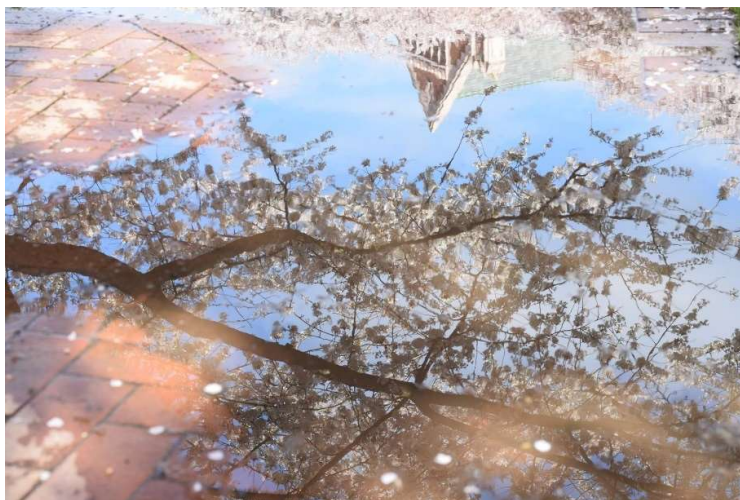


History of the Cherry Trees in the Liberal Arts Quadrangle at the University of Washington



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About the Author

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Author with the
Quad cherry trees
Spring of 2017

About This Thesis

The author conducted this research from April 2017 to June 2017. Most of the contents and people's titles in this paper are based on the research done in that period and only a few parts have been updated based on the author's email conversation with Sara Shores, the university arborist, in December 2018 and January 2019.

The author started this research regarding the history of the cherry trees in the Quad with his interest in April 2017. He continued his research as an independent study under Professor Paul Atkins until he ended his exchange program at the University of Washington in the beginning of June 2017. Before the end of his exchange program in Seattle, he was unable to finish writing this thesis due to the lack of time remaining in his time abroad, and so the project was paused after he left Seattle. In December 2018, it was resumed in order to deliver this paper to those who are concerned with his research and to deposit it to the University of Washington's library during the author's visit to Seattle in January 2019.

Liberal Arts Quadrangle at the University of Washington, Spring of 2018
photos are taken by Utako Kase



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Chapter 1, Introduction

In spring 2017, the cherry trees in the University of Washington's Liberal Arts Quadrangle had their fifty-sixth annual bloom. The beauty of these cherry tree flowers has drawn people to enjoy springtime blooms for decades. During the blooming, countless people have visited the Quad to appreciate the trees' beauty. The cherry trees also live in many people's memory as a symbol of the beauty of spring days at the University of Washington campus.

In spite of the popularity of these trees, the entire history of the cherry trees has never been accurately known until today. Therefore, this paper was written to reveal the history. Revealing the history is important for the local community and possible future replacement of the cherry trees. This paper contains three main focuses. First is the origin of the cherry trees. The cherry trees were originally planted in a different part of Seattle in or before 1936. Next, it will describe the transplanting of the cherry trees. The cherry trees were moved from the original location to the Quad in 1962 because of the construction of State Route 520. Finally, it will recount replacements of the cherry trees. Most of the original trees still remain today but some have already been replaced. Therefore, new and old cherry trees stand together in the Quad. Records of these replacements and the future of the cherry trees will be discussed in the final part.

The indescribable beauty of the blooming cherry trees never stops holding people's mind after one sees these flowers in spring. This beauty has been constructed through the thought and work of many preceding and current people supporting the trees. This paper will become a catalyst to shed light on the people who have done great works in the shadows of the cherry trees.

Chapter 2, Background

Prior to the discussion of the history of the cherry trees in the Quad, this chapter provides general backgrounds of these trees. Firstly, it will identify the species of them. Secondly, it will discuss several different names that have been used to present the cherry trees and explanations of

these names will be provided. It is necessary to make the species and names clear in order to avoid any possible confusion and proceed later discussions smoothly.

Chapter 2, Section 1, Species

To begin with, this paper argues the species of these cherry trees. DNA analysis is needed to distinguish their species accurately but the species of the cherry trees in the Quad is most likely “Somei-yoshino.” Although these cherry trees may have never been scientifically researched to identify their species, their identification as “Somei-yoshino” is plausible for two reasons. First, these cherry trees have never been classified as a different species. They have always been mentioned with names associated with “Somei-yoshino” but never used a name obviously different. For example, the University of Washington Arboretum Park’s memorandum made in 1959 mentioned them as “*Prunus yedoensis* (Yoshino cherry).”¹ Although cherry trees have a wide variety, they have never been regarded as another species. The other reason is that Arthur Lee Jacobson, a famous tree specialist in Seattle, asserts they are “*Somei-yoshino*.” The author of this paper investigated the cherry trees with him and he clearly affirmed their species.² Additionally, in his book *Trees of Seattle*, Jacobson distinguishes several cherry tree species and mentions the cherry trees in the Quad as “*Somei-yoshino*.” He has classified the species of the Quad trees after he describes a variety of cherry tree species. It is difficult to accurately identify what species of tree stands in the Quad due to the lack of these trees birth records, but it is natural to see them as “*Somei-yoshino*” because of the two reasons mentioned above.

Chapter 2, Section 2, Name

¹ Memorandum on areas and plants involved in proposed Lake bridge construction through Arboretum, Feb 26, 1959, Box 25/8, University of Washington Arboretum records, 1924-1984, Acc. 93-153, University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections (hereafter cited as Arboretum Records).

² Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.

These cherry trees in the Quad have been called with several names in their history. Some of these names can cause confusion because there is a wide variety of cherry trees within a small difference of names. In order to avoid any confusion, this section discusses the names that have been used for them and argues the problems they would possibly cause because of their vagueness.

The Quad's cherry trees are generally called "Japanese flowering cherry" or "Yoshino Cherry" among newspaper articles and campus websites concerning them. Also, in memorandums concerning the trees published by the University of Washington and Washington Arboretum Park, they are usually mentioned as "*Prunus yedoensis*" or "*Prunus Yedoensis* (Yoshino Cherry)."³ All of these names are problematic. First of all, "Japanese flowering cherry" is obviously vague. This label causes confusion easily when more than two species of the cherry trees are discussed at the same time. Next, "Yoshino Cherry" is not incorrect but still creates the possibility of confusion between species. The label "Yoshino Cherry" technically refers to all the cherry tree species that include 'yoshino' in their species names such as 'Sendai-yoshino' and 'Mikado-yoshino.' Moreover, "*Prunus x yedoensis*" has a problem as well. Although this name is widely used as a scientific name to refer *Somei-yoshino* (*Prunus x yedoensis* 'Somei-yoshino' or *Cerasus x yedoensis* 'Somei-yoshino'), "*Prunus x yedoensis*" actually includes all hybrid cherry tree species between *Cerasus itosakura* (Edohigan) and *Cerasus speciosa* (Ōshima-zakura). It does not identify only *Prunus x yedoensis* 'Somei-yoshino.' Therefore, it is necessary to add 'Somei-yoshino' after *Prunus x yedoensis* in order to specify it because 'Somei-yoshino' is identified only with *Prunus x yedoensis* 'Somei-yoshino.' Finally, "*Prunus Yedoensis* (Yoshino Cherry)" is also not accurate because it has the same problem with "Yoshino Cherry." There

³ For example, in a memorandum made by the Arboretum, the cherry trees are mentioned as "*Prunus Yedoensis* (Yoshino Cherry)." Also, in the other internal document the cherry trees are mentioned "*Prunus yedoensis*."

Memorandum on areas and plants involved in proposed Lake bridge construction through Arboretum, February 26, 1959, Box 25/8, Arboretum Records.

Trees & Shrubs likely to be removed for bridge approach north west of Roanoke Street, North of Boulevard, November 31, 1959, Box 25/10, Arboretum Records.

are several botanical names to identify the true classification specifically.⁴ *Prunus x yedoensis* ‘Somei-yoshino’, *Cerasus x yedoensis* ‘Somei-yoshino’, and *Prunus x yedoensis* Matsumura ‘Somei-yoshino’ are few of well-known examples. The word ‘Somei-yoshino’ distinguish it from other species.

To limit confusion, this paper will call the species of the Quad cherry trees “Somei-yoshino” in later paragraphs when it has to be classified accurately.

Chapter 3. Origin of the Cherry Trees in the Quad

About 60 years have passed since the 30 original cherry trees were transplanted to the Quad. This chapter focuses on the early history of these original trees. They were initially planted in the original location in or before 1936. Firstly, this chapter argues certain facts of the origin of these trees based on new findings. Next, it discusses the well-known misunderstood belief to see the original planting was done in 1939. Then, it debates the prior research done by a horticulture specialist Scot Medbury for his master thesis in 1990. Finally, this chapter argues about the widely believed Quad’s cherry trees’ relation with Japan.

Chapter 3, Section 1, Certain Facts

This section argues what is certain about the origin of the cherry trees by using newly discovered evidences. The only two facts that are certain of the Quad Cherry trees’ initial planting are the location and timing. These trees were planted in the Canal Reserve no later than 1936.

The original location is depicted in three sheets of sketches drawn by the University of

⁴ Botanical names of Somei-yoshino and other cherry trees are argued in “Nomenclature of Tokyo cherry (*Cerasus × yedoensis* ‘Somei-yoshino’, Rosaceae) and allied interspecific hybrids based on recent advances in population genetics” written by Toshio Katsuki and Hiroyuki Iketani. Hiroyuki Iketani, and Toshio Katsuki, “Nomenclature of Tokyo Cherry (*Cerasus × Yedoensis* ‘Somei-Yoshino’, Rosaceae) and Allied Interspecific Hybrids Based on Recent Advances in Population Genetics.” *Taxon* 65, no. 6 (December 1, 2016): 1415–19. doi:10.12705/656.13.

Architect Office. (Figure 1, 2, and 3) These three sketches were drawn in December, 15th, 1961 to show where the trees had been removed from and where they have been moved for the construction of the lake bridge, a part of State Route 520.⁵ The sketches were revised in February 27th, 1962 after the transplanting in order to ensure their accuracy.⁶ Figure 4 and 5 are expanded sections of these maps. Figure 4 has the description of 30 cherry trees in the Quad. It says “30 flowering cherries from the Montlake section.”⁷ Figure 5 is a detailed sketch of tree removal plan in an area include the Montlake Interchange and the “30 flowering cherries” are located in the northwest corner of the Lake Washington Boulevard and the Montlake Boulevard.⁸ This location is called the “Canal Reserve.” Thus, the original cherry trees were certainly transplanted from the Canal Reserve.

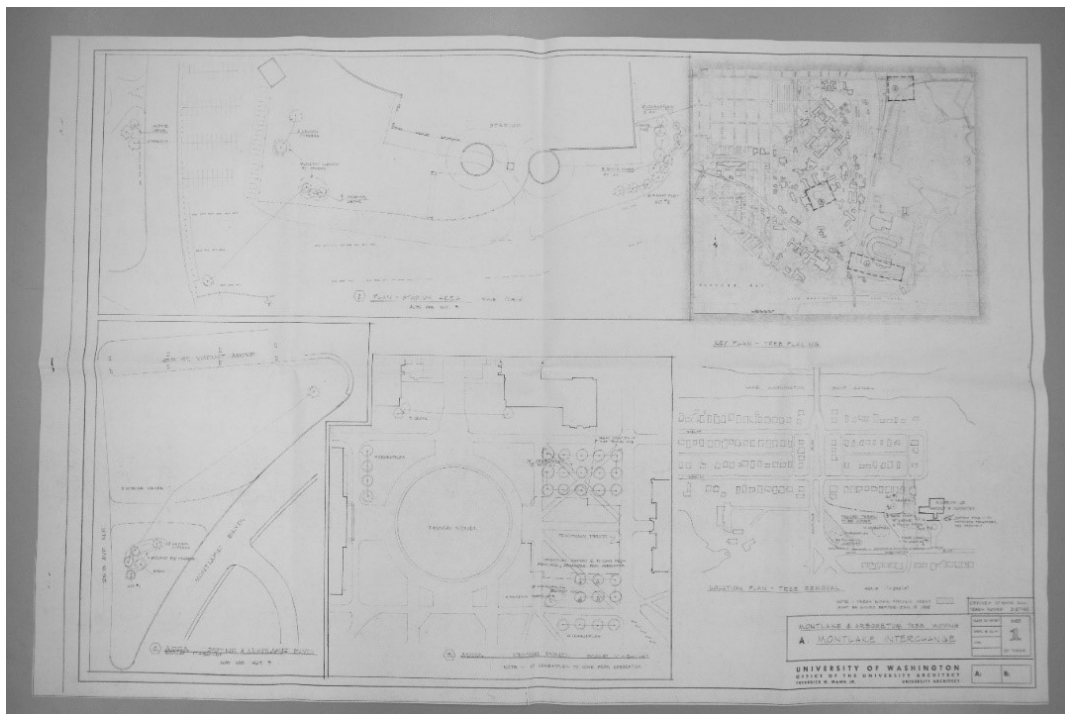


Figure 1: Montlake & Arboretum Tree Moving, Sheet 1, Montlake Interchange.

⁵ MONTLAKE & ARBORETUM TREE MOVING, December 15, 1961, Box 51, Arboretum Records: sheet 1-3.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Ibid., sheet 2.

⁸ Ibid., sheet 1.

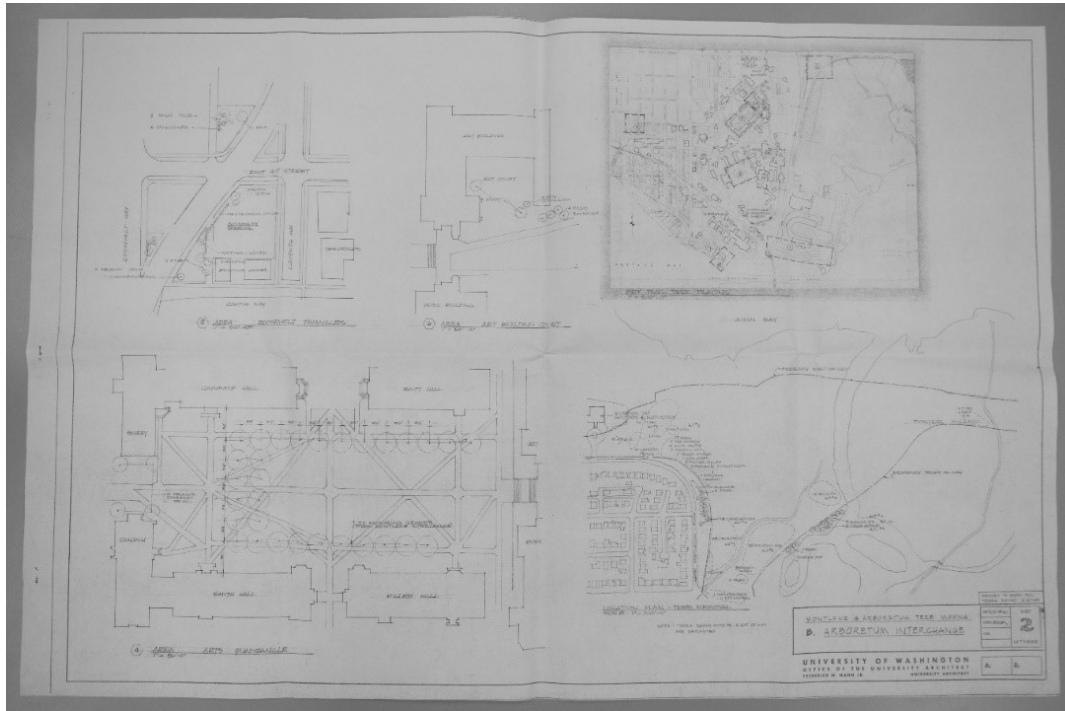


Figure 2: Montlake & Arboretum Tree Moving, Sheet 2, Arboretum Interchange.

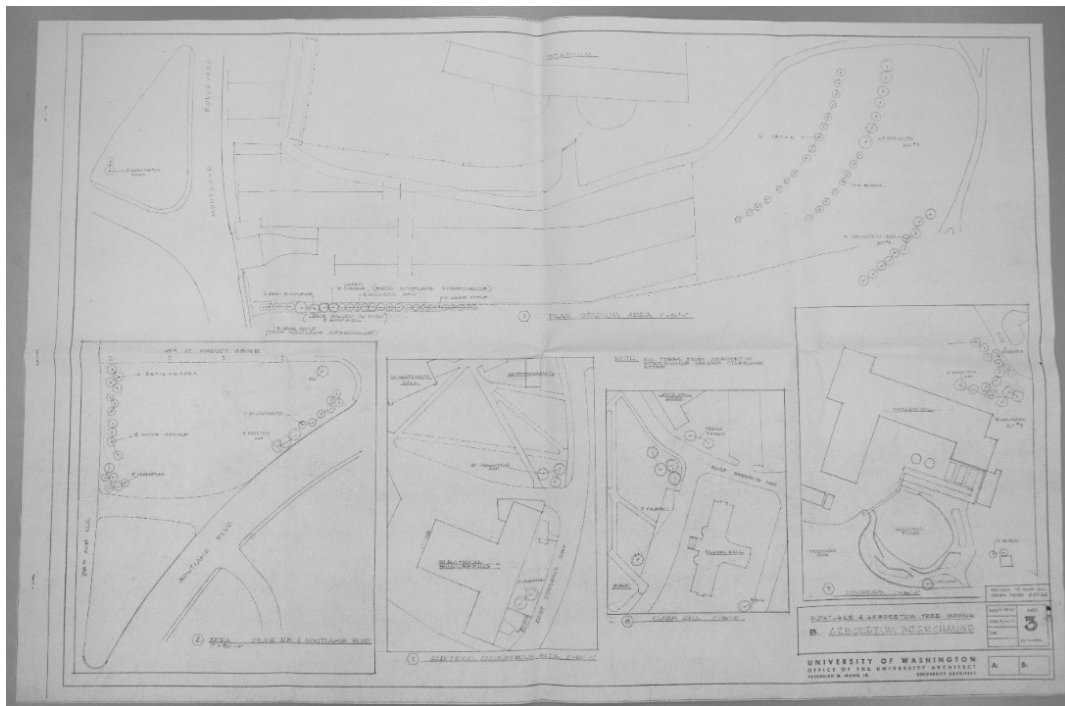


Figure 3: Montlake & Arboretum Tree Moving, Sheet 3, Arboretum Interchange.

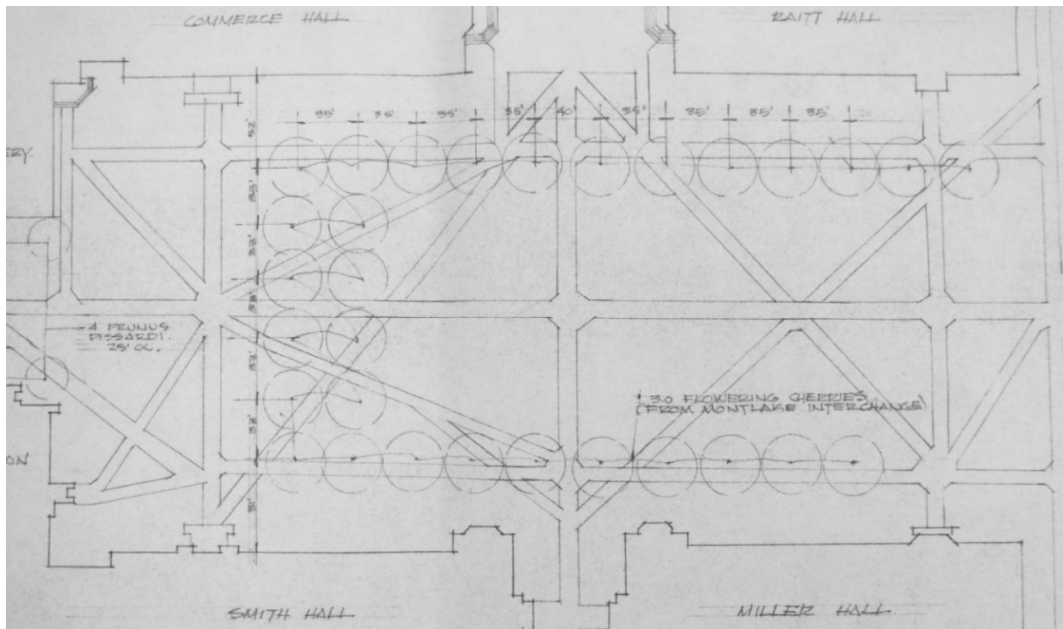


Figure 4 (Figure 2 macrophotograph): Quad, “30 flowering cherries from Montlake Interchange”

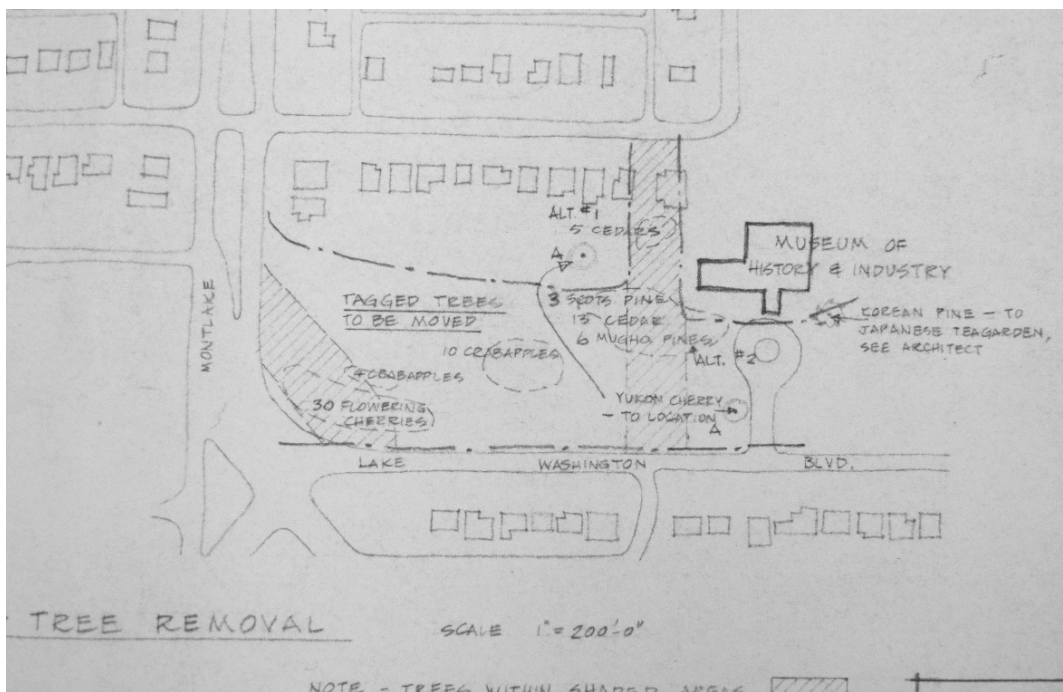


Figure 5 (Figure 1 macrophotograph): Original location, “30 flowering cherries”

Other evidence endorses the Canal Reserve as the original location of the Quad’s cherry trees. Today, two “Somei-yoshino” stand on the edge of Canal Reserve where the construction of the S.R.

520 did not affect vegetation. These trees are regarded as the siblings of the original cherry trees planted in the Quad today.⁹ (Figure 6, 7, and 8) The author of this paper visited there with the tree specialist, Arthur Lee Jacobson.¹⁰ Jacobson asserted the trees on the edge of Canal Reserve are siblings of the Quad's cherry trees after he observed both sets of trees.¹¹ Jacobson pointed out that the two trees in the Canal Reserve do not have the signs of grafting as those in the Quad exhibit. He affirmed that these trees were planted at the same time as the trees in the Quad.¹² Moreover, the memorandum from the Arboretum also substantiates the information on the sketches written by the Office of University Landscape Architect. This memorandum was created in February 26th, 1959, and it talks about lands and plants affected by the S.R. 520 construction.¹³ In the memorandum, 31 of "Prunus yedoensis (Yoshino cherry)" are counted in an area which includes the Canal Reserve.¹⁴ Since the memorandum was made two years before the actual transplanting, the number of trees seems to be changed from 31 to 30. The 31 trees most likely references the trees planted in the Canal Reserve and moved to the Quad. Thus, the memorandum affirms the accuracy of the sketch. Therefore, it can be definitively said that the cherry trees in the Quad were transplanted from the Canal Reserve.

⁹ Tom Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," *Columns*, March, 1999, part 1; <https://www.washington.edu/alumni/columns/march99/blooms1.html>, part 2; <https://www.washington.edu/alumni/columns/march99/blooms2.html>, part 3; <https://www.washington.edu/alumni/columns/march99/blooms3.html>.

When the author of this paper asked about these trees to Griffin in April 2017, Griffin answered that he heard about these trees from Bill Talley, former university landscape architect and saw the two trees around 1999. Griffin's article is slightly longer in web version than the paper version. Griffin explained that paper version is short because of the limit of space.

¹⁰ Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017. The author of this paper visited the location with him.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.

¹³ Memorandum on areas and plants involved in proposed Lake bridge construction through Arboretum, February 26, 1959, Box 25/8, Arboretum Records.

¹⁴ Ibid.

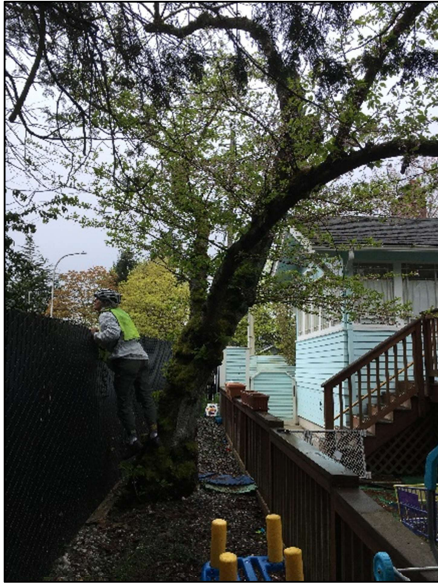


Figure 6: Tree #1

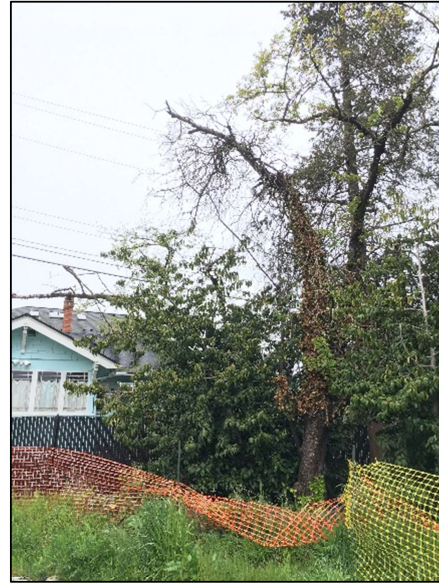


Figure7: Tree #2

(Phots are taken by the author of this paper April 23, 2017)

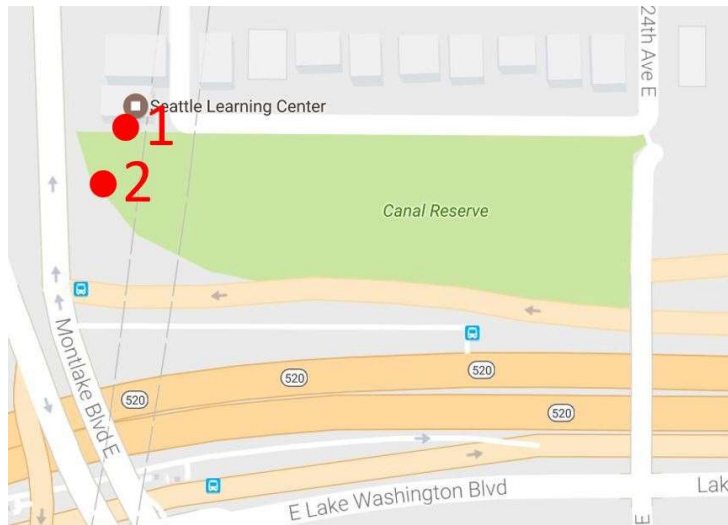


Figure 8: Location of the two trees.

The cherry trees belonged to the Arboretum at the time they were transplanted. The Arboretum's internal document dealt the cherry trees as its property when the highway construction was discussed. The area, where they were originally planted, is separated from the Arboretum's main

area but the land was regarded as a part of the Arboretum's site for a long time. For example, a sheet of sketch, seemingly like the Arboretum's development plan written in 1934 includes the Canal Reserve in it. (Figure 9)¹⁵ Although the Arboretum regarded the land as its property for a long time, the history of the Canal Reserve is complicated. According to the *Washington Park Arboretum Park Historical Review* published in 2003, the Arboretum acquired five acres of land, which included the Canal Reserve, from the U.S. government in 1946.¹⁶ It is unknown whether this information is true or not due to the lack of a citation. If this information is true, however, it means the land was technically owned by the government until 1946, though it was practically dealt as a part of the Arboretum. Therefore, when the construction of the S.R. 520 was discussed, plants in the area were treated as the arboretum's property.¹⁷

¹⁵ LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CITY OF SEATTLE, February 1934, a document stored in the Elisabeth C. Miller Library.

¹⁶ BOLA Architecture + Planning, and Karen Kiest Landscape Architects, "Washington Park Arboretum Historic Review," *University of Washington Botanic Gardens*, September, 2003, <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/09/>, 93.

¹⁷ Memorandum on areas and plants involved in proposed Lake bridge construction through Arboretum, February 26, 1959, Box 25/8, Arboretum Records.

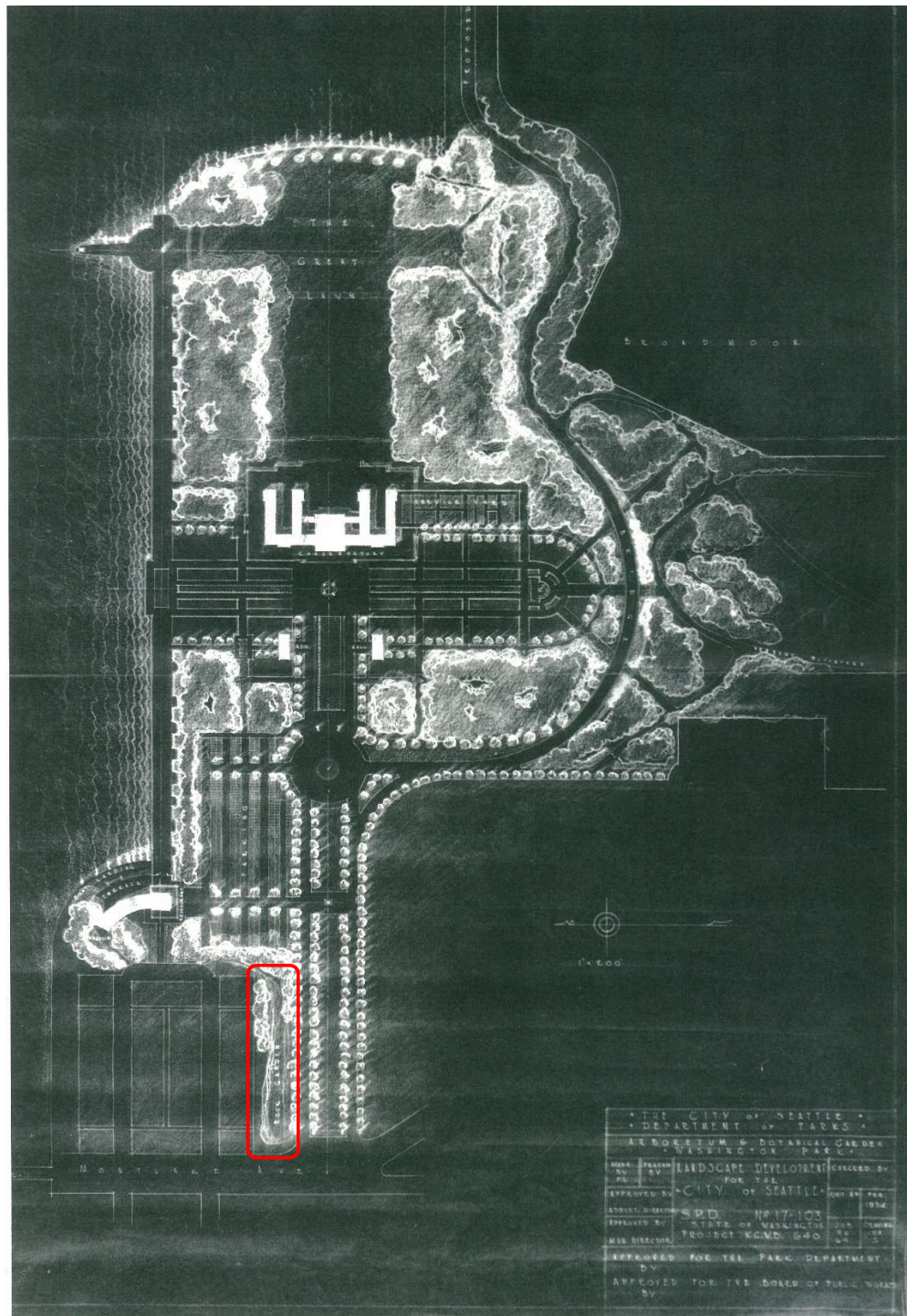


Figure 9 : LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE CITY OF SEATTLE, February 1934
This sketch contains the area called Canal Reserve today. (red circle)

Next, it is certain that the original planting was done in or before 1936. Today, existing old records of trees of the Arboretum are stored in the Center of Urban Horticulture, which is a part of

the University of Washington Botanic Garden.¹⁸ All plantings are recorded in a yearly ledger of accession and have their own accession number which corresponds with an accession card of each of these trees when they are acquired. That accession card has detailed information including the tree's habit, location, and notes. Raymond Larson, a curator of the plant collection in the University of Washington Botanic Garden, with a deep insight on the Arboretum Park's history, stated that recording of newly acquired trees started during 1936 including for those plants planted in the Canal Reserve.¹⁹ So, he stated that trees planted earlier than 1936 and in 1936 prior to the start of recording do not have records.²⁰ Then, records of the original planting of the cherry trees in the Canal Reserve have never been found though the research. A newly found internal document of the arboretum written in November 1956 proves that the cherry trees do not have an accession number. The document lists trees likely to be removed in an area for the highway construction and it includes the cherry trees in it. In the list, many sets of trees have their accession numbers correspond with their records but some do not.²¹ The 31 cherry trees do not. Just as with the memorandum of 1959, this number "31" might have been changed by the time of actual transplanting in 1962. The absence of a record means the Arboretum certainly does not have any records and information regarding the origin of this set of trees and so these trees must have been planted in or before the 1936.

To summarize, the cherry trees in the Quad were planted in the location called Canal Reserve in or prior to 1936. It means these trees are over 81 years old today. Due to the absence of records containing more information, when exactly, why, by whom, and how they were planted is still a mystery.

¹⁸ "Center for Urban Horticulture," University of Washington Botanic Gardens, accessed May 24, 2017, <https://botanicgardens.uw.edu/center-for-urban-horticulture/>.

¹⁹ Raymond Larson (curator of the plant collection in the University of Washington Botanic Garden), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 11, 2017.

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Trees & Shrubs likely to be removed for bridge approach north west of Roanoke Street, North of Boulevard, November 31, 1959.

Chapter 3, Section 2, 1939 Belief

The cherry trees in the Quad are usually said to have been planted in the University of Washington Arboretum Park in 1939 originally but this is incorrect. This 1939 belief originates in an article published in March 1999, “Blooms in Doom”, written in the University of Washington alumni magazine, *Columns*, by its editor Tom Griffin. The article was written to share the Quad cherry trees’ declining situation and the history of the trees was explained in it. Here is the excerpt of the article.

While its pre-war plantings aren't well documented, Arboretum Registrar Randall Hitchin located a 1939 purchase of 34 Yoshino cherries priced at \$1.25 each. Based on the height of the purchased stock, Hitchin estimates they were three years old.²²

Because Griffin’s article is probably the only source detailing the entire history of the cherry trees, prior to this paper, and can be accessed on the Internet, this portion of the article has been quoted widely in accounts of the history of the cherry trees. However, this information about 34 cherry trees is wrong and actually concerning different trees. After the article was published in the March 1999, Scot Medbury sent an email to point out its error. (More explanation of Medbury and his research is given in the next section.) Here is the copy of his email:

To the Editor,

I enjoyed the cover story on the Quad cherry grove, one of the Seattle landmarks that I miss most living in California. The trees are actually a few years older than was suggested in the article, something I was able to document during my thesis research on the Arboretum's early history. The original planting, on the "canal reserve land" that once marked the entrance to the Arboretum and today forms the route of S.R. 520, was made by Works Progress

²² Tom Griffin, 1999.

Administration crews in the winter of 1935-36, prior to the receipt of the Olmsted Brothers' master plan for the Arboretum. According to Frederick W. Leissler, Jr., assistant director of the Arboretum at the time, the planting caused quite a stir with the Seattle Garden Club, who had funded the Olmsted plan and wanted to see it exclusively followed. These Yoshino cherry trees, along with several incense-cedars in the same vicinity, constituted the Arboretum's first official plantings, a distinction they carried with them when relocated to the Quad in the mid-60's.

Scot Medbury, '87, '90

Berkeley, Calif. ²³

The whole of Marbury's email was printed in the next issue of *Columns* in its "letters" section with a title "Cherries Older Than You Think" and uploaded on the magazine's website.²⁴ Nonetheless, this original misinformation has been widely believed until today. The next paragraph argues about the record of 34 cherry trees purchased in 1934 in order to prove it is not about the Quad cherry trees.

The record of 34 trees corresponds with the cherry trees planted in another place in the arboretum. The record still exists in the Center for Urban Horticulture. In a ledger of accession of 1939, there is only one record of the 34 "Yoshino" cherry trees, so these trees can be identified as the trees Randall Hitchin located.²⁵ (Figure 10) The record indicates that 35 "Prunus Yedoensis=Yoshino" was purchased at \$1.25 each, and one died.²⁶ The record also tells the accession number of the

²³ Scot Medbury, e-mail to the editor of *Columns*, March 30, 1999, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect). Griffin forwarded this email to Bill Talley, a former landscape architect. He printed this email and it was succeeded to Kenney, the current landscape architect.

²⁴ Scot medbury, "Cherries Older Than You Think," *Columns*, June, 1999, https://www.washington.edu/alumni/columns/june99/letters_to_ed0699.html.

²⁵ 1939 Record Book, 49, stored in the Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington Botanic Gardens.

²⁶ Ibid.

accession card corresponding to the trees.²⁷ The card correspond indicates that “*Prunus x yedoensis*” (common name “Yoshino Cherry”) were purchased from the Portland Wholesale Nursery and 34 were planted along Azalea Way.²⁸ (Figure 11 and 12) Because the cherry trees in the Quad were transplanted from the Canal Reserve which is obviously different from Azalea Way, this record is not about the Quad’s cherry trees.

Rebale	Name	Plants	Seeds	Cult.	Bulbs	Price	Total	Source	Disposition	Remarks
2231	<i>Prunus sieboldii</i> Takasago	15				8' 6" c	125	Park White Nurs Portland	Azalea Way	Ore. No Seattle Golden Club
2232										
2233	<i>Yedensis</i> Yoshino	15				5' 6" c	125			
2234	" "	10				3' 4" c	125			
2235	" "	10				5' 6" c	125			
2236	<i>Bunchosia fortunei</i>							Los Angeles Williams		
2237	<i>Iris laevigata</i> No. 3							Volunteer Park	Foster P. Island	
2238	" "									
2239	" "									
2240	" "									
2241	" "									
2242	" "									
2243	" "									
2244	" "									
2245	" "									
2246	" "									
2247	" "									
2248	" "									
2249	" "									
2250	" "									
2251	" "									
2252	" "									
2253	<i>Philadelphus argenteus</i>	5								
2254	<i>Sorbus Billardii</i>	5								
2255	<i>Juniperus tripartita</i> virginiana tripartita	1								
2256	<i>Ceanothus ovatus</i>									
2257	<i>Myrica cerifera</i>									
2258	" "									
2259	<i>Myrica communis</i>									
2260	<i>Rumex granatum</i> var. nana	5								
2261	<i>Vitex clematis</i> - caules	6								
2262	<i>Zizyphus jugosa</i>	7								
2263	<i>Opuntia</i> sp. - Cactus - Booby per 20									
2264	<i>Lagerbergia indica</i> - Cape Myrtle									
2265	<i>Gaultheria fragrantissima</i>									
2266	" <i>hypochlora</i>									
2267	" <i>laxiflora</i>									
2268	" <i>near Forrestii</i>									
2269	" <i>nivea</i>									
2270	" <i>nummularioides</i>									
2271	" <i>pyrolaoides</i>									
2272	" <i>sinensis</i> var. <i>major</i>									
2273	" <i>sp.</i>									
2274	" <i>sp.</i>									
2275	" <i>sp.</i>									

Figure 10: 1939 Record Book, 49, stored in the Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington Botanic Gardens

The record of 2233, 2234, and 2235 indicate that in total 35 (15, 10, and 10) “*Prunus Yedoensis*=Yoshino” was purchased at \$1.25 each, and one died.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Trees Record 2233-39, stored in the Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington Botanic Gardens.

2233-39, 2254-39, 3355
 No. ~~2233-39~~ Scien. Name PRUNUS YEDOENSIS (YOSHINO) Date Rec. 12-7-39
 Com. Name Yoshino Cherry Family ROSACEAE Date Prop.
 Source Portland Wholesale Nursery, Portland, Ore. Received as Plants (35)
 G.H. L.H. Frames Nursery Arboretum Exchanged Given Away
 Date Ap 46
 No. Plt. 34
 Loc. Azalea Way 66, 47, 17, 57, 17, 7
 PLANT TYPE Shape
 HABIT Size
 Type Color
 Height Several plants along Features
 Spread Azalea Way, 10/72 Orn. Value
 Branches
 STEMS Possibly some without INFLORESCENCE Ap. 23-45 to May 4-45
 Type Ap 9-46 to
 Color 3/20/81 About full bloom
 Features 4/14/89 Several large trees of this W-
 LEAVES 1 in 9-1W maybe this # Fragrance in full bloom along Azalea Way.
 Season # Color 3.07-2 J.P.B.
 Abundance 1 in 7-1W " " " # Pollination
 Type
 Arrangement

Figure 11: Trees Record 2233-39, stored in the Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington Botanic Gardens.

2233-39
 ACQ. NO. seedling NAME Prunus yedoensis
 DATE ADDITIONAL PLANTINGS & OTHER NOTES
 12/27/56 2 plts.: (1 - W. side Azalea Way N. of Geanothus collection. = P. sub-fortitella)
 (1 - W. side Azalea Way, in Forsythia area.
 1/4/57 1 plt.: S. end of Azalea Way in N. end of Azalea bed near Acer
campestre. (on E. side of Az. Way) P7
 3/31/97 1 plt in 30-3E removed because of storm damage
 3843

Figure 12: the other side of Figure 11.

Randall Hitchin himself recognized this error. Tom Griffin, the author of the Columns article, forwarded Scot Medbury's email to Hitchin.²⁹ This is an excerpt from Hitchin's reply.

Thanks for passing along Scot's letter. He actually gave me a call several days ago to talk over his information, and I am quite certain that he has facts straight. (Indeed, he probably knows more about the early history of the Arboretum [than] any other living person).

For the sake of clarity, I should mention that the planting record that Tom and I initially talked about concerned 34 Yoshino Cherries that were planted along Azalea Way. Contrary [to] my original conjecture, these trees most certainly remained along Azalea Way. The Azalea Way trees represent the earliest recorded planting of Yoshino Cherries in the Arboretum. If an original planting record for Yoshino Cherries on the 'Canal Reserve' land was ever created, it is not to be found in the Arboretum collection records.³⁰

He admits Medbury's correction and says there are no records of the Quad cherry trees' original planting. The author of this paper interviewed him April 2017 over the phone and via email and he explained the reason why the 1939 record came up.

I was asked to perform a simple review of the Arboretum records related to Yoshino cherries acquired during that period. I discovered an acquisition that could have been those trees,

²⁹ Tom Griffin, e-mail to Bill Talley and Randall Hitchin, March 31, 1999, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect). Talley printed this email and it was succeeded to Kenney.

³⁰ Randall Hitchin, e-mail to Tom Griffin, April 21, 1999, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect). Hitchin cc-ed Talley. He printed this email and it was succeeded to Kenney.

however there was no evidence to confirm this.³¹

The record of the other Yoshino cherries (“*Somei-yoshino*”) was picked up because there was a possibility that it corresponded with the cherry trees transplanted to the Quad. However, it was the wrong record. Scot Medbury pointed out the error and his correction appeared in the next issue of *Columns*. Nevertheless, this 1939 belief still appeared in later articles related to the Quad’s cherry trees. The next section argues more about Scot Medbury and his view.

Chapter 3, Section 3, Prior Research Done by Scot Medbury

Scot Medbury, currently the president of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden in New York City was a master student at the Center for Urban Horticulture in the University of Washington. He completed his master thesis *The Olmsted Arboretum and its Application to Washington Park, Seattle* in 1990.³² He focused on the Olmsted Brothers and the early history of Washington Park and the University of Washington Arboretum. As presented earlier, he corrected the *Columns* magazine article’s error in 1999 based on his research for his master thesis. The correction seems plausible. Because the original planting was certainly done at the “Canal Reserve” in or prior to 1936. Thus, his correction does not contradict anything proven about the cherry trees. Yet, there are no citations or sources to prove its credibility. He was not supposed to provide citations for that correction since it was just a letter from a reader to the editor of the magazine. However, this makes it difficult to assert the accuracy of his correction. Therefore, although his letter appears true, it cannot be accepted as a true fact.

Medbury also mentions the history of the cherry trees in the Quad in his master thesis.

³¹ Randall Hitchin, e-mail to the author, May 2, 2017.

³² Scot Medbury, “The Olmsted Taxonomic Arboretum and Its Applications to Washington Park, Seattle” (master’s thesis, University of Washington, 1990), 121.

Another project initiated by Leissler before the Olmsted plan arrived was what he later described to be the arboretum's first plantings (Leissler 1989). The site was the canal reserve land at the north entrance to Washington Park from Montlake Boulevard. Yoshino cherries (*Prunus x yedoensis*), incense cedars (*Calocedrus decurrens*), and other trees, all donated by local nurserymen, were planted here by the WPA³³ and lawns seeded beneath them. Leissler's planting was strictly an aesthetic one, without any pretense to fitting into a taxonomic plan. Consequently, it invited the criticism of the Seattle Garden Club, who had paid for the still unreceived Olmsted plan and wanted to see it exclusively followed. A few of the incense cedars remain in their original places today, on the north side of the State Route 520. The Yoshino cherries, however, were, moved to the liberal arts quadrangle on the university campus in about 1960, to make way for the construction of the highway.³⁴

Because he sent the correction based on his research for the thesis, many parts overlap with it. This excerpt also seems to be plausible but it also contains a citation issue. According to his in-text citation and the bibliography, he provides only one citation for this part; a letter from Leissler to Medbury sent on June 1989. This letter is included in materials he deposited to the Center for Urban Horticulture after he completed his research. Those materials are stored in the Suzzallo Library Special Collections and the Elisabeth C. Miller Library in the University of Washington today. Therefore, the letter he cited for this part is accessible in the collection. However, the letter reveals his citation error. The contents of the cited letter do not correspond with what he wrote. So, the author of this paper asked him about this problem and he recognized his citation error in his in-text citation and bibliography.³⁵ He described that he interviewed Leissler in the summer of 1989 and this

³³ WPA means the Work Progress Administration. It is the biggest New Deal agency and employed lots of people for public works projects.

³⁴ Scot Medbury, "The Olmsted Taxonomic," 121.

³⁵ email date

interview became the source for his story about of the cherry trees and Leissler's involvement.³⁶ He stated that he probably deposited the interview's tape to the Center for Urban Horticulture. Because he deposited a lot of his other original materials, he presumably did the same thing with the tape. The tape was, however, most likely lost in libraries' collection unfortunately. The citation error and the absence of this tape make it difficult to prove his story's credibility.

Although it is impossible to access this tape of the interview, many parts of his story are supported by information gained from other materials related to Leissler. To begin, Leissler has to be described. He is well described by himself in his letters to Medbury and Barbara Bender, a woman who conducted research about the early history of the Arboretum Park prior to Medbury.³⁷ According to his letters, Frederick Leissler involved in an early development of the University of Washington Arboretum from 1934.³⁸ His letter to Barbara says he worked for the Arboretum until 1940³⁹ but a letter from Donald Wyman, seeming like his colleague, to Leissler indicates he resigned in 1939.⁴⁰ It seems like he conducted several plantings in the Arboretum⁴¹ and worked with the Olmsted Brothers to make a master plan since 1934.⁴²

Leisler provides information which supports Medbury's study. Leisler wrote in his letter to Bender that he conducted plantings of crabapples, flowering cherries, incense cedars, and true cedars in the "north entrance to the Arboretum along the boulevard" and these plantings were done by WPA labor.⁴³ Where he meant by the "north entrance to the Arboretum along the boulevard" is unclear but there is a high probability that this location refers to the area called "canal reserve." This view is

³⁶ Scot Medbury, e-mail to the author, April 29, 2017.

³⁷ Barbara Bender to Scot Medbury, February 24, 1989, Box 40/36, Arboretum Records.

³⁸ Frederick Leissler to Barbara Bender, October 30, 1983, Box 40/36, Arboretum Records.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ Donald Wyman to Frederick Leissler, May 17, 1939, a document stored in the Elisabeth C. Miller Library. In the Elisabeth C. Miller Library, there is a box with materials gathered by Medbury. This letter was stored in that box.

⁴¹ Frederick Leissler to Barbara Bender, January 31, 1985, Box 40/36, Arboretum Records.

⁴² Frederick Leissler to Barbara Bender, February 11, 1985, Box 40/36, Arboretum Records.

⁴³ Frederick Leissler to Barbara Bender, January 31, 1985

endorsed by the sketches drawn by the Office of Landscape Architect in 1961 and revised 1962 to record tree transplanting.⁴⁴ (Figure 13) Crab apples and cedars are drawn in the Canal Reserve with the cherry trees came to the Quad.⁴⁵ Therefore, although there are no evidences to identify the flowering cherries as the cherry trees transplanted to the Quad, this story fits well with other available information. In the other letter to Medbury, Leissler also stated that the Arboretum received trees and shrubs donations from nurseries and particularly lists three nurseries as a major contributor; Sullivan's Nursery, [Bonnell's] Nursery, and Malmos Nursery.⁴⁶ This statement indicates the cherry trees might be donated by the local nursery. Although the original source of Medbury's theory has been lost, other letters support part of his theory and do not contradict it. Therefore, it is most likely that what Medbury found is true. But still, it is impossible to guarantee the accuracy of his research due to the incompleteness of the source.

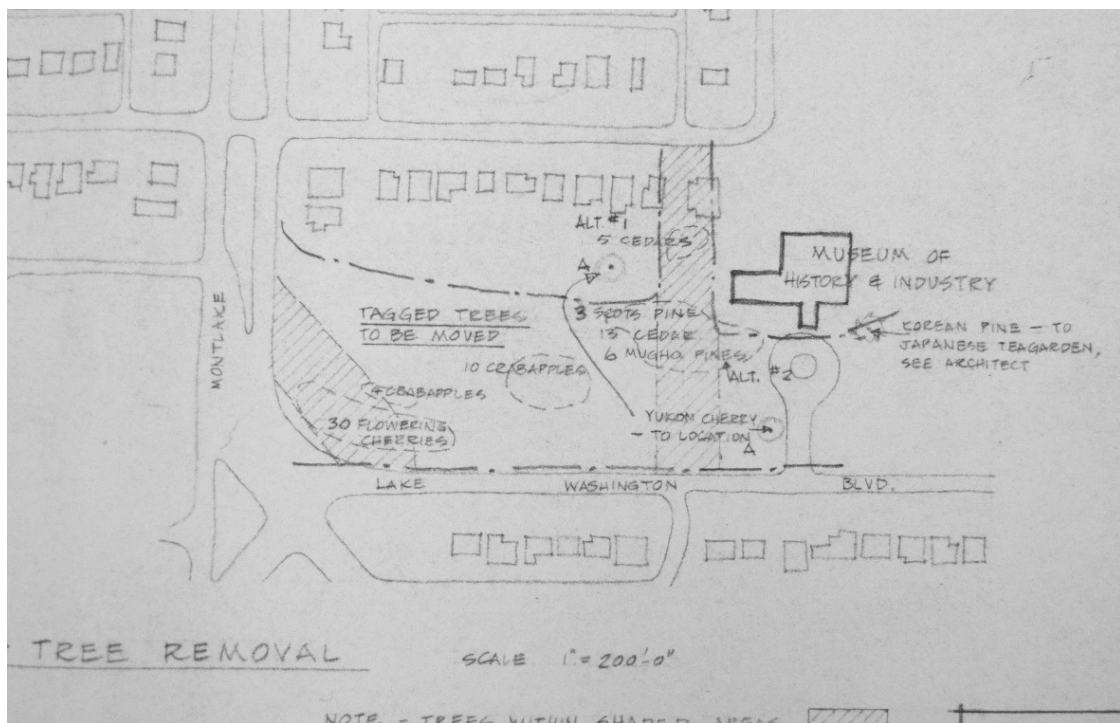


Figure 13 (same with Figure5): Crab apples and cedars are drawn in the Canal Reserve with the cherry trees came to the Quad.

⁴⁴ MONTLAKE & ARBORETUM TREE MOVING, December 15, 1961, sheet 1.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Frederick Leissler to Scot Medbury, April 6, 1989, Box 40/36, Arboretum Records.

Chapter 3, Section 4, Japan

Many people believe these cherry trees were sent or donated from Japan or a Japan related organization. There are several variations of these Japan theories. One theory says that the trees were originally donated by the Japanese government. The other argues that they were sent from Japan as a part of the Kobe-Seattle sister city relation. There are also other stories related to Japan. One of these stories could be true. However, there have been records that imply the trees connection to Japan. Japan theories are still mysterious due to the lack of records.

Most theories propose that the cherry trees came from Japan may appear because people easily mix up the cherry trees in the Quad with other cherries donated to the U.S. from Japan. Historically, Japan has sent a lot of cherry trees to the U.S. as a symbol of its friendship. For example, in 1912, the Tokyo mayor sent 3,000 cherries trees to Washington, D.C.⁴⁷ Moreover, The University of Washington has also received cherry tree donations from Japan and sometimes people confuse the Quad's cherry trees and other cherry trees donated from Japan. In 1976, the University of Washington Japanese Alumnus Association sent 50 Kwanzan cherry trees from Japan to the university⁴⁸ and most of them were said to be planted along the Rainer Vista.⁴⁹ Additionally, 18 cherry trees have been recently planted in the Rainier Vista near the Drumheller Fountain with money donated by the Japan Commerce Association of Washington, D.C.⁵⁰ Due to confusion over Washington State and Washington D.C. and the other cherry tree donations that happened around the university, people could easily mix up episodes of cherry trees donations to the U.S. and the university. This is probably

⁴⁷“History of the Cherry Trees - Cherry Blossom Festival,” *U.S. National Park Service*, accessed May 25, 2017, <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/cherryblossom/history-of-the-cherry-trees.htm>.

⁴⁸ Akio Hirao (Japanese alumnus), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 1, 2017.

⁴⁹ HISTORICAL TREES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BY JIM KERIN U.W. GROUNDS DEPARTMENT, January 15, 2001, a document stored in the University Grounds Shop.

⁵⁰ Tetsuden Kashima (retired professor of University of Washington), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 12, 2017.
He involved in the planting.

why Japan theories spread among people.

But still, there is a possibility that the Quad's cherry trees originated from Japan. It is hard to track down all cherry tree donations done by Japan in or before 1936. However, one possibility is the donation from the city of Yokohama in 1930. An article in the *Arboretum Bulletin* published in the spring of 1953 says that approximately 4000 various species of cherry trees were gifted to Seattle from Yokohama City in 1930.⁵¹ They were kept in the city nursery for a while and then planted in many parks in Seattle.⁵² Credibility of this information is uncertain but there is possibility that the cherry trees in the Quad were a part of this donation.

Chapter 3, Section 5, Conclusion

The initial planting of the cherry trees was done in the Canal Reserve in or prior to 1936. Scot Medbury wrote more details about the cherry trees' origin in his correction to the *Columns* article and his master thesis but his writings lack sources to back up their claims. Additionally, the belief to see the initial planting was done in 1939 is proven as incorrect. The cherry trees could possibly have been sent or donated from Japan because their origin has not been discovered yet. However, it seems like this theory comes from confusion with other trees. The next chapter focuses on the transplanting of these original trees done in 1962.

Chapter 4, Moving from the Canal Reserve to the Quad

The original cherry trees were transplanted from the Canal Reserve to the Quad in January 1962. In the beginning of 1950s, the plan to build State Route 520 and its interchange over the Arboretum including the Canal Reserve appeared. The Arboretum insisted on the consideration of other locations for the highway so that its land and trees could be protected. However, the construction

⁵¹ A.W. Gallaher, "Oriental Flowering Cherries in the Seattle Park System," *Arboretum Bulletin* 16, no. 4 (1953): 20.

⁵² Ibid.

of highway over the Arboretum and the loss of the Arboretum's property including the cherry trees became definite. Then, an idea to move the trees to other locations came up. In 1962, the cherry trees were transplanted to the Quad as a part of approximately 300 trees moved in the same period for the construction. First, this chapter is going to describe briefly the project to construct S.R. 520 over the Arboretum and the Arboretum's reaction to this construction project. Second, this chapter argues how the idea to plant the cherry trees in the Quad was figured out. Finally, it will explain the actual work of transplanting these trees.

Chapter 4, Section 1, Construction of the S.R. 520 over the Arboretum

The plan to construct a bridge over the Lake Washington started to be discussed in 1953 to deal with Seattle's increasing traffic.⁵³ Since then, the plan acquired public attention regarding to its location and financing.⁵⁴ The Arboretum kept taking an oppositional attitude towards the construction plan to make this bridge and its intersection over the Arboretum land in order to protect its property. The Arboretum claimed the value of the Arboretum and the significance of the negative damage caused by the loss of land and plants. It insisted on the relocation of the highway construction project.⁵⁵ At the same time, the Arboretum made various estimates of the possible damages caused by the construction over its land and trees including the cherry trees planted in the Canal Reserve. A letter written by Brian O. Mulligan, the director of the Arboretum, to the editor of *Post Intelligencer* in February 1956, six years before the transplanting, argued the possible effect of the construction and already distinguished trees in two categories; "Planted trees [that are] too large to move" and "Younger trees [that are] fit to be moved."⁵⁶ It is not clear whether the plan to transplant the trees in

⁵³"Lake Bridge: No Span in Sight After Six Years of Controversy," *Seattle Times* (Seattle, WA), September 6, 1959.

⁵⁴ Articles related to the construction of the new highway was frequently appeared on *Seattle Times*. These articles are stored in Arboretum Records Box 25/9.

⁵⁵ Donald G. Graham to Arthur B. Langli, October 3, 1953, Box 25/1, Arboretum Records.

⁵⁶ Brian. O. Mulligan to the editor of *Post Intelligencer*, February 10, 1956, Box 25/8, Arboretum Records.

a case of the highway construction over the Arboretum had already decided at that time or not, but it seems like the transplanting had been considered as an option from at least six years prior to the actual moving of the trees. This kind of categorization of trees estimation on the count of each type of tree was made several times until the transplanting was accomplished in 1962.⁵⁷ Finally, after this long controversy, the location for the construction of the bridge was decided and the cherry trees were included in the area affected by the construction.

Chapter 4, Section 2, The Formation of the Idea to Move the Cherry Trees to the Quad

This section discusses how the idea to move the cherry trees from the Canal Reserve to the Quad was figured out and endorsed. The same topic was briefly discussed in Griffin's *Columns* article in 1999. This section reviews how the idea to move the trees was created by referencing Griffin's article and new findings. It is hard to reveal all the processes involved with decision making since most people who were involved in the project have already passed away and there are not much records. However, an outline of the story can be seen by dividing the process into three parts: coming up with an idea to move the trees, choosing their new location, and deciding their arrangement in the new location, the Quad at the University of Washington. It is most plausible that the idea to move the cherry trees originated with Fred Mann, the university architect, the Quad was chosen as the destination through discussion with other involved parties, and the arrangement of the trees was designed by Eric Hoyte, the university landscape architect.

Chapter 4, Section 2-1, Moving the Trees

It seems like that it was Mann's idea to move the cherry trees from the Arboretum to the

⁵⁷ Documents doing this type of categorizations in this period of time is in the Arboretum Records stored in Suzzallo and Allen Libraries Special Collection

University of Washington campus. In April 2017, when the author of this paper interviewed Hoyte, who was Mann's employee at the time of the transplanting, he stated that Mann got an idea to move the trees and President Charles Odegaard approved this idea.⁵⁸ His statement explained Mann and the president Odegaard's roles in the idea formation. Since the transplanting was planned more than 55 years ago, Hoyte's personal memory could be wrong. However, what he said is plausible because it does not contradict with Griffin's article written based on Griffin's interview of Mann conducted around 1999. In the *Columns* article, Griffin wrote;

During highway construction in the early '60s, the UW's architect at the time, Fred Mann, drove by the arboretum every morning on his way to work. "[Anyway] we could save those trees, we wanted to do it. We thought it would be terrible if they were dug out and lost," he recalls. "President Charles Odegaard was very enthusiastic. After all, he drove by those trees himself every morning."⁵⁹

This story matches with Hoyte's memory. After Griffin's article was published in March, 1999, Mann wrote a letter to Griffin and said "I thought it was a very fair, accurate and attractive presentation."⁶⁰ This confirms that the above excerpt from the Griffin's article conveys Mann's memory precisely. Mann's mention about the time period of the 60s could be wrong because he misunderstood the transplanting to have occurred in 1964, not 1962, in his interview⁶¹ (as discussed later in this paper), but his basic story still aligns with Hoyte's statement. Therefore, the idea to move the cherry trees most likely originated with Mann. It is still uncertain whether he considered the cherry trees

⁵⁸ Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper April 21, 2017.

⁵⁹ Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," 1999.

⁶⁰ Frederick M. Mann to Tom Griffin, April 22, 1999, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect).

⁶¹ Tom Griffin to Bill Talley, March 24, 1999, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect).

transplanting together with other trees that could be moved for the same construction project. Judging from Griffin's article, it seems to be true that he and the President Odegaard paid special attention to the cherry trees. Therefore, the plan to move the cherry trees might have been envisioned by Mann and then endorsed by Odegaard.

There are other views regarding the origin of the idea. Ernest Conrad, who was the Business Manager of the university at the time the trees were transplanted, involved in the project from financial aspects.⁶² He shared a slightly different view regarding the transplanting. In 1987, when Eric Hoyte retired from the University, *University Week*, the university staff and faculty newspaper, wrote a story on him and honored him for his involvement in the cherry trees planting.⁶³ Although the detailed explanation of Hoyte's involvement in the transplanting will be given later, he played a huge role in finding a location for them on the campus and designing the trees' arrangement. The article explained how Hoyte decided the arrangement of the cherry trees by using his own remarks. Then, after the article was published, Conrad came to the *University Week*'s office to protest the contents of the article. He brought a letter and asked them to copy his letter in their next issue.⁶⁴ A whole sentence of his letter was copied in the *University Week*, published in April 1987. In the letter, Conrad discussed the origin of the idea to transplant the cherry trees;

The story of the cherry trees began when then president Charles Odegaard asked the Vice President for Business and Finance to see what could be done to save as many of the Arboretum trees that would be lost because of the construction of the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge through the northern portion of the Arboretum. President Odegaard especially

⁶² Charles E. Odegaard to Karly Winn, April 8, 1987, vertical file, Charles E. Odegaard papers, 1932-1997, Acc. 2380-007, University of Washington Libraries, Special Collections (hereafter cited as Odegaard papers).

⁶³ "Cherry trees a living legacy for architect," *University Week* (Seattle, WA), February 12, 1987.

⁶⁴ Tom Griffin (former editor of Columns), interviewed by the author of this paper April 22, 2017. Griffin was working for *University Week* at the time Conrad bring the letter to the office. He remembers this event because it is unusual occasion that retired Vice President (Conrad) came to the office.

emphasizes the need to save the cherry trees located near the Seattle Museum of History and Industry.⁶⁵

Conrad claimed that president Odegaard was the origin of the idea. The truth of his theory cannot be confirmed today. However, his theory sounds natural by interpreting his story as what happened after Frederick Mann shared his idea to Odegaard. Therefore, his story is probably only a portion of everything that occurred in the development of the idea to transplant the trees.

Another view claims President Odegaard's total initiative in the planning of the transplanting. In 1993, an article titled "Former UW president Odegaard shares his past" was published in *The Daily*, the campus newspaper.⁶⁶ It was written by Dana Van Nest, a staff member of *The Daily*.⁶⁷ The article briefly explains Odegaard's contribution to the establishment of the beauty of the cherry trees in its introduction. Below is an excerpt of this article:

On his daily drive past the cherry trees from the president's mansion to the UW, Charles Odegaard realized that in order to make way for progress, the trees were going to be demolished.

He thought the cherry trees would improve the almost too spacious quad much more than the new building that was proposed to be built in its center, so he made the necessary arrangements with the city and UW planners to have the stately cherry trees transferred to grace the quad with their natural beauty.⁶⁸

This composition gives all the credit for the transplanting of the cherry trees to the President Odegaard.

⁶⁵ "etc. News and notes from around campus" *University Week* (Seattle, WA), February 12, 1987.

⁶⁶ "Former UW president Odegaard shares his past," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), March 30, 1993.

⁶⁷ Ibid.

⁶⁸ Ibid.

This view might not be incorrect because many decisions related to the cherry tree were technically made with his permission. Since the article focuses on Odegaard, this way of writing does not have problems regarding the truth of its claims, however, the article fails to mention other people's contributions to transplant the trees.

To summarize, the idea to transplant the trees from the area affected by the highway's construction might have started with the university architect, Frederick Mann. Odegaard gave permission to him and supported his efforts. This theory does not largely contradict with other views. Nonetheless, it is still difficult to track down the exact origin of this idea. The highway construction and its effects on the Arboretum gained public attention and it is easy to imagine that people in the Arboretum and the Office of the University Architect were all well concerned about the future of the trees. The idea to transplant possibly came up from discussion among a group of people, including Mann and possibly Odegaard. Therefore, Frederick Mann is the most feasible origin of the idea but it is still uncertain and who first proposed it remains a mystery.

Chapter 4, Section 2-2, Finding the Location for the 30 Cherry Trees

Just as the origin of the idea to move the cherry trees remains unclear, it is uncertain who exactly came up with an idea to replant the cherry trees in the Quad. Most likely, Eric Hoyte was in charge of finding a new location for the cherry trees, but the idea to put the cherry trees in the Quad appeared as a result of discussion among people who were involved in it.

Hoyte was the university landscape architect and worked under Frederick Mann, the university architect, at the time the cherry trees were transplanted in 1962. Hoyte was deeply involved in the project to move the cherry trees in the Quad. However, his role in the process to find the destination of the cherry trees is still unclear due to the fact that his statements have changed over time.

Hoyte's first traceable statement about the cherry trees appeared in the *Arboretum Bulletin*,

the bulletin of the University of Washington Arboretum Park, issued in the Summer of 1965, three years after the transplanting.⁶⁹ He wrote the article “University landscape-A Brief Review.” This is an excerpt of his reflection on the process of finding the trees’ new location;

When it was found that the freeway approach to the Evergreen Point Bridge would destroy a large number of the trees in front of the Museum of History and Industry, I was given the job of finding new locations for these trees, thirty or more of which were Japanese Yoshino cherry-*Prunus yedoensis*-all about the same size.⁷⁰

Maybe this job not only included the cherry trees but also for other trees needed to be moved at the same period. One internal document sent in 1962 from Hoyte to Brian O. Mulligan, the director of Arboretum, indicates that 296 trees from the Arboretum were moved at the same time with the 30 cherry trees.⁷¹ The excerpt above asserts that he was in the position to choose the location. Yet, it is uncertain whether he really picked the Quad by himself or not. After this except, he only wrote about how he planned the arrangement of the cherry trees in the Quad and did not explain his actual process to choose the Quad as their location. His later statements also make it difficult to affirm him as the person who picked the Quad. According to the *Columns*’s article, Tom Griffin, the author of the article, asked Hoyte who came up with the idea to plant the cherry trees in the Quad around 1999 and he answered, “I don’t know.”⁷² The author of this paper also interviewed Hoyte in April 2017 and asked him the same question twice. He replied it was a “cooperated idea” first and then replied, “I think I did” in the second time.⁷³ It might be difficult for him to recall precisely what he did for the project around 1962, more than 50 years ago from when the interview took place. Thus, it is difficult

⁶⁹ Eric W. Hoyte, “University Landscape - A Brief Review,” *Arboretum Bulletin* 28, no. 2 (1965): 32-33.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, 32.

⁷¹ Eric W. Hoyte to Brian O. Mulligan, March 1, 1962, Box 43/11, Arboretum Records.

⁷² Griffin, “BLOOMS in DOOM,” 1999.

⁷³ Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper April 30, 2017.

to establish any information as facts. The most reliable information is his writing done in 1965 because it was written only three years after the transplanting. So, it seems like the job was technically assigned to Hoyte, but the Quad was decided not only by him.

Ernest Conrad claimed Frederick Mann's credit for the idea to move the cherry trees to the Quad in his letter to the editor of *University Week*, written in 1987.⁷⁴

It was Fred Mann's suggestion that the cherry trees be located in the Liberal Arts Quadrangle, a suggestion strongly endorsed by President Odegaard.⁷⁵

Conrad argued that Mann deserved the credit for picking the Quad; however, Mann himself denied his solo credit in an interview done by Griffin in 1998 or 1999. In the *Columns* article, Griffin introduced three views: Hoyte's article in the bulletin, Hoyte's interview done by Griffin, and Conrad's letter.⁷⁶ After that, he quoted Mann's statement;

Mann doesn't want the credit and says the issue can never be resolved. "We debated it. It's hard to know where the initial idea came from. Certainly Charles Odegaard and Ernie Conrad were very much a part of it"⁷⁷

Mann's view to see the idea as the result of group work sounds fair and accurate. As it was mentioned before, Mann sent a letter to Griffin after the article was published and evaluated Griffin's article "very fair, and accurate."⁷⁸ Thus, it means Conrad's view that credit is solely belongs to Mann might be inaccurate. A possible origin of Conrad's view is that he remembered Mann's name because the

⁷⁴ Ernest M. Conrad to the Editor University Week, March 19, 1987, vertical file, Odegaard papers.

⁷⁵ Ibid.

⁷⁶ Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," 1999.

⁷⁷ Ibid.

⁷⁸ Frederick M. Mann to Tom Griffin, April 22, 1999.

decision was likely reported to him with Mann's name. In the letter as the head of the Office of University Architect. Conrad wrote "University Architect Frederick Mann (now retired) was the spearhead of the team that made [the transplanting] happen."⁷⁹ But, the new location was possibly discussed by people including many members of Mann's office. Mann was the director of the office and Hoyte was his subordinate. Once the discussion was done, the new location might have been reported to the finance manager Conrad by Mann. Therefore, it seems most probable that the idea to plant the cherry trees came from the discussions of multiple people.

Finally, there is one more view that has to be mentioned in this section. *The Daily's* excerpt quoted above (p.32) only mentions president Odegaard in its depiction of the process to move the cherry trees. Maybe it was natural for that article to explain Odegaard's contribution and not mention other people because the article was just about Odegaard's achievements and there was no intention to depict the cherry tree history precisely. However, as explained earlier, the actual idea supposedly came from the cooperation of several people.

To sum up, it seems like the role to find the new location for the trees affected by the construction of S.R. 520 was originally assigned to Eric Hoyte, but the real idea to plant the cherry trees in the Quad was shaped by a group. Hoyte, Mann, Conrad, Odegaard, and other staff from the architect office were most likely also included in this group.

Chapter 4. Section 2-3, Designing the Arrangement of the Cherry Trees in the Quad

In contrast to the origin of the idea to move the cherry trees to the Quad, the outset of the unique arrangement of the cherry trees in the Quad can be easily traced down to one man. Eric Hoyte, the landscape architect, designed the arrangement. This view is strongly endorsed by three evidences:

⁷⁹ Ernest M. Conrad to the Editor University Week, March 19, 1987.

Hoyte's article in *Arboretum Bulletin*, Frederick Mann's letter to Tom Griffin, and the author's interview with Hoyte.

First, the article written by Hoyte in *Arboretum Bulletin* published in 1965 supports this view. While the article does not discuss choosing the tree's new location, it has a detailed description how Hoyte designed the landscape with the cherry trees. Here is his excerpt.

It has always seemed to me that Arts Quadrangle is too large a space for comfort. It is actually about the size of St. Mark's Square in Venice. So it occurred to me that these flowering cherries could be used to change the spatial effect by creating a reduced central space within the Quadrangle with a smaller space at the south end. The formal arrangement of these trees suggests an arcade or cloister which seems very much in keeping with the Gothic architect. Since the trees are deciduous and flowering, there is a sequence of effects in the Quadrangle throughout the year. The open space with its bare winter scaffold bursts into bloom and slowly the cloister forms and hardens, creating two spaces and an arcade. Then with a change of color and falling leaves, the spaces dissolve into one and the cycle repeats.⁸⁰

The article gives a full account of how he organized the trees, and even goes so far as to endorse the view of Hoyte as the man who is wholly responsible for the beautiful arrangement of the cherry trees in the Quad.

Secondly, Frederick Mann left a testimony which proves Hoyte's work for the design. In the letter Mann sent to Griffin after the *Columns* article was published, he wrote:

I so well remember the great difficulty that Eric Hoyte had, that we all shared, in finding a decent spacing for the present trees that avoided the snare of piping, handholes, manholes and

⁸⁰ Hoyte, "University Landscape - A Brief Review," 32-33.

cross-walks in the Quad.⁸¹

Mann recalled the episode around organizing the trees' positioning. This also endorses Hoyte as the designer of the tree's arrangement.

Finally, Hoyte, himself, stated that he was responsible for the configuration of the trees in the interview done by the author of this paper. That statement does not contradict with other available information, so it has credibility. Therefore, it is certain to say Hoyte deserves the credit for designing the trees' arrangement after transplanting.

In summation, it is clear that Hoyte accomplished the job of designing the arrangement of the 30 cherry trees in the Quad. It is supported from his writing in the *Arboretum Bulletin* which was written only three years after the transplanting, Mann's letter to Griffin, and his interview.

Chapter 4, Section 2-4, President Charles Odegaard

Besides the main flow of decision making, President Odegaard's role has to be mentioned. Odegaard might not only gave permissions to the project but also might love the idea to replant the cherry trees from the Canal Reserve to the Quad. Odegaard is usually mentioned in the cherry trees related articles as quoted above. It might be because Odegaard was the president, so his name appeared many times but also might be because he was enthusiastic towards the project to move the cherry trees. Perhaps, he paid attention to the construction of S.R. 520 and its effect to the Arboretum even before he heard Mann's idea because the construction was widely reported in newspapers and acquired a vast amount of public attention. Gordon D. Marckworth, Dean of the University of Washington College of Forestry, sent a letter to Odegaard in 1958 to share the imminent danger of the S.R. 520 construction and its significance to the Arboretum.⁸² Thus, Odegaard may have had an

⁸¹ Frederick M. Mann to Tom Griffin, April 22, 1999.

⁸² Gordon D. Marckworth to Charles E. Odegaard, November 19, 1956, Box 40/8, Arboretum Records.

interest in things related to the construction and trees. Further, it seems like he was involved in the discussion regarding the cherry trees transplanting to UW, as indicated by Mann's statement in the *Columns* article: "We debated it. It's hard to know where the initial idea came from. Certainly Charles Odegaard and Ernie Conrad were very much part of it."⁸³ Therefore, it is hard to perceive Odegaard's involvement precisely due to the lack of preserved information, but it seems like he was actively involved in the cherry trees project and pushed for it.

Chapter 4, Section 2-5, Finance Manager Ernest Conrad

Ernest Conrad, the university finance manager, also played a huge role in the project from a financial standpoint. He negotiated with the highway department and made an agreement, which made the highway department to cover the cost of moving the trees affected by the construction of S.R. 520. This accomplishment is confirmed by Conrad's letter to the editor of *University Week* and a subsequent letter written by Odegaard that endorses Conrad's contribution. In the letter written by Conrad to the editor of *University Week*, he discusses the cost of moving the cherry trees.

A successful negotiation was made with the Highway Department (Bill Burge, Director of the Department, was extremely helpful) and the Department agreed to pay for the cost of moving trees from the Arboretum and to the campus.⁸⁴

Conrad wrote the explanation of the cost without mentioning names from the University's side of negotiations. However, Conrad's name was added by Odegaard. When Conrad brought the letter to the *University Week*'s office, he shared the letter to several people including Odegaard and Mann.⁸⁵ Then, Odegaard forwarded Conrad's letter to Karly Winn, the head of Manuscript Division of the

⁸³ Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," 1999.

⁸⁴ Ernest M. Conrad to the Editor University Week, March 19, 1987.

⁸⁵ Ibid.

University Archives, in order to help their collection and even attached his own letter acknowledging Conrad's contribution. In that letter, Odegaard said;

The negotiation with the highway department's representative, Bill Burge, was conducted, of course, by Mr. Conrad."⁸⁶

Odegaard asserted Conrad's credit for completing the negotiation with the highway department. Conrad and Odegaard's view seem plausible because both were involved with the project of transplanting the trees, including the cherry trees, for the construction of S.R. 520. Moreover, their view is reliable because it is quite natural to happen. The trees were in danger because of the S.R.520 construction, so it is reasonable that the highway department took responsibility and compensated the University for the necessary transplanting and as finance manager, Conrad was in charge of the negotiation. Therefore, it is almost certain that Conrad negotiated with the highway department and as a result they paid the cost of the transplanting.

Conrad's role is also introduced in Griffin's *Columns* article published in 1999. "The late Ernest Conrad, the UW's business and finance vice president, took care of the cost by persuading the state highway department [to] pay for the move."⁸⁷ This story aligns with Conrad and Odegaard's letters. Griffin told the author of this paper that he wrote this part based on his interview with Mann. Since Mann was deeply involved in the transplanting, this might be based on his own memory. However, there is a possibility that this part originated in Conrad's letter, and the letter influenced Mann's memory since it was passed on to him by Conrad.

Additionally, Hoyte shared the same story. When the author of this paper asked him about Conrad in April, 2017, Hoyte stated that Conrad made a "special agreement" with the highway

⁸⁶ Charles E. Odegaard to Karly Winn, April 8, 1987.

⁸⁷ Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," 1999.

department and so the cost to move the cherry trees was covered by the department.⁸⁸ His statement might originate in his first hand memory but there is also the possibility that his memory was influenced by Conrad's letter that appeared in the *University Week* or the *Columns* article or other sources.

Due to a lack of records that prove the agreement, it is difficult to affirm clearly that Conrad negotiated with the highway department to determine they would cover the cost of transplanting the trees. Nonetheless, it sounds plausible that Conrad negotiated with the highway department and the cost of the transplanting was covered by them.

Chapter 4, Section 2-6, Conclusion of This Section

The transplanting of the cherry trees from the Canal Reserve to the Quad was realized through the ideas and efforts of all the people who were involved in the project. While Frederick Mann might be the origin of the actual idea to move the cherry trees, a number of people including Eric Hoyte, Mann, and possibly Ernest Conrad and Charles Odegaard may have helped choose the Quad as the cherry trees' destination. Further, Hoyte is responsible for their beautiful arrangement. Additionally, the President Odegaard, who seemed to have loved the idea, became actively involved. Last, the finance manager Conrad negotiated with the highway department to cover the cost. This combination of work created the long lasting, beautiful landscape of the Quad full of cherry trees.

Chapter 4, Section 3, Transplanting

This chapter discusses topics related to the actual transplanting. First, it reveals the dates of the transplanting. Next, it explains the actual process of transplanting. Finally, it argues the number of the cherry trees moved.

⁸⁸ Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper April 30, 2017.

Chapter 4, Section 3-1. Dates of the Transplanting

The cherry trees were transplanted to the Quad in January 1962. It has been widely believed for a long time that the cherry trees were transplanted in 1964 but this is wrong. Antoinette Wills, the University of Washington's unofficial historian, found the transplanting was done in 1962 by referring to old campus newspapers.⁸⁹ She became curious about when exactly the cherry trees were planted because she found a photograph of the Quad's cherry trees in bloom in the cover photo of *Washington Alumnus*, the University of Washington's alumni magazine published in the spring of 1962.⁹⁰ She conducted research to find the actual date and found an article of *The Daily* published in January 16th, 1962.⁹¹ The title of the article is "Last "Quad" Trees to Be Planted Today."⁹² So, she proved that the planting was done in 1962. The author of this paper found another article in *The Daily*. The article is in the cover page of the issue of January 11th, 1962 and says that cherry trees were planted in the Quad on this day.⁹³ Following are the clippings of the articles mentioned above. (Figure 14, 15)

⁸⁹ Antoinette Wills, e-mail to John Bolcer (University Archivist) and Gary Lundell (Library Specialist), March 2, 2015. a document received from Raymond Larson. Wills copied Fred C. Hoyt (associate director of University of Washington Botanic Garden) on the email and Hoyt forwarded this email to Larson.

⁹⁰ Ibid.

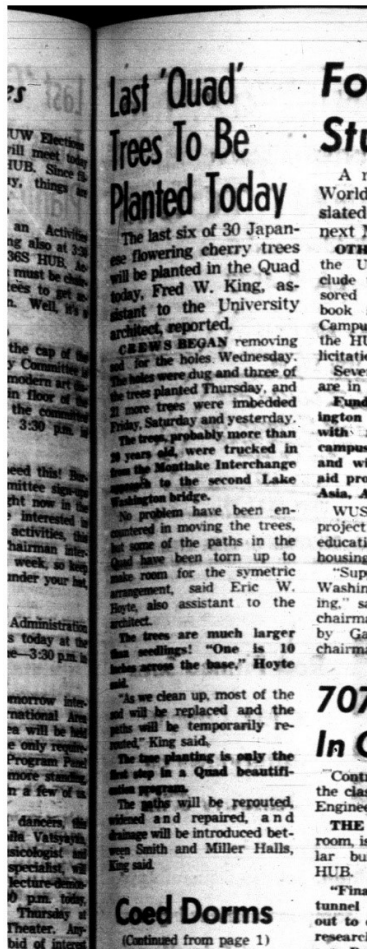
⁹¹ Antoinette Wills (the University of Washington's unofficial historian), interviewed by the author of this paper May 3, 2017.

⁹² "Last "Quad" Trees to Be Planted Today," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), January 16, 1962.

⁹³ "Crews Plant Trees in Quad," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), January 11, 1962.



Figure 14: "Crews Plant Trees in Quad," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), January 11, 1962.



Last 'Quad' Trees To Be Planted Today

The last six of 30 Japanese flowering cherry trees will be planted in the Quad today, Fred W. King, assistant to the University architect reported.

CREWS BEGAN removing sod for the holes Wednesday. The holes were dug and three of the trees planted Thursday, and 21 more trees were imbedded Friday, Saturday, and yesterday.

The trees, probably more than 20 years old, were trucked in from the Montlake Interchange approach to the second Lake Washington bridge.

No problem have been encountered in moving the trees, but some of the paths in the Quad have been torn up to make room for the symmetric arrangement, said Eric W. Hoyte, also assistant to the architect.

The trees are much larger than seedlings! "One is 10 inches across the base," Hoyte said.

"As we clean up, most of the sod will be replaced and the paths will be temporarily rerouted," King said.

The tree planting is only the first step in a Quad beautification program. The paths will be rerouted, widened and repaired, and drainage will be introduced between Smith and Miller Halls, King said.

Figure 15: "Last "Quad" Trees to Be Planted Today," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), January 16, 1962.

These two articles indicate that the planting of the cherry trees started on January 11th, 1962 and ended on January 16th, 1962. Additionally, the university's internal documents endorse the cherry trees were transplanted in 1962. A document sent from Hoyte to Mulligan, the director of the Arboretum, indicates that the 30 "Flowering Cherry" were moved to the Quad in 1962 between January 2nd and March 1st.⁹⁴

Although the cherry trees were planted in 1962, it is widely believed that they were planted in 1964. The origin of this misunderstanding cannot be trackable today but it even appears in articles directly related to people involved in the transplanting and alongside interviews of them. Eric Hoyte

⁹⁴ Eric W. Hoyte to Brian. O. Mulligan, March 1, 1962.

told the author of this paper that the cherry trees were moved to the Quad in 1964 in his interview.⁹⁵ Additionally, in his house, a certificate of appreciation for his work on the Quad is hanged on the wall and even it states that the Quad's cherry trees have been enjoyed by people since 1964. Frederick Mann also misunderstood the date. When he was interviewed by Griffin around 1999 for the *Columns* article, he stated that the cherry trees were moved to the Quad in the in the winter of 1964.⁹⁶ 1964 is widely recognized as the year cherry trees were planted but it is certain that the cherry trees were planted in the Quad between January 11th and January 16th, 1962.

Chapter 4, Section 3-2, Actual Work of Transplanting

The cherry trees were transplanted to the Quad most likely as a part of approximately 300 trees moved because of the construction of S.R. 520. This section describes the actual work of transplanting by referencing the available sources and interviews. The transplanting work was probably done through collaboration between the university gardeners and an external contractor.

Frederick Mann left relatively large amount of information about the actual process of transplanting. In the *Columns* article, Griffin wrote the following sentences based on his interview with Mann.⁹⁷ (The first sentence overlaps with the previous quotation.)

The late Ernest Conrad, the UW's business and finance vice president, took care of the cost by persuading the state highway department for pay for the move. But the bidding process went slowly, Mann recalls, and by mid-December 1964, bulldozers were standing right next to the cherries. "They were ready to go," he says.⁹⁸

⁹⁵ Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper April 21, 2017.

⁹⁶ Tom Griffin to Bill Talley, March 24, 1999.

⁹⁷ Tom Griffin (former editor of *Columns*), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 22, 2017.

⁹⁸ Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," 1999.

Mann's comment conveys the urgency to move the cherry trees. Additionally, he indicated the involvement of an external contractor chosen through a bidding process. It seems like the contractor was hired with money from the highway department. Moreover, the interview says "mid-December 1964" but as discussed earlier, the cherry trees were replanted in the Quad in 1962. Mann provided more information in the letter he sent to Griffin after the *Columns* article was published. Here is an excerpt from the letter;

Tom, one thing I should have mentioned when we talked before was that great credit should be given to the contractor for the success, at all odds, of the original transplanting operation. The fellow that won the bid was new to us - a recent arrival from the Netherlands. He was a very impressive individual but spoke very little English. By the time all the public works bidding procedure had been taken care of the Highway Department bulldozers that were digging the Montlake cut for the bridge approach were but a few feet from the first trees and it was obvious that we'd have to abandon our very detailed and correct specifications and wing it on a near panic base as best we could. The contractor kept saying "let me do it I can make [them] live - I'll make [them] live. He put a gang of men in the Quad to dig the holes where Eric had staked the locations and a gang of men at Montlake to dig out the trees and prune the roots and crowns - all in freezing weather. ⁹⁹

This statement gives more detail about the external contractor. He described the astonishing job done by the Dutchman and his team of gardeners in the difficult conditions. The gardener from the Netherlands and his team are probably the external contracted group chosen by the bidding process Mann references. Additionally, Mann's writing emphasizes how urgent the transplanting was. Mann recalls that the cherry trees were dug out without prior steps. Generally speaking, a tree's roots go

⁹⁹ Frederick M. Mann to Tom Griffin, April 22, 1999.

through special care before the tree is moved. To summarize, Mann described three things in the *Columns* article and his letter: the existence of an external contractor, involvement of a group of gardeners led by the Dutchman, and the urgency of transplanting the trees.

Hoyte also remembers the process of moving the trees. When the author of this paper interviewed him in April 2017, he stated that the gardeners shook off soil from the cherry trees and transplanted them with bare roots.¹⁰⁰ This description corresponds with Mann's description. Additionally, Hoyte said there was a foreman to give instruction for the transplanting work.¹⁰¹ This foreman might be the Dutchman that Mann mentioned. Therefore, both Mann's recollection in the *Columns* article and his letter correspond with Hoyte's statements.

The document sent from Hoyte to Mulligan, the director of the arboretum provides some more information. It says, "Following is a total list of trees moved under our contract with Finn Hill Nursery dated January 2, 1962" and 30 cherry trees moved to the Quad are included on the list.¹⁰² This document proves three facts. First, it indicates the involvement of Finn Hill Nursery. Finn Hill is the name of a city near Seattle, but Finn Hill Nursery does not exist anymore today. There is a high possibility that three entities; Finn Hill Nursery, the contractor implied by Mann, and the group of gardeners led by the Dutchman, are the same entity. Second, the document suggests how urgent the transplanting was and how quickly it was accomplished. The document claims the contract with the nursery was established January 2nd¹⁰³ and *The Daily's* article says the first cherry tree was planted in the Quad in January 11th.¹⁰⁴ Thus, the cherry trees began to be planted in the Quad only nine days after the contract with the nursery. This also well fits with Mann's recollection in the *Columns* article that the bidding process to choose a contractor went slowly. Finally, the internal document indicates

¹⁰⁰ Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper April 30, 2017.

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

¹⁰² Eric W. Hoyte to Brian. O. Mulligan, March 1, 1962.

¹⁰³ Ibid.

¹⁰⁴ "Crews Plant Trees in Quad," *The Daily*, January 11, 1962.x

that the cherry trees were moved as a part of 296 trees and 25 shrubs moved in the same period.¹⁰⁵ This fact aligns with Hoyte's statement to the author of this paper during the interview in April 2017 that the cherry trees were moved as a part of a variety of approximately 300 trees transplanted due to the highway construction.¹⁰⁶ Therefore, the documents support the concept that the cherry trees were moved urgently by getting a help from outsider and that the job was part of a larger transplanting.

In addition to the outside contractors, Chico Narro, a university gardener is said to be involved in the transplanting. His involvement is pointed out by several people who know him. Conner Thomas, a retired gardener who worked under Narro after the transplanting shared what he heard from Narro with the author of this paper in May of 2017.

Chico actually saved the cherries because they were not very old and according to Chico they [were laid] around for a while and had to have the tender loving care that only an expert horticulturalist like Chico could have given.¹⁰⁷

Thomas's statement describes Narro's contribution to the moving based on what he heard from Narro. It says the trees were laid around for a while. It is uncertain whether this is true or not but if it was true that period probably was not so long. The document discussed above says Finn Hill Nursery was contracted January 2nd, 1962,¹⁰⁸ and *The Daily's* articles indicate that the cherry trees were planted in the Quad from January 11th to the 16th, 1962. Also, Mann stated that the cherry trees were dug out by the gardeners led by the Dutchman.¹⁰⁹ Thus, if the gardeners mentioned by Mann were Finn Hill Nursery, the period of time the trees were laid, after being dug out but before being replanted, was at most 15 days and it is much likely less than that.

¹⁰⁵ Eric W. Hoyte to Brian. O. Mulligan, March 1, 1962.

¹⁰⁶ Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 21 and 30, 2017.

¹⁰⁷ Conner Thomas, e-mail to the author, March 20, 2017.

¹⁰⁸ Eric W. Hoyte to Brian. O. Mulligan, March 1, 1962.

¹⁰⁹ Frederick M. Mann to Tom Griffin, April 22, 1999.

Narro's involvement with the transplanting is implied by other people as well. Arthur Lee Jacobson, the tree specialist, stated Narro helped digging the cherry trees out.¹¹⁰ Bonnie Taylor, a retired ground supervisor, also stated it was known as oral history among the university gardeners that Narro was an excellent gardener and was in charge of the transplanting.¹¹¹ The author of this paper asked Hoyte in April, 2017 about Narro and he knew Narro but he did not remember whether Narro was part of the project or not.¹¹² Nevertheless, it seems true that Narro was involved in the transplanting. It is still unknown whether there were other university gardeners or not, but Narro's involvement implies the likelihood of other university gardeners' involvement. Therefore, Narro and other university gardeners might be involved with the project.

In summarization, as far as it is revealed, there are four groups that most likely helped the actual work of the transplanting: the external contractor selected by the bidding, the group of gardeners led by the Dutchman, Finn Hill Nursery, and Chico Narro (possibly with other university gardeners). The contractor, the Dutchman's group of gardeners, and Finn Hill Nursery are possibly the same entity. It seems Narro dug out and took care of the cherry trees. Therefore, the transplanting might have been done through cooperation with university gardeners and outside contractors.

Chapter 4, Section 3-3, Number of the Cherry Trees Moved to the Quad

The number of cherry trees moved from the Canal Reserve to the Quad was 30. The internal document mentioned above says 30 cherry trees were moved under the contract with Finn Hill Nursery.¹¹³ This number is endorsed by the sketches concerning the transplanting that were drawn by the Office of the University Architect in the winter of 1961.¹¹⁴ As explained in Chapter 2, the

¹¹⁰ Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper April 23, 2017.

¹¹¹ Bonnie Taylor (retired Ground Supervisor), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 26, 2017.

¹¹² Eric W. Hoyte (retired university landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 30, 2017.

¹¹³ Eric W. Hoyte to Brian. O. Mulligan, March 1, 1962.

¹¹⁴ MONTLAKE & ARBORETUM TREE MOVING, December 15, 1961, sheet 2.

P.49 Note

Professor Paul Atkins, the author's supervisor, shared the following obituary from *The Daily Herald* website. *The Daily Herald* is a local newspaper of the Everett, Washington.

Jantje "Jannie" Oosterwijk

Our beloved mother passed away August 9, 2007, with her children, Katy, Teri, Harry and caregiver, Roxanne at her bedside. Jannie was born on October 27, 1927, in Alphen Aal Der Rijn, the Netherlands. She married her childhood sweetheart Pieter on August 12, 1948 then immigrated to the United States in the late 1950's. Pieter and Jannie ran a successful nursery and landscape business Finn Hill Nursery. In her retirement years Jannie enjoyed spending her time between thier beachhouse in Belfair, Washington and thier condominium in Puerto Vallarta Mexico. She was preceeded in death by her daugher, Tonnie; and her beloved, husband Pieter. She is survived by her son, Harry; daughters, Katy and Teri; grandchildren, Kim, Keri, Nicole and Thomas; and numerous great-grandchildren.

Published in The Herald (Everett) on Sept. 16, 2007

("Jantje "Jannie" Oosterwijk Obituary" *Herald Net*, September 16, 2007,
<https://www.legacy.com/obituaries/heraldnet/obituary.aspx?n=jantje-oosterwijk-jannie&pid=94564405>.)

This obituary implies Finn Hill Nursery is run by Pieter Oosterwijk and Jantje Oosterwijk, both came from Netherland. This information increases the possibility that the group of gardeners led by the Dutchman and the Fill Hill Nursery are the same.

sketches are accurate because they were revised after the trees were moved.¹¹⁵ They indicate 30 cherry trees were moved from the area called the Canal Reserve today to the Quad.¹¹⁶ The 30 cherry trees were planted as Hoyte designed. (Figure 16).

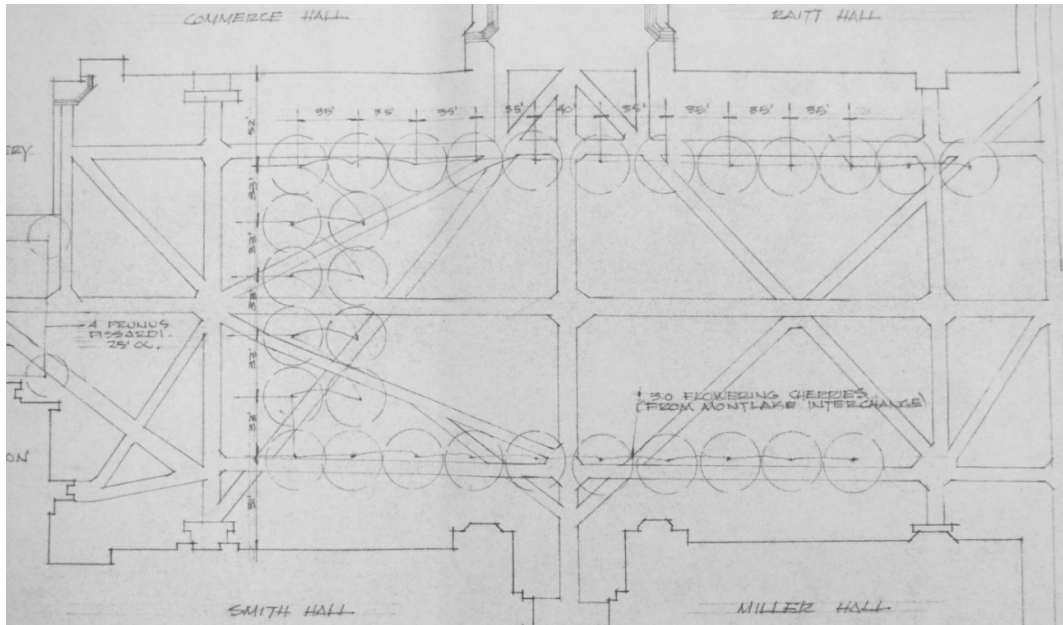


Figure 16 (same with Figure 4) : Quad, “30 flowering cherries from Montlake Interchange”

Chapter 4, Section 3-4, Summary of Transplanting Work

In conclusion, 30 cherry trees were replanted in the Quad between January 11th to the 16th in 1962. It seems like the actual work was done by the cooperation of several groups including the university gardeners and outside contractors.

Chapter 4, Section 4, Other People Who May Deserve the Credit for the Transplanting

There are most likely other people who worked in some way to accomplish the transplanting

¹¹⁵ Ibid.

¹¹⁶ Ibid.

of the cherry trees. In his letter, Ernest Conrad gave a couple of names which have never been mentioned in this paper.

Credit should also be given to the following members of the University staff (now all retired): Brian Mulligan, director of the Arboretum; Jack Harding, director of physical plant; Professor Frank Brockman of the College of Forestry; and Dick Johnson, director of Purchasing.¹¹⁷

These names, except for Mulligan's, have not been confirmed in the research for this paper. Nevertheless, Conrad's statement might be true because he was involved with the project. However, it is still unknown how the others were involved in the project. Most likely, there is still other people who were also in the project. The entire story of the transplanting cannot be revealed due to the lack of records.

Chapter 4, Section 5, Conclusion of This Chapter

The project to transplant the cherry trees was accomplished by many people's great work. The idea to move the trees from the Canal Reserve to the Quad and replant them in the beautiful arrangement was the result of work done by people including Frederick Mann, Eric Hoyte, Charles Odegaard, and Ernest Conrad. Additionally, the actual work to move the 30 trees was done by people who had great skills and knowledge of gardening. It seems like the trees were in danger to be destroyed but they were saved at the last chance. The passion of these people who were involved in the planning and actual work to save the trees created a long-lasting beautiful symbol of the university.

Chapter 5, Replacement

¹¹⁷ Ernest M. Conrad to the Editor University Week, March 19, 1987.

The Quad's cherry trees have fascinated people in spring since they were transplanted in 1962. Most of these original cherry trees are still alive in the Quad today, and they are now accompanied by some new trees. This chapter focuses on the history of the replacement of the trees. First, it will distinguish between the new trees and original trees. Second, it will explain the reasons why some of the original trees are still standing more than 81 years since they were originally planted. Third, it will explain findings on the history of replacements. Then, it will explain a project done by the Class of 1959 in relation to the trees. Moreover, it will discuss some mysterious cherry trees in Mt. Vernon, which might have a strong connection with the Quad's cherry trees. Finally, this chapter introduce some ideas regarding a future replacement of the cherry trees.

Chapter 5, Section 1, Original Trees and New Trees

Currently, in the spring of 2017, there are 30 cherry trees in the Quad made up of a mixture of original trees and new trees. The author of this paper visited the Quad with two specialists separately in order to find out which trees are originals and which trees are new ones. The first was a tree specialist Arthur Lee Jacobson¹¹⁸ and the second was a University of Washington gardener Chris Holmer, working for the Quad 18 years at the time the author interviewed him in 2017.¹¹⁹ The way each tree was propagated will be mentioned because this topic will be discussed in a next section.

26 of current 30 cherry trees in the Quad are obviously old and big. Because there were no large-scale tree replacements since the original trees were transplanted in 1962, those 26 trees are certainly the original trees. Jacobson pointed out that these original trees do not have any signs of grafting¹²⁰ and Holmer agreed.¹²¹ Other than these 26 trees, there are four trees of which one is

¹¹⁸ Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.
The author of this paper visited the Quad with Jacobson.

¹¹⁹ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.
The author of this paper visited the Quad with Jacobson.

¹²⁰ Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.

¹²¹ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

possibly new and three are certainly new.

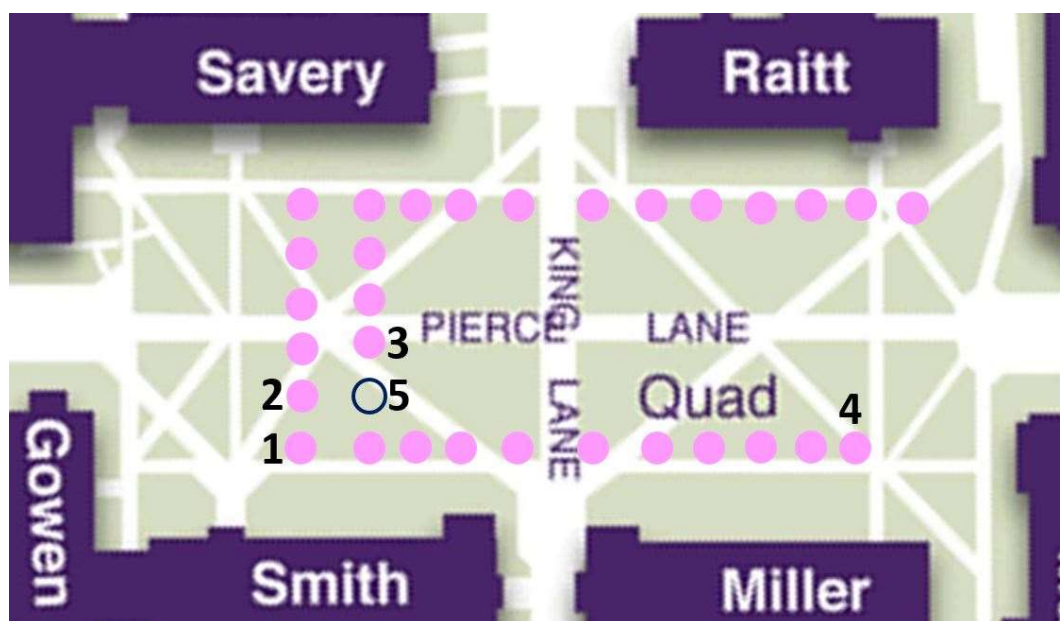


Figure 17: Location of spots might be changed after 1962.

First, it is unclear whether tree #1 in the above figure is new or not. This tree is a little smaller than the other trees but it is hard to assert this tree is new because it is located in the corner of the quad, standing in the shadows of buildings and seeming like to have a disadvantage in the sunshine that could support its growth. Opinions over this tree differed between the Jacobson and Holmer. Jacobson said this tree does not show any sign of grafting, so the tree is probably an original tree.¹²² On the other hand, Holmer saw the signs of grafting and said the tree is probably a newly replaced tree.¹²³ So, it is uncertain whether this tree is original or new. Then, both Jacobson and Holmer agreed that #2 and #3 are not part of the original trees. However, the opinion about the way of propagation differed between the two specialists. Jacobson said there are no signs of grafting on #2 and #3¹²⁴ but Holmer pointed out the marks of grafting on both trees¹²⁵. Moreover, tree #4 is very thin and certainly

¹²² Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.

¹²³ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹²⁴ Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.

¹²⁵ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

new because there were no trees in its location in a detailed architect map of the Quad revised by the Office of University Architect soon after the 1962 transplanting.¹²⁶ (Figure 16) The author talked only with Holmer about this tree and he found a sign of grafting on the tree.¹²⁷ Finally, #5 does not have tree now but it seems like there was a tree in this spot. To sum up, out of the 30 cherry trees in the Quad today, 26 trees are certainly the original trees, one tree's origin is uncertain, and three trees have been more recently introduced to the Quad and are thus new.

Chapter 5, Section 2, Long Life of the Original Cherry Trees

Because the cherry trees were initially planted in the Canal Reserve in or before 1936, the original trees still living in the Quad are more than 80 years old. This is quite long life compared to ordinary "Somei-yoshino". The botanical character of "Somei-yoshino" has not been well elucidated because this specie was created only about 150 years ago. It is sometimes said that average lifespan of these trees is around 60 years although there are some "Somei-yoshino" in Japan over 100 years old. Thus, the cherry trees in the Quad are regarded as longevity trees. Arthur Lee Jacobson presented the reason why they are still alive from a botanical standpoint. In addition, Chris Holmer's tender care has helped the trees stay in a good condition.

Jacobson claims there is a relationship between the way a tree is propagated and its lifespan.¹²⁸ As Jacobson and Holmer confirmed, the original cherry trees in the Quad do not have any signs of grafting. So, Jacobson insists that they were propagated by cutting or seeds and have their own roots.¹²⁹ He explained that "Somei-yoshino" specimen with their original roots live longer than grafted cherry trees.¹³⁰ He said "Somei-yoshino" are usually propagated through grafting today

¹²⁶ MONTLAKE & ARBORETUM TREE MOVING, December 15, 1961, sheet 2.

¹²⁷ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹²⁸ Arthur Lee Jacobson (tree specialist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 23, 2017.

¹²⁹ Ibid.

¹³⁰ Ibid.

because grafted trees grow quickly, but in fact these trees die quickly.¹³¹ On the other hand, “Somei-yoshino” propagated by cutting takes more time to grow but live longer.¹³² Therefore, Jacobson argues that these cherry trees in the Quad continue to live long because of their origin and how they were planted and grown.¹³³ Actually, there is one statement of Jacobson’s which might be incorrect. Although he insists that these trees were grown from either seeds or cuttings, they might be propagated from cutting from not seeds, researchers argue that “Somei-yoshino” has self-incompatibility, which means they cannot make seeds. This implies that the Quad’s original cherry trees might be propagated by cutting. Nonetheless, Jacobson’s idea that the trees “own roots” is the reason why they have lived long sounds plausible. However, a more thorough comparison between other examples of cut long living “Somei-yoshino” and grafted trees is necessary to endorse his theory.

Additionally, Chris Holmer, the university gardener, has played a huge role in the preservation of the cherry trees in the Quad for many years. He has worked for the area including the Quad for quite a while.¹³⁴ Holmer started working as a university gardener in 1999 and became the lead gardener of an area including the Quad in 2012.¹³⁵ His work contributed a lot towards maintaining the condition of the cherry trees. At the time Holmer started working, the cherry trees were weakened. Some university gardeners were saying they would die within a decade.¹³⁶ The *Columns* article “BLOOMS in DOOM” that was published in March 1999 reported the declining situation of the cherry trees.¹³⁷ It was Holmer who changed this situation. He slowed down the speed the trees’ decline. He studied how to take care of the cherry trees by himself and he changed the pruning practice for the cherry trees.¹³⁸ Now the university gardeners prune dead wood during July and August and live wood during winter only when it is necessary, but the gardeners had previously pruned live wood

¹³¹ Ibid.

¹³² Ibid.

¹³³ Ibid.

¹³⁴ Chris Holmer (University gardner), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹³⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ Griffin, “BLOOMS in DOOM,” 1999.

¹³⁸ Chris Holmer (University gardner), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

in winter until Holmer changed their practice.¹³⁹ Moreover, in order to improve the trees' condition, the gardeners have focused more energy on pruning dead branches over the last six years than they had ever before.¹⁴⁰ Holmer states that the trees have not recovered and they are still in decline, but they look better than before because of these new pruning practices.¹⁴¹ Without his passion and tender care, the original trees would now be weakened much more.

Therefore, 26 of the 30 original cherry trees transplanted in 1962 are still in the Quad today. These trees are over 81 years old today. Jacobson points out the relation between their roots and lifespan. The cherry trees might have been propagated by cutting and Jacobson's view on this seems to be true. Additionally, great work done by the university gardeners led by Holmer has contributed to maintain the cherry trees' health.

Chapter 5, Section 3, Record of Replacements

Although most of the original trees are still alive in the Quad, some trees have been removed and some new trees have been planted since 1962. This section explains the history of replacements. Due to the lack of records of works done in the Quad after the transplanting, it is hard to make an accurate chronological record of the replacements. Therefore, this section will explain the record of replacements in each spot separately. It is easier to understand the history of replacements by examine each location where a tree was planted since it is impossible to describe the work in chronological order. Figure 18 gives numbers to all the spots where new and seemingly new trees have been planted. #5 is also given to a spot where a tree used to be planted.

¹³⁹ *ibid*

¹⁴⁰ *ibid*

¹⁴¹ *ibid*

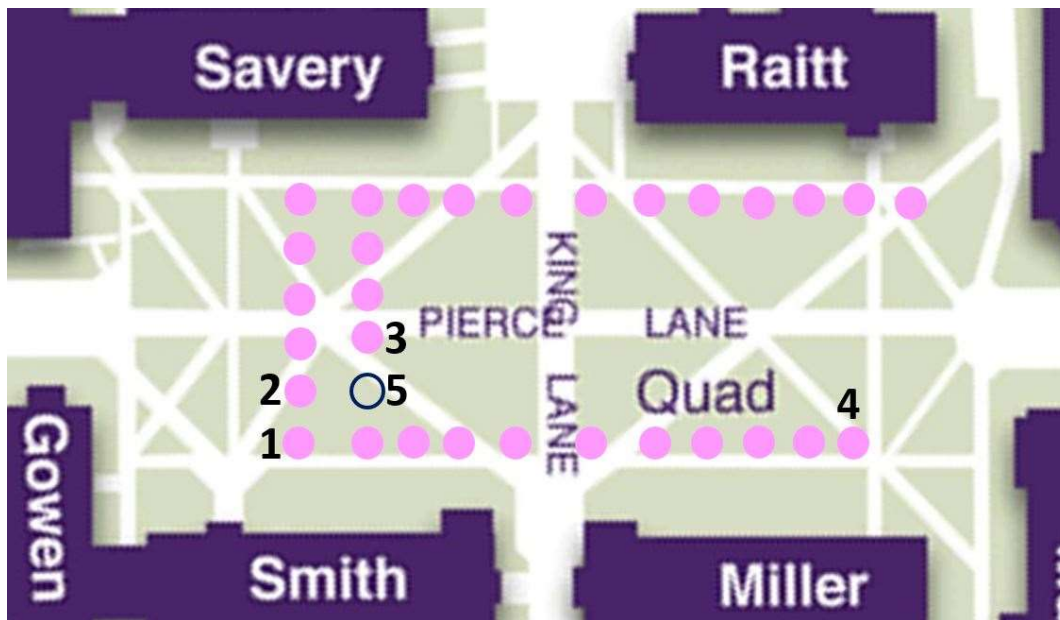


Figure 18 (same with Figure 17) : Location of spots might be changed after 1962.

#1

At this location it is uncertain whether the current tree is original or not. As it was discussed in Chapter 5, Section 1, Holmer insists that this tree is new but Jacobson points out the possibility of it being an original one. If this tree was replaced, it might have been replaced before 1999. Holmer has been gardening the area that includes the Quad since 1999 and he remembers which trees have been removed, replaced, and planted after he started working.¹⁴² He stated that he does not know about the replacement of this spot.¹⁴³ So, the tree replacement was performed before 1999 if it occurred. Additionally, it is impossible to deny the possibility that a tree replacement was done more than twice in this spot. Thus, if the current tree in this spot is a new tree, the original tree was removed and the new tree were planted before 1999 and possibly replacement was done more than twice in this time span between 1962 and 1999. Ultimately, it is unclear whether this spot has experienced a replacement or not.

¹⁴² Ibid.

¹⁴³ Ibid.

#2

The current tree in this spot is certainly a new tree. Holmer was not involved in the replacement,¹⁴⁴ so the replacement was done prior to 1999. It is also possible that a replacement was performed at this location more than once before 1999.

#3

The current tree in this spot was planted in 2000.¹⁴⁵ Holmer remembers that he planted this tree with Margaret Nailen, the lead gardener of the area including the Quad at that time and Nora Strothman, the University gardener.¹⁴⁶ Strothman also remembers she planted this tree.¹⁴⁷ Holmer stated the old tree was dug out right before the current tree was planted.¹⁴⁸ The old tree's health declined because of brown rot.

The current tree was planted under the name of Class of 1959. (More details about the Class of 1959's project will be explained in later section.) A ceremony to celebrate the planting of this tree was organized in October 21st of 2000 by the Class members.¹⁴⁹ The ceremony was reported by *The Daily*, campus newspaper; "As a dozen members symbolically shoveled dirt over the young tree's roots, professor emeritus Brewster Denny rang a ceremonial bell, placed in the Quad's main thoroughfare."¹⁵⁰ The photo of the new cherry tree with the bell was printed in the article. (Figure 19)¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁴ Ibid.

¹⁴⁵ "Class of '59 plants first on new Quad cherry trees," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), October 23, 2000.

¹⁴⁶ Chris Holmer (University gardner), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹⁴⁷ Nora Strothman (retired University gardner), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 26, 2017.

¹⁴⁸ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹⁴⁹ "Class of '59 plants first on new Quad cherry trees," *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), October 23, 2000.

¹⁵⁰ Ibid.

¹⁵¹ Ibid.

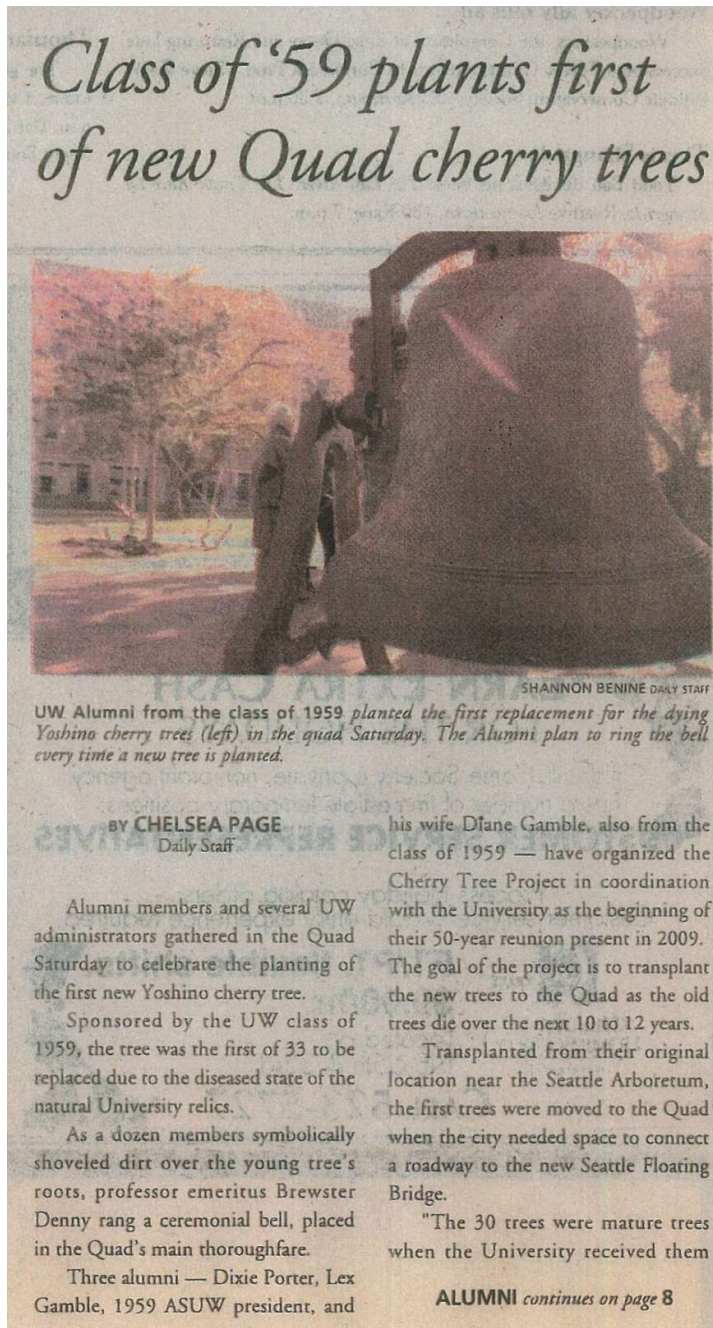


Figure 19 : "Class of '59 plants first on new Quad cherry trees," *The Daily*, October 23, 2000

An invoice of one "Yoshino cherry" from the Dewilde's Wholesale Nursery Inc. dated September 29th of 2000 was found in the University Ground Shop.¹⁵² This invoice might be

¹⁵² Dewilde's Wholesale Nurseries Inc. to University of Washington Central Store, September 29, 2000, a document stored in the University Grounds Shop.

concerning the tree planted in October since the timing makes sense and the size of the tree is the same with the one on the photo. However, it is uncertain whether the money for this tree truly came from the donation of Class of 1959 or not. There has been no record to indicate the donation was used for this tree.

A tree in this spot might be replaced more than two times. Holmer said when he dug out the old tree in this spot, it was small and did not look like the original tree.¹⁵³ Thus, the current tree in this spot is most likely the third tree in this spot and possibly there could have even been more.

When the author asked the university arborist, Sara Shores, about this tree in December 2019, she explained that it is possible this tree will be removed this winter (winter of 2018-2019)¹⁵⁴ since it has been damaged by brown rot much like its precedents.¹⁵⁵ Brown rot is one of the biggest troubles for the Quad's cherry trees.¹⁵⁶ According to Holmer, new trees are more susceptible to brown rot than the original, older trees.¹⁵⁷

Therefore, this spot might have experienced replacement more than twice. The current tree was planted in 2000 under the name of the Class of 1959. History of this spot prior to 1999 is not clear.

#4

This spot is mysterious. One very small tree, compared to others, is standing here today. Holmer stated he planted this tree in around 2004 with Margaret Nailen.¹⁵⁸ This tree might be the first tree in this spot since he did not remove any tree from this spot before he planted the current one. Additionally, the original sketch drawn in 1961 to 1962 does not show any tree in this spot. The origin

¹⁵³ Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹⁵⁴ Sara Shores (University arborist), e-mail to the author of this paper, December 29, 2018.

¹⁵⁵ Sara Shores (University arborist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 14, 2017.

¹⁵⁶ Chris Holmer (University gardner), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid.

¹⁵⁸ Ibid.

P.60 Update after this paper was printed

When the author of this paper visited the University of Washington on January 14, 2019 to deposit this paper to the library, he found that the tree #3 has already removed. The university gardeners told the author they removed the tree last week. A trunk of the tree was placed in front of the university Grounds Shop.



of current tree in this spot is mysterious. In the University Ground Shop, there is a note which indicates a “Yoshino Cherry” was purchased from Urban Forest Nursery in 2004. The note includes the comments “Quad” and “for Japanese Exchange Student Organization” on it. However, it is hard to tell that the tree in the Quad corresponds with the note since it is impossible to understand the meaning of the note precisely due to a lack of documentation. Therefore, this tree might be planted in this spot as the first tree, but its origin is still a mystery.

#5

Currently, no trees are planted in this spot but there was once a tree in this spot. The original sketch drawn by the Office of Landscape Architect, to show the record of the transplanting done in 1962, depicts a tree in this spot.¹⁵⁹ Holmer stated that he removed a tree in this spot around 2015 because of brown rot.¹⁶⁰ He stated the tree was small when he dug out, so it was probably not the original tree.¹⁶¹ It is unclear how many times a tree was replaced in this spot before Holmer started working but more than two trees might have been planted in this spot. However, currently, a new tree is not planted in this spot. According to Holmer, it is because new trees in the Quad are generally weaker to brown rot compared to old ones, so even if a new tree was planted, it could die quickly.¹⁶² Shores stated that the University is planning to wait until other trees around this area need to be replaced as well in order to improve drainage of the area before planting any new trees.¹⁶³

To summarize, some trees have been removed and some new trees have been planted in the Quad since 1962. It is hard to piece together the entire history of tree replacements due to the lack of

¹⁵⁹ MONTLAKE & ARBORETUM TREE MOVING, December 15, 1961, sheet 2.

¹⁶⁰ Chris Holmer (university gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹⁶¹ Ibid.

¹⁶² Chris Holmer (University gardner), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

¹⁶³ Sara Shores (University arborist), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 14, May 10, and June 1, 2017.

records. Some trees seem to have been replaced more than two times. As seen, most of the dates listed above relied on Holmer's memory. Additionally, it has to be mentioned that Griffin wrote in the *Columns* article published in 1999, that two trees had already been replaced¹⁶⁴ based on his interview to the Bill Talley, the university landscape architect at that time.¹⁶⁵ This might not be fully correct since more than two seem to have been replaced before Holmer started working in 1999. As there is not much documentation, the whole history of replacements of cherry trees cannot be revealed today.

Chapter 5, Section 4, Project Driven by the Class of 1959

This section briefly discusses the project driven by the Class of 1959 to replace the cherry trees. The project was started in 1999 to do fundraising for a future large-scale cherry trees replacement. The author of this paper was unable to conduct detailed research on this project since the time he stayed in Seattle as an exchange student was limited. This section introduces information the author was able to gain.

The origin of the project has a strong tie with Griffin's article in *Columns*. The article, which entitled "Blooms in Doom," was published in March of 1999 to share the endangered situation of the cherry trees. Then, the article dramatically increased recognition of the cherry trees' situation among people who had connections with the university. The Class of 1959's project started through the influence of this article. Dixie Porter, a member of the Class of 1959, who took the initiative in the project, explains about the origin of the project in an article in *University Week* published in 2000.¹⁶⁶ She says that the class discussed the idea of class gift when they had a 40th reunion in fall of 1999.¹⁶⁷ Then, she says that they encountered Griffin's article while they were thinking about the gift and decided to start the project to raise money for the cherry trees in the Quad.¹⁶⁸ Thus, she explained

¹⁶⁴ Griffin, "BLOOMS in DOOM," 1999.

¹⁶⁵ Tom Griffin (former editor of *Columns*), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 22, 2017.

¹⁶⁶ "Saving the trees" *University Week* (Seattle, WA), October 23, 2000.

¹⁶⁷ *ibid*

¹⁶⁸ *Ibid*.

that the project was started as the 40th year anniversary Class gift. Additionally, Griffin shared a similar story when the author of this paper interviewed him in April of 2017.¹⁶⁹ He said there was a reunion of the Class of 1959 right after the article was published.¹⁷⁰ In that occasion, they were thinking about the class gift and decided to raise money to replace the cherry trees in the Quad.¹⁷¹ Therefore, it seems like the project started around 1999 after the article was published in 1999.

The project might be driven by a combination of the university and the class. A leaflet made to commemorate the event for “the first new Yoshino tree” planting in October of 2000 has photos and names of three chairs members from the Class of 1959: Dixie Porter, Lex Gamble, and Diane Gamble. The leaflet also indicates that Jon Hooper, the University Grounds Manager at that time, and his staff were involved in the project. Moreover, Bill Talley, the University landscape architect at the time is said to have helped with the project. Kristine Kenney, the current University landscape architect stated Talley was involved with the project.¹⁷² Talley passed away a few years ago¹⁷³ but newspaper articles and documents related to the Class of 1959’s project were contained in a file of documents regarding the Quad created by Talley and now stored by Kenney in her office. Therefore, the project might have been done through cooperation between the class members and university staff.

A few things seem to have already been done with the donation that came from the project. As it was mentioned, one tree was planted in October 2000 under the name of the Class of 1959 but it is uncertain whether the fund was really used for that tree or not due to the lack of record. Then, in 2001, one article in *the Daily* mentions the funds.¹⁷⁴ In the article, Angela Macklin, the University of Washington Alumni Association program director at that time, says \$35,000 was raised since October 2000.¹⁷⁵ She also says that one-third of the donation came from the Class of 1959 and the

¹⁶⁹ Tom Griffin (former editor of Columns), interviewed by the author of this paper, April 22, 2017.

¹⁷⁰ Ibid.

¹⁷¹ Ibid.

¹⁷² Kristine Kenney (University landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 12, 2017.

¹⁷³ Nora Strothman, e-mail to the author, April 24, 2015.

¹⁷⁴ “Seeds of change,” *The Daily* (Seattle, WA), April 5, 2001.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid.

rest came from their family, friends, and other classes.¹⁷⁶ It seems like there was \$101,520 in an account and \$96,520 was moved to an endowment “CLASS OF 1959 CHERRY TREE ENDOWMENT FUND”¹⁷⁷ around 2007.¹⁷⁸ According to the document describing the arrangement of the endowment, purpose of the endowment is “to provide support for the continual care and upkeep of the Liberal Arts Quadrangle, with a primary focus on the maintenance and replacing of the Yoshino Cherry Trees.”¹⁷⁹ In 2007, there is an email sent from an university staffs to Kenney, which implies that the endowment was placed under the control of the University landscape architect.¹⁸⁰ Kenney, the university landscape architect at the time the endowment was started and now stated she is the administrator of the endowment when the author of this thesis interviewed her in June 2017.¹⁸¹ According to Kenney, none of the money have been spent from the endowment so far.¹⁸² Those information introduced in this paragraph might be only part of the whole story and other changes and actions might have be made in regards to the endowment fund or the management of the money raised by the Class of 1959.

The whole story of the Class of 1959’s project has not been revealed yet. This class’s project started because people involved in the project thought that the cherry trees would die soon, possibly within a decade. However, as it has been discussed, the cherry trees are still alive today. The university gardeners led by Chris Holmer have done a great job, so the cherry trees look better than they were in 1999. Nonetheless, it is true that these cherry trees are declining in health and they will have to be replaced someday. The funds raised by the class might be used when the time comes to

¹⁷⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷⁷ “Class of 1959 Cherry Tree Endowment Fund,” a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect).
This document

¹⁷⁸ Richard K. Chapman, e-mail to Kristine Kenney, December 19, 2007, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect).

¹⁷⁹ “Class of 1959 Cherry Tree Endowment Fund,” a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect).

¹⁸⁰ Richard K. Chapman, e-mail to Kristine Kenney, December 19, 2007, a document received from Kristine Kenney (University of Washington Landscape Architect).

¹⁸¹ Kristine Kenney (University landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, June 9, 2017

¹⁸² Ibid.

replace the trees.

Chapter 5, Section 5, Cherry Trees in Mt. Vernon

Today, 16 cherry trees are growing in the Urban Forest Nursery run by James Barborinas which locates near Mt. Vernon, Washington State. These 16 cherry trees are regarded as the children of the cherry trees in the Quad. Similar to the other topics related to the Quad's cherry trees, these cherry trees are full of mysteries due to the lack of records.

Those 16 cherry trees in the Mt. Vernon are believed to have grown from grafted cuttings of the Quad cherry trees. Kristine Kenney, the current landscape architect was told by Bill Talley, her predecessor, that cuttings from the original cherry trees were grafted and growing in the Urban Forest Nursery.¹⁸³ Additionally, Brian Davis, outside zone project manager of the university, stated he recalls the university did cutting and propagated the replacement trees in the Urban Forest Nursery.¹⁸⁴ Moreover, there is a record indicating that there were cuttings taken from the original cherry trees. A 2005 inventory of the trees under the controlled of Carol Hooey, the University nurseryman at that time, contains trees which seem to be the same as those in Mt.Vernon today. (Figure 20)¹⁸⁵

¹⁸³ Ibid.

¹⁸⁴ Brian K. Davis (University outside zone project manager), e-mail to the author, April 26, 2017

¹⁸⁵ Carol Hooey, "2005 inventory of the nursery of the University of Washington," 2005.

2005	
Trees	
M	<p>Malus Sp. wh. fl. Sm. fruit seedling 1 ea-Tub</p> <p>Malus Pink Beauty, AT URBAN Forest Comm. Source 5 1 1/2 cal</p> <p>Maytenus boaria (chile) Seed Co. Seedlings Rest Tossed Tea Tub</p>
N	<p>Nyssa Sylvatica (E) 3 ea 56 cal</p>
O	
P	<p>Paulownia tomentosa Empress Tree (china) 1 ea (2 ea)</p> <p>Phellodendron chinensis - chinese Cork Tree (china) 1 ea (2 ea)</p> <p>Picea sp. volunteer 1 ea - 16 cal</p> <p>Pinus Cembra - Swiss Stone Pine (Eur. w. Asia) 1 ea-Tub</p> <p>Pinus Coulteri (Calif) Jeffers & Coulter's Mixed ? 2 ea - 16 cal</p> <p>Pinus jeffreyi (Calif) 5 ea - 16 cal</p> <p>Pinus Lambertiana - Sugar Pine (WA.) ONE STOLEN DIED 1 ea - 20 cal</p> <p>Pinus Pinaster Umbrella Pine Seed from kinkaid (Medit) 9 ea - 56 cal</p> <p>Pinus Ponderosa (campus Seed) (Calif) 18 ea - 56 cal</p> <p>Populus tristis (Asia) Campus Tree Cuttings 3 ea - 16 cal</p> <p>Prunus Yoshino Quad Cherry Replacement 19 1 1/2 cal 20-19 ea</p> <p>Prunus shiro fugen "Carpenter" ASIA 1 ea-Tub</p> <p>Pseudo Suga menziesii Douglas Fir (NW) 1 ea 26 cal</p> <p>Quercus agrifolia Coast Live Oak (NW) 1 ea-Tub</p> <p>Quercus rubra Northern Red Oak volunteer (N. Am.) 1 ea 56 cal</p> <p>Rhamnus frangula Columnaris - Tall hedge buckthorn 29 ea</p>

Figure 20 : 2005 tree inventory created by Carol Hooey

Prunus Yoshino[,] Quad Cherry Relacement[,] Campus Tree Cuttings[,] 19[, 1.5 caliper,] 20-1=19 [each]

The number 19 matches the possible original number of these trees in Mt. Vernon. (This original number will be discussed in depth later). So, the cuttings from cherry trees mentioned in the inventory might be the same trees with the trees planted in the Urban Forest Nursery today. This inventory endorses the view that these trees are cut branches from the Quad's cherry trees. Therefore, the cherry trees in the nursery might be propagated from cuttings of branches of the cherry trees in the Quad. However, the facts of these cherry trees in Mt. Vernon cannot be revealed due to the lack of accurate records. Kenney said there are no documents and contracts regarding these trees now.

These trees are said to be propagated for the Class of 1959's project by the University's staffs but this is possibly incorrect judging from information the author collects. Kenney was told by Talley that the cherry trees growing in the Mt. Vernon nursery are part of the Class of 1959's project.¹⁸⁶ Sara Shores, the university arborist also had believed the cherry trees in Mt. Vernon were grown as a part of the Class of 1959's project until the author of this paper pointed out the possibility they are not.¹⁸⁷ The view that these trees are a part of the Class's project could be true, but it seems like these trees are not part of the Class's project. Today, there are no documents that prove any relations between the Class's project and the trees at the nursery in Mt. Vernon. Additionally, Kenney said the university and the funds raised by the Class of 1959 have not been put towards the cherry trees in the Urban Forest Nursery.¹⁸⁸ It seems like the cherry trees in the Urban Forest Nursery and the class's project are completely different. The author of this paper shared this interpretation, that the two things are irrelevant, with Shores and she agreed with that possibility. However, the true facts cannot be revealed without records about the cherry trees in Mt. Vernon.

The Urban Forest Nursery also does not know much about the cherry trees they are growing. James Barborinas, the owner of the Urban Forest Nursery, states:

¹⁸⁶ Kristine Kenney (University landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 12, 2017.

¹⁸⁷ Sara Shores (University arborist), interviewed by the author of this paper, June 1, 2017.

¹⁸⁸ Kristine Kenney (University landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 12, 2017.

I received the trees from Joe Biringer of Biringer Nursery in [Mt. Vernon], Washington. I think they grew them from cuttings they were provided... I believe the original source was from Rod White when he was at the University. All I was told was that these were trees from the UW campus and [I] was to grow them on for them. You might get more [information] from either Joe at the Nursery or from Rod if he is around.¹⁸⁹

Barborinas explained that he received the trees from Biringer Nursery, which is another nursery in Mt. Vernon. However, Joe Biringer, the owner of the Biringer Nursery does not know about the trees either. Biringer stated:

I grew some trees for the someone from the school, but have no info left on them, I gave them to Jim to grow on [to] a larger size, and at that point I do not know anything about them, or if they are still around, I would [have] thought they would be gone from Jim's nursery by now.¹⁹⁰

In the other email, Bringer states that he received the grafted woods.¹⁹¹ How did the Biringer Nursery obtain these grafted cherry trees remains a mystery. Additionally, the probably same cherry trees recorded in the 2005 inventory drawn by Carol Hooey, mentioned above, does not help to determine the trees' location or origin since the inventory does not give any additional information. There is a possibility that she recorded those trees into the inventory although they are not stored on campus but because they were possibly regarded as the University's trees even though they were in either of the nurseries in Mt. Vernon. Therefore, the origin and history of these trees remains unclear.

Additionally, the number of these cherry trees is strange if it was for the purpose of replacing

¹⁸⁹ James M. Barborinas, e-mail to the author, May 15, 2017.

¹⁹⁰ Joe Biringer, e-mail to the author, May 24, 2017.

¹⁹¹ Joe Biringer, e-mail to the author, May 30, 2017.

the Quad's about 30 cherry trees. Today, the Urban Forest Nursery owns 16 but it was maybe about 20 originally. Barborinas explains:

[Number of the cherry trees received from the Biringer Nursery is] I cannot recall but something like 20. The UW allowed me to sell one or a couple to someone from the UW who somehow found out we had them. This was during a short window when the U said it was ok to sell them. We may have lost another couple to weather or disease. Then I received an email saying not to sell anymore until I heard from them. Right now[,] we have 16 cherry at 3.5" to 4.5" caliper Cherry and 8 crabs in about the same size range.¹⁹²

It seems like he originally had approximately 20 cherry trees grafted from the campus. The number 19 appeared on the inventory of 2005 aligns closely with this number. But, the number, "about 20" brings a question. There are about 30 cherry trees in the Quad and this number has not been changed largely in their history. So, "about 20" does not make sense for the purpose to replace all the Quad's cherry trees. At least 26 original trees are still remaining in the Quad today. So, if those cherry trees in Mt. Vernon were grown with a purpose to replace the Quad's original cherry trees, at least 26 trees should have been prepared. Therefore, this number is hard to be understood.

Moreover, the relation of these trees with the university is hard to understand. Although their connection with the Class of 1959's project is unclear, it is almost certain that these cherry trees were grown from grafting from the university's cherry trees. However, Kenney stated that the university has never paid the Urban Forest Nursery to take care of these cherry trees.¹⁹³ But still, Barborinas stated that the university still has a control over the trees regarding sales.¹⁹⁴ Nonetheless, Barborinas

¹⁹² James M. Barborinas, e-mail to the author, May 24, 2017.

¹⁹³ Kristine Kenney (University landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 12, 2017.

¹⁹⁴ James M. Barborinas, e-mail to the author, May 24, 2017.

stated the trees are his nursery's property when the author of this paper interviewed in May of 2017.¹⁹⁵ In the interview, he stated "the UW allowed me to sell one or a couple to someone from the UW who somehow found out we had them."¹⁹⁶ It seems like the trees are technically owned by the nursery but practically controlled by the university. Things became complicated because nobody had a clear understanding of where these trees came from or whose they are.

Finally, in the end of May of 2017, Barborinas offered to sell these trees to the university at a very discounted price (\$150/each) and the university decided to purchase them.¹⁹⁶⁻² Sara Shores, the university arborist stated they will be planted in the campus somewhere other than the Quad when the author of this paper interviewed her in June 2017.¹⁹⁷ In December 2018, the author send email to Shores and asked where those trees were planted. She explained that nine trees were planted on campus and the Arboretum got the rest.¹⁹⁸ She provided a map of those trees on campus. (Figure 21)¹⁹⁹ It seems like the author's this research and his interviews to people regarding to the cherry trees in Mt. Vernon gave a chance to remember those trees and stimulated this planting to happen.

¹⁹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁹⁶⁻² Sara Shores, e-mail to James M. Barborinas, June 5, 2017.

James M. Barborinas, e-mail to Sara Shores, April 14, 2017.

¹⁹⁷ Sara Shores (University arborist), interviewed by the author of this paper, June 1, 2017.

¹⁹⁸ Sara Shores (University arborist), e-mail to the author of this paper, December 29, 2018.

¹⁹⁹ Ibid.

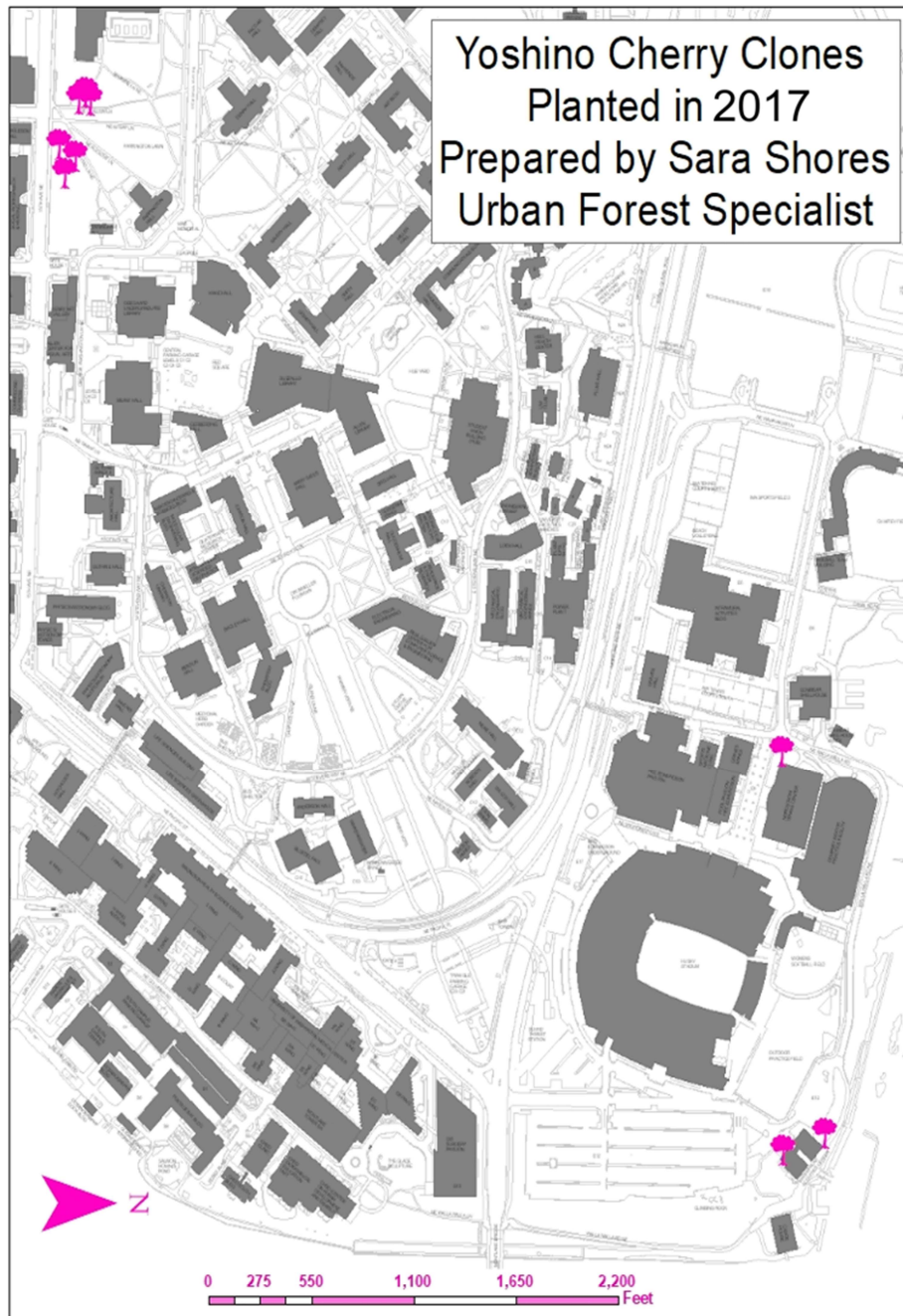


Figure 21 : Map of the cherry trees from Mr.Vernon planted on campus in 2017 ²⁰⁰

As seen, the situation of these trees is quite complicated. These cherry trees might be the cut branches of the Quad's cherry trees grafted on roots, but this has not been confirmed yet. These trees were sometimes thought to be related to the Class of 1959's project but it might not be. The number

²⁰⁰ Sara Shores (University arborist), e-mail to the author of this paper, December 29 and January 5, 2018.

of these trees makes it even more difficult to understand the purpose of these trees. Nobody knows much about these trees. These mysteries are caused largely by a shortage of records and documented contracts. Kristine Kenney stated no documentation has been done for these trees. It seems like everything was set up just with ideas of people who initially involved in the project. The project became unclear once those people who had planned left.

Chapter 5, Section 6, Future Plan for the Quad Cherry Trees

Since the current trees stay in a good condition, future replacement plan is not actively discussed now. According to Kristine Kenney, the current university landscape architect, the university does not have any specific plan to replace the cherry trees in a large scale now because the trees have not shown any signs of serious concern.²⁰¹ The currently standing trees are in decline because they are getting old but they are still doing well because the university gardeners take care of the trees attentively.

Today, there are mainly two threats that spoil the cherry trees: brown rot and cherry bark tortrix²⁰², which is a pest to damage fruit trees. Yet, these problems are not so serious to consider the replacement of all the trees. Chris Holmer, the lead gardeners of the area including the Quad, suggests replacing the all trees at the same time when the time comes.²⁰³ He said the irrigation and drainage of the Quad have to be improved for future trees. Replacing all the trees at the same time will allow this sort of work to be conducted.²⁰⁴

Additionally, Brian Davis, outside zone project manager of the university talks about the relation between the Quad cherry trees replacement and the university facility renovations. There are infrastructures such as waterline, drainage pipe, sewer pipe, gas pipe, and electricity in the Quad

²⁰¹ Kristine Kenney (University landscape architect), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 12, 2017.

²⁰² Chris Holmer (University gardener), interviewed by the author of this paper, May 10, 2017.

²⁰³ Ibid.

²⁰⁴ Ibid.

underground.²⁰⁵ Also, those Quad surrounding buildings need renovation in the future. Then, everything is interrelated with the cherry trees.²⁰⁶ Thus, he emphasizes that “cherry solution needs to look at all of these other elements. A solution cannot be done in a vacuum without taking in a consideration what is underground and what is aboveground in proximity to the Quad.”²⁰⁷ Future cherry trees replacement needs to be considered together with the environment surrounding the trees.

Chapter 5, Section 7, Conclusion of This Chapter

This chapter looked through the changes that have happened in relation to the replacement of the cherry trees. Some of the 30 original cherry trees have already been replaced. Not many records are left about the replacements that have already been done. Those remaining original trees are older than 80 years old, but they are still in good condition. Around 1999, people worried that these cherry trees could die soon and the Class of 1959 started fundraising for future replacement trees as a class gift. However, the cherry trees are still in good condition thanks to the team of university gardeners led by Chris Holmer. There are mysterious cherry trees in Mt. Vernon with connections to the University. Their origin remains unclear. Since the trees are still healthy, there are no detailed plans for their replacement yet.

Chapter 6, Conclusion

This paper has reviewed the whole history of the cherry trees in the Quad. The cherry trees were initially planted in a location called Canal Reserve today. Then in 1962, they were transplanted to the Quad because of the construction of S.R. 520. The plan was made by people including Frederick Mann, Eric Hoyte, Charles Odegaard, and Ernest Conrad. The actual work of transplanting seems to

²⁰⁵ Brian K. Davis (University outside zone project manager), interviewed by the author of this paper, June 7, 2017

²⁰⁶ Ibid.

²⁰⁷ Ibid.

have been done through collaboration of an outside contractor and the University gardeners. Today, most of the original cherry trees remain but some have been replaced. There are also a couple of other projects started for the sake of future tree replacements.

Today's fabulous beauty of the Quad was established and maintained through many people's passion and great work. History of the Quad's cherry trees can be replaced with history of the thought and wish of those people involved in the cherry trees. Although the trees still look great, they are always in decline and will be replaced someday but the great work of these people worked for the trees will last forever in people's mind as the memory of the beauty of the cherry trees.

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Second, I would like to express my gratitude to Chris Holmer, the current university gardener, who is taking care of the Quad's cherry trees. I visited the Quad with him and he gave me many insights regarding the cherry trees. His tender care has been crucial to maintain the beauty of the cherry trees. His comment during my interview, "I've worked thousands of hours in Quad. It's a special place and makes it fun to come to work" was very moving.

Next, I also want to thank retired University Ground Shop members for their immense help; Nora Strothman, Bonnie Taylor, Conner Thomas, and Carol Hooey. Nora Strothman is a retired gardener and shared many episodes related to the cherry trees. She also connected me with many people related to the cherry trees. Her great help was essential to push my research forward. She organized a presentation to share my research in front of the university gardeners in the University Grounds Shop. It was to my great pleasure that I could talk in front of the university gardeners and receive a lovely gift from her. Bonnie Taylor is also a retired gardener. She shared many stories of the cherry trees with Nora. She also helped me to analyze old records related to the cherry trees. Strothman and Taylor's support were my mental motivation during my research. Conner Thomas is a retired gardener and he shared old stories of the cherry trees and Chico Narro with me via email. Carol Hooey is a retired university nurseryman. She came to the campus for two times to help me

analyze the old record related to the cherry trees. Those retired members' help were essential to push my research forward.

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Photo with the University Grounds Shop members after my presentation about the history of the cherry trees. I am grateful to Nora Strothman for giving me a chance to do this presentation.

The Author's Memo Written After He Visited the UW to Deliver This paper

This research made people to remember almost forgotten cherry trees in Mt.Vernon and made 16 cherry trees to be planted in the campus and the Arboretum in 2017. Most probably, those trees were started from Quad cherry trees cut branch for the purpose to replace the Quad cherry trees in the future and have grown in Mt.Vernon. However, since the Quad cherry trees still look good, people have almost forgotten about those trees in Mt.Vernon. Then, this research and interviews stimulate people to remember those trees. Finally, Mr. Barborinas offered UW to purchase those cherry trees and UW bought them while the author was doing my research in spring of 2017. In winter of 2017, nine trees were planted in the campus and rest were planted in the Arboretum. The author had a chance to see some of those new cherry trees on campus when he visited the university to deposit this paper to the university libraries on January 2019. More details are in this paper.

2019/1/17



Yuki Shiotani and this paper with the new cherry tree

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