

HISTORIC TREE NOMINATION FORM – City of Dallas

Please review the Historic Tree Nomination Instructions form prior to submitting the application.

Tree Information

Date: June, 17, 2021

Tree Size Updated: August 23, 2022

Tree Species: Bur Oak

Number of trees: 1

Tree Address: 1211 Pemberton Hill Road, Dallas, Texas 75217

Tree is located (public/private property): Public

The Big Spring Bur Oak Tree Size

Height (approximate): 65'

Crown Spread: 78'

Diameter (DBH): 48"

Approximate age: 235+ How determined: A certified arborist compared Bur Oaks of a similar size growing in similar conditions (with known ages) to the size of this Bur Oak and estimated a very conservative age of 235 in 2013.

Physical condition: Good

Historical and cultural summary: The Bur Oak grows beside the historic Big Spring on the edge of the Great Trinity Forest in southern Dallas County. The spring has been an important source of clean water for humans for thousands of years. The Big Spring was one of the first sites in the Dallas area to be settled by Europeans. It was claimed in 1842 by John Beeman, the patriarch of the first family to settle permanently in Dallas County. Beeman's daughter, Margaret, married the founder of Dallas, John Neely Bryan, in 1843. John Neely Bryan and his family lived near the Spring in the 1860s and 1870s. After John Bryan's death, his wife sold the property to Edward Case Pemberton who emigrated from Illinois. The Pembertons farmed and operated a dairy here and Edward Pemberton's descendants continued to live and farm the area for several generations. The spring and bottomlands were purchased by the City of Dallas in 2003 as part of the Great Trinity Forest Project. On April 27, 2016, The City of Dallas designated the Big Spring and the 15 acres that surround it as a Historic Overlay District. This designation recognizes the historic and cultural importance of the area. This was the first time Dallas has given this designation to a site rather than to a building.

Nominator

Name: Steve Houser and the TxHTC Board of Trustees

Organization: Texas Historic Tree Coalition

Address: 16 Steel Road, Wylie, Texas 75098

Phone: 972-442-1524, extension 236 (Ask for RuthAnn Jackson)

Email: shouser@arborillogical.com or rajackson@arborillogical.com

Consulting / certified arborist (if applicable)

Name Steve Houser

Cert. # (if applicable) #TX 0107

All contact information including address, phone and email are the same as the nominator

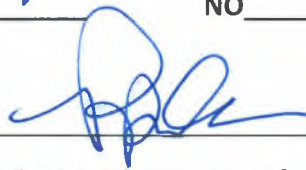
Additional Information (add up to 5 photographs, relevant historical information of the tree and the property, assessment of the tree if available, or importance to community, as applicable.):

On March 29, 2014 the Texas Historic Tree Coalition declared the Bur Oak at Big Spring to be an Official Historic Tree, listed in their Historic Tree Registry as a living legend and a testament to Dallas history. On April 27, 2016, The City of Dallas designated the Big Spring and the 15 acres that surround it as a Historic Overlay District. This designation recognizes the historic and cultural importance of the area. This was the first time Dallas has given this designation to a site rather than to a building.

For Office Use

City Staff Recommendation:

YES NO



Chief Arborist, Administrator of review

Submit applications to the Chief Arborist, 320 E Jefferson Blvd., Room 105, Dallas, TX 75203





HISTORIC TREE NOMINATION FORM – City of Dallas

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Tree Information

Date: July 12, 2021 Tree Sizes Updated: August 23, 2022

Tree Species: Mostly Live Oaks on north side and two center medians. Live Oaks, Red Oaks, and

Cedar Elms on south side.

Number of trees: A grove of trees

Tree Address: Dealey Plaza, Dallas, Texas 75202

Tree is located (public/private property): Public Land- City Park

Tree Sizes vary within the grove

Approximate age: 60 years old or older

How determined: Personal knowledge of the area

Physical condition: Good

Historical and cultural summary:

The following was taken from <https://www.jfk.org/the-assassination/history-of-dealey-plaza/>:

August 23, 2022 Notes regarding sizes of trees:
Dealey Plaza Live Oaks - The biggest tree was on Houston between Main and Elm. The "line-of-sight" tree was relatively small, probably due to a limited growing space and heavy foot traffic. The biggest tree on the grassy knoll side of Elm was in back of the Bryan pergola on that side.

- a. Houston St Live Oak- DBH: 42" HT: 50' WD: 105'
- b. line-of-sight Live Oak- DBH: 31" HT: 30' WD: 60'
- c. grassy knoll Live Oak- DBH: 40" HT: 40' WD: 96'

Note: WD equals crown spread per square feet.

The Front Door of Dallas and Three Decades Later

"Hailed as "The Front Door of Dallas," Dealey Plaza served as the major gateway to the city from the west and, equally important, as a symbol of civic pride. On **November 22, 1963 at 12:30 p.m. CST**, that focus changed when President Kennedy was assassinated while riding in a presidential motorcade in the heart of the plaza. Instantly, the cradle of Dallas history became known as an internationally recognized murder site...

...Three decades after the Kennedy assassination, in October 1993, the Secretary of the Interior designated Dealey Plaza a National Historic Landmark District. This new historic status acknowledged that the spot where John F. Kennedy died was significant in United States history.

Beginning with civil rights and Vietnam War demonstrations in the late 1960s, Dealey Plaza has served as a site of social activism and protests, which continues to the present day. The words and image of the slain president, often used to fuel these community dialogues, prompt many

individuals to find in Dealey Plaza a powerfully emotional link to the unfulfilled promise and legacy of the Kennedy era. Each year on the anniversary of the assassination, hundreds gather in Dealey Plaza to pay their respects to President Kennedy."

In addition to the above, on November 6, 1999, in conjunction with the Dallas Arbor Day, the trees at Dealey Plaza were officially declared "Historic" by the Dallas Historic Tree Coalition (now the Texas Historic Tree Coalition or TxHTC).

Nominator

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Organization: Texas Historic Tree Coalition

Address: 16 Steel Road, Wylie, Texas 75098

Phone: 972-442-1524, extension 236 (Ask for RuthAnn Jackson)

Email: shouser@arborilogical.com or rajackson@arborilogical.com

Consulting / certified arborist (if applicable)

Name Steve Houser

Cert. # (if applicable) #TX 0107

All contact information including address, phone and email are the same as the nominator

Additional Information (add up to 5 photographs, relevant historical information of the tree and the property, assessment of the tree if available, or importance to community, as applicable.):

Pictures copied and pasted below from <https://www.ifk.org/the-assassination/history-of-dealey-plaza/>:



Dealey Plaza 1993



Dealey Plaza 1963

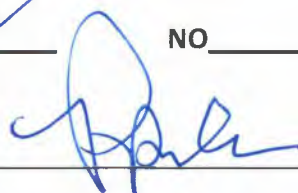
The following picture is from Google Maps satellite view of Dealey Plaza:



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YES NO



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Additional pictures that follow were taken by Arboriological Services or Texas Historic Tree Coalition:





HISTORIC TREE NOMINATION FORM – City of Dallas

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Tree Information

Date: July 12, 2021

Tree size updated: August 23, 2022

Tree Species: Bur Oak

Number of trees: 1

Tree Address: Dallas Heritage Village at Old City Park, 1515 S Harwood St., Dallas, Texas 75215

Tree is located (public/private property): Public

Tree Size (unable to locate our measurements, but can go by park and measure when in the area)

Height (approximate): 75'

Crown: 102'

Diameter: 47"

Approximate age: _____

How determined: _____

Physical condition: Good

Historical and cultural summary: The Cherokee Oak Tree is representative of numerous historic Bur Oaks, Post Oaks, Red Oaks, Pecans, Cedar Elms, and Eastern Red Cedars growing nearby. American Indian tribes likely lived near the site of the tree because of the abundant springs, creeks, wildlife, and other food sources. The Cherokee Indians chose Heritage Village as a campsite due to the natural springs along Mill Creek during the time when Texas was an independent sovereign country- the Texas Republic. The Cherokee Oak is a living witness to the lives of American Indians and the settlers that followed and made their homes in Dallas. It is a tangible connection to the rich history of Dallas, Old City Park, and Dallas Heritage Village. This Bur Oak has withstood the test of time- surviving historic Texas storms, floods, and periods of drought. The Dallas Heritage Village's stewardship has contributed to the tree's continued growth, and Erika Huddleston has brought the history and legacy of this extraordinary tree to the attention of the community. It is a living legend and a testament to our history.

TAKEN FROM THE OLD CITY PARK WEBSITE: "Edward C. Browder, a settler with the Peter's Colony, acquired the land in 1845 and the springs were renamed in his honor. The springs actually played a part

in the crossing of the Texas Pacific and the Houston and Texas Central railway systems in Dallas. A legislative bill in 1873 required the railroads to cross within one mile of the springs. Browder Springs also became the first water supply for the growing Dallas settlement”.

Additionally, this tree witnessed, “In honor of the American Centennial in 1876, ten acres of land near the springs were set aside as the city’s FIRST park, thusly named City Park. It saw the park enlarged in 1881 and 1885 by nine acres to include Browder Springs and nearby wells used for water (but later abandoned as a water supply). In 1886, a Confederate monument was installed in City Park and remained there until it was relocated to Pioneer Park Cemetery near the Dallas Convention Center in 1961.

In the late 19th century, a neighborhood called The Cedars developed around the park. Many elegant homes were built for then-prominent business leaders and members of the Jewish community. The neighborhood and the entire city enjoyed the park’s lush grounds which included oak and pecan trees, a pond, a fountain, a large pavilion, a pumphouse, greenhouses open to the public, and the city’s first zoo. Upgrades to the park in 1922 included ornamental lighting, a wading pool for children, a playground, and four tennis courts.

The Cedars neighborhood began transitioning in the early 1900s from an elegant residential neighborhood to be more industrial in nature; large factory buildings and small houses for workers replaced the large stately homes. The arrival of Interstate 30 in the 1950s took several acres of Old City Park for road construction and severed it and The Cedars from downtown. After that, public interest in the park rapidly declined.

In an effort to help invigorate the park and save a Civil War-era house from destruction, the Dallas County Heritage Society proposed to move the Millermore House from Bonnie View Drive to Old City Park. The society called on Ray Hubbard, then president of the Dallas Park Board, to assist. After much debate, in 1967 the board approved the plan to relocate the house to the park. In 1969, the house opened to the public, establishing Old City Park as a refuge for buildings from all over North Texas that had deteriorated due to neglect or were slated for demolition. A total of 29 buildings have been relocated to the park including a depot, hotel, doctor’s office, general store, saloon, school, church, law office, print shop, bank, and several houses.

With the collection of historic buildings and the park’s role as the leading living history museum in the

Southwest, the name was changed to the Dallas Heritage Village at Old City Park in 2005. The historic land has gone through many changes over the years from an early Cherokee campsite, to supplying water to early Dallas, to that of a site of beauty and enjoyment as the city's premier park. Now it serves a vital role in teaching the public about the importance of Texas architecture and everyday life from the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Special thanks to Melissa Prycer and the staff of the Dallas Heritage Village for providing historical information.

Nominator

Name: TxHTC Board of Trustees

Organization: Texas Historic Tree Coalition

Address: 16 Steel Road, Wylie, Texas 75098

Phone: 972-442-1524, extension 236 (Ask for RuthAnn Jackson)

Email: shouser@arborilogical.com or rajackson@arborilogical.com

Consulting / certified arborist (if applicable)

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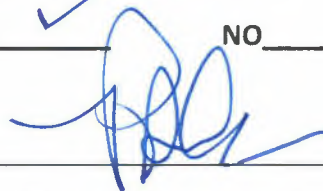
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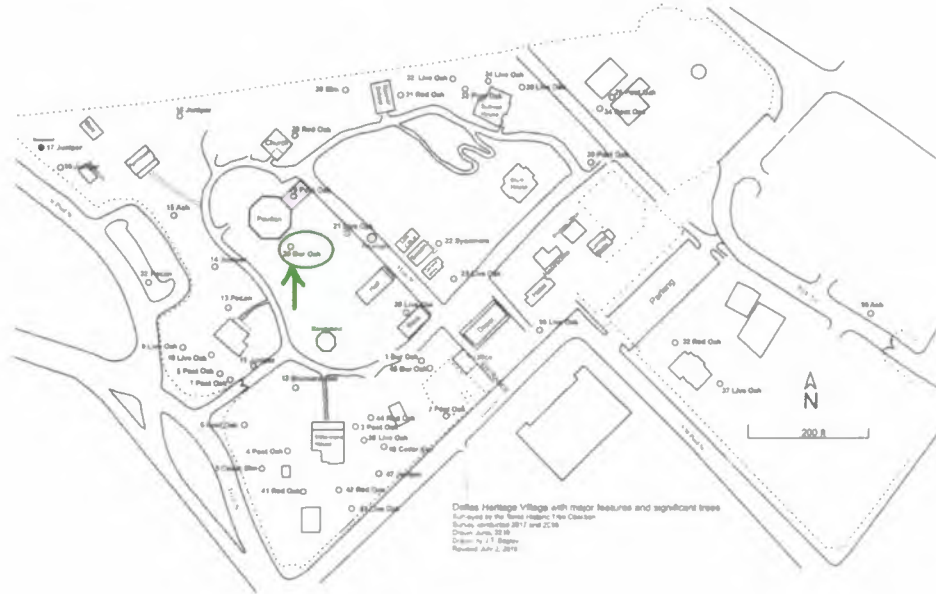
YES NO



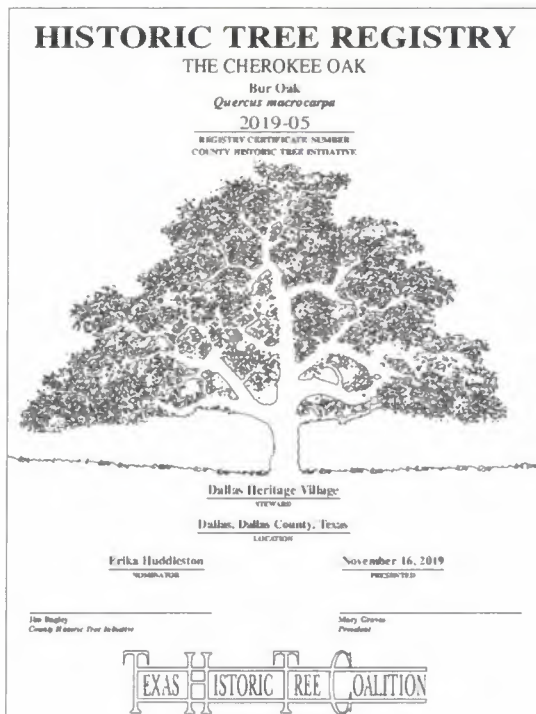
Chief Arborist, Administrator of review

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Map of the tree's location.



The Cherokee Oak Historic Tree Certificate.



The Cherokee Oak Historic Tree Proclamation.

**Texas Historic Tree Coalition
Historic Tree Proclamation
The Cherokee Oak Tree**

WHEREAS, the bur oak, known as The Cherokee Oak Tree, grows on the site of Dallas Heritage Village in the city of Dallas, in Dallas County, Texas; and

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Oak Tree is representative of numerous historic bur oaks, post oaks, red oaks, pecans, cedar elms, and eastern red cedars growing nearby; and

WHEREAS, the Cherokee Indians and other tribes likely lived near the site of the tree because of the abundant springs and creeks, wildlife, and other food sources; and

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Oak Tree is a living witness to the lives of Native Americans and the settlers that followed and made their homes in Dallas; and

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Oak Tree is a tangible connection to the rich history of Dallas, Old City Park, and Dallas Heritage Village; and

WHEREAS, The Cherokee Oak Tree has withstood the test of time—surviving historic Texas storms, floods, and periods of drought; and

WHEREAS, Dallas Heritage Village's stewardship has contributed to the tree's continued growth, and Erika Huddleston has brought the history and legacy of this extraordinary tree to the attention of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mary Graves, President of the Texas Historic Tree Coalition, do hereby proclaim The Cherokee Oak Tree, which shall be listed in our Historic Tree Registry, a living legend and a testament to our history.

ON THIS DAY, Saturday, November 16, 2019.

Mary Graves, President
Texas Historic Tree Coalition

The Texas Historic Tree Coalition trustees and members along with the tree nominator, Erika Huddleston in the front row, second from left.



The Cherokee Oak at Heritage Village on November 16, 2019.



Looking up into the canopy of The Cherokee Oak.



HISTORIC TREE NOMINATION FORM – City of Dallas

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Tree Information

Date: July 12, 2021 Tree sizes updated: August 23, 2022 (with measurements of two of the Post Oaks at the cemetery)

Tree Species: Grove of Post Oaks

Number of trees: 40

Tree Address: Pioneer Park Cemetery (adjacent to the Dallas Convention Center and Pioneer Plaza) 1300 Young Street, Dallas, Texas 75202

Tree is located (public/private property): Public

Tree Sizes vary amongst the grove

Measured two big Post Oaks (the two trees were similar in size)	Height (approximate):	a) <u>50'</u>	b) <u>55'</u>
	Crown (in square feet):	a) <u>78'</u>	b) <u>80'</u>
	Diameter (DBH):	a) <u>36'</u>	b) <u>35'</u>

Approximate age: Some of the Post Oaks are estimated to be 270 years old

How determined: Age is based on tree ring dating by two certified arborists, Steve Houser & Bill Seaman

Physical condition: Good

Historical and cultural summary: The Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park is an urban remnant of a Post Oak Forest that stretches from Oklahoma into sections of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. The trees, which shade the graves of Dallas' most recognizable names (and first settlers), are some of the oldest in the city and many pre-date the signing of the United States Constitution. Based on tree ring dating, the largest trees in the grove may have origins dating back to the mid-1700s, one hundred years before John Neely Bryan and the John Beeman family settled the area. Historic in every sense of the word, this grove of trees has witnessed the city of Dallas grow from a cluster of cabins on the banks of the Trinity River to the city we see today.

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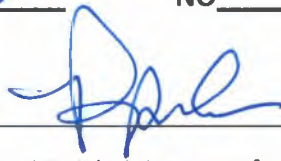
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YES NO



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**Dallas Historic Tree Coalition
Historic Tree Proclamation**

The Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park Cemetery

WHEREAS, the Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park Cemetery is an urban remnant of a Post Oak forest stretching from Oklahoma into North Central Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park Cemetery is a witness to the birth and continued growth of the City of Dallas; and

WHEREAS, the Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park Cemetery was chosen by early settlers as a sacred place to bury their families; and

WHEREAS, local residents have benefitted from the shade it casts, the air it cleans, and the beauty it provides; and

WHEREAS, the Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park Cemetery has withstood the test of time—surviving Texas storms and periods of drought.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mary Graves, President of the Dallas Historic Tree Coalition, do hereby proclaim the Post Oak Grove at Pioneer Park Cemetery to be Official Historic Trees, which shall be listed in our Historic Tree Registry as living legends and testaments to our history as a nation.

ON THIS DAY, Saturday, October 29, 2011.

Mary Graves, President
Dallas Historic Tree Coalition



HISTORIC TREE NOMINATION FORM – City of Dallas

Please review the Historic Tree Nomination Instructions form prior to submitting the application.

Tree Information

Date: July 13, 2022

Tree Species: Pecan, Carya illinoensis

Number of trees: 1

Tree Address: 1700 Block of California Crossing, Dallas, Mapsco 22T, in front of the National Guard building

Tree is located (public/private property): public

Tree Size (size and measurements are based on inspection of tree January 31, 2012)

Height (approximate): 45 feet

Crown: 75 feet crown spread

Diameter: 26 inches

Approximate age: estimated age determined to be over 150 years old May 1, 1997

How determined: ring counts were taken from two old cut wounds on the trunk- the highest ring count was 22 rings per inch and the lowest ring count 15 rings per inch- the average ring count was 18.5 rings per inch- additionally, ring counts from nearby trees were taken including from an Elm stump growing very near the tree- the Elm stump ring counts were 20 to 30 rings per inch

Physical condition: the end of the trunk and second upright failed and have been removed- there is some rot in the trunk

Historical and cultural summary:

This tree has been recognized by the Comanche Nation as an early Comanche Marker Tree. It marked a low water or safe crossing point for the Trinity River which was used by American Indians as well as early settlers. The trail was a part of the "forty-niner" gold rush trail heading to California in 1849. It also lead to the highest point in the area and a favorite Comanche hunting ground known as "Turkey Knob". Once the historic Bird's Fort was built, the trail heading west was named Bird's Fort Trail.
<https://texashighways.com/culture/history/if-these-trees-could-talk-comanche-indian-marker-trees-texas/>

Nominator

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Additional Information (add up to 5 photographs, relevant historical information of the tree and the property, assessment of the tree if available, or importance to community, as applicable.):

The story of the California Crossing Comanche Marker Tree is posted on the Texas Historic Tree Coalition's website:

<https://txhtc.org/trees/california-crossing-comanche-marker-tree/>

Pictures below (left) taken in 2020 (right) taken in 2019



Application # 22 - 0006

Pictures below (left) taken in September 2002 (right) April 2002



For Office Use

City Staff Recommendation:

YES NO

Chief Arborist, Administrator of review

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