

EUGENE LEGACY TREES



Photo: City of Eugene Parks and Open Space

Ferry Street walnut in 2004

Legacy Tree Number 3 *Ferry Street Walnut*

Juglans regia

Location: East side of Ferry Street at E. 11th Ave.

Height: 87 feet

Crown spread: 100 feet

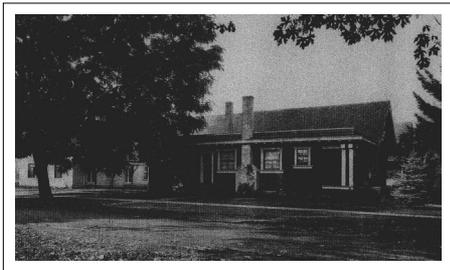
Trunk circumference: 20 feet

Age: approximately 120 years

This tree is an English or Persian walnut (*Juglans regia*), native to southeast Europe and Southwest Asia. It produces the thin-shelled walnuts that are sold commercially and have been grown extensively in Willamette Valley orchards. This very large specimen has the broad spreading habit, compound leaves and light gray bark which are characteristic of the species.

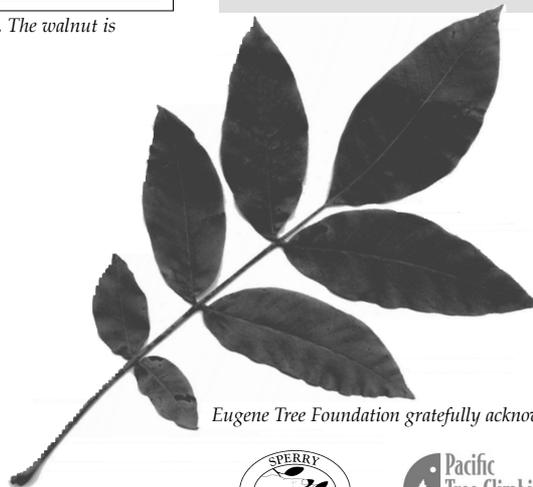
This walnut tree was probably planted in the 1880's when the property was the home of painter Lowry B. Rowland and family. What is unusual about this particular tree is that it was a seedling and not grafted onto Black Walnut rootstock, as most orchard trees would have been. There have been nuts produced by this tree in the past but they were small and today it produces little to no fruit. It is unclear why this tree's nut production is scant. There are signs that there were some very large lower limbs at one time that were removed for construction or safety reasons or lost during storm events.

Between 1912 and 1960 the adjacent building was home to a Unitarian church, which was then sold to Oregon Research Institute and then later replaced by the old U-Lane-O main branch (now Oregon Community Credit Union). It is believed that a pew from the church now resides inside the credit union main office. The history is also unclear as to who made the decision to make a "cut" in the building roofline to accommodate one of the large branches which leans over the bank. It is obvious that when the current building was built the tree was embraced and was meant to be appreciated from the large window by the front stairs.



Photographer: unknown

The Unitarian Church circa 1912. The walnut is on the left



Eugene Tree Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following businesses:



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