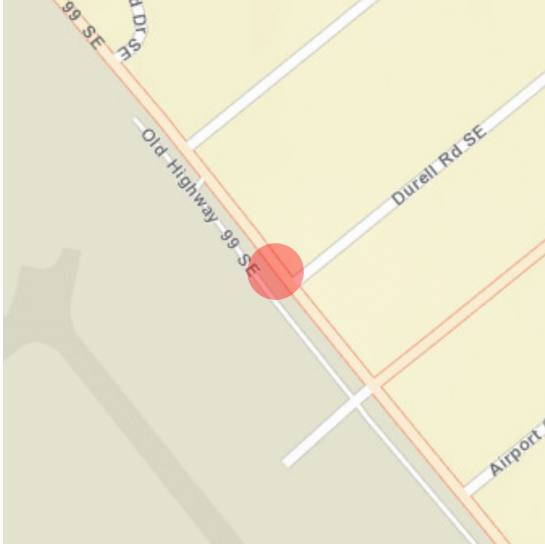


## **Appendix B – Historic Properties Reports**

## Location



**Address:** near 7525 Old Highway 99, vicinity of Tumwater, WA 98501

**Geographic Areas:** Thurston County, OLYMPIA Quadrangle, T17R02W11

## Information

**Number of stories:** N/A

**Construction Dates:**

Construction Type	Year	Circa
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**Historic Use:**

Category	Subcategory
Landscape	Landscape - Natural Feature
Landscape	Landscape - Natural Feature

**Historic Context:**

Category
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**Architect/Engineer:**

Category	Name or Company
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**Thematics:**

**Local Registers and Districts**

Name	Date Listed	Notes
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## Project History



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Oak Tree

Property ID: 20170

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<b>Project Number, Organization, Project Name</b>	<b>Resource Inventory</b>	<b>SHPO Determination</b>	<b>SHPO Determined By, Determined Date</b>
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## Photos



Tree



Original HPI form(s)



# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Oak Tree

Property ID: 20170

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## Inventory Details - 1/1/1900

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**Common name:** Meeker Oak Tree (#34-169)

**Date recorded:** 1/1/1900

**Field Recorder:**

**Field Site number:** 3465

**SHPO Determination**

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# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Oak Tree

Property ID: 20170

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## Inventory Details - 4/1/1998

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**Common name:** Meeker Oak Tree (#34-169)  
**Date recorded:** 4/1/1998  
**Field Recorder:** Shanna Stevenson  
**Field Site number:** 3465

**SHPO Determination**

## Detail Information

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### Surveyor Opinion

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**Significance narrative:** The tree is significant as a specimen tree of the garry oak species. Rob Kavanaugh an expert on Oregon white oak estimates the tree to be approximately 400 years old. Although coring has been attempted, the tree is too hard to permit examination. The tree also represents the ecology of the native peoples. Native peoples managed the landscape to provide for their food gathering needs. An 1853 survey of the area notes the it was widely burned and we know that the Bush family and others settled here because of the open prairie. This helped the oak tree by eliminating the over-canopy of fir trees for the sun-loving oak. The burning was done to open areas so that the prairie food plants, most notably camas, could thrive. This tree has stood over the centuries because of that land management.

The acorns from oak trees such as this were a vital part of the native peoples diet. Del McBride notes:

"The Squalli ate a lot of acorns. These acorns were cooked in the ground like camas, with hot rocks underneath, covered with dirt, fire on top. After the acorns were cooked, they were put into open-work baskets and these baskets were The acorns must be completely covered with water and mud. This mode of caching was never done without first cooking the acorns. When acorns were taken out of the water, they were ready to eat and not cooked again." Originally published in LURE LORE, Vol. X, No. 1 (Fall 1991) by the Nisqually Reach Nature Center.

Cecelia Svinth Carpenter notes:

" . . . Acorns required more care. They contained a bitter taste which could be removed either by boiling or by burying them in the mud by a stream. Acorns were roasted in the embers of the cooking fire and ground into a meal that could be molded into patties or used to make a gruel or soup." in THE SEASONAL ROUND OF LIFE IN TRADITIONAL TIMES, published by the Washington State Capital Museum.

Marian Smith describes the use of acorns:

"Acorns were gathered wherever they could be found and salt water groups made special trips to prairie groves to obtain them. They were eaten raw or pit-baked. The baked nuts were eaten alone or sometimes with salmon eggs. They were also pounded up and boiled with fish, apparently in the same way as roots. After they were baked, they could be stored in baskets lined with leaves and submerged in still water." The Puyallup-Nisqually, page 251.



## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Oak Tree

Property ID: 20170

Oak was also used by native peoples for digging sticks for root foodstuff when an antler handle was attached. Other possible products were yellow face paint made from the decaying bark of the oak tree, hide scraping tools, braces for dip nets and firewood.

The tree is also on the historic northern branch of the Oregon Trail, the Cowlitz Trail and undoubtedly has seen the progression of human habitation from native peoples, the Hudson's Bay Company and this area's earliest American settlers. The tree was undoubtedly of significant size 150 years ago to be noted by those who passed by and perhaps was a landmark on this part of the trail.

The tree is part of the donation land claims of James and Samuel Dunlap who settled in the area in 1852. They are buried in the Bush/Union Cemetery. A smaller grove of garry oaks was removed from across the road from the tree in 1994, some of which were 100 years old and could have been the progeny of this tree.

In 1984 a community effort saved the tree when the highway was being improved in this area and the right-of-way was re-routed and a barrier installed to insure its security. This signalled its landmark status to the community.

Although various stories about its being the "Meeker Oak" have been circulated, no direct connection with Ezra Meeker has been established. When Meeker made his epic retracing of the Oregon Trail in 1906, he set a marker post in Tumwater and then took the train to Tenino, his next stop instead of driving his team on this section of the trail. Other stories about its being an Indian gathering site have not been verified.

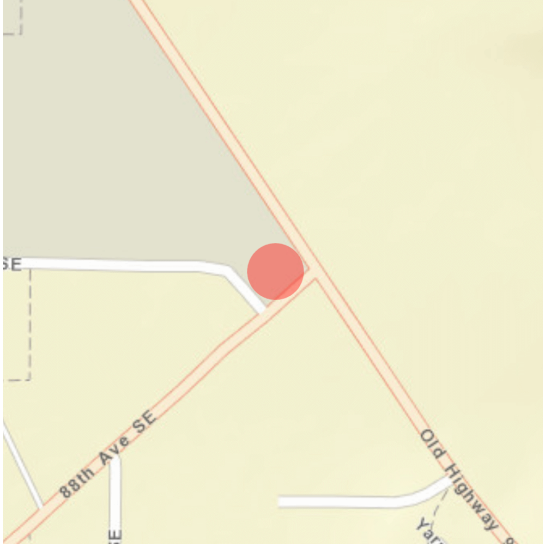
### Physical description:

Located adjacent to Old Highway 99 (formerly Pacific Highway), the garry oak tree stands between 70 and 100 feet high and is 16 feet in circumference. The Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) or garry oak is the only native oak of Washington. It was named by David Douglas in 1820 after his friend Nicholas Garry of the Hudson Bay Company. The tree presents a broad canopy over Old Highway 99.

### Bibliography:

Kavanaugh, Rob, Washington Oak habitat: a plan for managing the oak forests of Washington State, Columbia Gorge Audubon Society, 1991  
Correspondence from Jack Davis, 1987, 1994.  
Smith, Marian, The Puyallup-Nisqually, AMS Press, New York, reprint 1969.  
Carpenter, Cecelia Svinth, "The Seasonal Round of Life in Traditional Times," State Capital Museum, n.d.  
McBride, Del "When the Prairie Camas Bloom: Some Notes on edible Plants Among the Puget Sound Indians," Luhr Lore, Vol.X, No. 1 (Fall 1991), Nisqually Reach Nature Center.  
Information from 1853 Survey Notes, microfilm, Washington State Library.  
Telephone interviews, Rob Kavanaugh, Jack Davis and Joe Roush.  
Previous documentation on file (THPC)

## Location



**Address:** , Olympia, WA 98501  
**Tax No/Parcel No:** 12713230405  
**Plat/Block/Lot:** Metes and Bounds  
**Geographic Areas:** Thurston County, MAYTOWN Quadrangle, T17R02W13

## Information

**Number of stories:** N/A

### Construction Dates:

Construction Type	Year	Circa
Built Date	1997	<input type="checkbox"/>

### Historic Use:

Category	Subcategory
Recreation and Culture	Recreation and Culture - Monument/Marker
Recreation and Culture	Recreation and Culture - Monument/Marker

### Historic Context:

Category
Ethnic Heritage

### Architect/Engineer:

Category	Name or Company
Architect	Carlsson, Lars





# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Bush Interpretative Kiosk

Property ID: 19018

**Thematics:**

**Local Registers and Districts**

Name	Date Listed	Notes
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**Project History**

Project Number, Organization, Project Name	Resource Inventory	SHPO Determination	SHPO Determined By, Determined Date
2006-01-00006, , Thurston County 2002	1/1/1900	Not Determined	

## Photos



West side of marker





# Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Bush Interpretative Kiosk

Property ID: 19018

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## Inventory Details - 1/1/1900

**Common name:** Bush Interpretative Site (#34-350)  
**Date recorded:** 1/1/1900  
**Field Recorder:** Shanna Stevenson  
**Field Site number:** 126  
**SHPO Determination**

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## Detail Information

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### Surveyor Opinion

**Property appears to meet criteria for the National Register of Historic Places:** No

**Property is located in a potential historic district (National and/or local):** No

**Significance narrative:** This marker commemorates the legacy of the George and Isabella and William O and Mandana Bush Families. This land is part of the original Bush donation claim. The Bush family came with the first permanent American settlement to Tumwater in 1845, settling just east of this marker along the Deschutes River. George Bush was a mulatto who settled in Tumwater in 1845 with his wife Isabella and five sons as part of the first permanent American settlement on Puget Sound. He was a highly respected and expert farmer. He had come to the area north of the Columbia River to escape the restrictive land laws of Oregon against men of color. In fact it took an act of Congress, spurred by Washington legislative action, to grant him and his wife their land. Bush's family were also outstanding. His son, William Owen Bush was a member of the first state legislature and with his family grew world renown produce from what is now known as Bush Prairie. This produce was exhibited at several world's fairs and exhibitions.

As some of the earliest American settlers on Puget Sound in 1845, George and Isabella Bush with their family played a vital role in the beginnings of Washington Territory. Bush's story is even more remarkable because he was a mulatto who overcame prejudice and discrimination to succeed as one of the areas most beloved figures.

Little is known of Bush's early life. It is believed that he was the son of an East or West Indian who was married the Irish maid of a family in Pennsylvania. Their son, George traveled widely before making his way west in 1844. By some accounts he fought in the Black Hawk War, worked for a fur company and may have been at the Battle of New Orleans. It is known that he married Isabella James, an American of German ancestry on July 4, 1832, in Missouri. They became the parents of nine sons, six of whom survived to adulthood.

Feeling the pressures of prejudice in the slavery state of Missouri before the Civil War, Bush and his family joined the westward migration to the Oregon Country in 1844 with their friends and neighbors. Bush had been very successful in the cattle business and came west with excellent supplies as well as a cache of coins said to be \$2000.

Bush and his party reached the Dalles in December, 1844 after a seven month journey. Bush took care of the stock at the Dalles over the while the other went on to Washougal on the Columbia River.

George Bush again met prejudice upon his arrival in the Oregon Country. This area was still under a joint occupation agreement between the U.S. and Great Britain with no formal government. However, the Oregon Provisional Government at Oregon City had passed in June, 1844 a law which excluded Negroes of all conditions from the Oregon



## Historic Property Report

Resource Name: Bush Interpretative Kiosk

Property ID: 19018

area. The sheriff, however, was not required to cross north of the Columbia to enforce the law.

This provision coupled with the desire of the settlers to secure an American foothold north of the Columbia River drove Bush and his party of 30 Americans to Puget Sound where they arrived in November, 1845. By 1846, the Boundary line was settled and the Bush Party had established New Market, later Tumwater at the falls of the Deschutes River as it entered Puget Sound, now part of the United States.

Bush, an accomplished farmer, and his family quickly established a fine farm which encompassed this site. Because of their hospitality and generosity the farm became a noted stopping off place on the Cowlitz Trail which brought settlers north to Puget Sound from the Oregon Trail. Bush was also instrumental in establishing the first mills at the falls of the Deschutes River.

While other white settlers were entitled to free land under the provisions of the Donation Land Claim Law passed in 1850, it took an act of the U.S. Congress to grant George and Isabella Bush their land because of their color. Fifty-five members of the newly formed Washington Territorial Legislature petitioned Congress to grant them their land.

Beloved by his neighbors and friends, Bush died in 1863 and was followed by his wife in 1866 but their legacy continued with their sons who continued to live on the land. The kiosk was constructed on donated land by the Thurston County Historic Commission with donations from many community groups.

**Physical description:** Four sided kiosk designed to be reminiscent of the gable of the W. O. Bush home. On the four sides are interpretative panels about the legacy of the Bush family. Two of the panels are replicas of the Jacob Lawrence George Bush Series of paintings.

**Bibliography:** Palmer, Gayle, ed. *The River Remembers*, City of Tumwater, 1995, article, George Bush of Tumwater, Washington by Dr. Darrell Milner.