



May 7, 2024

The Historic Preservation Program
600 4th Avenue
4th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

OUR PROPERTIES

GOOD SHEPHERD CENTER
Built: 1906 | Operated by
Historic Seattle since 1975

MUTUAL LIFE BUILDING
Built: 1890-1916 | Operated by
Historic Seattle since 1983

BELMONT/BOYLSTON HOUSES
Built: 1893-1903 | Operated by
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PHILLIPS HOUSE
Built: 1902 | Operated by
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VICTORIAN ROW
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Historic Seattle Headquarters
Built: 1907 | Operated by
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Built: 1908 | Operated by
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GARDEN HOUSE
Built: 1886 | Operated by
Historic Seattle since 2021

GOOD ARTS BUILDING
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Historic Seattle since 2022

1117 Minor Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

(206) 622-6952
info@historicseattle.org
www.historicseattle.org

Dear Landmarks Preservation Board,

After conscious effort to engage the community in what tree best belongs in the front of the Good Shepherd Center, a *Ginkgo biloba*, or Maidenhair Tree, has been selected to replace the previous *Araucaria Araucana* (Monkey Puzzle).

This tree was one of three options given in surveys. Several factors were considered when selecting this tree.

First, the tree will do well in the area of planting. It will be conducive to current environmental factors such as seasonal temperature changes and water resource availability.

Second, it is an aesthetically unique tree. It is a statement specimen like that of the Monkey Puzzle. It has unique fan-shaped green leaves in the summer, electric yellow fall color, and a large presence reaching a height between 50-80 feet. Classified as medium growth rate, the tree will grow 12-24 inches per year in the first 10-15 years. Mature caliper can be between 24-36 inches. It will provide inviting shade in the summer and winter interest in the colder months.

Finally, the *Ginkgo biloba* has a rich history of its own. This type of tree is considered a "living fossil." It dates to before the time of the dinosaurs. Another notable historic fact is that a planting of *Ginkgo bilobas* survived the atomic blast on Hiroshima, demonstrating its resilience.

I am seeking a Certificate of Approval to add this tree to the collection on Good Shepherd's grounds. Please contact me with any questions of concerns at megans@historicseattle.org.

Sincerely,

Megan Stanek
Horticulture Manager

EXAMPLES OF GINKGO TREE



Examples of proposed tree in summer color w/ building in background for scale. Two Examples.



Example of tree in Fall color.

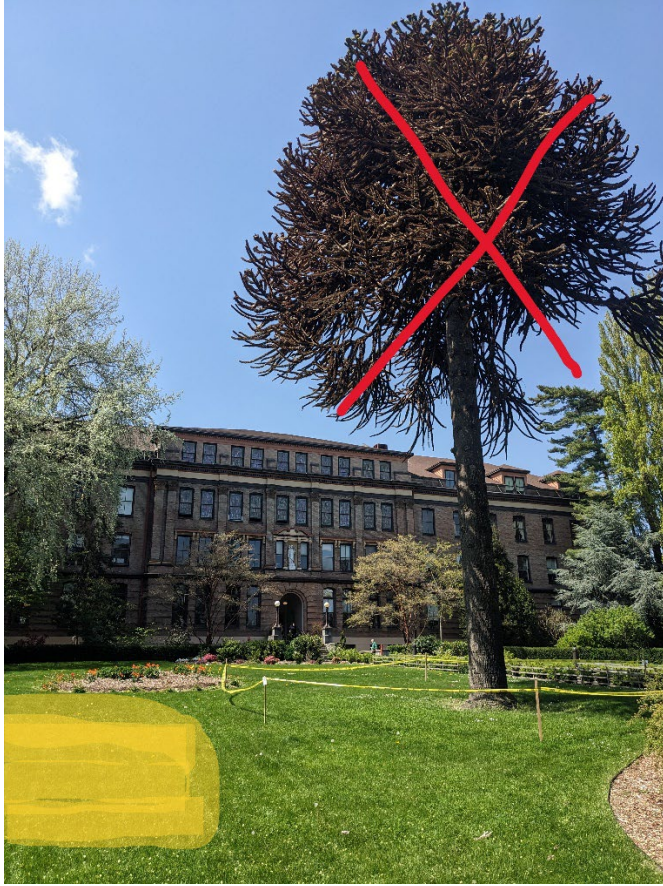
PLANTING SITE PROPOSAL IMAGES



Red: Where Monkey Puzzle was located. Yellow: Proposed planting site of new Ginkgo; S of Monkey Puzzle site.



Red: Removed Monkey Puzzle. Yellow: Proposed planting site for replacement tree. Note placement of tree in relation to the main building as well as existing hardscape.



Red X: Removed Monkey Puzzle tree. Yellow: Proposed planting site with main building perspective.



The City of Seattle

Landmarks Preservation Board

Mailing Address: PO Box 94649, Seattle WA 98124-4649

Street Address: 600 4th Avenue, 4th Floor

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

LPB 194/23

Megan Stanek
Horticulture Manager
Historic Seattle @ GSC
4649 Sunnyside Avenue N
Seattle, WA 98103

RE: Good Shepherd Center – 4647 Sunnyside Avenue N

Ms. Stanek:

I have reviewed the report prepared by ISA Certified Arborists, Patrick Boyle (#PN-8918A) and Cristina Cameron (#PN-9408A) of Seattle Tree Care. I understand that they have determined the monkey puzzle tree on the east lawn to be a hazard. Their “high risk” assessment indicates that the tree is dead, and due to its close proximity to pedestrian areas, they recommend “immediate removal”.

Based on the level of risk we agree that this is an emergency maintenance measure that is necessary and that there are no reasonable alternatives to explore. We understand that Historic Seattle will likely propose a replacement tree in this area or elsewhere on the property. You will need to seek a Certificate of Approval from the Landmarks Preservation Board for that proposed work.

Please be aware that you may need to seek other permits from the City of Seattle for the proposed removal of this Exceptional Tree.

Erin Doherty
Landmarks Preservation Board Coordinator

Issued: May 18, 2023

Enclosure: Seattle Tree Care report; dated May 16, 2023

Administered by The Historic Preservation Program
The Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

“Printed on Recycled Paper”



TO: Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections

JOB SITE: 4649 Sunnyside Ave N

RE: Hazardous Monkey Puzzle Tree

DATE: 5/16/23

PREPARED BY: Patrick Boyle
ISA Certified Arborist #PN-8918A
ISA Qualified Tree Risk Assessor

Christina Cameron
ISA Certified Arborist #PN-9408A

Assignment and Scope of Work

This document outlines the site inspection that was performed by ISA qualified Seattle Tree Care staff on 4/11/23. The property owner, Good Shepherd Center, requested a health/hazard risk assessment of one monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*) located on the front entrance lawn at 4649 Sunnyside Ave N. The tree is not located within any ECA on the property.¹

At approximately 50' in height with a spread of 25', the potential targets associated with the retention of the hazardous tree include pedestrians.

The tree is 32" diameter at standard height (DSH) and is considered an Exceptional Tree under Seattle DPD Director's Rule 16-2008.²

Methods

During the site visit a thorough evaluation of tree health, structure and potential risk was performed following the protocol outlined by the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) standards established by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). This method employs a non-invasive, visual assessment of the overall health and external condition of the tree as well as an evaluation of site conditions. The Level

1

<http://seattlecitygis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f822b2c6498c4163b0cf908e2241e9c2>

2

<https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/UrbanForestryCommission/Resources/DR2008-16xExceptionalTrees.pdf>

II basic assessment approach adheres to the tree care industry standards and protocols set forth by the ISA and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

The ISA Tree Risk Assessment performed on 4/11/23 included a 360-degree, ground-based inspection to observe and record detailed information about the tree, including the above-ground roots, root flare, trunk and tree crown. The timeframe for this tree risk assessment, the period in which estimating likelihood of failure of large tree parts, is one year.

Observations

The subject tree is located within close proximity of pedestrians that occupy the area frequently. The tree measures approximately 50 feet tall and 32 inches DSH with an approximate crown spread diameter of 25 feet. The main concerns for this tree are that it is dead.

Discussion and Recommendations

Based on the aforementioned observations I made of the health and structural conditions, as well as the close proximity to surrounding targets, the likelihood of a complete failure of multiple large tree parts and impact to the targets as 'likely'; therefore the overall level of risk is 'high'. I recommend immediate removal of the tree.

Limitations

Tree risk assessment considers known targets and visible or detectable tree conditions. Information contained in this report covers only those items that were examined and reflects the condition of those items at the time of inspection. The time period for risk categorization should not be considered a "guarantee period" for the risk assessment. Trees are living organisms and their health and vigor change over time. There is no warranty or guarantee expressed or implied that problems or deficiencies of the trees in question may not arise in the future. The report and conclusions expressed herein represent the opinion of the ISA certified staff at Seattle Tree Care.

APPENDIX - A

Photo Documentation

04/11/2023 9:28:58 AM



4035 23rd Ave W , Seattle, WA 98199 Phone: 206-789-0534
WA UBI Number: 602-706-562 Contractor License Number: TREECCL925DR
www.seattletreecare.org & www.treecycleseattle.com

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