

# CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY FIELD FORM 1988-1989

HIST. NAME: Peg Tree  
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: 1852  
COMMON NAME: Same  
ORIGINAL USE:  
ADDRESS: 141 Leonard Street  
OWNER: N/A  
PRESENT USE: Marks Historic  
ARCH./BLDR.: N/A  
T/R/S: 2S 1E 10AA  
TAX LOT: 4600

STYLE: None  
RESOURCE TYPE:  
Natural feature  
THEME: Social  
ADDITION: Oswego  
BLOCK: 8  
LOT: 1, 2, 3, 4  
QUAD: Lake Oswego  
LOT SIZE:  
ZONE:

PLAN TYPE/SHAPE: N/A  
NO. OF STORIES: N/A  
FOUNDATION MATERIAL: N/A  
BASEMENT: N/A  
ROOF FORM & MATERIALS: N/A

WALL CONSTRUCTION: N/A  
STRUCTURAL FRAME: N/A  
PRIMARY WINDOW TYPE: N/A  
EXTERIOR SURFACING MATERIALS: N/A  
DECORATIVE FEATURES: N/A

OTHER: N/A  
CONDITION: N/A  
EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: N/A  
NOTEWORTHY LANDSCAPE FEATURES: N/A  
ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES: N/A  
KNOWN ARCHEOLOGICAL FEATURES: N/A

SETTING: Located on n. side of Leonard Street; in area of post world war II - era multi-family dwelling and early 20th century single dwellings

NOTES:

RECORDER(S): Koler/Morrison  
SHPO #: 351

DATE: January 1989  
FIELD #: 123

# CITY OF LAKE OSWEGO CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY

ADDRESS            141 LEONARD STREET  
TAX MAP / LOT    2S 1E 10AA/4600  
SHPO# \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL/FRAME#





PEG TREE



LEONARD

FURNACE

74-100

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Address: 141 Leonard  
Historic Name: "Peg Tree"

This massive Douglas fir is a "living legend of early town meetings, " and is significant as such. The first Sunday School class in Lake Oswego was held under the "Peg Tree" in 1852 with Adam Randolph Shipley, a prominent Oswego pioneer, as teacher. Benches were said to have been split out of trees on the site and light furnished by a lantern hung from a peg driven into the tree.

The subject tree is a survivor of what was once a great row of firs which lined the bank of the road leading to the Iron Company Furnace. Most of these trees were cut down in the 1800s, from orders by the road supervisor at the time. The cuttings constituted a loss for furnace workers and nearby boarding house occupants, who liked to sit in the pleasant shade of the trees and watch the riverboats on the Willamette during summer months. Why the peg tree was left standing is a mystery.

In 1967 members of the Lake Oswego Junior Historical Society marked the site with a brass plate set in a mass of basaltic rock next to it. Before the dedication Portland General Electric thinned the tree and Evergreen Pacific Tree Service trimmed branches and deep-fed the undernourished tree with electric drills.

Bibliography: Clackamas County Cultural Resource Inventory, Department of Transportation and Development, 1984.  
"The Peg Tree, a Marvel" by M. Goodall Ramsey, Lake Oswego Review, 10/30/75.