon Swae

STAFF: Mei Ling Hui

Order of Business

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.** The Landmark Tree Committee meeting convened at 4:17 p.m. Present: Chair Hillson, Members Kida, Short and Swae. Ms. Hui ascertained quorum and called the agenda items. Member Hillan was excused when the meeting was called to order. He joined the meeting at 4:19 p.m.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the July 9, 2014 Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Committee Special Meeting.** Explanatory Document: July 9, 2014 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action).

Upon Motion by Member Swae, second by Member Short, the July 9, 2014 Draft Minutes were approved without objection (Members Hillson, Hillan, Kida, Short and Swae).

- 3. Hearing on Nominations for Landmark Tree Status.** The Landmark Tree Committee will hold a hearing to determine whether the tree nominated at the following location meets the criteria for designation as a landmark tree. (Discussion and Action)

Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla* (synonym *A. excelsa*)), located at 46A Cook Street, Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032, San Francisco, CA. (Explanatory Documents: Nomination Form, Committee and Staff Evaluation Forms, Tree Images)

Coordinator Hui went over the order of speakers, first Sponsor of the nomination would have the opportunity to speak -- Commissioner Richards or a member of the Planning Commission (none present), followed by Ms. Hui's report, then Public Comment with each person given 2-3 minutes with the time to be determined by the Chair and everybody to get the same amount of time to speak, followed by the members of the Committee who will give their reports, then if needed, Staff Rebuttal, Property Owner Rebuttal and the Committee will have discussion. Before the Committee takes comment, there will be time for Public Comment as well. Ms. Hui went over the 3 possible actions that could happen:

1. Committee can vote as a quorum to support the nomination
2. Committee can vote as a quorum to not support the nomination
3. Committee can get a split vote (unable to get 3 votes either way)

In any case, this tree will move to the full Council hearing later and it will make the actual determination on whether or not they think the tree is worthy of landmark status. If the full Council similarly has a quorum vote "for" the tree, "against" the tree or "split vote," and that would mean 8 votes; and if the Council decides to move the tree forward the packet of information will be sent to the Board of Supervisors with the Council's findings. If the Council votes to not support the nomination, the nomination will end at that time and the tree cannot be nominated again for 3 years. If the Council is split in their determination, then the information packet will go to the Board of Supervisors with no vote from the UFC – with no determination of recommendation from the UFC -- and it will be up to the Board of Supervisors regarding the nomination.

At this time, it was determined that there was no representation from Commissioner Richards nor anybody from the Planning Commission.

Ms. Hui made reference to the Planning Commission packet of information with the resolution initiating the nomination. Ms. Hui stated information was received that the indicated tree was a Cook Pine rather than a Norfolk Island Pine. Ms. Hui evaluated it as a Cook Pine rather than a Norfolk Island Pine. She stated the Cook Pine is rare and she has not encountered this species before. Norfolk Island Pines are not super common but they are not uncommon in the city. As for the physical attributes, she stated that the tree is large, is of an advanced age – estimates received are between 70 – 120 years – a mature tree even at the low end; a very nice looking tree of distinguished form. She stated Cook Pines have a very columnar form, tapering to a tip, "rocket shaped." The tree is in good condition; there is some historical association. The person who built and developed the property was George Smith who was a director of the Odd Fellows; and the house the tree is adjacent to is a historic resource "Type A." She stated further that the tree provides environmental benefits; as for prominence as a landscape feature, it is the tallest tree around, visible from the public right of way with the street and the steps that go up the hill; it is a low traffic area; it may provide some habitat as a bird perch and a nesting site, a site for birds to rest. No erosion control, possible there is wind and sound barrier as the neighbors stated there was increase in noise and wind because the landscape was changed; there is cultural appreciation with petitions and other things from the neighbors supporting the nomination; the tree is a lovely tree and she thinks it does contribute to the neighborhood character; Ms. Hui put "unknown" for "profiled in publication or other media." The report from the Planning Commission identified the book where landscaping was mentioned in the report. Ms. Hui has attached a copy of it in her report. Ms. Hui showed pictures at the end to show the tree – the Cook Pine -- has flaky bark and the rocket shape as shown in the picture from the street.

A point of clarification arose as to process by the Property Owner's legal representative to Coordinator Hui on whether the nominators speak if the Sponsor is not present or if they speak as members of the public. Ms. Hui stated that in the past, the Sponsor speaks unless he cedes that time to the nominator(s). In the absence of the Sponsor, the persons who brought the nomination to the Sponsor would speak as members of the public.

Next, the Property Owner's representative stated she would split her time with Consulting Arborist, Larry Costello. She stated that they had asked for a continuance because the consulting arborist that did the evaluation was out of town and she understands that they were not able to get that so Mr. Costello has reviewed the report and will be able to speak to that as well from an arboricultural standpoint. She stated her focus is on tree law and that she wrote a book called Understanding Tree Law. Ms. Barry Caplan Bonaparte (Bonaparte & Associates) stated that we all appreciate the idea behind tree protection and the urban forest and everyone enjoys the benefits that trees provide; however sometimes people misunderstand the Landmark Tree Nomination process and as a result it is sometimes mis-used. Sometimes people who love trees and who might not ever want a tree removed might think this is the proper forum, as are people who use the process in defending a view-obstruction claim, or used by

people who are trying to prevent development on a property. She stated that none of these justifications are appropriate for using the Landmark Tree Nomination process. Ms. Bonaparte stated that in this situation, the process is being invoked by neighboring property owners who no doubt love trees and this tree in particular but are also concerned about the potential for development of the property in question. Ms. Bonaparte stated this -- even though it was not part of the materials submitted to the Committee -- there is evidence that the party supporting the nomination had been representing to others that the property owner was a "flipper" who cares "only about buying and selling property and making as much money as possible." She stated that a petition was circulated by the people on change.org and there were various representations made and one was, "If we can convince City Hall to save this remaining historic tree, it will send a message to them that we don't ask for zero development, just creative development preserving the natural life and history of San Francisco." She stated that that specimen was landmarked before in the city of San Francisco but because this was one that was in the way of the developer and they make money for the city, they can fight us and they even go so far as to call the property owner, Mr. Rogers, "evil." Ms. Bonaparte stated that they've left threatening voicemails for him, they've sent very charged texts to his cell phone and that they indicated that he should prepare for a significant battle. Ms. Bonaparte stated it's been a campaign and it's been apparently relentless. She stated that their Supervisor has stated that this tree is not appropriate for landmark and so they went to the Planning Commission who was apparently never faced with such a request before and they didn't know what to do with it so they didn't have any real procedures for notice or anything for due process or proper protections but they went ahead with the hearing and in the end it was a close vote of 4-3. Ms. Bonaparte said the vote was based on misinformation by the applicants in addition to the fundamental mis-understanding of what this process is all about. Ms. Bonaparte cites as an example a letter to the Commission by the people trying to get the tree landmarked which says, "The Norfolk Island Pine described in this Landmark Tree Nomination shares the property with two historically landmarked buildings" and that that is just false. The buildings are not designated historic landmarks, and they've been making this representation throughout in trying to get signatures and it's suggesting that to this Committee. They've also made representation that the tree was planted by the original owner and that's also false. She stated that in fact, we have photos from the late 1800s that show the property (photo of Cook St. property with horse and buggy at front) that show no significant trees on the property at all much less this tree in question. Ms. Bonaparte understands that they really want this to happen but the truth has to bear out. Ms. Bonaparte went on to say that the only thing that matters, as Ms. Hui was indicating in going through the form, is if it fits the criteria for landmark status. She stated that if it doesn't then the inquiry ends there. Ms. Bonaparte stated that there is one professional, Consulting Arborist, who has gone through all of the criteria and made that determination and that is James McNair. His CV was not included in the packet so Ms. Bonaparte provided a few copies of it so the Committee could review his qualifications and that Mr. Costello can speak to that as well. Ms. Bonaparte stated that Mr. McNair's opinion was that the tree does not fit the criteria and he provides in detail his professional opinion why that is. In addition, Ms. Bonaparte stated that when she saw there was some confusion as to species, she stated that she went back to him and asked him if he could tell with any degree of certainty without doing any further physical examination if the tree was properly identified as Norfolk Island Pine and she stated he went back and looked at all the photography and research and he got back to her before the hearing and he said to her definitively that it was a Norfolk Island Pine. Ms. Bonaparte noticed there were some photos taken up close and they did not allow anybody to be on the property and she was not quite sure how that happened but that he (Mr. McNair) was quite positive in his original characterization of the species was correct; and in the packet is the arborist's report who was called out to the property by the folks who were sponsoring this and their own arborist identified it as a Norfolk Island Pine. Ms. Bonaparte stated that it will be interesting to hear how that <strings (?)—indiscernible>. Ms. Bonaparte then stated there were other problems -- the signatures on the petition, many are people related to the people trying to get this tree on the books and some are from Oakland, Los Gatos, Palo Alto, one from Germany, several from San Francisco but

not from this area so as much as three-quarters of the people on the list are not concerned neighbors per se. Ms. Bonaparte brought the book (Here Today) referenced, and she pointed to a whole section entitled, "Richmond, Sunset, Golden Gate, Presidio Heights" and that in this section, that property is not mentioned at all. There is also no picture and it is not talked about at all. She indicated that there is an appendix at the end which talks about various properties. There it says for 46 Cook, "George J. Smith, a Director of the Odd Fellows planted his estate with many trees that came from the cemetery. Today, all that remains on his property is a one-story Italianate home and carriage house." Ms. Bonaparte stated, "In other words, not the trees."

A Committee member asked for the date of that; the response was 1870.

With the time running out, Dr. Costello's comments were to be heard as part of Public Comment. Ms. Bonaparte agreed to take that.

Public comments:

Roy Leggitt, Consulting Arborist, lives nearby and shops at Laurel Village shopping center and is familiar with the area. Mr. Leggitt read Mr. McNair's report and Mr. Hummer's report. Hummer's report identifies the tree as *A. columnaris* and McNair's report identifies it as *A. heterophylla*. Mr. Leggitt referred to his document citing various resources. Mr. Leggitt stated that it was conclusively, without a doubt, *A. columnaris*, the Cook Pine. He stated that McNair can argue about Hortus Third, his own citation but he failed to read and look at the pictures associated with the article. Mr. Leggitt shared color photos from the documents he brought which showed both species. He stated we have the tree that is on the left (of the photos on the page), and he stated that the internodes are very close, the tree has dense branch structure and it's columnar or "rocket shaped." Mr. Leggitt stated that *heterophylla* has internodes that are 4-6 ft. long and is a very open-limbed plant and a very different looking tree. Mr. Leggitt stated that *heterophylla* does not fill in with branches between its internodes but it does get longer limbs and bushier heads. Mr. Leggitt also pointed to pictures of more mature *heterophylla* in his document attachments. He stated it was denser looking due to secondary branching. Mr. Leggitt had issue with a consulting arborist offering an opinion who cannot identify the species of tree, as not credible. Mr. Leggitt stated that these trees don't grow in Sonoma, Mr. McNair lives there. Mr. Leggitt stated he has lived in San Francisco and has managed many *Araucaria* and there are 6 species here. He stated that has managed many of them over his career.

Jen Levitt (carriage house inhabitant of 46A Cook) spoke about what makes the tree a historical landmark of San Francisco. George J. Smith was the original owner and alleged builder of the structure around 1870. She found Here Today on the sixth floor of the library (in additional documentation 4.3) which stated that he was an Odd Fellow Director of the Odd Fellows Cemetery and as such he could get marvelous trees off the property and did. Ms. Levitt gave a history of the Odd Fellows Cemetery as originally part of Lone Mountain Cemetery of 320 acres in Laurel Heights and the Inner Richmond neighborhoods. She stated it was inspired by the garden cemetery movement on the east coast and designated with miles of carriage roads for picnicking and had every species of ornamental shrubs and rare plants as stated in the 1860s San Francisco Directory. There were prominent San Francisco people buried there. She stated there was the first sheriff, the inventor of the cable car, US senators and naval heroes. Ms. Levitt stated that the Cemetery is said to have inspired Golden Gate Park. She further stated that at the dedication of the Cemetery, Colonel Baker said, "There beneath the pines and willows and the bending oaks, the memory of the sleeping dead be forever green." Ms. Levitt also stated in the Here Today notes (documentation 4.4) that Mr. Smith's widow sold the property to the Svane family in 1908. Ms. Levitt referred to Christie Svane's letter (documentation 2) which confirms that her grandfather purchased the property in 1908 both her father and herself grew up on it and it remained in the family for 104 years until 2012 when it was sold to Mr. Rogers. As stated in Ms. Svane's letter, the pine trees were already there when her grandparents purchased the property and this particular pine

was treasured and cared for by her family. Ms. Levitt stated that the 1880 photo you can't see the location of the pine tree. Ms. Levitt also stated that she lived on the property while the Svanes owned it and can personally attest to connection and respect they had for the property that is a time capsule of history. Ms. Levitt also states that also in the Here Today notes which are dated 1966, the researchers toured the property and stated that some of the trees and shrubs that George J. Smith planted on his estate from the cemeteries still surrounded the house. She said they also mentioned that the trees were "large and old." Ms. Levitt said the trees were on the property when the Svanes got the property in 1908. She stated the Svanes would clearly not have dreamed of cutting them down. She stated that the pine is the oldest and largest tree on the property and it is indisputable that this is one of the trees planted by George J. Smith from the historic cemetery from the second half of the 1800s and that is something that cannot be ignored.

Brin Bacon lives in San Francisco and frequently visits 46 Cook Street and has at multiple times per week for the past 4 years. She has personally witnessed the neighborhood's deep connection with the tree. She stated that the tree does not belong only to the person who owns the property but to also the residents including the surrounding neighborhoods including schools and how they all enjoy its grandeur. Mr. Rogers who has owned the property for only 3 years has never lived on it and is rarely seen on the property. Ms. Bacon stated that this was the first time she has seen Mr. Rogers in person and she has been visiting this property for many years, multiple times a week. Ms. Bacon asked why Mr. Rogers has the sole power to remove the tree which has created culture for neighborhood residents for decades.

James Birmingham grew up on Cook Street across the street from the trees. He stated that every night before he went to sleep he would look at the trees and he stated it was sad to see the others leave. He will be sad to see the tree gone.

Rex Worn lives 2 houses down from the pine. He explained when he was 5 and started kindergarten, he would walk over Lone Mountain to get to school and he could see the tree and that made him feel safer because he would know where his house was. He stated he learned in school that trees help us breathe. He stated he did not know why anyone would cut down a perfectly healthy tree that would help us breathe. Mr. Worn stated he (property owner) already cut down 3 trees and asked, "Isn't that enough?" Rex likes to see the hawks, crows, parrots and other birds in the tree.

Vanessa Rituolo spoke to say she lives 2 doors down on Cook Street and the two boys (James and Rex) appreciate the majestic Cook Pine that towers over their neighborhood both as a physical landmark of their home and a constant and beautiful landmark they have known ever since they became a member. Ms. Rituolo refers to Christine Svane's letter (Exhibit 2) which stated that the tree was a physical landmark for her and her siblings, one that her father said can be seen from Euclid. She read a letter from Linda Louie who lives 3 houses down on Cook Street. Ms. Louie feels that the tree is part of her garden as well. Ms. Rituolo stated that Ms. Louie states, "We love this tree, it makes wonderful music, it is beautiful to look at, it is a healthy tree. Do we need to take another healthy tree off this planet?" Ms. Rituolo referred to the petition she said has almost 200 signatures and that the names from Los Gatos and Palo Alto include her parents and her husband's parents who are regular visitors to their house and enjoy this tree constantly. She cited one petitioner who wrote, "I have always loved this tree. I used to live next door and have always admired its majestic branches. I hope San Francisco shows it values its history by preserving this tree." Ms. Rituolo stated that when the Cook Pine's sister tree was suddenly cut down in April, it was a shock to their community. She stated, "Let's not let the lack of sensitivity to this last remaining tree's shared history and culture lead to another removal. Ms. Rituolo added that she did not want to bring up development; and there are signs as she has seen an almost 7-ft. high fence erected since Mr. Rogers bought the property, boarded up windows on the sides of the building and an entire lot of razed trees. She stated that to not assume that development is imminent would probably be kind of ignorant and if the community members had implied that that is happening, it would be

understandable given what's happened to the property in the last few years. She added that any evil remarks were made by people online and they did not entice that. Ms. Rituolo said development happens in San Francisco but why not be creative around its own history. She asked to please vote to preserve the last of these 2 beautiful trees that were planted so many years ago. Ms. Rituolo stated that the tree continues to be appreciated through the generations by people who used to live at 46 Cook and for the surrounding neighborhood.

Richard Worn, 60 Cook St., lived there almost 20 years, showed photos of the trees as they used to be for "before" and "after" of April 19 and April 21. He spoke about carbon sequestration – capturing pollutants and -- and the trees providing oxygen and said now we have 50% or more of less oxygen. He says he cannot hear Geary Boulevard even though he lives half a block from it. He has seen the peregrine falcons, the famous wild parrots of San Francisco, mourning doves, blue jays, pigeons, mockingbirds; and raccoons have a trail. In the last meeting, there was a comment that the trees could not be seen from the street. He showed a picture of the tree from the street. He showed more shots from other vantage points. Mr. Worn stated that to say it is not prominent is kind of interesting. He shows a picture of the cemetery and said (pointing to a tree). He showed additional shots; and he brought up a point about trees bringing solace and he stated that there is a microclimate created by the tree.

A Committee member asked a question about when the cemetery picture was taken and the response from one of the presenters was that she believed it was the early 1900s.

Levi Levitt, expressed that he found it difficult to be present as he and his wife live at 46A Cook which Dale (Mr. Rogers) owns and he stated that if the Committee did not think this would drive some sort of wedge between his relationship, we should think again. Mr. Levitt stated that he admires and respects Dale and he's a good man and a great father and has been kind to them. Mr. Levitt appreciates living on this magnificent property. Mr. Levitt restated that it is difficult for him and his wife to present to this body. Mr. Levitt stated that as he listened to Dale's attorney speak, he began to hate himself a little bit because she did a good job of making them look pretty bad but that the petition signatures were collected locally within a 5-block radius of their community – wherever they came from, they were functioning as a part of the community. Mr. Levitt went into the rights of property usage which accompany privilege of ownership, are governed by laws, codes and regulations of any city and they have this process of landmarking specifically in identifying nice specimens of trees. He's almost not asking for the Committee to save the tree but to review it based on all of the Committee's research, by the evidence submitted before it and to make a decision. Mr. Levitt stated that the most poignant thing the pictures (Mr. Worn showed) demonstrate and that all of the packets and all of the work demonstrates to him that this tree is already a landmark in the community. He stated that now it is just waiting for official status to be recognized.

Larry Costello, Consulting Arborist, lives in SF in a neighborhood adjacent to Cook St., and can see part of the tree from downstairs in the house. He stated that he had reviewed the nomination report and a number of the Committee's evaluations and James McNair's report. Mr. Costello stated that there is confusion about the species. Mr. Costello stated that on the nomination report, it says *heterophylla*; on a number of the evaluation forms it says *heterophylla*, James McNair says it is *heterophylla* and as far as Mr. Costello concerned, he believes it is *heterophylla* until proven otherwise. Mr. Costello stated he is familiar with *heterophylla* and it looks like *heterophylla* and he reviewed it with the belief that it is *heterophylla*. He stated that based on that, it occurs in many places throughout the city and in many places where it should not such as in backyards and that it is really a park tree. Mr. Costello stated that the process is reserved for identifying and protecting remarkable trees, unique trees, one-of-a-kind trees; and this one does not qualify in his mind. He stated it is a beautiful tall tree but that it is not remarkable, not unique, they are in Golden Gate Park, in the Marina, in the Richmond. Mr. Costello is

not aware of historical significance and he leaves that to the Committee to decide whether it qualifies in that regard. Mr. Costello stated that from what he has heard, he questions that. Mr. Costello reiterated that this process is reserved for special types of trees and this one does not measure up in his mind. Mr. Costello stated that certainly none of us would recommend it as a backyard tree. It is way out of size for San Francisco back yards and the cone issue is significant as well. He stated he was available for any questions.

Nancy Wuerfel, 9 year of the Park Recreation Open Space Advisory Committee (PROSAC), stated she would like to support the landmarking of the Cook St. Norfolk Island Pine. Tree is already regarded as a landmark by the neighborhood, the birds, by anybody driving around the Jordan Park / Laurel Heights area. She stated that regardless of what variety it is (as she sees there is some dispute as to what it is), it is a magnificent tree and she will refer to it as a Norfolk Island pine). Ms. Wuerfel stated that in researching other beloved local trees, she came across a Norfolk Island pine on Sutter Street that was recommended at the Urban Forestry Council in 2009 for landmark status. She was impressed by the exuberance of the then Committee chair, Hillan, Member Vargas and Staff Coordinator Mei Ling Hui) over the virtues of that Sutter Street tree. Ms. Wuerfel stated that the following quotes of the 2009 meeting can easily apply to this nomination today. Ms. Wuerfel stated that Mr. Hillan remarked that the tree had classic form, was an outstanding large specimen and that it was recognizable from a distance and it contributes to the neighborhood character and to the community in a manner worth protecting. Ms. Wuerfel stated that Ms. Vargas noted that the tree was an outstanding natural feature of significant size, it provides San Francisco with valuable environmental benefits in the form of ecosystem services helping clean the air, reduce storm water loads, combat climate change through sequestering carbon and that few trees in the city are as large particularly in urban areas like Sutter St. and therefore as valuable from an environmental perspective. Ms. Wuerfel stated that Ms. Hui remarked that the tree was a good example of a species, tall and straight, tapering towards the top with branches well-spaced. She noted that the board of directors and property owners supported it being nominated only when it had demonstrated community support. Ms. Wuerfel said Ms. Hui concluded that the tree creates character for the surrounding area. The Council's resolution specified that the "tremendous size and excellent form are noteworthy" and that Norfolk Island pines of this stature are uncommon and because of the physical form -- height, trunk diameter and age characteristics -- of both the Sutter St. and Cook St. Norfolk Island pine trees, because they are very similar, Ms. Wuerfel believes the 2009 rationale for landmarking the Sutter Street tree applied equally to the Cook St. tree. Ms. Wuerfel stated that there is a much broader community support for this Norfolk Island pine. She stated the tree has historical connection to the development of this part of the Richmond. It fits the criteria developed for landmark status and for the pride of us all.

Myla <last name indiscernible>, stated that when she heard the other trees were cut down she was tremendously saddened. She said it is because of her old memories of the place because she used to live there. She stated that especially for their community, for San Francisco, for the neighbors, for the Richmond District, for the offspring, for the retails, for the oxygen, for the culture, for the heritage, for the history. She stated she did not think the Committee should think about the variety of the tree or all the technical situations in order to appreciate something that is so magnificent that people care so much for it. She stated that even if it is in the back yard it has been there for a hundred years and it is totally OK and not threatening anybody. She said the tree gives so much and has given so much through the years and she asks that with all her heart that you consider this. She stated she can see it as almost a member of her family and that it makes her heart so sad and people think about it like a piece of cement. Myla stated that it is not given the value that it really has. She stated that it has a history that is undeniable, a purpose that is undeniable and it is a love tree and that love for it is undeniable and she does not see why it has to go down. Myla stated that she just prays that people open your heart and

your eyes even if it not landmarked or not the right variety to open your heart to see what it means to so many people.

Patrick Krobogh, lives on the other side of Geary, stated the property is extraordinarily unique, one-of-a-kind property that has somehow managed to stay up to the time of ours. He stated that he had always thought it was one of San Francisco's absolute hidden treasures and he could see the tree and it is absolutely remarkable. He stated that development is inevitable but requests that as many characteristics that make this property unique should be retained and this tree is a big one.

Laura Money-Brodick, herbalist and botanist, visits the city because her cousins live there. She is pretty impacted by the decision to cut down really large trees. She stated it provides to the ecological community because trees serve as a hub. She commented on an earlier comment about trees such as this belong in a park but often we rely on trees as infrastructure that are scattered throughout the developed city in order to maintain migration routes for birds, and numerous things. She referred to the packet (Document #8) which is a letter written by Ravinder (Ravinder N. M. Sehgal, Ph.D., Associate Professor) from the Department of Biology at San Francisco State (University) about the loss of large old trees that leads to the loss of overall biodiversity. Ms. Money-Brodick felt the trees serve as a stopover point for raptors and other birds flying between the Presidio and Golden Gate Park. Ms. Money-Brodick states that she (Ravinder) is pointing to the fact that losing trees like this is leading to the loss of overall biodiversity and that biodiversity is strength.

Derrick Wright, stated that the space is unique and a special place when he visits his friends there. He feels the tree is very important in accessing that space. He stated that when he has visited there, he has never seen any significant fallen branches or cones and never heard anybody talk about that either. Mr. Wright stated that the tree is in the front lot of the separate lot. He also asked people to watch the video of residents who gave additional comments on the tree.

Committee member evaluations:

Jon Swae, interested in discussion about species debate but evaluated it as a *heterophylla*. It was interesting to hear Mr. Costello's confirmation of that. Mr. Swae consulted with the Historic Preservation staff at the Planning Department to figure out how they would evaluate a historic landscape feature. Mr. Swae stated that while the property and the home is not landmarked, it is identified as a historic resource and is capable of being landmarked and that potentially some of the landscape would be capable of falling into that landmark designation, too, if the property was proceeding with that landmark designation but as of now the property is not. Mr. Swae stated that they advised him to look at some of the resources that the nominators had identified, especially looking at the Here Today files. Mr. Swae stated that even looking at those, he was not able to get a strong feeling that those trees were from the actual property owner or from the Smith family so that influenced his feelings about the tree. In terms of rarity, Mr. Swae does not agree with Mr. Costello. Mr. Swae says these trees are not that common in the area and it is not exactly a rare species here. The video is touching to see how these trees play such an important role in our communities not only to those who live on the property but also to those who live all around. While the pine is a beautiful and mature tree that provides significant cultural value to neighbors and contributes to neighborhood character, in my assessment, the lack of species rarity and the lack of a proven historical association do not make a successful candidate for landmarking. Under the Public Works Code, the distinction of a landmark tree is reserved for trees of exceptional quality, rarity or historical significance. Mr. Swae feels it is extremely unfortunate the property owner has pursued to remove other large trees including possibly this tree which is a loss to the neighborhood and to the city. The Council is not able unfortunately to landmark each tree that faces a similar fate. Mr. Swae states that given the increasing frequency they are starting to see mature tree removals due to real estate speculation or other motivations, he would like to encourage the Council to gain a better understanding of the issues that are motivating property owners to remove these trees, what options

other than landmarking that we might be able to create for protecting trees on private property and how the city can support property owners in preserving these trees for our city and for the many ecological, cultural and economic benefits they provide.

Carla Short stated she assessed it as heterophylla and is not convinced that it is a Cook Pine although she stated she is certainly not an expert though she has attended a couple of seminars. She stated she does not see the distinguishing features but she does not think that it is quite as dry. That is not a huge important factor to her though it would be substantially less common if it were a Cook Pine. Ms. Short stated that she marked the tree as a common species in San Francisco but did note that trees of this size are certainly rare in general in San Francisco but not especially large for the species. For age, finds the neighbors' statement of the adjacent tree was over 120 years and certainly finds that plausible and that would be quite mature. It has good form, good live crown ratio, structure, nice radial ridging, good canopy vigor, overall, the tree condition was good. Ms. Short was interested in what Member Swae stated about the historic connection because that was something Ms. Short was uncertain about. Ms. Short stated that the property certainly appears to have some historic value. She is interested to see if the species came from the cemetery that provides for some possible historic significance if that can be confirmed but Ms. Short stated that she was not sure whether they will ever be able to confirm that. Ms. Short stated that it was definitely a prominent landscape feature. She feels that the neighborhood has moderate tree density, Cook Street has quite a few trees on it. She stated that it is visible from many areas of the public right-of-way, and neighboring streets. She felt it does not provide traffic-calming as it is a dead-end street. Ms. Short feels it is likely to provide habitat to many species, no erosion control, does not believe single trees provide wind or sound barrier although it is a large tree. Ms. Short is most influenced by the neighborhood appreciation which is very clear through the petitions of names and quite a few names do live in the area locally and having a large turnout today. Ms. Short states that it is very clear to her that the tree is well appreciated by the neighbors and the community. Ms. Short stated that she is uncomfortable with nominating trees in order to protect them because the intention behind the landmark process is not just to protect large trees. It is to acknowledge and recognize exceptional individual trees; and Ms. Short is very uncomfortable when there is a large tree which she certainly would not like to see removed and would definitely like to see this tree preserved. Ms. Short stated that she felt that John (Mr. Swae) did a very nice job of saying that we may need to look at another mechanism because we are not comfortable using the landmark process just as a means of protecting a tree when it otherwise does not meet the criteria, which does not mean that it is not extremely valuable and well appreciated. Ms. Short asked if this tree was a truly exceptional tree worthy of landmark <status (?) indiscernible> but she was struggling with that even though part of her would like to see it as a tree that we could landmark but that she is personally not quite there though it is very notable and she is moved by the neighborhood love and appreciation for the tree. I do not think I will be supporting for landmark status.

Dan Kida evaluated the tree as a Cook Pine. He stated it was so close that he would not be shocked if it was a Norfolk Island pine. Mr. Kida stated he thought that at the very least with the street named Cook that somebody thought about Captain Cook and they would be planting a Cook pine. Mr. Kida stated that he was not sure that would sway him either way. Mr. Kida said that would not sway him either way anyway. Mr. Kida said that in terms of rarity, if it were a Cook Pine, it would shift it more but he did not think significantly. For either one, he stated it was in the middle for the size for that type of tree. Mr. Kida went on to state it is a large tree for that neighborhood and in San Francisco; good looking, slight lean, some limbs have been limbed up in the past and has a little effect on the overall shape, good condition though uncomfortable evaluating tree health being on the other side of the fence so he looked for very obvious things and was very general in those comments. Mr. Kida stated he agreed with Jon (Mr. Swae) and Carla (Ms. Short) that what is really tough is whether there is a historic association with the tree and the property. Mr. Kida tends to think there is and that he wished we had more time to determine that for sure. Mr. Kida said the best vantage point is from Euclid as a prominent feature. Mr.

Kida does not notice it that much from Geary but from up on Euclid. Mr. Kida did not think the tree provided wind or sound barrier. Mr. Kida feels the same discomfort as John (Mr. Swae) and Carla (Ms. Short) that many of the trees that have come to Committee are because of some threat to the tree and he goes back and forth with that and it takes something like a perceived threat for people to realize that this is something that is important to them. Mr. Kida does not hold it against the nomination being initiated because of the threat of removal although that is not the purpose of the Committee. Mr. Kida stated that he was struck by the community support and if the petition is accurate, it looks like there are many from Cook St. and the surrounding neighborhood and the tree means a lot to them. So it's a very tough call, my support is with the nomination but it is very difficult tree to evaluate.

Malcolm Hillan stated that he agreed with Larry (Mr. Costello) that this was a mis-use of the landmark tree ordinance. He stated that it is used as a tree protection measure rather than something that was undertaken in the first place to landmark a landmark-worthy tree. Mr. Hillan said it is not rare in San Francisco at all, rather common. It is a large tree. Mr. Hillan stated he sees many Norfolk Island Pines throughout the city of this stature; and in fact, and as a simple exercise on his drive back home from looking at this tree, he casually looked around without altering his route, he stated he saw at least 10 Norfolk Island pines of this stature or greater on his drive home and he was not going into Pacific Heights or other neighborhoods where there are some large ones. It is a fine tree and very representative of the species. Mr. Hillan stated that there seems to be enough uncertainty on the species question that perhaps there is a way to continue this in some way to look more closely at this issue because if indeed it is a Cook Pine and a connection between the placement of the tree and the naming of that street, that combined with perhaps rarity of Cook Pine in San Francisco. Mr. Hillan stated that this is something that is worth looking into. Mr. Hillan stated that the definitive ascendant branches that give that rocket-shape appearance to the Cook Pine, I did not see it from one angle from another angle I do. From Geary, they do not appear ascendant at all but from some of the straight-on photographs looking into the backyard they have a little bit more of that ascendant appearance. It leaves a big question in Mr. Hillan's mind. Mr. Hillan stated that the biggest question, after visiting the property, the neighbors represented the house as being of historic noteworthiness and that it was somehow certified as historic. Mr. Hillan stated he had not seen any documentation of that at this meeting and so Mr. Hillan's strongest support for this tree as being remarkable is tied to this historic structure and the overall history surrounding the planting related to that. Mr. Hillan stated that it is clear from the picture of the palms that were removed – that all 4 of those plants – were in relationship to the house – they framed the house -- and stated that if this tree is the only remaining evidence of that, the last one, feels it makes it more landmarkable. Mr. Hillan stated that for environmental, partial but since it is the only really tall tree in the immediate neighborhood that is left, he can see as a de facto landmark. Cultural, obviously the neighbors support the tree. Mr. Hillan restated that he has a problem with the neighbors reacting to rather than for landmark status.

Hillson stated she has a lot of historical information because she lives in Jordan Park. She then went on to the category of rarity: whether it is rare species in the city or other geographic region. Ms. Hillson stated that rarity based on Norfolk Island Pine is rare in native country near Australia, Norfolk Island; in San Francisco on the urbanforest map, there are 16 exist but it is 15 since one is incorrectly designated as being Norfolk Island Pine; the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature) lists the species on the Red List, it's in declining habitat in Australia; the Royal Botanic Garden in Melbourne states it is a "rare and endangered Australian native." Whether it is Cook or Norfolk Island, there is some rarity depending on how you look at it. Ms. Hillson was shown a roughly 10-inch long by 3-in. diameter mature female cone with seeds and male cones which show up on these trees only after they are at least 40 years old. I was also shown a tree trunk cutting with the rings that the neighbors counted and they counted up to 120 years old. The rings were not half-inch spaced, they were more like 1/3-inch apart at most so maybe the growth rate was dependent on temperature. She stated that

this tree is large, significantly advanced in age; for “distinguished form,” truly majestic – trees that were landmarked in past were deemed majestic and they were not all unique. Ms. Hillson stated that the only unique one is the *arctostaphylos* xxx which is still unknown and everything else has a partner somewhere in the city. Ms. Hillson stated she marked in the affirmative for “historical” because of the information regarding Captain James Cook on his voyage to the south in '74 on the *HMS Resolution* and found the Norfolk Island trees, which are not really pines. Whether it is the 46 Cook or 46A Cook St. property, Ms. Hillson stated that she refers to it as the “46 Cook Street” property which was originally about 75-feet wide and the McInerney judgements for the Western Addition also shows the property as a little over 75-feet wide lot. Ms. Hillson said the tree is located in the side yard of this lot towards the rear. Ms. Hillson referred to the historic photo shown by the attorney earlier, the Bancroft library photo of 1885. Ms. Hillson talked about George Smith as the original inhabitant of the property, born in New York and served in the Union Army during the Civil War. He had a business in painting and decorating, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), Yerba Buena Lodge; with many delegations attending when he died. Ms. Hillson stated that Mr. Smith had the means to have a large lot with a main fully detached house and a rear carriage house in the southeast corner of the lot and room for the horse and buggy to go down the drive on the south side. Ms. Hillson looked at the directories from 1871 through 1897 from the Crocker-Langley and he did reside at 46 Cook. Ms. Hillson stated that the IOOF was a cultural fraternal society that took care of its members with mutual benefits. The first lodge in California was dedicated on Sept. 9, 1849. It had a mighty role in building the city of San Francisco, a very powerful group. The Oddfellowship practice came from the United Kingdom. One of the famous members was Samuel Brannan who yelled out, “Gold, gold! Gold in the American River!,” and the gold rush was on in 1849. Ms. Hillson stated that he made enough money from the gold rush selling a lot of things to donate 17 acres of land to start the Odd Fellows Cemetery. She stated there were many good works that the IOOF also did. The 1870 house is one of the primary dwellings in that area and there weren't that many of the dwellings shown on a map west of Divisadero so this shows the history of the early settlement patterns. Ms. Hillson talks about the “Big Four” cemeteries – Laurel Hill, Calvary, Masonic and Odd Fellows. She has pictures in her packet about the Odd Fellows buildings and George J. Smith and his being awarded \$38,000 and other things as well. She mentioned that there is a picture in the Richmond book that shows a Norfolk Island Pine in the cemetery.

Ms. Hui gave her Staff Rebuttal. She stated that removal is not a criteria. Whether or not the tree if it is not landmarked, being removed is not a criteria. In regards to having pictures of the tree, site visits were performed from visiting the neighbor's property from that side. Ms. Hui stated that the Council has had trees with indeterminate species and with what species have changed over time and it is not uncommon and it is not an issue if it turns out to be one or the other in terms of process.

No Property Owner Rebuttal.

Committee discussion and action: Ms. Short was intrigued by Malcolm's (Mr. Hillan's) question about trying to get a little more information about getting a definitive determination even though we have a few well-recognized specialists who do not necessarily agree on the species, it may affect the rarity of the tree. Ms. Short is also intrigued by the historic connection and if there were a stronger connection there she would be more likely to support it on those bases. Ms. Short also stated again that it is a really nice large tree. Ms. Short also would like to know what route Malcolm (Mr. Hillan) drove because she looks around the city a lot and you do see the occasional very large pine popping up in the landscape, but 10? Ms. Short stated that she feels she knows where probably 6 of them are in the city. Ms. Short asked if the Committee Chair would consider a continuation with some definite timeframe to try to investigate these two issues a little bit further.

Ms. Hui stated that the Council had to respond by a definite date so she looked for the cutoff date.

Ms. Hillson asked about the pictures with the old cars in the packet with the petitions. The neighbor responded that the pictures came from the SF Assessor's negative library collection on the 6th Floor of the library and they are between 1946 and 1951.

Mr. Swae also stated that he looked at a historic aerial from 1938 and showed it. He stated that the trees are there as well.

Ms. Hillson stated that prior to the meeting, she received no reports possibly because people were confused on some things and they were still looking and seeing volume of paper going across the table. Ms. Hillson stated she feels there needs to be more research done on the species and also on the historic and unless you pin those two things down and at least for Malcolm (Mr. Hillan) it was historical, it is going to be tough to make a decision. Ms. Hillson stated she is in the Community Seat on the Council and wanted to ensure the Committee hears everything so it does not decide on the lack of information. She stated that she does not want to prolong this any longer than we have to. Ms. Hillson questioned the deadline to respond as she believed the emergency order date from DPW was July 2.

Mr. Kida stated that he was open to taking more time but his concern was and he looked to Jon (Mr. Swae) to ask if that information was going to be available to us, if there is a difference in taking 2 years or a month. He stated if the information is not there, it's not there but he is definitely open to looking into it to be sure.

Mr. Swae stated the Committee has new information and new photos that the Committee has not seen and we could consult with Preservation staff (Planning Department) to review the materials in a more thorough way as it seemed a little rushed to process all the information for this hearing.

Mr. Hillan stated it was not clear from both sides, that there is some historic documentation but it is not all that clear. Mr. Hillan believed he could still vote today based on how well or has not been presented by the various parties but the question about species to him perhaps warrants an extra bit of time to consult with somebody who has greater familiarity with that particular genus. Mr. Hillan suggested somebody perhaps from the Academy of Sciences.

Ms. Short stated she contacted somebody but did not hear back in time for this hearing but she also was not sure he would consider himself a specialist either.

Ms. Hui stated that the Council must respond by October 30th. The full Council meets on September 25th and October 27th.

Mr. Hillan moved to continue the hearing and seconded by Mr. Swae. On the motion to continue the hearing for the species and historical association, voted by roll call unanimously to October 1, 2015.

4. New Business / Future Agenda Items: Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Chair Hillson suggested to put the topic of general process with no explanatory documents. How things brought from the public to the next step, etc. especially in light of what occurred at Planning Commission to clarify things. Who in Planning gets it? How is that routed through?

Ms. Short also mentioned in the ordinance refers to commissions or boards that no longer exist -- part of why this was so confusing. This could be a start and if we need to continue to another meeting, that will be fine.

Mr. Hillan stated that what Jon (Mr. Swae) brought up that may need to be brought up maybe not Committee but full Council the issue of tree protection and tree preservation is something that the Urban Forestry Council needs to weigh in on to develop perhaps some recommendations. Mr. Hillan states that if the Landmark Ordinance keeps on being used in this way, it can be attacked and invalidated because

of the way it is being mis-used; and the way property owners are being impacted by the mis-use of this ordinance. Mr. Hillan stated that he was afraid of that. Mr. Hillan went on to state that we need to be proactive in developing. Mr. Hillan was reminded of commenting on items not on the agenda. Mr. Hillan went on to say that it is something that he is concerned about and that the Committee needs to address it.

Nancy Wuerfel supports having an open conversation on process. She stated she has read the ordinance and that it is outdated on some levels. The procedures from the point of view from the members of the public were never dealt with. Ms. Wuerfel stated that it would be a public service to have an interpretation of what could be very simple clear language without reference to a whole bunch of stuff that speaks to the people and would even speak to members of this Committee. She stated there could be 25 words or less on what is a landmark tree in terms of why we are trying to do this. If there was a document, some of the questions could be answered themselves without having to ask Mei Ling. There is no process for the member of the public to follow on a procedural level. Ms. Wuerfel also stated that there could be a discussion as a separate agenda item in a separate agenda in the future agenda on the use of "810" on how to handle trees that are worthy but have a different avenue to take but that is a very large topic.

Jen Levitt stated that there was always believed the tree and the property should be landmarked but that they just have not done it. Ms. Levitt stated that the process was not as clear. She stated the this was brought forward not because they thought the tree could be threatened but that they have always felt this way.

Myla asked about making the property a historical landmark. Chair Hillson replied that was in the purview of the Planning Department.

5. Public Comment. No further public comment.

6. Adjournment. The Landmark Tree Committee meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Minutes written and submitted by Chair Hillson (Aug. 10, 2015).

Copies of explanatory documents are available to the public at (1) the Department of Environment, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California 94103 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., (2) or may be available at the Landmark Tree Committee Meeting website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/about/taskforce/urban-forestry-council/agendas> posted with each agenda or meeting minutes, or 3) upon request to the Council Secretary at the above address, telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at Monica.Fish@sfgov.org. Audio recordings of all meetings can be accessed at the following website <https://sites.google.com/a/sfenvironment.org/commission/urban-forestry-council/urban-forestry-council-and-committee-meeting-audios>.

Meeting minutes approved on October 1, 2015

EDWIN M. LEE
Mayor

DEBORAH RAPHAEL
Director

**URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL
LANDMARK TREE AD HOC COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
Approved MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, Oct. 1, 2015, 4:15 p.m.
City Hall, Room 421
One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place
San Francisco, CA 94102**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Rose Hillson (Chair), Malcolm Hillan, Dan Kida, Carla Short, Jon Swae
STAFF: Mei Ling Hui

Order of Business

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.** The Landmark Tree Committee meeting convened at 4:18 p.m. Present: Chair Hillson, Members Short and Swae. Excused: Members Hillan and Kida. Ms. Hui ascertained quorum and called the agenda items.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of the August 6, 2015 Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Committee Special Meeting.** (Explanatory Document: August 6, 2015 Draft Minutes) (Discussion and Action).

Upon Motion by Member Short, second by Member Swae, the August 6, 2015 Draft Minutes were approved without objection (Members Hillson, Short and Swae).

- 3. Hearing on Nominations for Landmark Tree Status.** The Landmark Tree Committee will hold a hearing to determine whether the tree nominated at the following location meets the criteria for designation as a landmark tree. (Discussion and Action)

Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla* (synonym *A. excelsa*)), located at 46A Cook Street, Assessor's Block 1067, Lot 032, San Francisco, CA. (Explanatory Documents: Nomination Form, Committee and Staff Evaluation Forms, Tree Images)

Coordinator Hui asked if anybody from the Planning Commission was present as Sponsor of the nomination. There was no representative from the Planning Commission present.

Next was Staff Report. Ms. Hui stated that from the last time, meeting, she stated that the species was still unclear, was a nice-looking tree, and has some potential historic value, environmental value and cultural value as well.

Next was the Property Owner's Presentation. Ms. Barry Bonaparte, attorney for the applicant, stated that at the August 6 hearing there were some questions as to the historical significance of the tree and the species. Ms. Bonaparte stated that in regards to the historical significance of the tree, although there were allusions made to this tree having been connected with historical figures or historical

properties, there was insufficient or contradictory evidence that was presented at the last hearing. She stated that there was an excerpt from Here Today which was actually part of an appendix and when read in its entirety seemed to suggest no trees remained from the time of George Smith. She stated "we" showed photos from the late 1880s which showed no significant trees on that same block including the so-called "sister tree" shown in many of the photos of members of the public prior to its removal and that would have appeared in that frame of the 1885 photo. She stated that photo is now part of Mr. McNair's addendum which you (the Committee) now has; it is on the last page of that report. She stated there is a new submittal that attributed those reports added to the historical connection but it does not and is simply duplicative of the last submittal – just repackaged. She stated that included in it was a photo from the late 1940s / 1950s and in Mr. McNair's addendum compares that 1940s historic photo to the current photo which shows that the tree from the historic photo is not the same tree. Ms. Bonaparte stated that the tree in the historic photo is already quite large and mature. She stated that if this were the same tree, it would likely be already be nearing the end of its life span if not already past it. She stated that it concludes that the tree in the historic photo has since been removed and that the current tree was at best a seedling at the time. Ms. Bonaparte stated that in short the historic connection has only become more tenuous since the last hearing. Ms. Bonaparte then addressed the question on the species as to whether it had been correctly identified and heard from others that it had not. She stated there is a concern with staff weighing in with regards to substantive issues and understands that will be a question that will be addressed later on. She stated that the parties would seek more information as to the species identification whether the tree is a Norfolk Island Pine which everyone including the folks advocating landmarking had been asserting or whether it was a Cook Pine. She stated Cook Pines apparently are more rare in this area. Ms. Bonaparte stated she went to a leading authority on this and contacted Dr. Matt Ritter who is at Cal Poly and a professor in the Biological Sciences Department and a well-regarded taxonomist who specializes in plant diversity and rare species. Ms. Bonaparte stated that his opinion is that the tree is not a Cook Pine but rather a hybrid and not particularly rare because the hybrid species is fairly common in California. Ms. Bonaparte states that the documents stating the tree as a Cook Pine are wrong and not "authoritative" per Dr. Ritter. Ms. Bonaparte stated that it was important to note that when the applicants were first pushing for landmarking that they identified the tree unequivocally as a Norfolk Island Pine. Ms. Bonaparte stated that it was not until the last hearing when they sensed that their chances of landmarking were not as good if the tree was a Norfolk rather than a Cook that they came up with this new source material identifying it as a Cook Pine. Ms. Bonaparte stated that what matters is the criteria as set forth in the ordinance. Ms. Bonaparte stated that Mr. McNair and Mr. Costello, both experts in their field, have gone over the criteria and are known for calling it as they see it stated that they concluded that this tree is not suitable for landmark status. Ms. Bonaparte stated that it is a backyard tree that is not rare or distinguished and as Mr. Costello stated is unsuitable for its location and stated that in short, it was the wrong tree in the wrong place. She stated that applying the landmark criteria for it would be inappropriate.

Public Comment:

Richard Worn who lives at 60 Cook Street spoke. He stated the tree is so big and comparing the photos – the '46/'51 photo -- is at an angle, and this tree (referring to the current photo) is along the side the house at different angles and a tree like that is sizeable and he disagrees that this one ('46/'51 photo tree) was removed and another one (current) was put in there and that is just physically impossible. Mr. Worn produced a letter to verify the species from Laura Money-Brodick and read it: To Whom It May Concern, My name is Laura Money-Brodick. I am the field botany teacher for the **Potomac ?** School of Herbal Studies and many others around the United States. I often have to make very precise and important differentiations between species due to the fact that I study plants with the intention of harvesting them to make herbal medicine. For this reason, I look to often small distinctions to make positive identifications between plants that may look quite similar to the mortal eye. For the tree in

dispute on Cook Street, one can look to Hortus Third and read through the technical descriptions of both *Araucaria columnaris* and the *Araucaria heterophylla* to make that positive identification. Our botanical classification system of binomial nomenclature is based on reproductive parts of plants. So let's examine the cones of both species. Mr. Worn referred to the Hortus Third document (in the packet).

Vanessa Rituolo ? or Jenn Levitt ? stated that it was brought up at the last meeting that "we" had misrepresented the historic status of the property at the time and were not educated on the correct terminology at the time; and to clarify these buildings had been deemed "Category A historic resources" by the city and are shown on the SF Planning Department website as such. She asked that the committee refer to the SF Heritage correspondence written by the Senior Project Manager, Desiree Smith. Ms. Levitt stated that Ms. Smith, after having discussed this with several members of SF Heritage they think this property has the potential to be designated as landmark and encouraged "us" to consider the entire property as historic including the buildings and the landscape. Ms. Levitt stated they have begun the process of landmarking the buildings as well. Ms. Levitt asked that the worthiness of the tree to be landmarked be looked at per the criteria in the ordinance; specifically, the undeniable evidence that this tree is a significant historical landmark and wanted to ensure (the committee) read the historical material submitted and refer to the evidence of the historical timeline that was sent a few weeks ago.

Levi Levitt stated that they did come to the last meeting stating that it was a Cook Pine and did not change their minds and came into the meeting stating what it was. He stated he also had two arborists independent of each other saying that it was a Cook. Mr. Levitt stated that in the packet (of documents for the committee) – he and his wife started also thinking that it might be a hybrid – in the packet, there was something from "Flora-something" that talks about how all hybrids are classified as Cooks. So Cook being one of the things we look to establish rarity -- that evidence goes directly into that. Mr. Levitt asked if "you all" (the committee) had read the packets and mentioned the historical presence, the species identified and the Hortus Third that is put out by Cornell and seems to be a pretty viable source. Mr. Levitt stated we have learned about historical assets and historical landmarks for the property and did not know that before and they did not know they were misbehaving when saying it was a landmark property but a "Historic resource -- A," the highest historical resource category before a landmark and apologized for that. Mr. Levitt brought up that there was the mention of abusing the landmark tree ordinance. Mr. Levitt stated that in the two months between the time tree people who were cutting down the trees and finally got this thing protected, Dale Rogers could have cut down the tree had he wanted to. Mr. Levitt said he (Mr. Rogers) never said that he wants to, said it was the wrong tree in the wrong spot but he made no attempts to actually cut it down. So Mr. Levitt said we are not abusing the landmark ordinance by landmarking this beautiful tree. Mr. Levitt stated that it almost seems that if "we" were to not landmark it, that would be a reverse abuse of the same ordinance.

Veronica Beasley ?, Environmental Studies student at SFSU. She stated that she came across this tree as a landmark and stated even though the species is questionable, and the age 70 to 125 years, the tree provides a great environmental benefit because it is a large tree; and it contributes to the biodiversity and to help conserve nature. She feels that if it inflicts no harm or consequences of the tree, she stated it can make it.

James McNair stated that in regards to species, Dr. Ritter has pretty much laid to rest the issue of the species and explained why there was so much controversy because it is a hybrid so that it has characteristics of both. Mr. McNair stated that being a hybrid does not mean that it is necessarily superior and it means it has a mixture of genetics between the species and he stated that he does not think that anybody has demonstrated that this tree is really special in a genetic sense. Mr. McNair stated that in terms of the historical or rarity, he noted that there was a reference to the urbanforest map that

showed 15 Norfolk Island Pines in the city. Mr. McNair stated that as “we” drove in on Lombard, “we” saw 5 just driving down Lombard and turning on Van Ness. Mr. McNair stated that he spoke to Peter Erlich in the Presidio and he stated he has at least 20 so the number is much greater than what has been put out there in terms of the 15 and he stated now he is up to 50 and he believes a lot of them are probably hybrids than we previously realized. Mr. McNair went on to historical significance and he stated he did the comparison with the two photos virtually in the same location as the circa 1946 photo (compared to current photo) when he took it and stated it is not the same tree and that it makes sense in terms of its condition now. Mr. McNair states that the subject tree was probably planted in the 1940s, 50s when the tree shown in the 1946 photo was removed and someone had planted a replacement tree and believes that this is pretty likely.

Larry Costello, consulting arborist, stated that he put together a short report that was sent hours ago and was not sure if (the committee) got that but that there were three key points, tree identification, location or suitability for location, and unintended consequences of landmark action. Mr. Costello stated that in his mind, Matt Ritter is the statewide authority on tree identification and if he says it is a hybrid, he believes that so Mr. Costello stated it is not *heterophylla* and it is not *columnaris*. Mr. Costello asked, “Is it a named hybrid? No.,” “Is it a 50-50 hybrid of the two? We don’t know. Could be. Could be 75-25 mix.” Mr. Costello said there are a lot of questions about its identity. Mr. Costello asked, “Does it have traits that are more desirable than the species? It may, we don’t know,” “Does it have traits that are less desirable? It may, we don’t know.” Mr. Costello stated that we really don’t have a good understanding of the tree that is being landmarked and that that was of concern to him. Mr. Costello stated that hybrids are not rare according to Matt (Ritter). Mr. Costello stated that secondly, the suitability of the location, it is just a large tree on a small lot. Mr. Costello stated that perhaps long ago, if that was the tree, perhaps it is OK on a large estate. Mr. Costello stated that Sunset states and other references state that it should be in parks and larger properties and open spaces; and Mr. Costello stated that there is a risk involved here.

Committee member evaluations:

Carla Short stated that she did her evaluation based on the fact that this was a Norfolk Island Pine. She also stated that at the last meeting, she had also reached out to an expert who was also Dr. Matt Ritter and she is also convinced that it is a hybrid if that is what he believes it is because he knows far better than she. Ms. Short stated that Mr. Ritter indicated to her that while it is not uncommon, certainly he was not aware of a huge quantity of these in San Francisco; and she stated that the other, saying she was unsure of going over all the physical attributes and everything else she found last time, stated that she was struggling with this one a lot because she is intrigued by the notion that it is a hybrid and how many of our Norfolk Island Pines are hybrids and how many are Cook Pines and she stated it actually makes it a little more significant to her that it is a hybrid although if it turns out that most of what we have are hybrids then it suddenly becomes more common but stated that she thinks we don’t know. Again, Ms. Short says from her perspective that that is what is what makes it more intriguing. Ms. Short stated that there are some real challenges to not knowing what we have although we have a precedent for that because we did that with Rose’s (tree). Ms. Short stated that she was very swayed by the amount of neighborhood support for this and that is one of the factors that we weigh. Ms. Short stated that she was very concerned about the use of the ordinance to prevent development from happening and worries about potential backlash and the unintended consequences that Dr. Costello noted and are valid concerns and that was something we talked about early on when the Landmark Ordinance itself was being created – did we need to worry that people would go out and remove big trees because they were afraid of that; and Ms. Short stated that she does not believe she has seen too much of that but that is something to be aware of. Ms. Short, at this point, stated that she was struggling with what her vote would be at this point.

Ms. Hillson stated that at the full Urban Forestry Council, it was stated that the Committee decided that the tree was in good condition, it had distinguished form, it does not provide erosion control, not an interdependent group of trees but had neighborhood appreciation. Ms. Hillson stated she had a list of all the previous landmark trees and stated that all the trees did not hit every single criteria. Ms. Hillson stated that her tree did not hit every single criteria and was also unknown and it hit the one mark that was rarity because it is the only one in the city. Ms. Hillson also stated that there was another tree, a redwood, on Market Street. She stated there was community support for it and did not hit on much of the other ones but it was community support. Ms. Hillson stated that this was like a crap shoot because nobody knows who is going to think what and that this whole thing is going to end up at the Board of Supervisors if the Urban Forestry Council decides a certain way though it is not known yet but Ms. Hillson put it out there. Ms. Hillson then asked Ms. Bonaparte to clarify her prior explanation of the 1885 picture from the Bancroft Library and which tree she was referring to in comparison to the 1946 picture. Ms. Hillson asked Ms. Bonaparte whether this (pointed to tree in upper left of 1885 photo) was the tree that did not have or is the tree, or it didn't have any trees on that lot in 1885. Ms. Bonaparte responded that the (1885) photo was meant to show the absence of large trees in that lot and she stated the tree in question would be to the right of the frame and so is not seen but the "sister tree" is not even shown. Ms. Hillson then brought up that the neighbors had a trunk cutting of the other "sister tree" and if it is true that it was estimated to be 120 years, Ms. Hillson was thinking 2015 minus 120 years would be 1895 and this (photo) is 1885; and if 10 years later the guy had planted these trees, that is one thing we do not know either. Ms. Hillson said that is something that will probably never be figured out but that she was putting that out there because the years and the dates of the photos what could be calculated to this year is another factor that is unknown along with whether the species is a hybrid.

Mr. Swae stated that he had questions regarding historical significance. He spoke to the Planning Department's Historic Preservation staff and according to them, in order for a tree to be landmarkable based on its historical attributes from their perspective, the tree would not have to just be of a certain age but associated with some exceptional element of history of San Francisco. Mr. Swae stated that so as discussed in the last hearing, the building is mentioned in the Here Today book and was determined to be historically significant, but Mr. Swae stated that he learned from the Historic Preservation staff that the historical significance is really based on the architectural significance of the property – the 46 Cook property – and not related necessarily to the historic person or event associated with the property. Mr. Swae stated that for the nominated tree to receive a landmark designation because of its historic significance would require the tree or the landscape to be associated with a historic event or person or a historically designed landscape which he stated he believes we don't have evidence for. Mr. Swae stated that a good example of this are the blue gum eucalyptus on Octavia Street which were planted by Mary Ellen Pleasant who was involved with the Underground Railroad during the Gold Rush and was clearly a historic person at the time so Mr. Swae does not see, in his perspective, to landmark the tree based on the historic associations with past residents or any historic event. Mr. Swae stated that it is clear it is a beautiful tree and of quite some age. Mr. Swae stated that as he stated at the last hearing he encouraged that the Council explore new alternative protections of trees on private property outside of the landmark tree designation process.

Ms. Hui stated that she wanted to note that she was asked if it was appropriate that she provide a report. Ms. Hui stated that it was her job to provide a report. Ms. Hui stated that the documents that came in from the community members, she did identify to Ms. Bonaparte were emailed so she did have that information and the last point is that the Urban Forestry Council has evaluated specimens of unknown species and they have been landmarked so that is not necessarily a problem.

Next was Property Owner Rebuttal:

Ms. Bonaparte stated that as a follow-up to what Rose was saying that not all criteria have to be met and she understands that but that unlike yours (Rose's) and probably most other landmark situations if not all of them it's not the property owner nominating it. Ms. Bonaparte stated that you have a backyard tree on a property, the owner of which is objecting to the landmark of his own tree. She stated that he was asked for access to his property for the Committee to inspect and he respectfully declined to provide access because he was opposing the process. Regardless of that objection, apparently there were photos taken of his property without his permission in order to count rings and others have been taken of his property without his permission. Apparently a pine cone was removed from his property and taken without his permission. Ms. Bonaparte stated that all of this started when he started to embark on a property improvement project including some tree removal. Ms. Bonaparte stated that that's not what the Landmark Ordinance is for; that is not what this Committee is for. She stated that as Mr. Costello stated in his report that if you were to landmark under these unusual circumstances you would not only be harming the credibility of this Committee and its good works but the Committee would be encouraging the pre-emptive removal of large beautiful trees in order to avoid what is happening here; and for these reasons she encouraged (the Committee) to end the matter now.

Committee discussion and action: Ms. Hillson stated that Ms. Bonaparte mentioned that it does not hit on every single point, clarity, definite species being known, the fact that her (Rose's) tree is rare but it is she (Rose) who put in the nomination as opposed to some property owner who did not want it done and the sequoia on Market Street was one that was landmarked because the property owner didn't want it but it still happened and the plans were looked at and everything through Planning Department so we have two things that have already happened in the past and this is a hard one. Ms. Hillson stated that she was in the Community Seat, so from that perspective, I see the petitions and the enthusiasm and importance they place on this large tree and it was the same with the redwood tree and that's why she is on the Council to represent the community. Other than that, Ms. Hillson wanted to hear other members comments. Ms. Hillson stated that it was interesting that there were only 3 out of the 5 (Committee members) today.

Ms. Short stated that even if the Committee all voted 'No' today, it does not end today. Ms. Short explained that it will go to full Council and it will vote on it and it can potentially move on to the Board of Supervisors. Ms. Short stated it was a tough one for her. She stated that she usually looks for more than one criterion to be met and in the past, even though the neighbors value trees and she is in her job because she loves trees and appreciate when people care about their environment and their community and is effected by that but that alone has not been sufficient to sway her personally to vote for trees and she stated she voted against the Giant Sequoia on Market Street but it got landmark status anyway. Ms. Short stated that we think we do not have enough on the historical connection to make her feel like we are meeting that criterion. Ms. Short stated that she is struggling with is that she does not really know if it is rare enough for her to say this makes sense. Ms. Short stated that, with the belief that she feels the neighbors really love this tree, she felt that the neighbors would like to see it landmarked whether anyone has any intention to remove it or not but the reality is they were spurred into action because of concern that it would be removed. Ms. Short stated she was very uncomfortable with the Landmark Ordinance potentially being used in that way. Ms. Short stated she was not really sure but those were her thoughts.

Mr. Swae stated that his two holdouts were the rarity of the species, which from what he was hearing, is that it is not super rare and that even the hybrids are not super rare. He stated that he has seen a lot of Norfolks around the city and that the urbanforest map is definitely not as accurate and maybe someday it will be. (Ms. Short chimed in to agree and stated that she does not believe anybody is relying on that for rarity.) Mr. Swae then talked about the historical piece; and when he spoke to the Preservation folks to clarify, he stated that the property is actually historical because of its architecture and we don't have

it associated with a key individual or event or something to make it related specifically to that tree. Mr. Swae stated that those were the two big holdouts for him and he does not really see a strong case in either of those.

Ms. Short stated that today she felt there was not a ton of new information and is now convinced that it is now a hybrid. She stated that she wished there was clearer confirmation of what that meant in terms of its rarity. She stated that Matt (Ritter) told her that he did not think they were very common in San Francisco though – the hybrids. Ms. Short stated that in order to be sure, his grad student would actually have to actually take samples to look at the genetics.

Ms. Hillson asked about the hybrids that Matt Ritter said are not rare if there were any peer-review papers? She stated that somebody mentioned that there was some “Flora” document. Ms. Hillson read the line from the document: “One popular theory holds that many Norfolk Island Pines in the Hawaiian Islands are all of hybrid origin but pollen of the two species (*heterophylla* and *columnaris*) is shed 6 months apart making hybridization unlikely. These reported hybrid trees are virtually all Cook Pines.” Ms. Hillson stated the document is in Tropical Garden Flora.

Ms. Short stated that if Matt Ritter has a Ph.D. and his student is actually taking genetic testing and finding that these are hybrids, then she would put a little more stock in that. Ms. Short stated she was not sure if this (Tropical Garden Flora) was peer-reviewed or not but also stated that the document was from 2005 and a lot may have changed since then in terms of genetics systems. Ms. Hillson stated she just wanted to clarify.

Ms. Hillson sympathized regarding property owners, not property owners, figuring out the species or not figuring out the species, and all of these scenarios have come up before; and her vote was not going to make any difference with the three of us. Ms. Hillson made a motion to support landmarking this unknown hybrid tree at 46A Cook. No second, motion failed.

Ms. Short did not particularly want to make the motion to not support the nomination so Mr. Swae made the motion to not support the nomination to landmark the tree. Ms. Short seconded the motion.

Roll call vote on motion to not support: Ayes: Short, Swae; Noes: Hillson. (2 to 1)

Ms. Hui stated that there was no quorum vote and the motion does not pass. She stated the tree nomination will move forward to the full Council with no recommendation from the Committee.

4. Landmark Tree Visible Identification. The Committee will discuss on-site identification of landmark trees. (Discussion)

Ms. Hillson stated that the reason for having this topic was that Mei Ling, Dan Kida and Carla Short have been working on these markers for the trees. She stated there has been discussion since 2008 on this; the design is already made, and it was voted by the Council that these be made and it was put on the back burner until Dan has time to go out and look at the landmark trees and that was the last status. Ms. Hillson stated that she was at the Historic Preservation Commission meeting when Mei Ling was giving her presentation on the Cook tree and an item came up on their agenda on how they were going to get markers for landmark buildings. Ms. Hillson then thought about their funding stream because it is for landmarking. Ms. Hillson reported that the Historic Preservation commissioners discussed sources such as SF Travel, having funding from Friends of City Planning, funding programs, hotel tax, Visitors and Convention Bureau, and if there is any way to expedite this (for tree markers) – and Ms. Hillson does not know if it has to go through the Planning & Funding

Committee (of UFC), although she doubts it because it was already voted on at the full Council and because it has been done since 2008 and not wanting to keep creating motions to do this.

Ms. Hui gave some historic background in that SFE (SF Environment Department) had a small budget for materials that they were going to use to buy plaques and that budget disappeared so that is where the design came from. Ms. Hillson stated the circular design with the Monterey, and Ms. Hui stated the tree that is in front of McLaren Lodge, the City tree. Ms. Hui stated that ultimately we need to decide what would work for DPW and if we can go in the sidewalk before we do anything on this.

Ms. Short stated that the question was about where the marker goes. If it is in the sidewalk, it was going to be a problem but if it was in the tree well, it probably was not going to be a problem. Ms. Short stated that something had to be found that could be within the tree basin. Ms. Short stated that if it is in the sidewalk and if somebody is willing and able to maintain it, unless the adjacent property owner says it is find and they are willing to maintain it, Ms. Short stated that typically if it is in the sidewalk itself there needs to be a permit to put something in the sidewalk and a long-term maintenance agreement. She stated if it is within the tree basin, we could just have it there.

Ms. Hillson also contacted the Japantown people who had the 150-year Cherry Blossom tree installation and the fan on Webster and all the trees had small plaques. There was a grant and also people contributed \$500 for a tree and a plaque. Ms. Hillson restated it was \$500 for a tree AND (with emphasis) a plaque, and when she submitted information to the Committee back in 2014...Ms. Short interjected and stated that those trees were heavily subsidized. Ms. Hillson stated that these are the things that we do not know about. She stated that she would like to get the funding straightened out. Mr. Swae asked if there was a cost estimate and Ms. Hillson stated she gave information in 2014 on vendors' names for concrete stamps.

Ms. Short stated that there could be a little concrete thing but it would need to be in the tree well itself and not be in the sidewalk; but if it is in the sidewalk, it is going to have to be through a permit process and there is going to have to be some willingness from whoever is formally responsible for that sidewalk.

Ms. Hillson stated that she did send out the vendor information in July '14 and she contacted them but the vendors could not give a quote without knowing the size of the stamps.

Ms. Short then questioned about PG&E and their willing to fund the effort because that was one of the reasons she thought Dan was going out to look at the trees. Ms. Hui stated that Dan said there is a small grant funds that could pay for the stamp but not for the plaques. Ms. Hui stated it would be an amount "sub-a-thousand" dollars, under a thousand dollars, though there was no specificity with that. Ms. Hui stated that we could ask Dan what is available.

Mr. Swae stated it would be good to get some cost estimates. Ms. Hui stated that initially the discussion for the markers and the permitting was only for trees that were publicly accessible and that was probably for sidewalks maintained by Rec and Park or DPW in a lot of cases. Ms. Short stated that private property sidewalks are maintained by the adjacent property owner. She stated that if the tree is in an area specifically maintained by the city for the sidewalk, the city might take care of that; but the sidewalk is the responsibility of the private property owner adjacent. Ms. Hui brought up the trees on the Dolores median or the Quesada median or trees off of Third with trees not directly associated with the property. Ms. Short stated that median trees are the city responsibility and street trees are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner. Ms. Short stated that those median trees would be DPW responsibility.

Mr. Swae asked about the tree well option, whether it was a plaque or what. Ms. Short stated it could be a plaque that would be in the tree well and should be flush. Ms. Short stated that FUF used to do it with a little thing that they set in the concrete in the tree well; and it could be a concrete thing like a concrete brick that is dug in and most people wouldn't dig it out. Ms. Short stated that if it is metal, people would dig it out. Mr. Swae did not think that this sounds as if it would be that costly.

Ms. Hillson stated that, since FUF was mentioned, it was FUF that did the Japantown cherry trees; and we have the sources – Dan with FUF -- and by the next meeting would like to come up with something a bit more definite and we are not getting anywhere and this is not some topic she even started.

Ms. Hui asked if we were to get a concrete stamp, would that be something DPW could use to stamp a brick. Ms. Short stated that there is a frame and wet concrete and just stamp it. She stated that there would need to be someone to administer this and there is not DPW staff for this.

Ms. Hillson commented that if somebody could get her potential dimensions, she would start calling and get some work done. Mr. Swae asked what information would there be on the stamp. Ms. Hillson responded that in Ms. Hui's design, it said, "City and County of San Francisco," "Landmark Tree" and a picture of the Monterey Cypress from the park. Ms. Hui added that on the design they had before, there was also a flat space that could be engraved with a number or ID as it relates to a "QR" code so people would have something to look up to get more information. Ms. Hillson stated that on the Planning website, people can look up the number and get the additional information.

Mr. Swae asked if there were names of contractors for stamped concrete bricks. Ms. Short mentioned Sunset Concrete. Ms. Short stated she could ask what her crew would cost but she would need dimensions.

Ms. Short thought the size cannot be too small or large to be legible nor too big for tree basins. Ms. Hillson (looking at Ms. Short's sizing with her hands) suggested maybe 9"x9" and Mr. Swae stated there could be one skinny and short since some of the basins are almost all trunk.

Ms. Hui stated we needed to go out to look at the trees. Ms. Hillson does not want to duplicate Dan's work but is willing to look at the trees for markers. Ms. Hui stated Dan did go out to look for obvious conflicts for markers and to look at maps for underground conflicts. Ms. Hui stated that he has already performed all the site visits of all the trees. Ms. Hillson stated she will ask Dan what he has done thus far. Ms. Hui stated that Dan did not take measurements and were not thinking about markers in the tree wells at the time they went out to check the trees.

Ms. Short asked about what the sidewalk trees were. Ms. Hillson had a list of the landmark trees for Ms. Short to reference. Ms. Hui will ask the public library (for the flowering ash) could be tight. The other is the blue elderberry with a sidewalk across the way but is on Rec & Park land. Ms. Hillson will do the site visits.

Mr. Swae stated maybe the Committee can come up with some dimensions that would work for all cases and come up with some cardboard models for sizing. He stated perhaps we need two sizes and it would not be too expensive.

5. Landmark Tree Process. The Committee will discuss steps in the Landmark Tree evaluation process from application submittal to hearing at Urban Forestry Council to Board of Supervisors. (Discussion)

Ms. Hillson explained that this topic was instigated by the situation that occurred at Planning Commission when the commissioners got a Landmark Nomination Form and they did not know what to do with it except stating they had no tree expertise. She stated that she hoped there was a documented process to show the commission members that this is the process and staff and committee members move on and the process is not even on the website and then somebody has to go before the commission to explain the process all again. Ms. Hillson is not sure how city agencies handle this but maybe a memo to potential city agencies who are potential nominators of trees, perhaps a Director's letter or something, so that it is more clarifying to everyone.

Mr. Swae stated perhaps a flowchart. Ms. Hillson can draw a flowchart from what she presented and bring it back to committee. Ms. Hillson stated that she can draw a flowchart based on what Mei Ling presented and later on can bring that back to review. As well, she stated that later on, there is a need to look also at the Nomination Form because that also caused some uncertainty on people's part because it said, "Authorized nominator: Planning Commission." Ms. Hillson asked if it was the entire Planning Commission or a member of the Planning Commission; and that when they have that done, nobody signs off on it from Planning and there is no space for anyone to sign off on anything.

Ms. Hui stated that that process is defined by ordinance – how the Planning Commission makes a nomination, how the Historic Preservation Commission makes the nomination – that is identified in the ordinance.

Ms. Hillson stated, people ask is it a tree on private property or not, is it the owner that's nominating it or not. She referred to the Nomination Form for today's tree hearing and read who could nominate a tree: Property owner, Board of Supervisors member, Head of a department or city agency, Planning Commission member. She stated that on the other part, it states Board of Supervisors – the whole thing, Planning Commission – the whole thing; and it is not real clear. Ms. Hillson states there is Richard Worn nominating the tree as a member of the public but is he the owner? Some of these things are not clear.

Ms. Short agrees and she said the Ordinance refers to the Historic Preservation Commission as the Landmarks Preservation Advisory Board and thinks having a flowchart would help people and to clean this up a little to make it a little more user-friendly. Ms. Short stated that maybe we need words to say, please indicate if you are the following or have checkboxes to indicate if you are the property owner. Ms. Short agrees that the form it is not intuitive to people and if someone from the Historic Preservation Commission is approached, they don't know what to do with it since this is the first time they ever did it. Ms. Hillson stated that one of the HPC commissioners stated that none of them have tree knowledge so what are they going to do with this?

Ms. Hillson stated that was what got her thinking about process and that it may not just be the Nomination Form to look at. Some person questioning the process we use here in Committee; and for full disclosure, she was contacted by Dr. Costello who questioned about whether staff should say anything during this and Ms. Hillson stated that it has been the process. Ms. Hillson stated if it needed to be changed, probably not but she did not know and people had questions. The Committee wanted to know what Dr. Costello's concern was and Ms. Hillson responded that he questioned why the staff was giving an analysis when not part of the Committee and Ms. Hillson stated it was part of DOE, the staff analysis and it has always been like that for every other nomination and it has always been like that and asked Ms. Hillson to bring it up but she explained to Committee that she rather have him bring it up in case she were to misinterpret his words. Ms. Hillson stated that anyway, there were questions about process.

Ms. Hui stated that she had never heard anything like that before and was always asked to provide an analysis. Ms. Short stated that it has been consistent even when Grace was in that (Ms. Hui's) job. Ms. Short stated that whether it is appropriate is a bigger question. Ms. Hillson stated that she was only stating it and not making it up as she has an email on it. Ms. Hillson stated that the biggest concern right now was to deal with the next Nomination Form that comes in and what if it gets to Planning or HPC so she wants to get at least a flowchart started for the commission people. Mr. Swae stated that it would really be helpful and to get just a rough draft he could help on his end. Ms. Short stated maybe there needs to be something very specific for each type of nomination but stated it would be helpful for the public to know because she gets calls a lot and got calls about this tree. Ms. Hillson stated maybe two charts with one for the public. Ms. Short stated she thinks it would be helpful to have a process chart for everyone. Ms. Short stated maybe one for each of the five different nominators.

Ms. Hui said that it might be good to have that because trees get protections at different stages so for the nominators we want to know when that happens.

Ms. Hillson states she can make a flowchart and work on that.

Ms. Short stated that maybe there could be a graphic person. Mr. Swae said he can look into that. Ms. Hillson said that the next meeting will probably be in December since she does not think she will get it done by early November.

Ms. Hui asked if we would talk about changing of the code for Landmarks Advisory Board to Historic Preservation Commission and for Landmark Nomination Form edits and stated that in the past all those edits have gone to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Ms. Hillson stated that there was the one she worked on (with Committee) from 2012 to 2014 with Carla, Chris Buck and we took it to the full Urban Forestry Council and it was up to DPW city attorney to look at it or something and that is where it sat. Ms. Hillson stated we did revise the Nomination Form, the grove thing and worked on the code for a long time. Ms. Short stated that she thinks the feedback was that our city attorney did not like it. Ms. Hillson stated then so we leave the grove language out and we stick with this.

Ms. Short stated that we need to go through some edits but if we did go through this process we will find where we need to do it and we can do it all at once rather than doing them piecemeal.

Ms. Hillson will work on the flowchart and look at the trees (for the marker idea).

Public Comment: Levi Levitt stated that he would like to volunteer when he can. Ms. Hillson stated that he can come to the next meeting to see where we are on the process even though it is time-consuming but under the Brown and Sunshine Ordinance, we cannot hide things behind closed doors. Ms. Short stated that he could attend the next meeting and if we have a flowchart, Mr. Levitt can potentially validate or see where the holes are in the current process and the timing of things.

6. New Business/Future Agenda Items. (Information and Discussion)

Ms. Short stated that one of the Mary Ellen Pleasant trees is in decline, pretty substantial. She stated that we have never removed a landmark tree before and believes we will have to initiate that. Ms. Short can bring to the next Committee an evaluation and photos to document it. Ms. Short was not sure about the code to see if this Committee has to make a recommendation for that part. Ms. Hillson had happened to have brought the code that pertained to the removal of landmark trees. Ms. Short read parts of it about the Council shall develop and recommend for adoption by the Board uniform criteria, rules and procedures governing determination to remove landmark trees. Ms. Short stated

that there is criteria for removal for emergencies and would like to do this before it becomes an emergency. Ms. Hillson asked if it was leaning. Ms. Short said it is leaning a little but that that lean was not an issue but it was in decline. Ms. Short continued to read the code. She stated that we can recommend rules, procedures to the Board but in the interim can follow street tree process. Ms. Short stated that maybe it's not so urgent we do that but someday we should -- recommend rules, procedures to remove landmark trees. Removal criteria rules, criteria for landmark tree as new business.

7. Public Comment. Members of the public may address the Committee on matters that are within the Committee's jurisdiction and are not on today's agenda.

Levi Levitt asked whether establishing a dialogue with members of the Committee outside of these meetings is illegal or not. Mr. Levitt mentioned that the packets are thick and instead of having a dialogue, it felt like he was talking at the Committee. He asked if there was a way through emails or telephone calls or if everything was done at these meetings. Ms. Hillson stated that one of the things governing city meetings is the Brown Act and the Sunshine Ordinance and asked Ms. Hui to correct her if she was wrong; but that if someone has something to share with the whole Committee, it is sent to the Coordinator and she can get it out to the Committee. Ms. Hui stated that Committee members and Council members are not to be talking to each other about business outside meetings. Mr. Swae believes that committee members are allowed to speak to members of the public. Ms. Short stated she speaks to the public as part of her job. Mr. Swae stated that Planning commissioners speak to members of the public. Ms. Hui stated that UFC has not published any of the members' contact information because there has not been permission given by the members to publish their private contact information. Ms. Hui stated that that might be a question for the full Council on whether people want to have their contact information distributed. Some people – who work for the city – already have the information available but some people have not. Ms. Hui stated that she thinks it is dependent on what the Committee/Council wants re contact information. Ms. Short stated that the general reason for all was to ensure that everybody has access to the same information and prevent somebody from lobbying a Committee and other people not knowing what they are saying. Mr. Levitt stated something about a couple of notes; and Ms. Hui stated that they were very specific restrictions about taking gifts. Mr. Swae stated that he understands what Mr. Levitt is saying in that it creates a kind of awkward format and does not create an opportunity for dialogue or human conversation. Ms. Hillson stated that she was warned not to engage in conversation about itemized things on the agenda outside of the meetings. Ms. Hillson stated that was why she disclosed the thing about staff reports otherwise anyone can say do this, do that, influencing any one of us.

Mr. Levitt stated they had to sit and listen to the lies about the materials and all the materials are still there on the property. Ms. Hui chimed in that this is beginning to be a discussion on a non-agendized item. Ms. Short stated that it is allowed to be non-agendized because that is what public comment...

Ms. Hui stated that public comment was for, with feedback from her city attorney, was that we can provide brief answers mostly about agendizing items for the future. Ms. Hui stated that if we were engaging in a conversation on an item that is not agendized then it is against the rules and we should probably turn it off.

Mr. Levitt started to speak about the garden cemeteries that this tree was from. Ms. Hui interjected to ask if this was about something to do with the landmark tree that was on the agenda today. He stated he thought so. Ms. Hui stated that this (time period) was for items not on the agenda. Mr. Levitt stated that he misunderstood what the public comment at the end was for the entirety of the meeting. He apologized for misunderstanding.

Ms. Hillson stated that was another process thing. Mr. Levitt asked if it was OK to send Ms. Hui emails and she stated he can always send emails to her and the Committee members would get them as soon as she is able and today she got some emails that she was not able to get out to "you guys" but she did not get them until this morning.

8. Adjournment. The Landmark Tree Committee meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Minutes written and submitted by Chair Hillson (October 16, 2015).

Meeting minutes approved December 3, 2015

Department of the Environment, City and County of San Francisco
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Copies of explanatory documents are available to the public at (1) the Department of Environment, 1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, California 94103 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., (2) or may be available at the Landmark Tree Committee Meeting website <http://www.sfenvironment.org/about/taskforce/urban-forestry-council/agendas> posted with each agenda or meeting minutes, or 3) upon request to the Council Secretary at the above address, telephone number 415-355-3709, or via e-mail at Monica.Fish@sfgov.org. Audio recordings of all meetings can be accessed at the following website <https://sites.google.com/a/sfenvironment.org/commission/urban-forestry-council/urban-forestry-council-and-committee-meeting-audios>.

WRITTEN SUMMARY -- 8/6 & 10/1 LTC MEETINGS for 46A COOK ST. "PINE" TREE

Prepared for Oct. 27, 2015 UFC Meeting

Rose Hillson

One Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) was nominated by Mr. Richard Worn at 60 Cook St. A Landmark Tree Nomination Form for a tree at 46A Cook was submitted to the Planning Commission for intent to nominate and a resolution was passed. In addition, the Director of the Department of Public Works issued an Emergency Protection Order temporarily protecting the tree. Refer to LTC members' and staff's evaluation reports as they pertain to the requisite criteria -- RARITY, PHYSICAL, HISTORICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, and/or CULTURAL -- to determine tree as landmark by ordinance.

Refer to:

** ADOPTED 8/6/15 LTC minutes (separate document)

** "46A Cook St. LTC Summary Spreadsheets" (separate document)

Summary of AUG. 6, 2015 LTC Meeting

Written documents used at meeting:

- * Planning Department's July 2, 2015 Case Report on property information and tree w/ Resolution
- * All LTC member & staff reports
- * Property owner's arborist's report (James McNair)
- * Landmark Tree Nomination Form (by Richard Worn, 60 Cook St.)
- * Nominator's arborist's reports (Remy Hummer & Roy C. Leggitt, III)
- * Property owners' 2 arborists stated unequivocally tree is Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*).
- * Nominator's 2 arborists stated tree is Cook Pine (*Araucaria columnaris*).

LTC & Staff agreed on:

- * Good condition
- * Distinguished form
- * No erosion control
- * Not part of interdependent group of trees
- * Neighborhood appreciation
- * Prominent landscape feature

LTC & Staff responses that were more for 'yes' or 'no' vs. mixed:

- * Size: large (4); large for SF (2)
- * Historical association: Yes (4), Partially (1), None apparent (1)
- * Visible/accessible from public right-of-way: Yes (5), No (1)

Staff Member Hui referred to Planning Commission's packet of information. She stated the tree as a Cook pine, not common but not uncommon in SF. She also opined tree is large, of advanced age, of distinguished form, in good condition, some historical association with Mr. George Smith, director of Odd Fellows, house the tree is adjacent to is historic resource "Type A," provides environmental benefits, prominent as landscape feature, tallest tree around, visible from public right of way, may provide habitat source, no erosion control, possible wind/sound barrier, cultural appreciation with petitions from neighbors, contributes to neighborhood character, unknown for being in publication.

Ms. Bonaparte, attorney for 46 Cook property owner, opined on neighbors' petitions by neighbors, historic nature of property, whether tree planted by original owner, arborist McNair states the tree does not fit the criteria for landmark status and tree is definitively a Norfolk Island Pine. She read from the Here Today excerpt of 46 Cook description.

WRITTEN SUMMARY -- 8/6 & 10/1 LTC MEETINGS for 46A COOK ST. "PINE" TREE

Prepared for Oct. 27, 2015 UFC Meeting

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Mr. Leggitt, arborist for nominator, identified tree as Cook Pine based on physical characteristics.

Ms. Levitt, neighbor, spoke on George Smith as original owner and builder of structure around 1870 and found information on him as Director of Odd Fellows Cemetery and gave history on that, provided info on property history, referenced Here Today notes stating trees and shrubs planted by George Smith from the cemeteries.

Ms. Bacon stated the tree has deep connection by neighborhood people.

Mr. Birmingham grew up on Cook across the street and stated his connection with the tree.

Mr. Rex Worn lives 2 houses from the tree and since he was 5 he could tell where his house was from the tree from Lone Mountain and how he learned in school that trees help people breathe.

Ms. Rituolo stated the tree is a physical landmark, read letter from neighbor on Euclid, other comments from petitioners.

Mr. Richard Worn showed photos of trees before and after April (2015), carbon sequestration, peregrine falcons, wild parrots of SF, other wildlife, showed more pictures stating to say it is not prominent is interesting.

Mr. Levitt commented on the petitions and that the tree is already a landmark in the community.

Mr. Costello, arborist for property owner, reviewed the nomination report, Mr. McNair's report, stated he is confident it is "*heterophylla*" (Norfolk Island Pine), that the process is for identifying and protecting remarkable, unique, one-of-a-kind trees and this tree does not qualify and is not aware of any historical significance.

Ms. Wuerfel stated tree is already a landmark for neighborhood, the birds, anybody driving around the area, regardless of dispute of species, is a magnificent tree and brought up the Norfolk Island Pine on Sutter Street recommended for landmarking in 2009 and Mr. Hillan's and Ms. Hui's remarks on why it should be landmarked as well as Ms. Vargas' remarks about size and environmental benefits and read the resolution the Council adopted and how it equally applied to the Cook St. tree.

Ms. Myla stated the tree was magnificent and the people care for it and has an undeniable history.

Mr. Krobogh, stated the property is unique and has survived to today, and the tree is remarkable and big.

Ms. Brodick stated trees are scattered about for bird migration, loss of large old trees for biodiversity per SFSU Professor Ravinder.

Mr. Wright states the space is unique and the tree is important for that space and asked Committee to watch the video of the neighbors commenting on the tree.

Member Swae evaluated it as Norfolk Island Pine, consulted with Planning's HPC staff and house is not landmarked and he looked at notes from Here Today and was not able to determine trees were from Smith family. He disagreed with Mr. Costello and stated the tree is not that common in the area though not a rare species. He stated that the lack of proven historical and species rarity do not make for a landmarkable tree.

Member Short evaluated it as Norfolk Island Pine, and not convinced it is a Cook Pine though that would be less common. She stated trees of this size are rare in general in SF but not especially large for the species, finds neighbors' statement tree is over 120 years old plausible and that would be mature, good form and condition, uncertain about historical, tree is prominent landscape feature, interested if tree came from cemetery for historical significance, no traffic-calming effect, likely to provide habitat to many species, no erosion control, not wind/sound barrier, influenced by neighborhood appreciation from petitions; stated landmarking process is to recognize exceptional individual trees.

Member Kida evaluated the tree as a Cook Pine and stated he would not be shocked if it was a Norfolk Island Pine, that he thought on the street named Cook somebody thought about Captain Cook but not that that would sway him, stated if it were a Cook Pine, it would shift more in terms of rarity but not significantly, large tree, good looking, good condition, not sure historical association, best vantage point is from Euclid, no wind or sound barrier, commented on petition from neighbors on Cook St. and surrounding people.

WRITTEN SUMMARY -- 8/6 & 10/1 LTC MEETINGS for 46A COOK ST. "PINE" TREE

Prepared for Oct. 27, 2015 UFC Meeting

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Member Hillan stated tree was not rare, common as many Norfolk Islands in SF, it was a fine tree, continue meeting to determine if Cook Pine, connection with name of street, and rarity of Cook Pine in SF, sees no documentation house being certified historic so tree being remarkable tied to historic structure and overall history of planting, recognized planting of palms surrounding the house in that relationship and if this tree is only remaining evidence of that, feels it more landmarkable.

Member Hillson evaluated as Norfolk Island Pine, rarity status on International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red List, whether Cook or Norfolk there is some rarity, referred to 120 years count for age, large, majestic, not all trees unique landmarked, referred to George Smith and his history as painter and Director of Odd Fellows Cemetery, member of Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), history of area of "Big Four" cemeteries, the original 46 Cook 75-foot-wide lot, 1885 photo from Bancroft Library, history of dwellings west of Divisadero back in those days.

Staff Member Hui stated the Council has had trees with indeterminate species and is not an issue in terms of process.

After LTC discussion, with not enough information, meeting continued to Oct. 1 for further historical & species clarification.

Summary of OCT. 1, 2015 LTC Meeting

Written documents used at meeting (includes Aug. 6, 2015 LTC meeting documents):

- * Nominator's summary document of attributes for Cook vs. Norfolk Island Pine
- * Nominator's Evidential Timeline document
- * Property owner's arborist's addendum (dated 9/30/15)

Refer to:

- ** DRAFT 10/1/15 LTC minutes (separate document)
- ** "46A Cook St. LTC Summary Spreadsheets" (separate document)

No representative from the Sponsor of the Nomination, the Planning Commission, was present to comment, and with no time ceded to nominator from Sponsor of the Nomination, Coordinator Hui presented. She stated that although the species was still unclear, the tree was nice-looking, has some potential historic, environmental and cultural value.

Property owner representative commented on historical viewpoint of tree in relation to any figures on the property. Other property owner representatives brought up issues on tree comparing historical 1885 photo and 1946/51 photos, Here Today book description and the tree in photos is a hybrid per Dr. Ritter.

Nominator spoke about tree shown in 1946/51 photo and today's tree and a letter from herbal medicine instructor regarding species and Hortus Third book.

Nominator supporters referenced SF Heritage letter and for committee to look at criteria for landmarking and to the historical timeline for evidence.

Nominator supporters state their arborists say tree is a Cook Pine and referenced the "Flora" (Tropical Garden Flora) document and environmental benefit of large tree and contribution to biodiversity.

Member Short stated she consulted with Dr. Ritter and is convinced he knows better though he indicated to her that while it is not uncommon, he was not aware of a huge quantity of them in San Francisco.

Chair Hillson stated LTC decided in prior meeting tree was in good condition, had distinguished form, does not provide erosion control, not part of interdependent group of trees but had neighborhood appreciation; not all LM

WRITTEN SUMMARY -- 8/6 & 10/1 LTC MEETINGS for 46A COOK ST. "PINE" TREE

Prepared for Oct. 27, 2015 UFC Meeting

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trees hit every criteria and have been landmarked; and she questioned the 1885 photo and relation to age of "sister tree" to this pine for historical.

Member Swae consulted with Planning's Historical Preservation staff who told him about rules about a tree being considered landmarkable even with the building in Here Today being determined to be historically significant.

→ Vote 2-1 to move to UFC with NO RECOMMENDATION.

CRITERIA TO DETERMINE LANDMARKING: Per Nomination Form & CODE Sec 810 below

* RARITY:

- Uncommon, Common, Other; in SF or other geographic area

* PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES:

- Size: Large, Medium, Small; Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in SF
- Age: Significantly advanced for the species
- Distinguished Form: good form, majestic, or otherwise unique structure
- Tree Condition: Good, Poor, Hazard

* HISTORICAL:

- Historical Association: related to historic or cultural building, site, street person, event, etc.
- Profiled in publication or Other Media: print, internet, video media, etc.

* ENVIRONMENTAL:

- Prominent landscape feature: striking and outstanding natural feature
- Low Tree Density: in neighborhood w/ very few trees
- Interdependent Group of Trees: tree is integral member of group and removal may have adverse impact on adjacent trees
- Visible or Accessible from Public-right-of-way: high visibility and/or accessibility from public property
- High Traffic Area: in area w/ high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect
- Important wildlife habitat: relationship w/ particular local wildlife species or provides food, shelter or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals
- Erosion Control: prevents soil erosion
- Wind or Sound Barrier: reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise

* CULTURAL:

- Neighborhood Appreciation: letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc.
- Cultural Appreciation: particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city
- Planting Contributes to Neighborhood Character: contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic
- Profiled in a publication or Other Media: tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc.
- Prominent landscape feature: a striking & outstanding natural feature

SEC. 810. LANDMARK TREES.

(a) **Designation Criteria.** The Board of Supervisors in Resolution No. 440-06, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors File No. 060487, adopted uniform criteria for the designation of landmark trees, which included consideration of the age, size, shape, species, location, historical association, visual quality, and other contribution to the City's character, as set forth Section [810\(f\)\(4\)\(A\)-\(E\)](#) below.

(f)

(4) **Required Findings.** As part of any determination that authorizes removal of any landmark tree, the City entity making such determination shall, in addition to the adopted removal criteria, consider and make written findings on each of the following factors related to the tree:

(A) Size, age, and species;

(B) Visual characteristics, including the tree's form and whether it is a prominent landscape feature;

(C) Cultural or historic characteristics, including whether the tree has significant ethnic appreciation or historical association or whether the tree was part of a historic planting program that defines neighborhood character;

(D) Ecological characteristics, including whether the tree provides important wildlife habitat, is part of a group of interdependent trees, provides erosion control, or acts as a wind or sound barrier;

(E) Locational characteristics, including whether the tree is in a high traffic area or low tree density area, provides shade or other benefits to multiple properties, and is visually accessible from the public right-of-way; and

(F) One or more criteria that qualify the tree as a hazard tree pursuant to Section [802\(o\)](#).

"46A Cook St. LTC Summary Spreadsheets" (see separate 2-page doc)

LTC-08/06/2015 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES from Nomination Forms (Landmark Criteria) for Norfolk Island / Cook Pine at "46A" Cook St.											
Nominator / Evaluator	NOMINATOR	HILLSON	HILLAN	HUI	KIDA	SHORT	SWAE	Arbrst McNair (PropOwnr)	Arbrst Costello (PropOwnr)	Arbrst Leggitt (Nomntr)	Attorney for PropOwn
*** RARITY ***	Rare	Norf IP-Unc/rare	Common	Cook-Rare	Cook-Uncommon	Common	Uncommon	NorflsIndPine-Common	Agrees Norfolk per McNair	CookPine (+Mr. Hummer)	See** + McNair's opinion
*** PHYSICAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***		***	***
Size	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium/Lg for SF	Large	Large (for SF)	85' tall		100' tall	
Advanced age for species		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No per ownr's arbrst	No		Mature	
Distinguished Form	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	
Condition	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good health		Good	
*** HISTORICAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***		***	***
Historical association	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes	None apparent	None apparent			
Media or print	Yes/unknown	Yes/unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Yes	Unknown				
*** ENVIRONMENTAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***		***	***
Prominent landscape feature	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No, per prop owner		Yes	
Low tree density	moderate	low/moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate			
Interdepn't group of trees	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No			
Visible/access. fr/ Public ROW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Low visibility		Yes	
High traffic area	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No			
Important wildlife habitat	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Perch for birds			
Erosion control	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No			
Wind or sound barrier	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	left blank	No	No			
*** CULTURAL* ***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***		***	***
Neighborhood appreciation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	left blank	Prop owner...*			
Cultural appreciation	None apparent	Yes	None apparent	None apparent	None apparent	None apparent	Yes/none apparent				
Contribution to nghrhd character	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	left blank	left blank				

*does not believe it adds any "cultural" value to the neighborhood.

**Ms. Bonaparte stated that what matters, as Ms. Hui indicated, is if it fits the criteria for landmark status.

NOTE: Look at 8/6 + 10/1/15 LTC Written Summary & ADOPTED 8/6/15 Minutes for more information.

LTC-10/01/2015 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES stated in re Landmark Criteria for Tree (Norfolk, Cook, Hybrid) at "46A" Cook St.											
Nominator / Evaluator	NOMINATOR	HILLSON	HILLAN	HUI	KIDA	SHORT	SWAE	Arbrsts McNair & Costello	<-- see Column to left	Arbrst f/ Nomntr	Atty for PropOwn
*** RARITY ***	Cook Pine	species unclear	EXCUSED	species unclear	EXCUSED	convinced hybrid*	see commnts below	hybrid per Ritter			
*** PHYSICAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***	***		***	***
Size	Large										
Advanced age for species		"sister tree"***									
Distinguished Form				nice-looking							
Condition											***
*** HISTORICAL ***	***	***	***	some hstrc value	***	insufficient evidence	No per HistPrsvnStaff	***		***	per LTC minutes*
Historical association	Yes										
Media or print											***
*** ENVIRONMENTAL ***	***	***	***	some envr value	***	***	***	***		***	
Prominent landscape feature											
Low tree density											
Interdepn't group of trees											
Visible/access. fr/ Public ROW											
High traffic area											
Important wildlife habitat											
Erosion control											
Wind or sound barrier											***
*** CULTURAL* ***	***	***	***	some cult value	***	***	***	***		***	
Neighborhood appreciation		Yes				Yes					
Cultural appreciation											
Contribution to nghrhd character											

10/01/15 LTC met for additional clarification on categories of species and historic, other landmark tree criteria could have been discussed as shown in this chart above.

Blank boxes may indicate no response from evaluator or not discussed at meeting or may not have discussed due to it having been done at earlier Aug. 6, 2015 meeting.

NOTE: Look at 8/6 + 10/1/15 LTC Written Summary & DRAFT 10/1/15 Minutes for more information.

(***continued***) LTC-10/01/2015 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES stated in re Landmark Criteria for Tree (Norfolk, Cook, Hybrid) at "46A" Cook St.

LTC & STAFF COMMENTS:

Species:

* Ms. Short stated Mr. Ritter indicated to her while it is not uncommon, he was not aware of a huge quantity of these in SF.

Ms. Short wondered how many of Norfolks are hybrids, how many are Cooks and makes it a little more significant it is a hybrid though if most of what we have are hybrids then it becomes more common and we don't know.

Ms. Short stated there was a precedent with landmarking an unknown species.

Ms. Short stated she usually looks for more than one criterion to be met and appreciate people caring about the environment and community but not sufficient to vote for trees.

Ms. Short stated she wished there was clearer confirmation on what a hybrid meant in terms of its rarity; and stated Ritter did not think they were very common in SF.

Ms. Hillson stated she originally thought it was Norfolk as did most everybody except the nominators. Then thought it was Cook.

Ms. Hillson was told at this last meeting it is a hybrid but read in A Tropical Garden Flora that all hybrids are Cooks.

Ms. Hillson is unclear on species.

Ms. Hillson stated not all criteria have been met for all landmarked trees.

Mr. Swae stated the tree is not super rare; even hybrids are not super rare.

Ms. Hui stated UFC has evaluated specimens of unknown species and they have been landmarked so that is not necessarily a problem.

Historical:

** Ms. Hillson stated if sister tree has 120 rings, that would put date back to 1895 even if no trees shown in 1885 photo.

Mr. Swae spoke to Planning's historic preservation staff & from their view, tree would have to be a certain age, associated w/ some exceptional element of SF history.

Mr. Swae stated that Here Today mentions the building but the preservation staff told him the significance is based on architectural significance of the property.

He stated it was not related necessarily to the historic person or even associated with the property.

Mr. Swae stated the tree or landscape would need to be associated with a historic event or person or a historically designed landscape.

Mr. Swae stated there is no evidence and does not see it based on historical.

Mr. Swae stated it is not associated with a key individual or event or something related specifically to the tree.

NOMINATOR'S SUPPORTERS' COMMENTS:

Species:

Mr. Worn produced letter from field botany teacher of herbal medicine and stated the letter referred to Hortus Third to make positive identification.

Mr. Levitt had 2 arborists state it was a Cook Pine. He brought up A Tropical Garden Flora which states all hybrids are Cook Pines.

Historical:

Mr. Worn disagrees 1946/1951 tree was removed and current one put in its place as physically impossible.

Ms. Levitt referenced the historical material submitted earlier and the timeline.

Other:

Ms. Levitt asked that the worthiness of the tree to be landmarked be looked at per the criteria in the ordinance.

Ms. Beasley stated as SFSU Environmental Studies student provides great environmental benefit being large.

Ms. Beasley also stated it contributes to the biodiversity to help conserve nature.

See minutes of LTC for other remarks.

PROPERTY OWNER'S SUPPORTERS' COMMENTS:

Species:

Ms. Bonaparte stated from last meeting, parties would get more info on species ID whether Norfolk Island Pine which everyone had asserted or if Cook Pine.

Ms. Bonaparte stated Cook Pine apparently more rare in this area. Contacted Dr. Matt Ritter (Cal Poly) who opined it is a hybrid.

Ms. Bonaparte stated the documents stating the tree as a Cook Pine are wrong and not authoritative per Dr. Ritter.

Mr. McNair stated Dr. Ritter laid to rest the species issue and explained why there was so much controversy because it is a hybrid and has characteristics of both.

Mr. McNair stated the urbanforest map, in terms of rarity or historical, and after speaking with Peter Erlich in the Presidio, there is a greater number than the 15.

Mr. Costello stated that in his mind if Mr. Ritter says the tree is a hybrid, that is what he believes.

Mr. Costello stated that we really do not have a good understanding of the tree that is being landmarked.

Historical:

Ms. Bonaparte stated there was insufficient/contradictory historical evidence at last hearing. Here Today excerpt was in appendix.

Ms. Bonaparte stated there are no trees in 1885 photo. McNair's photo of today compared to 1940/1950 photo is not the same tree.

Mr. McNair compared the 1946 photo to current photo he took virtually in same location. He says it is not the same tree.

Mr. McNair said the tree was probably planted as a replacement tree.

Other:

See minutes of LTC for other remarks.



SF Environment

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A Department of the City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Deborah O. Raphael
Director

City and County of San Francisco Urban Forestry Council

Public Comment Received March 25, 2016 UFC Meeting

San Francisco Department of the Environment
1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103
Telephone: (415) 355-3700 • Fax: (415) 554-6393

Email: environment@sfgov.org • SFEEnvironment.org

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Valdez, Anthony E (ENV)

From: Hui, Mei Ling (ENV)
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 4:57 PM
To: Valdez, Anthony E (ENV)
Subject: FW: supplemental documents for tomorrow
Attachments: wnp_letter_of_support.pdf; Sehgal report.pdf; Newberry letter.docx; HERE TODAY.docx; back to back photo.docx

Hi Anthony,

Can you add these to the meeting file for the March hearing?

Mei Ling Hui
Urban Forest and Agriculture Coordinator

San Francisco Department of the Environment
1455 Market Street, Ste. 1200
San Francisco, CA 94103
E: meiling.hui@sfgov.org
T: (415) 355-3731

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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: vanessa ruotolo [mailto:vanessa123@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2016 4:09 PM
To: Hui, Mei Ling (ENV) <meiling.hui@sfgov.org>
Subject: re: supplemental documents for tomorrow

Dear Mei Ling,
Attached are documents I would like sent out immediately to the full Council members today.
Thank you.
Vanessa Ruotolo

+++++

- 1) Letter of support from Woody LaBounty, Director of Western Neighborhoods Project
- 2) Environmental support letters from San Francisco State Associate Professor Ravinder Sehgal, PhD. and Todd Newberry,
- 3) Supplemental historic documentation (including historic photos) by Vanessa Ruotolo
- 4) Photo of children at Laurel Hill Playground (February, 14, 2016)
- 5) Photos of tree from same perspective: (1940's/2016) - comparison

1)

2)

3)

4)



5)

Western Neighborhoods Project

4016 Geary Boulevard, Ste. A
San Francisco, CA 94118

Preserving the history of San Francisco's west side

www.outsidelands.org
(415) 661-1000

December 14, 2015

To: Vanessa Ruotolo
Richard Worn

Re: 46A Cook Street Landmark Tree

Western Neighborhoods Project is a California nonprofit formed in 1999 to preserve and share the history of San Francisco's western neighborhoods. While we do not usually advocate for the preservation of specific structures or landscape features, we do make exceptions.

The origins of development in the Lone Mountain neighborhood of San Francisco is inexorably tied to the former cemeteries that were established in the area beginning in the 1850s. We believe the residence and trees at 46A Cook Street have historical significance because of the connection to the first owner, George J. Smith, a director of one of the "big four" cemeteries. While the residence is one of the earliest structures in the area and one of the last surviving Italianate cottages on the west side, the tree on the lot is almost as old and just as noteworthy for its connection to Smith and the landscaping styles used in the now-removed cemeteries.

We do not purport to be experts on what criteria the city uses to determine a tree's landmark status, but we do know and respect the history of the west side of San Francisco, and to us, the Cook Street cottage and tree are important and worthy of recognition and protection.

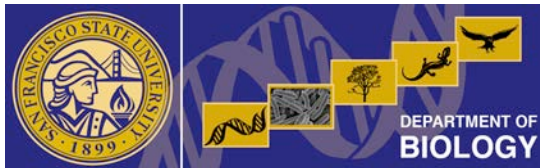
Sincerely,

Woody LaBounty
Director

THE PHOTOS BELOW ARE OF THE SAME TREE: THE FIRST FROM THE SF
ASSESSORS OFFICE 1946-1951 AND THE SECOND BY A NEIGHBOR IN 2016.







Ravinder N. M. Sehgal, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

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1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco State University
San Francisco, CA 94132-1722
Tel: 415/405-0329
Fax: 415/338-2295
sehgal@sfsu.edu
<http://userwww.sfsu.edu/~sehgal>

25. July. 2015

I would like to give my support to the efforts to save an old tree on Cook Street in San Francisco. I am a professor at San Francisco State University and my research focuses on how deforestation affects birds and biodiversity. Large old trees are critical ecological structures because, relative to their size, they are disproportionate providers of resources crucial to wildlife. A recent study has reported that the loss of large old trees leads to an overall loss of urban biodiversity¹. These trees are home to numerous bird species and other wildlife, and in particular, I believe that the tree on Cook Street, serves as a stopover point for raptors and other birds flying between the Presidio and Golden Gate Park. In order to preserve the urban wildlife of San Francisco, it is essential to add new trees to city blocks, and it would certainly be detrimental to remove existing ones. Given the scientific evidence regarding the importance of old urban trees to wildlife, I would encourage all efforts to preserve this unusual tree in the Richmond District.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Ravinder Sehgal'.

Ravinder Sehgal, PhD.

¹ Le Roux, Darren S., et al. "The future of large old trees in urban landscapes." (2014) *Plos One*: e99403.

Vanessa --

Would you please convey my concern to the committee deciding the matter of land marking the Cook Pine tree at 46 Cook Street? A tree like that very likely is a long-standing navigational reference for many birds, even local ones, moving back and forth through the region, the way a lighthouse is for coastal sailors. Removing it is tantamount to taking away a natural channel marker, in this case one that has been there year after year, one that the look-alike roofs of houses simply cannot match. Beyond that, big trees provide shelter for surprisingly many migrating birds when they settle down temporarily to rest on their travels. The birds in that foliage may not be noticeable to us as we pass by, but of course that is part of such a tree's value as a refuge. We make a lot of protecting birds' nesting places; preserving their scattered (and decreasing) non-nest refuges is just as important for most of the year when birds are on the move. I hope the city keeps this biologically notable tree.

Todd Newberry
Professor Emeritus, Biology
UC Santa Cruz
tax@ucsc.edu

HITORIC RESOURCE DOCUMENT SUPPLEMENT FOR 46 COOK STREET

Vanessa Ruotolo

February 20, 2016

After reviewing the minutes of the many meetings regarding the landmarking of the Pine on Cook Street, I believe its historic significance has not been considered adequately.

In John Swae's July 2, 2015 Landmark Nomination Case Report to the SF Planning Commission, he brought attention to the fact that the Planning Department's Property Information Map indicates the building located at 46 Cook is a *Type A - Historic Resource*. In this document he also stated that San Francisco's practice of historic preservation would **traditionally protect landscaping** on properties identified as known historic resources where the landscaping is determined to be a significant feature of the property or significant to the setting of the property.

On page 2 of this document, Mr. Swae references the book **Here Today**, where the property of 46 Cook is mentioned. **Here Today** is a book published in 1968 by the Junior League of San Francisco. "The findings of the Junior League survey were adopted by the Board of Supervisors on May 11, 1970; Resolution No. 268-70. It is, therefore, an adopted local register under CEQA."

In July, Mr. Swae acknowledged the book's references to George J. Smith, the original owner of 46 Cook Street properties, who was "*a director of the Odd Fellows, planted his estate with many trees which he obtained from the cemetery. Today all that remains on his property is a one-story Italianate home and carriage house.*" Mr. Swae believed back in July that further research was needed to determine a connection of the trees to Mr. Smith.

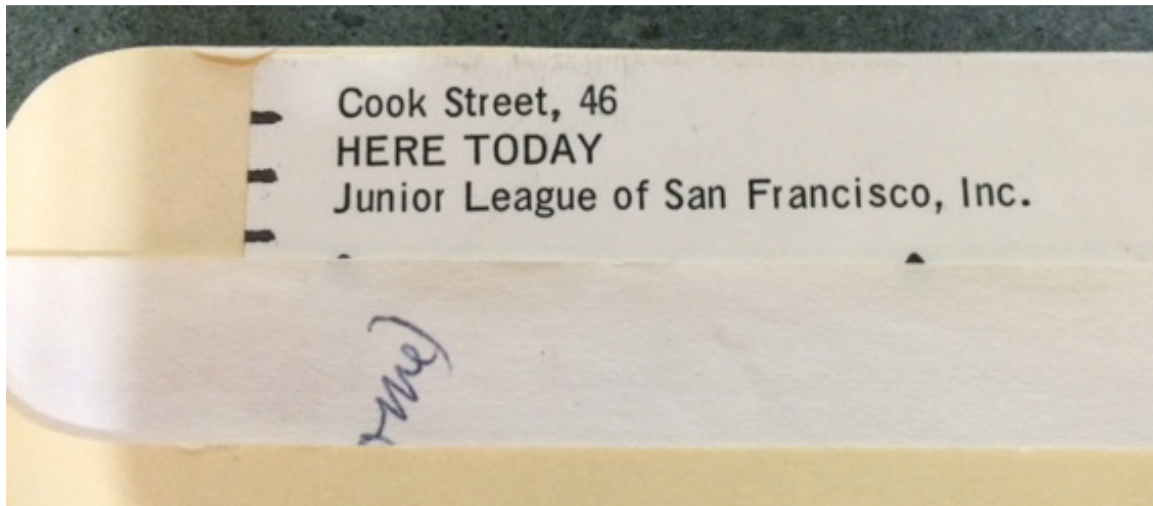
Below you will find evidence of our further research: the research notes and photos taken by the Junior League of San Francisco, Inc. for the **Here Today** book. These were found in the archives of the SF Public library in August. The notes state that some of the trees Mr. Smith obtained from the cemetery and planted on his estate "still surround the house." In addition, the file included photos of the property taken at the time of their research. These photos include the trees on the 46 Cook. The photos clearly document the existence of the subject nominated Cook Pine as well as the Norfolk and Palms removed in April.

The Planning Department's Review Procedures for Historic Resources includes reference to the San Francisco Preservation Bulletin No. 16 that describes the steps for evaluating properties as historical resources for purposes of CEQA. For Category A.2 (for 46 Cook Street) the Bulletin states: "Only a preponderance of the evidence demonstrating that the resource is **not historically or culturally significant will preclude evaluation of the property as an historical resource.**"

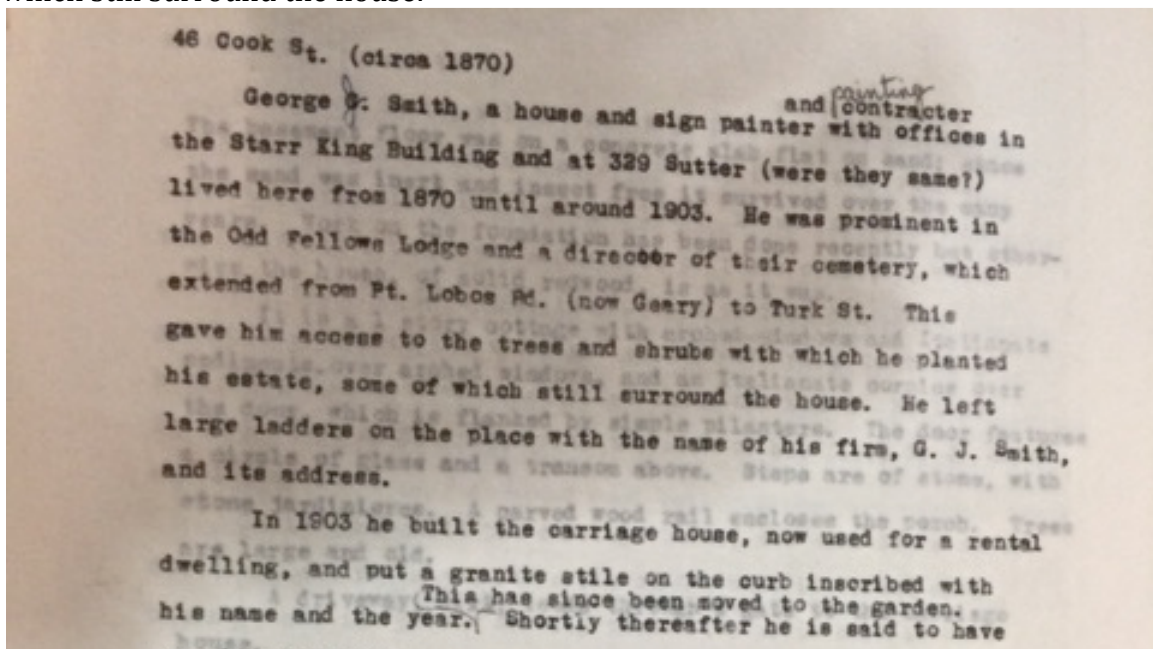
The trees have been historically documented by the same resource (**HERE TODAY**) that the San Francisco Planning Department and San Francisco Board of Supervisors adopted to determine the historic eligibility of buildings, structures, districts, objects **or sites**.

In compliance with Preservation Bulletin 16, it is clear that 46 Cook Street is an historic site and there is every reason to believe that this tree is part of the original landscape.

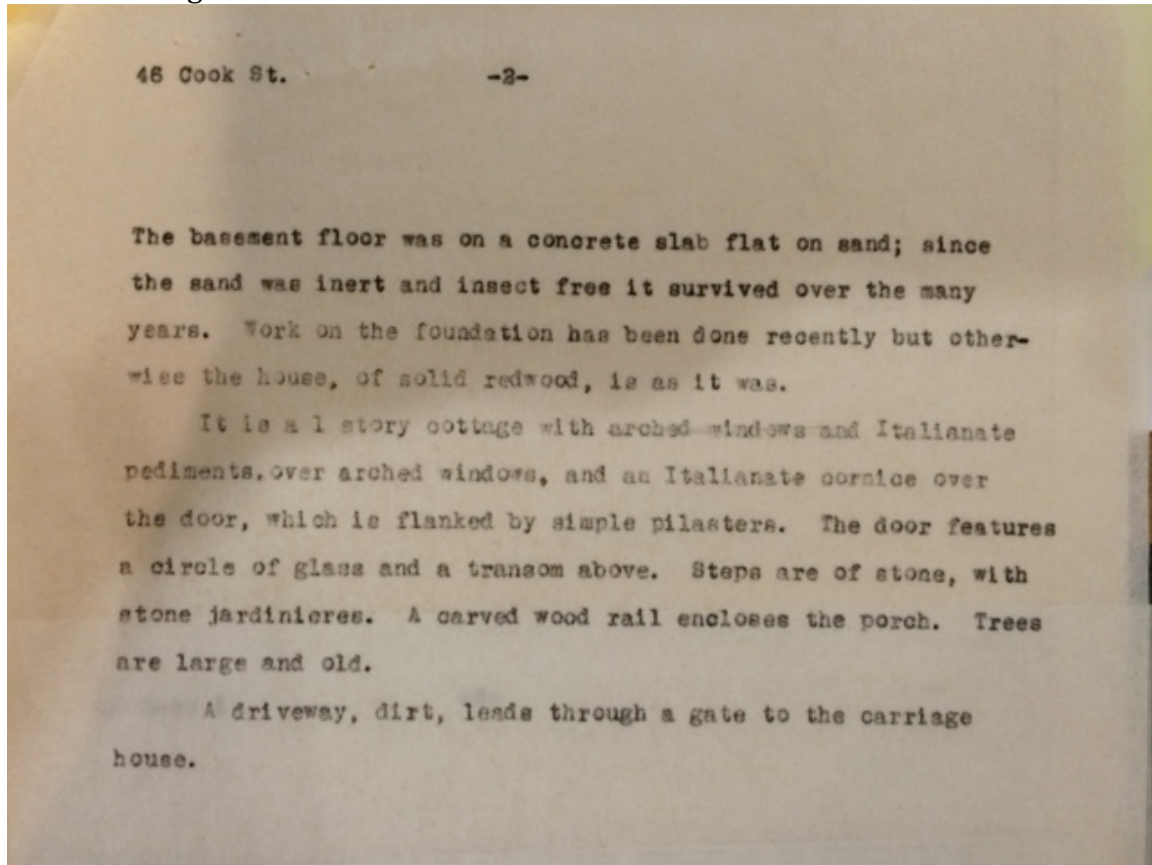
All of the following notes and photographs were found in the file found in the San Francisco Public Library: notes by the Junior League of San Francisco for the publication of **HERE TODAY** ("The findings of the Junior League survey were adopted by the Board of Supervisors on May 11, 1970; Resolution No. 268-70. It is, therefore, an adopted local register under CEQA.")



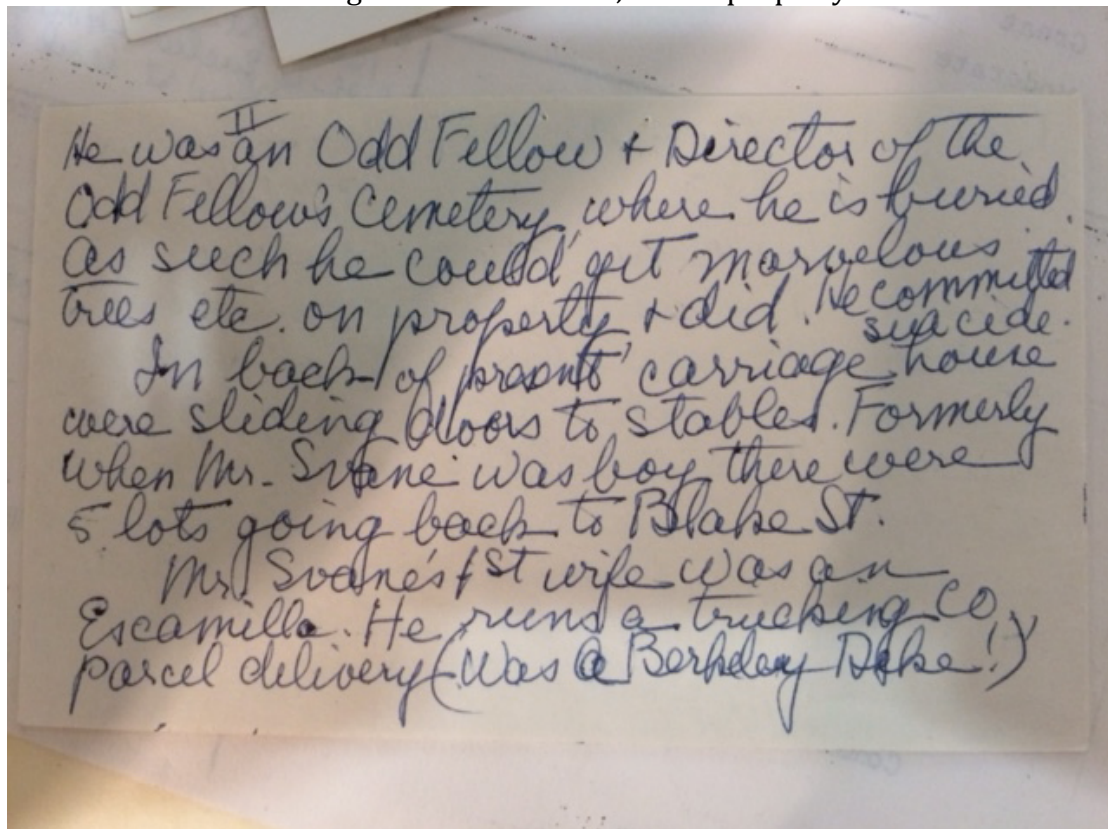
"He was prominent in the Odd Fellows Lodge and a director of their cemetery...This gave him access to the trees and shrubs with which he planted his estate, some of which still surround the house."



"Trees are large and old."



"He was an Odd Fellow and Director of the Odd Fellow's Cemetery where he is buried. As such he could get marvelous trees, etc. on property and did."



Picture of Norfolk and Palm to the left of house



Picture of Cook Pine to the right of house.



Valdez, Anthony E (ENV)

From: Valdez, Anthony E (ENV)
Sent: Monday, March 21, 2016 7:07 PM
Cc: Hui, Mei Ling (ENV)
Subject: Public Comment: supplemental documents for 3/25
Attachments: wnp_letter_of_support.pdf; Sehgal report.pdf; Newberry letter.docx; HERE TODAY.docx; PastedGraphic-2.pdf; PastedGraphic-3.pdf

Council Members:

Additional public comment regarding the landmark tree item being discussed at the March 25, 2016 UFC meeting.

Thanks,
Anthony

Anthony E. Valdez

Commission Affairs Manager

San Francisco Department of the Environment
1455 Market Street, Suite 1200, San Francisco, CA 94103
anthony.e.valdez@sfgov.org T: (415) 355-3709



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Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: vanessa ruotolo [mailto:vanessa123@earthlink.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 19, 2016 12:15 PM
To: Hui, Mei Ling (ENV) <meiling.hui@sfgov.org>
Cc: Valdez, Anthony E (ENV) <anthony.e.valdez@sfgov.org>
Subject: Fwd: supplemental documents for 3/25

Dear Mei Ling,

Would you please email the announcement of the rescheduled 3/25 meeting? We never received the email.

Also, creating a new packet proves too difficult so please forward the following additional information to the members of the UFC. There has been an addition to #3 - Supplemental historic documents. Also, NUMBERS 5, 6, 7 & 8 are additional to the email sent last month.

Please confirm by Monday that you have sent each member these documents.

Thank you.

Vanessa

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> ++++++

- >
- > 1) Letter of support from Woody LaBounty, Director of Western Neighborhoods Project
- > 2) Environmental support letters from San Francisco State Associate Professor Ravinder Sehgal, PhD. and Todd Newberry,
- > 3) Supplemental historic documentation (including historic photos) by Vanessa Ruotolo
- > 4) Photo of children at Laurel Hill Playground (February, 14, 2016)
- > 5) Photos of tree from same perspective: (1946-1951 assessors office photo/present day)
- > 6) Photo of community members who came to 2/23 UFC meeting - (due to the last minute cancellation there was no way of contacting them)
- > 7) Additional photos of tree/community
- > 8) Photo of Laurel Hill Nursery School Director, Maria Chew (standing on campus of LH Nursery School with tree in background).
- > She had planned to speak in support of Landmarking at the February meeting.

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Member, Board of Supervisors
District 1
市參議員、第一區



City and County of San Francisco

ERIC MAR
馬兆光

March 21, 2016

Urban Forestry Council
Landmark Tree Ad Hoc Committee
San Francisco City Hall, Room 421
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Jr. Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Chair Hillson and Councilmembers:

Thank you for the work that you and your committee have done in educating the public regarding the value of trees as well as protecting and strengthening the urban canopy we have today.

I'm writing you to urge the land-marking of the pine tree located at 46A Cook Street. It is my understanding, the tree meets all of the criteria by my predecessor Supervisor McGoldrick's 2006 resolution No. 440-06 in pursuant to Ordinance 17-06. The 46A Cook Street pine fulfills historic criteria, special significance to the community, and environmental benefits.

As you know, the 46A Cook St. pine tree has been present in the community for generations. Like many children and families, I walk the area and love the tree as well. George J. Smith, director of the one of the "big four" cemeteries, was the tree's first owner after it was transferred from the historic garden cemeteries. In addition, there have been research supported by on how large old trees are crucial to wildlife and urban biodiversity. In terms of rarity, arborists have also argued that the tree is a Cook Pine, which is less common than the Norfolk Pine on Sutter that was unanimously approved before.

Today, the tree continues to inspire the community with its timeless beauty. From children to the elderly, it has been standing tall for generations. It is an invaluable element of the local skyline and this standing tree is precisely the kind of historical asset San Francisco's Urban Forestry Council was intended to protect.

I respectfully urge the Council to support landmark designation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "ERIC MAR". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Eric Mar

Report: Sea Levels Could Rise Several Meters This Century, Drowning Cities

March 22, 2016

Headlines



Scientists have published a major new paper warning climate change could cause catastrophic storms beyond any seen in modern times and the loss of swaths of the polar ice sheets. While countries around the world have agreed on 2 degrees Celsius of warming above pre-industrial levels as a limit for global warming, the paper warns such a rise would be "dangerous." The world is already halfway to the 2-degree mark. Former NASA scientist and leading climatologist James Hansen was one of 19 co-authors. He spoke in a video accompanying the report.

James Hansen: "These feedbacks raise questions about how soon we will pass points of no return in which we lock in consequences that cannot be reversed on any time scale that people care about.

Consequences include sea level rise of several meters, which we estimate could occur this century or at latest next century if fossil fuel emissions continue at a high level. That would mean loss of all coastal cities, most of the world's large cities and all their history."

The report comes after last month shattered climate records, becoming the warmest month in recorded history, surpassing the previous record—set in December.

Ho Chi Minh City to uproot, axe 300 trees for major projects

TUOI TRE NEWS

Updated : 03/24/2016 14:21 GMT + 7

Trees on Ton Duc Thang Avenue in District 1, Ho Chi Minh City
Tuoi Tre



Three hundred trees on a riverside avenue in Ho Chi Minh City are to be uprooted and chopped down to make way for a metro station and new bridge, authorities announced on Wednesday.

The clearance plan was unveiled in a press conference by Hoang Nhu Cuong, deputy chief of the city's Management Authority for Urban Railways (MAUR).

Cuong said around 300 trees on Ton Duc Thang Avenue, which runs along the Saigon River in District 1, will either be uprooted and replanted elsewhere or felled to clear the area for the construction of the Thu Thiem 2 Bridge, which will connect District 1 and District 2, and Ba Son Station which will be part of Ho Chi Minh City's first metro line.

According to Cuong, only 16 of the 300 trees are to be cleared in the next two months to give way to Ba Son Station while the remaining plants will be handled at a later date for the building of the Thu Thiem 2 Bridge.

The clearance plan for those 284 trees will be drafted by a procuring agency and submitted to the municipal People's Committee by the end of April, Cuong said. Only four out of the 16 trees cleared in this phase will be relocated, while the other 12 are to be chopped down from March 26 to May 7, said Chu Son

Binh, deputy director of the Management Authority for the First Project under MAUR.

The cleared area will be reserved for the entrance and exit of the upcoming metro station, Binh said.

He explained that only straight, proportional, and healthy trees with trunk diameters measured at 1.3m from the ground no greater than 50cm will be uprooted for replanting elsewhere, in answering questions regarding the reason for not saving all 16 trees.

Ho Chi Minh City Parks and Greenery One Member Co. Ltd. said at the press conference that the company had conducted thorough evaluation on the condition of each tree and had reached an agreement with the procuring agency of the first metro line on the handling plans for those 16 trees.

Dong Van Khiem, vice chairman of the Reviewers Council for the plan, said all trees on Ton Duc Thang Avenue are African mahoganies (*khaya senegalensis*) mostly planted about 100 years ago during the French colonial.

The species has been listed by the People's Committee among the trees banned from being grown on public streets due the unique feature that their root system grows just as large as their canopy and can potentially damage nearby buildings and roads, Khiem added.

African mahoganies have already been cleared off the streets of Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, he said.

The contractor of Ba Son Station said the expense for felling the trees is estimated at around VND3-5 million (US\$134-223) per tree depending on its size, while the cost for uprooting the plants increases fourfold to approximately VND20 million (\$900) per tree.

Khiem noted that in reality the cost of uprooting and replanting each tree could reach VND40 million (\$1,800) apiece due to the fact that only half of the uprooted trees are expected to survive and thrive.

At such a high cost, Khiem said, many people would now prefer growing trees with trunk diameters of 10cm or less to lower the expense.

However, the People's Committee demanded every effort be taken to save as many trees as possible, as is the wish of most citizens.

According to Hoang Nhu Cuong, the uprooted trees will be replanted in parks across the city, while the wood collected from chopping the trees will be used as building materials for future public constructions.

The Reviewers Council agreed that clearing the trees is necessary for the greater good of the city and its people but requested that new and more beautiful trees be planted in the area after the construction on each project is completed.

Austin's trees worth more than \$16 billion, researchers say

[Local](#)

By [Asher Price](#) - American-Statesman Staff

[33](#)

Posted: 4:38 p.m. Monday, March 21, 2016

Highlights

- Austin's trees make up nearly a third of the city's footprint.
- The trees capture nearly 2 million tons of carbon dioxide annually.

Researchers say study is meant to help policymakers.

Austin's trees, long valued for their shade and their looks, now have a price tag: \$16 billion.

That's what a team of U.S. Forest Service and Texas A&M Forest Service researchers has deemed the "compensatory value" of the roughly 33.8 million trees found in Austin.

That's about \$480, on average, per tree.

The [report](#) is the first in a series by the U.S. Forest Service looking at the value of urban forests around the country, to help policymakers make decisions about their trees.

"It's hard to manage a grocery store if you don't know what's on your shelves," said David Nowak, the lead author and a research forester with the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station in Syracuse, N.Y. "There are risks of changes to that forest: How would you want it better in the future? Where does Austin want to be 30 or 40 years from now? Does it want more trees or less trees?"



[+](#)

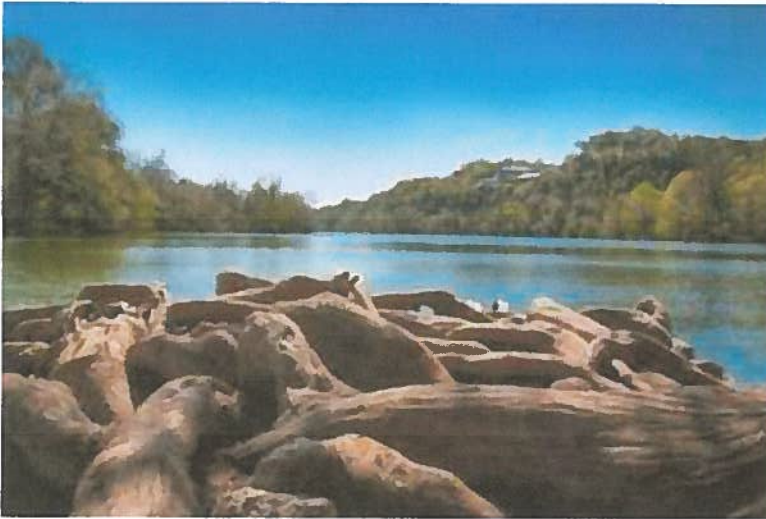
Laura Skelding

Ember Moon, right, and Jordan Phillips share a kiss in a magnolia tree on the Capitol grounds.

Austin has a relatively protective tree ordinance [that has been in the cross hairs of Gov. Greg Abbott and key lawmakers](#).

For more than 30 years, Austin has required owners of public and private land to get the city's permission to fell trees with trunk diameters of 19 inches or more — regardless of variety. In exchange, owners must plant new trees or pay into a tree-planting fund.

[In 2010, Austin added a stricter rule](#). It said owners couldn't cut down so-called heritage trees — those of certain species with trunk diameters of 24 inches or greater — unless they prove that the tree is diseased or a safety risk or that keeping it would prevent a reasonable use of land.



JOHN GUTIERREZ

Giant tree roots form a tangle at Red Bud Isle Park beneath the Tom Miller Dam.

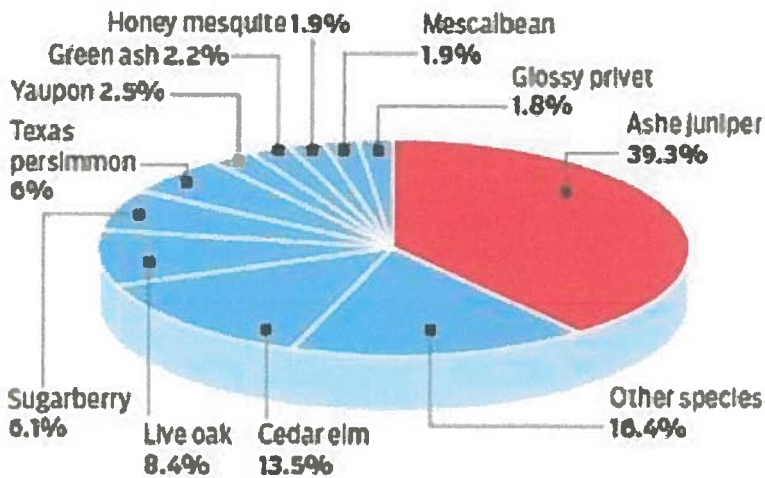
Since 2011, Austin's tree ordinance has led to the preservation of more than 13,300 trees, at least 7,950 have been allowed to be removed, and the ordinance has required that more than 31,500 be planted.

It hasn't always gone smoothly: In 2011, a 57-foot-tall pecan tree on a private lot by Bowie and West Fifth streets stood between developers and a new residential tower. City rules forced the developers to save the tree, and they ended up moving it nearby, at a cost of more than \$200,000.

That tree is still alive, said Michael Embesi, who manages the community trees division for the city, which helped with the study.

Variety of trees spring up in Austin

Roughly 90 percent of Austin trees are native to Texas, say experts.



Source: U.S. Forest Service

STEVE LOPEZ / STAFF

Researchers examined 200 randomly selected plots, each about a sixth of an acre, to estimate the makeup of Austin's forest.

Among the findings of the report, titled "Austin's Urban Forest, 2014":

- Trees cover 30.8 percent of the city's land. Nowak said the size of Austin's tree canopy is in keeping with cities nationally, though the canopy naturally decreases in drier climates.
- The most abundant species are ashe juniper, cedar elm and live oak.
- About 60 percent of trees are less than 5 inches in diameter.
- The trees capture about 1.9 million tons of carbon dioxide annually.
- About 90 percent of Austin's trees are native to Texas.

The compensatory value of a tree is based on trunk size, species, condition and location. It includes the replacement cost of a similar tree and is an estimate of the amount of money the tree owner should be compensated for a tree's loss.

Austin was selected by the Texas A&M Forest Service partly because there's a "general impression people care about trees in Austin," said Christopher Edgar, a forest resource analyst with the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Researchers will return in coming years to monitor how Austin's forest is changing.

"We've got some statistics that will help us understand what kind of forest we have and help us manage it better," Embesi said.

Comments, Item 7, Biodiversity - Destroying Forest To Save It & Carbon Emissions 3/22/2016

Hi Commissioners,

It is imperative that we immediately end the practice of the removal of trees solely in efforts to 'conserve' or 'restore' biodiversity. It is self evident that large older forests like those in Sharp Park and other parks in San Francisco which are slated for large scale 'non-native' tree removals are highly biodiverse ecosystems in which biodiversity would be deeply devastated by the destruction of these forest habitats, which currently house hundreds of thousands of living beings. The idea that it serves biodiversity to engage in such massive destruction is patently absurd and is akin to attitude of the Vietnam Major who stated "We had to destroy the village to save it." This insane policy has even led to the proposal that over 400,000 trees should be removed from the East Bay Hills over a 20 year period. It is unacceptable for San Francisco Environment Department staff to continue validating this egregiously wrongheaded policy in the supposed name of 'biodiversity'.

Key Carbon Emissions Factor

Most importantly, such mass removal and chipping of trees and the disturbance of their forest soils results in a mass release of greenhouse gasses which is not recouped for at least 100 years (see study links below). The planet faces immediate and extremely hazardous climate crisis tipping points, on which James Hansen and other climate scientists have just today released a peer reviewed study which states emphatically that the crisis is far worse than previously believed and must now be classified as a planetary emergency. See: <http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2016/03/22/3762111/climate-scientists-global-emergency>

In a time of such a dire climate emergency when we need to drastically reduce emissions now, not 100 years from now, for San Francisco and other cities to engage in forest management practices which remove large numbers of trees, thereby creating a net release of carbon from the trees and soils, and eliminating vital carbon sinks, is likewise a patently insane policy.

To get a sense of the increased atmospheric carbon burden that results from the mass removal of mature trees see page 20 of the Forest Ethics report at <http://www.greenpressinitiative.org/documents/newspaperreport.pdf>

On that page you will see a graph which charts just forest carbon benefits in Canada forests (not the direct releases from logging - see other studies below on direct releases). If you adapt those numbers to correlate them to carbon storage benefit of just the 15,000 mature trees slated for removal at Sharp Park, the numbers show that the removal would eliminate a forest sequestration capacity of over 6 million pounds of carbon, the equivalent of putting 555 more cars onto California roads. And as I noted, those numbers don't even include the carbon immediately released from the chipped trees and disturbed soils themselves.

Here are links which show that mature forests (like the eucalyptus, acacia and Monterey pine forests in the Bay Area) store far more carbon than younger forests planted to replace them after removal, and that it takes at least 100 years for such disturbed forests to return to creating a net reduction of carbon in the atmosphere.

First, here is the link to an article on a key, very large global study of the superior carbon storage capacity of older and old growth forests:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/09/080910133934.htm>

And here is the link to another study that explains the importance of older forests compared to younger ones in carbon sequestration:

http://www.ecy.wa.gov/climatechange/2008FAdocs/8_20_08_harmonforestcarbonbasicsv2.pdf

Conclusion

Commissioners, the single largest threat to biodiversity on this planet is the climate crisis, which is now threatening to bring about a mass extinction of 50% to more than 90% of all life on Earth. To engage in incredibly misguided attempts to increase biodiversity which actually dramatically contribute to carbon emissions, makes absolutely no sense in the face of this dire climate threat to biodiversity.

We must change our urban forest management policies to address the drastic climate realities we now face. And this means that the Department, and Commission on the Environment must stop supporting and enabling mass tree removal in parks management and in the Natural Areas Program.

The only trees that should be removed from our urban forests are trees which pose a clear public safety hazard of falling or losing large branches and thereby causing serious injuries.

All of the rest of our urban forests -must- be left intact in order to provide crucial ecosystem services and carbon sequestration.

Sincerely,

Eric Brooks
Our City San Francisco
San Francisco Clean Energy Advocates
Sustainability Chair, San Francisco Green Party

415-756-8844

:)

From: Hui, Mei Ling (ENV) <meiling.hui@sfgov.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 1, 2015 09:35
Subject: FW: please forward to Landmark Tree committee members

Committee members, please see information below from Carla.

-Mei Ling

From: Short, Carla (DPW)
Sent: Tuesday, September 01, 2015 7:47 AM
To: Hui, Mei Ling (ENV) <meiling.hui@sfgov.org>
Subject: please forward to Landmark Tree committee members

Hi Mei Ling,

Here is the information I got back from Dr. Matt Ritter regarding the Norfolk vs. Cook Pine:

I can tell from the images that this is hybrid between *Araucaria columnaris* and *A. heterophylla*. It sounds from your description as well that it is demonstrating characters between the two. There are many hybrids of those two species in California. One of my graduate students is studying the population genetics and lean of these trees and we're hoping to find the markers necessary to clarify which trees are hybrids in California and which trees are just demonstrating within species variation. I'd call this one a hybrid based on the images though. The bark and leaves of both species are virtually identical and the only reliable character to tell them apart in cultivation is the shape of the canopy and the lean.

Hybrids are common in California, in that they are around, by not everywhere. I have personal knowledge of about 10 of them, I'm sure Jason (my graduate student) knows of more. I don't know of any in San Francisco and they are way, way less common than *A. heterophylla*. I don't think they have a name. Most hybrids that only occur in cultivation are not named, for the most part, and these two trees do not have overlapping ranges in the wild.

Thanks,
Carla



Carla Short
Deputy Bureau Manager

Bureau of Street Use and Mapping | San Francisco Public Works | City and County of San Francisco
1155 Market St., 3rd Fl. | San Francisco, CA 94103 | (415) 554-5349 | sfpublicworks.org · twitter.com/sfpublicworks

Urban Forest Council
1455 Market St., Ste 1200
San Francisco, CA 94103

March 24, 2016

Dear Urban Forestry Council Members,

My name is Martin Singer and I am a homeowner in San Francisco, Oregon and Europe. I love gardens, flowers and trees and all of my properties have beautiful green areas, flowers and gardens. As a property owner, in all cases, I, personally decide what plants and trees grow and which ones don't grow or need to be cut down on my properties. Local governments in the United States of America don't decide what plants, flowers or trees grow in private gardens.

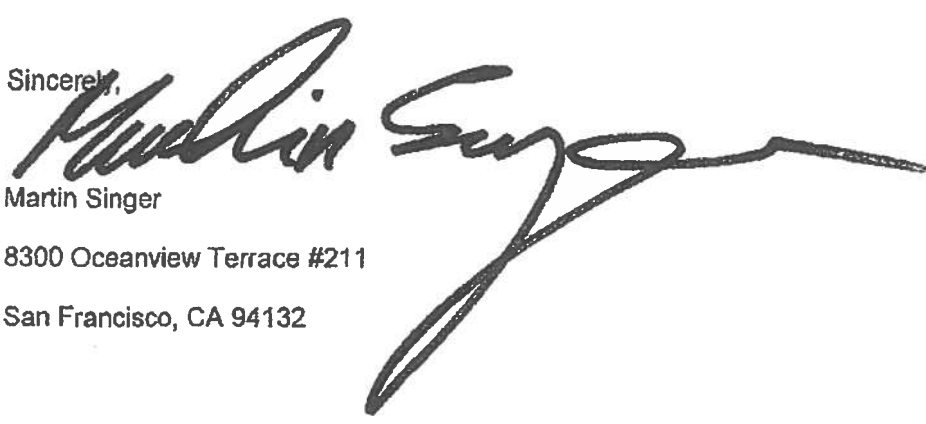
Consequently, I strongly oppose the nomination for historical landmark of the 46A Cook Street, SF, CA 94118 massive, aesthetically displeasing, dangerously high and rather common pine tree. The Norfolk Island common pine tree is not a historical landmark, as it grows, more or less like a weed and belongs to the owner of the property and not to the local government.

In addition, the 80 foot- and growing- tree is an extreme danger to the adjacent houses and several neighborhood properties. The massive pine tree is a private property of the owner of the parcel, who has every right (provided by the Fifth Amendment) to remove it or keep it at his or her will. Should this tree fall down, it will destroy at least 3 other houses, not to mention the danger to humans and other private properties. The pine tree discussed is a serious safety hazard and needs to be removed.

The purpose of this communication is to remind you that no local entity, city or county, has any legal authority to impose any directives on purchased and deeded private properties. Decisions on color selections, types of flowers grown, tree or plant preservation all remain in the hands of property owners and not the local authorities.

I am happy to discuss this truly absurd issue in person anytime.

Sincerely,


Martin Singer

8300 Oceanview Terrace #211

San Francisco, CA 94132

Urban Forestry Council
1455 Market St., Ste 1200
San Francisco, CA 94103

March 24, 2016

Dear Urban Forestry Council Members,

I have been a resident in San Francisco for 25 years and I am writing you to state that I oppose the nomination for historical landmark of the 46A Cook Street San Francisco, CA 94118 "Norfolk Island Pine" tree proposed by the Urban Forestry Council and I support the Homeowner's right to landscape their private property as they chose fit.

As a San Francisco homeowner for 17 years I believe it is important to ensure the private property rights provided by the Fifth Amendment are upheld. That is no local, city, county, state, or federal government has the authority to impose directives, ordinances, fees, or fines regarding aesthetic landscaping, color selections, tree and plant preservation, or open spaces on legally purchased/deeded private property.

Moreover after having the opportunity to visit the 46A Cook Street property and see the Norfolk pine tree standing at over 80 feet tall I have great concern with the recent weather storms that the tree is a potential safety hazard. If the tree or any part of the tree were to come down during a storm it surely would injure individuals and/or severely damage property. Knowing that there are several small children living in the 46A Cook vicinity this imposing tree is of great safety concern.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Evelyn Scalora', written over a horizontal line.

Evelyn Scalora

60 Nebraska Street San Francisco, CA 94110
(415) 816-0667

RARITY: Yes (1), Partially (2) No (2)

Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions

Rare (2), Uncommon (3), Common (2), Other (/)

PHYSICAL: Yes (2), Partially (3), No (/)

SIZE: Lg. (5), Medium (1), Small (/)

AGE: Significantly advanced age for species

Yes (3), No (3)

DISTINGUISHED FORM: Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure

Yes (6), No (/)

TREE CONDITION: Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Good (5), Poor (/), Hazard (/)

HISTORICAL: Yes (4), Partially (2), No (/)

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION: Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

Yes (3), None apparent (1)

ENVIRONMENTAL: Yes (3), Partially (1), No (1)

PROMINENT LANDSCAPE FEATURE: A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Yes (6), No (/)

LOW TREE DENSITY: Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

Low (2), Moderate (4), High (/)

INTERDEPENDENT GROUP OF TREES: This tree is an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees

Yes (/), No (6)

VISIBLE OR ACCESSIBLE FROM PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY: High visibility and/or accessible from public property

Yes (5), No (1)

HIGH TRAFFIC AREA: Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect

Yes (1), No (5)

Important wildlife habitat: Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.

Yes (3), No (3)

EROSION CONTROL: Tree prevents soil erosion

Yes (/), No (6)

WIND AND OR SOUND BARRIER: Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.

Yes (2), No (3)

CULTURAL: Yes (5), Partially (/), No (/)

NEIGHBORHOOD APPRECIATION: Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc.

Yes (6), None apparent (/)

CULTURAL APPRECIATION: Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

Yes (2), None apparent (4)

PLANTING CONTRIBUTES TO NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER: Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

Yes (3), No (1)

PROFILED IN A PUBLICATION OR OTHER MEDIA: Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc.

Yes (1), unknown (5)

PROMINENT LANDSCAPE FEATURE: A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Yes (6), No (/)

LTC-08/06/2015 - SUMMARY OF RESPONSES from Nomination Forms (Landmark Criteria) for Norfolk Island / Cook Pine at "46A" Cook St.

Nominator / Evaluator	NOMINATOR	HILLSON	HILLAN	HUI	KIDA	SHORT
*** RARITY ***	Rare	Nor IP-Unc/rare	Common	Cook-Rare	Cook-Uncommon	Common
*** PHYSICAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Size	Large	Large	Large	Large	Medium/Lg for SF	Large
Advanced age for species		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Distinguished Form	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Condition	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
*** HISTORICAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Historical association	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Partially	Yes
Media or print	Yes/unknown	Yes/unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Yes
*** ENVIRONMENTAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Prominent landscape feature	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Low tree density	moderate	low/moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Interdept'n group of trees	No	No	No	No	No	No
Visible/access. fr/ Public ROW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
High traffic area	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Important wildlife habitat	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes
Erosion control	No	No	No	No	No	No
Wind or sound barrier	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	left blank
*** CULTURAL ***	***	***	***	***	***	***
Neighborhood appreciation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Cultural appreciation	None apparent	Yes	None apparent	None apparent	None apparent	None apparent
Contribution to ngrhnd character	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	left blank

SWAE	Arbrst McNair (PropOwnr)	Arbrst Costello (PropOwnr)	Arbrst Leggitt (Nomntr)	Attorney for PropOwn	
Uncommon	NorflsIndPine-Common	Agrees Norfolk per McNair	CookPine (+Mr. Hummer)	See * * + McNair's opinion	
***	***		***	***	
Large (for SF)	85' tall		100' tall		
No per ownr's arbrst	No		Mature		
Yes	No		Yes		
Good	Good health		Good		
***	***		***	***	
None apparent	None apparent				
Unknown					
***	***		***	***	
Yes	No, per prop owner		Yes		
Moderate	Moderate				
No	No				
Yes	Low visibility		Yes		
No	No				
No	Perch for birds				
No	No				
No	No				
***	***		***	***	
left blank	Prop owner... *				
Yes/none apparent					
left blank					

WRITTEN SUMMARY -- 8/6 & 10/1 LTC MEETINGS for 46A COOK ST. "PINE" TREE

Prepared for Oct. 27, 2015 UFC Meeting

Rose Hillson

One Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) was nominated by Mr. Richard Worn at 60 Cook St. A Landmark Tree Nomination Form for a tree at 46A Cook was submitted to the Planning Commission for intent to nominate and a resolution was passed. In addition, the Director of the Department of Public Works issued an Emergency Protection Order temporarily protecting the tree. Refer to LTC members' and staff's evaluation reports as they pertain to the requisite criteria -- RARITY, PHYSICAL, HISTORICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL, and/or CULTURAL -- to determine tree as landmark by ordinance.

Refer to:

** ADOPTED 8/6/15 LTC minutes (separate document)

** "46A Cook St. LTC Summary Spreadsheets" (separate document)

Summary of AUG. 6, 2015 LTC Meeting

Written documents used at meeting:

- * Planning Department's July 2, 2015 Case Report on property information and tree w/ Resolution
- * All LTC member & staff reports
- * Property owner's arborist's report (James McNair)
- * Landmark Tree Nomination Form (by Richard Worn, 60 Cook St.)
- * Nominator's arborist's reports (Remy Hummer & Roy C. Leggitt, III)
- * Property owners' 2 arborists stated unequivocally tree is Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*).
- * Nominator's 2 arborists stated tree is Cook Pine (*Araucaria columnaris*).

LTC & Staff agreed on:

- * Good condition
- * Distinguished form
- * No erosion control
- * Not part of interdependent group of trees
- * Neighborhood appreciation
- * Prominent landscape feature

LTC & Staff responses that were more for 'yes' or 'no' vs. mixed:

- * Size: large (4); large for SF (2)
- * Historical association: Yes (4), Partially (1), None apparent (1)
- * Visible/accessible from public right-of-way: Yes (5), No (1)

Staff Member Hui referred to Planning Commission's packet of information. She stated the tree as a Cook pine, not common but not uncommon in SF. She also opined tree is large, of advanced age, of distinguished form, in good condition. some historical association with Mr. George Smith, director of Odd Fellows, house the tree is adjacent to is historic resource "Type A," provides environmental benefits, prominent as landscape feature, tallest tree around, visible from public right of way, may provide habitat source, no erosion control, possible wind/sound barrier, cultural appreciation with petitions from neighbors, contributes to neighborhood character, unknown for being in publication.

Ms. Bonaparte, attorney for 46 Cook property owner, opined on neighbors' petitions by neighbors, historic nature of property, whether tree planted by original owner, arborist McNair states the tree does not fit the criteria for landmark status and tree if definitively a Norfolk Island Pine. She read from the Here Today excerpt of 46 Cook description.

WRITTEN SUMMARY -- 8/6 & 10/1 LTC MEETINGS for 46A COOK ST. "PINE" TREE

Prepared for Oct. 27, 2015 UFC Meeting

Page 3 of 5

Member Hillan stated tree was not rare, common as many Norfolk Islands in SF, it was a fine tree, continue meeting to determine if Cook Pine, connection with name of street, and rarity of Cook Pine in SF, sees no documentation house being certified historic so tree being remarkable tied to historic structure and overall history of planting, recognized planting of palms surrounding the house in that relationship and if this tree is only remaining evidence of that, feels it more landmarkable.

Member Hillson evaluated as Norfolk Island Pine, rarity status on International Union for the Conservation of Nature's Red List, whether Cook or Norfolk there is some rarity, referred to 120 years count for age, large, majestic, not all trees unique landmarked, referred to George Smith and his history as painter and Director of Odd Fellows Cemetery, member of Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), history of area of "Big Four" cemeteries, the original 46 Cook 75-foot-wide lot, 1885 photo from Bancroft Library, history of dwellings west of Divisadero back in those days.

Staff Member Hui stated the Council has had trees with indeterminate species and is not an issue in terms of process.

After LTC discussion, with not enough information, meeting continued to Oct. 1 for further historical & species clarification.

Summary of OCT. 1, 2015 LTC Meeting

Written documents used at meeting (includes Aug. 6, 2015 LTC meeting documents):

- * Nominator's summary document of attributes for Cook vs. Norfolk Island Pine
- * Nominator's Evidential Timeline document
- * Property owner's arborist's addendum (dated 9/30/15)

Refer to:

- ** DRAFT 10/1/15 LTC minutes (separate document)
- ** "46A Cook St. LTC Summary Spreadsheets" (separate document)

No representative from the Sponsor of the Nomination, the Planning Commission, was present to comment, and with no time ceded to nominator from Sponsor of the Nomination, Coordinator Hui presented. She stated that although the species was still unclear, the tree was nice-looking, has some potential historic, environmental and cultural value.

Property owner representative commented on historical viewpoint of tree in relation to any figures on the property. Other property owner representatives brought up issues on tree comparing historical 1885 photo and 1946/51 photos. Here Today book description and the tree in photos is a hybrid per Dr. Ritter.

Nominator spoke about tree shown in 1946/51 photo and today's tree and a letter from herbal medicine instructor regarding species and Hortus Third book.

Nominator supporters referenced SF Heritage letter and for committee to look at criteria for landmarking and to the historical timeline for evidence.

Nominator supporters state their arborists say tree is a Cook Pine and referenced the "Flora" (Tropical Garden Flora) document and environmental benefit of large tree and contribution to biodiversity.

Member Short stated she consulted with Dr. Ritter and is convinced he knows better though he indicated to her that while it is not uncommon, he was not aware of a huge quantity of them in San Francisco.

Chair Hillson stated LTC decided in prior meeting tree was in good condition, had distinguished form, does not provide erosion control, not part of interdependent group of trees but had neighborhood appreciation; not all LM

SEC. 810. LANDMARK TREES.

(a) **Designation Criteria.** The Board of Supervisors in Resolution No. 440-06, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors File No. 060487, adopted uniform criteria for the designation of landmark trees, which included consideration of the age, size, shape, species, location, historical association, visual quality, and other contribution to the City's character, as set forth Section 810(f)(4)(A)-(E) below.

(f)

(4) **Required Findings.** As part of any determination that authorizes removal of any landmark tree, the City entity making such determination shall, in addition to the adopted removal criteria, consider and make written findings on each of the following factors related to the tree:

(A) Size, age, and species;

(B) Visual characteristics, including the tree's form and whether it is a prominent landscape feature;

(C) Cultural or historic characteristics, including whether the tree has significant ethnic appreciation or historical association or whether the tree was part of a historic planting program that defines neighborhood character;

(D) Ecological characteristics, including whether the tree provides important wildlife habitat, is part of a group of interdependent trees, provides erosion control, or acts as a wind or sound barrier;

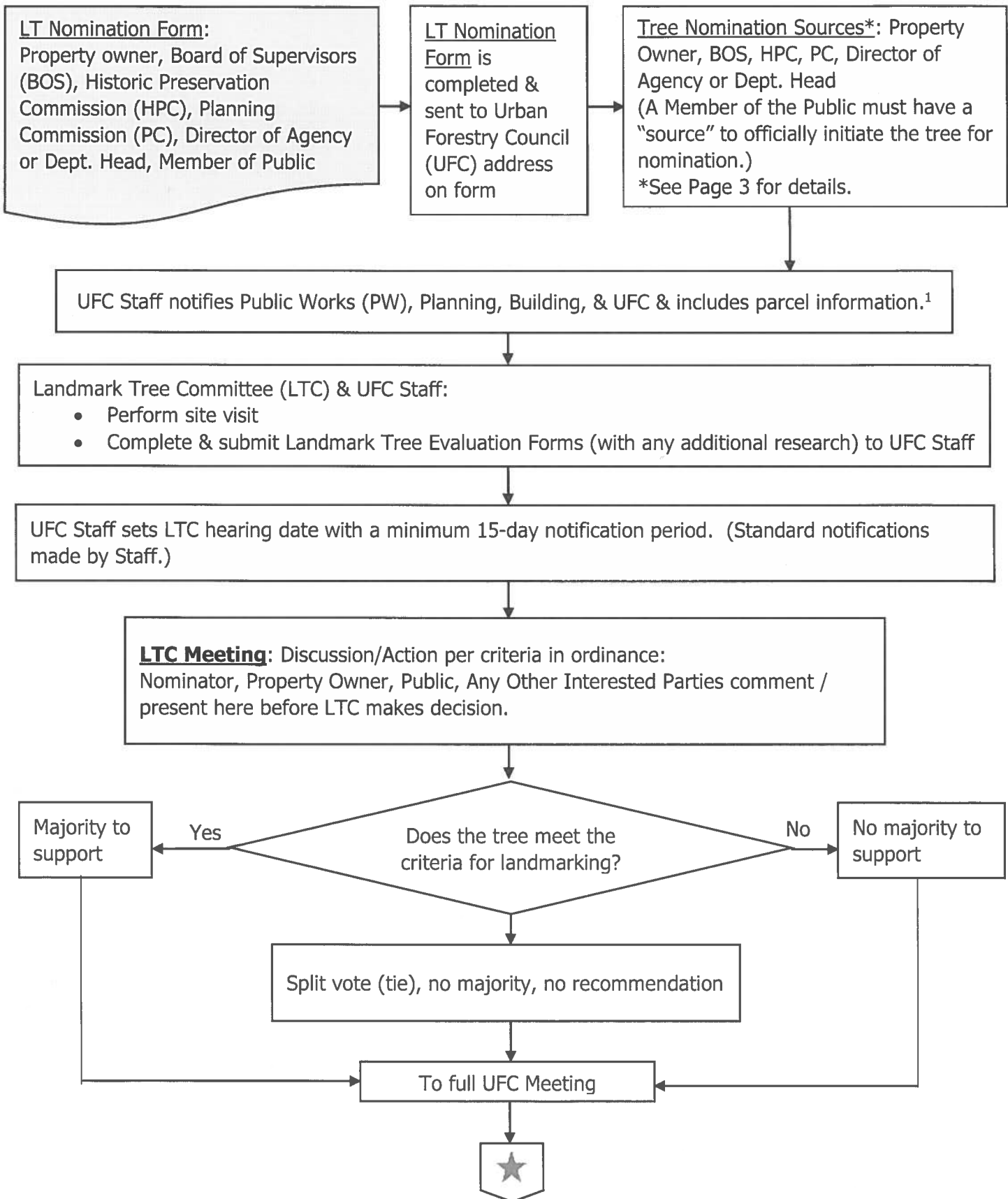
(E) Locational characteristics, including whether the tree is in a high traffic area or low tree density area, provides shade or other benefits to multiple properties, and is visually accessible from the public right-of-way; and

(F) One or more criteria that qualify the tree as a hazard tree pursuant to Section 802(o).

"46A Cook St. LTC Summary Spreadsheets" (see separate 2-page doc)

Landmark Tree (LT) Nomination Process Flowchart

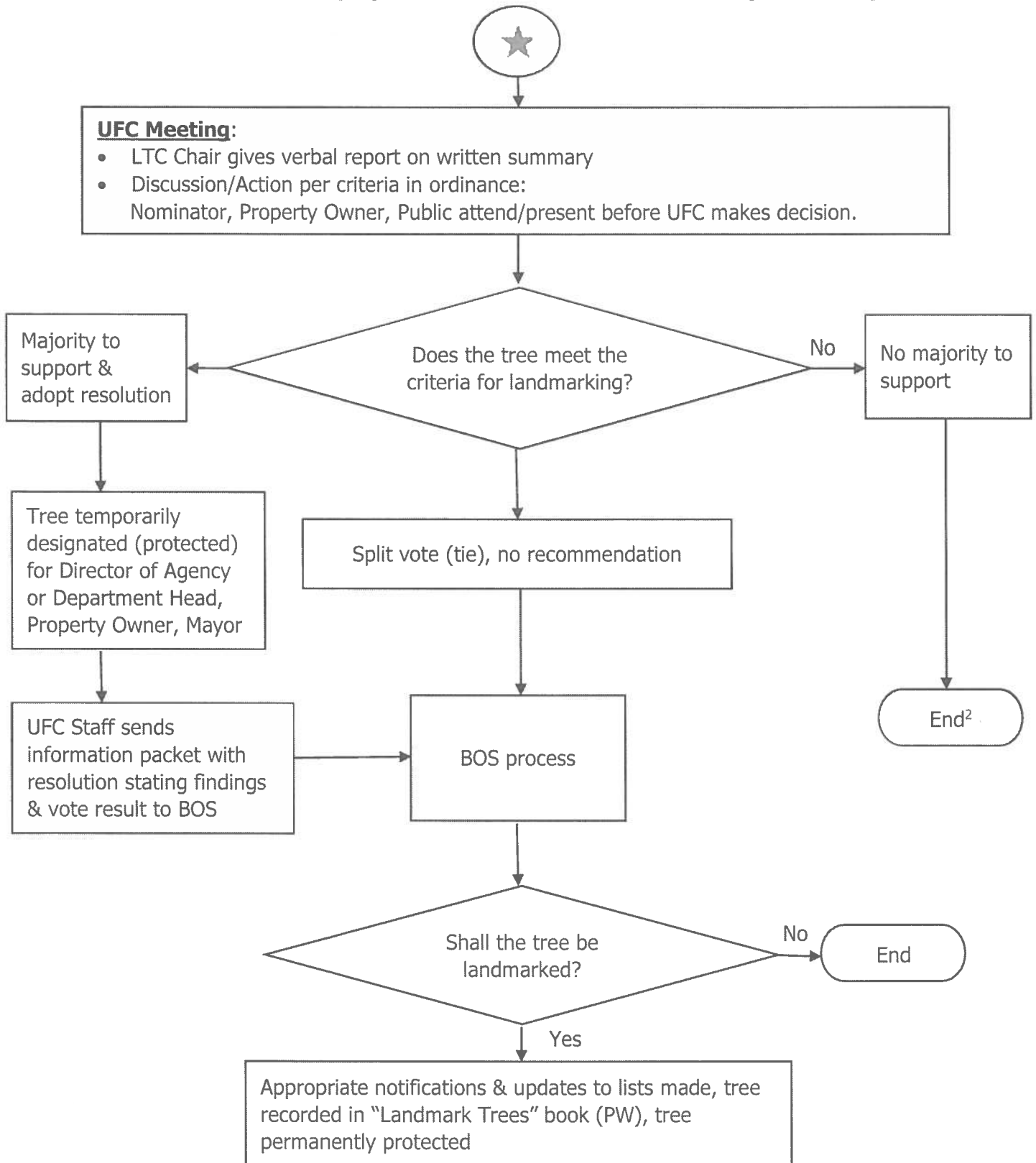
DRAFT



NOTE: LT process flow charts intended as a graphic guide, not exhaustive. Refer to LT Ordinance (PW Code Sec. 810). ¹ File of nominations kept with UFC Staff.

0303LTCchanges

Landmark Tree (LT) Nomination Process Flowchart (continued)



² If tree is protected (i.e. "temporary designation"), protection ends. Tree cannot be nominated again for 3 years.

Landmark Tree (LT) Nomination Process Flowchart (continued)

* Sources for tree nomination (See top right box on Page 1):

1. Historic Preservation Commission (HPC)
2. Planning Commission (PC)
3. Board of Supervisors (BOS)
4. Mayor
5. Director of Public Works (PW); Dir. of City Agency, Commission or Dept. Head
6. Property Owner

1. (HPC) or 2. (PC) Adopts resolution of intent to initiate nomination to UFC

- Tree temporarily designated (protected) as LT at resolution adoption
- Commission informs Director of PW who notifies Department or Property Owner

3. Member of BOS introduces resolution of intent to initiate

Tree temporarily designated (protected) as LT at resolution introduction

4. Mayor or 5. Director of PW, Director of City Agency Commission or Dept. Head¹ or 6. Property Owner initiates LT designation

Temporary designation (protection) occurs when UFC adopts resolution that tree qualifies for LT designation

OPTIONAL: Director of PW issues EMERGENCY ORDER temporarily designating tree on property under its jurisdiction to prevent immediate removal of tree

NOTE: LT process flow charts intended as a graphic guide, not exhaustive. Refer to LT Ordinance (PW Code Sec. 810). ¹Nominations via letter directly to UFC staff.