

EUGENE LEGACY TREES



View from base of tree.



Chase Sequoia in early fall of 2005.

Legacy Tree Number 11 *Chase Sequoia*

Sequoiadendron giganteum

Location: 274 S. Garden Way, off Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

Height: 139 feet

Canopy spread: 66 feet

Diameter: 105 inches

Age: estimated at 110 years old

The Chase sequoia stands at the end of a driveway at 274 South Garden Way, a house built by Frank B. Chase in 1889. The driveway was originally a road leading to an apple orchard owned and managed by Mr. Chase, one of Eugene's pioneering growers. Mr. Chase planted the sequoia sometime in the few years after the house was built.

In addition to fruit trees, Frank Chase grew vegetables which he at one time sold door-to-door in a "peddle cart," a technique used by several early Eugene farmers. He was innovative, being credited as the first to use irrigation in the upper Willamette Valley and incorporating greenhouses in agricultural production by 1905. Fifty years after its humble beginnings, Chase Gardens was distributing produce and flowers nationwide and at various times was noted for its roses, gardenias and orchids, grown in more than ten acres of greenhouses.

Giant sequoia are fairly commonly planted around Eugene and are valued for their fast growth, handsome appearance and environmental adaptability. This tree is one of the first planted in the area, and it has achieved great size while growing in rich soil. In its home range of the Sierra Nevada in California, giant sequoia can reach 300 feet tall.

The Chase property includes other old and interesting trees hidden from public view, including what is perhaps the largest American elm in Eugene.



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To view all the Legacy Trees, go to www.eugenetreefoundation.org