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By Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development

August 22, 2024

Atlas Tree Service, Inc.
ATLAS
Since 1962

ARBORIST REPORT

Prepared For: Craig & Caitlin Hornsby
15 Morningside Place
Alamo, CA 94507

Site address: Property referenced above

There is an addition planned for the West end of the property. This report is to assess what impact, if any, the proposed construction may have on several trees in the vicinity of the upcoming construction. This report is to address the preservation and/or removal of 13 trees during the newly planned addition to the property.

TREE REMOVALS (4)

Tree Specifications #928:
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 22" (69.12" circumference)
Height: 57'
Widespread: 27'
Condition: Poor
Location: Backyard crowded between 2 mature Oaks

- This tree is overcrowded by two trees which has caused it to grow with an excessive lean. Due to the above and its poor structure I recommend this tree be removed.

Tree Specifications #929
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata) STUMP*
Diameter at grade: 57"
Location: Backyard between property fence, gully and ivy.

- Note: This tree was a massive Valley Oak that has been removed in years past due to structural failure and excessive lean toward the open field behind the residence. This tree was very poorly located, crowded and confined between other various Oaks that caused and impacted them to grow with such lean and poor structure.

Tree Specifications #930:
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 25" (78.54" circumference)
Height: 48'
Widespread: 35'
Condition: Poor
Location: Backyard between property fence and above gully on hillside area

- This tree was also a volunteer that was overcrowded and grew with excessive lean and poor structure. This tree is located next to tree stump #929 which caused it to grow very poorly toward new proposed construction. I recommend this tree be removed.

Tree Specifications #931:
Species: Bay Tree (*Umbellularia californica)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 9" (28.27" circumference)
Height: 38'
Widespread: 15'
Condition: Poor
Location: Backyard between property fence and tree stump #929.

- This volunteer grew with excessive lean due to tree #930. Due to poor location and poor structure, I recommend this tree be removed.

Tree Specifications #932: **HERITAGE TREE**
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 40" (125.66" circumference)
Height: 85'
Widespread: 60'
Condition: Poor
Location: Backyard between property fence and tree stump #929.

- This tree has excessive lean with a potential for structural failure in proximity to newly proposed construction. Due to the above and its poor location, I recommend this tree to be removed.

PRESERVED TREES (8)

Tree Specifications #933: **HERITAGE TREE**
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 35" (109.96" circumference)
Height: 60'
Widespread: 43'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard on left side of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #934:
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 34" (106.81" circumference)
Height: 63'
Widespread: 50'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard on left side of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #935:
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 20" (62.83" circumference)
Height: 39'
Widespread: 19'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard left hand side of open filed area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and

upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #936:
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 28" (87.96" circumference)
Height: 50'
Widespread: 33'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard in middle of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #937:
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 21" (65.97" circumference)
Height: 63'
Widespread: 45'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard in the middle of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #938: **HERITAGE TREE**
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 36" (113.10" circumference)
Height: 75'
Widespread: 43'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard right side of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #939: **HERITAGE TREE**
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 39 ½" (124.10" circumference)
Height: 91'
Widespread: 45'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard right side of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Tree Specifications #940: **HERITAGE TREE**
Species: Valley Oak (*Quercus lobata)*
Diameter at 4 ½': 37 ½" (116.24" circumference)
Height: 90'
Widespread: 43'
Condition: Good
Location: Backyard right side of open field area.

- Tree is healthy with growth and no concerns. I also recommend trimming the widespread of its canopy to accommodate for newly proposed construction and upcoming structures. This tree will continue to thrive after clearance cuts. I recommend tree to be preserved during construction, following guides of the tree protection zone or TPZ.

Observations/Recommendations:
The planned construction will have minimal impact, if any, on the code protected trees on this property. The root crowns and lower trunks show no sign of physical damage or pathogens. These trees will still need tree protection zones (referred to herein as TPZ) during times of construction.

Listed below are some guided measures around the TPZ:

The area within the tree's drip line shall be considered the *Tree Protection Zone* or TPZ. Treatment for construction damage is limited, so it is vital that trees be protected from injury. Set up sturdy fencing around each tree that is to remain, as far out from the tree trunk as possible to provide above-and below-ground protection. Place the fence approximately one foot (0.3 m) from the trunk for each inch (2.5 cm) of trunk diameter. Instruct construction personnel to keep fencing intact and the fenced area clear of building materials, waste, and excess soil.

Protective Tree Measures:

Any soil disturbance (scraping, grading, trenching, and excavation) is to be avoided within the drip lines of the trees. Where this is necessary, an ISA Certified Arborist will provide specifications for this work including methods for root pruning.

Soil Compaction/Stability:

An ideal soil for root growth and development contains about 50 percent pore space for water and air movement. Heavy Construction equipment can compact soil and dramatically reduce pore space. Compaction inhibits root growth, limits water penetration and decreases oxygen needed for root survival. Soil stability will not be an issue on this property if guided measures are followed.

Tree Roots:

Protecting tree roots during construction is very important. Roots anchor the tree and hold it upright. They absorb water and minerals which transport them to the trunk. Roots store water and starch which also synthesize hormones that serve as growth regulators.

If roots are encountered during excavation any root 3" or less can be cut cleanly. Any root greater than 4" in diameter will need to be protected and preserved for support and stability. These guided measures will help assure the safety of these trees when encountering roots within their drip lines. A project Arborist should be on site when grading/trenching to help assure the safety of these trees and their root systems. This will help minimize any impact that they will have to accommodate the newly planned construction.

Avoiding Tree Damages During Construction:

Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) is an area where construction activities are prohibited or restricted to prevent injury to preserved trees, especially during pre-construction and construction, and includes the Critical Root Zone and/or beyond.

How Trees Are Damaged During Construction:
Physical Injury to Trunk and Crowns: Construction equipment can injure the above – ground portion of a tree by breaking branches, tearing the bark, and wounding the trunk. These injuries are permanent and if extensive can be fatal to the tree.

Additional Guided Measures:

- Maintain the TPZ fence in the area of the construction zone per guided measures. This will serve as protective fencing for all protected trees during construction.
- When boring for pier holes do not spread excess soil within the canopy of any of the protected trees.
- Do not store trash or materials under the trees canopies except on the existing concrete drive or lawn.
- Concrete truck washout or dumping of toxic materials near any of the protected trees shall not be allowed.
- Place 4-6 inch wood chips or other organic mulch over the TPZ. In necessary traffic areas place 3/4/ inch plywood over the mulch. sheets should be tacked together to avoid separating.
- Some trees may need trimming to allow construction. This work shall be performed by or under the direction of a Certified Arborist and shall comply with ISA standards.
- Efforts should be made to route any trenching away from the TPZ.
- As feasible, route utility lines away from the TPZ. When trenching is necessary, hand dig or use pneumatic or hydraulic tools.
- Do not allow parking in any TPZ.

If these guided measures are safely implemented, then the planned construction should have minimal, to no impact, to the trees on this property.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at (925) 550-6927.

Respectfully Submitted,

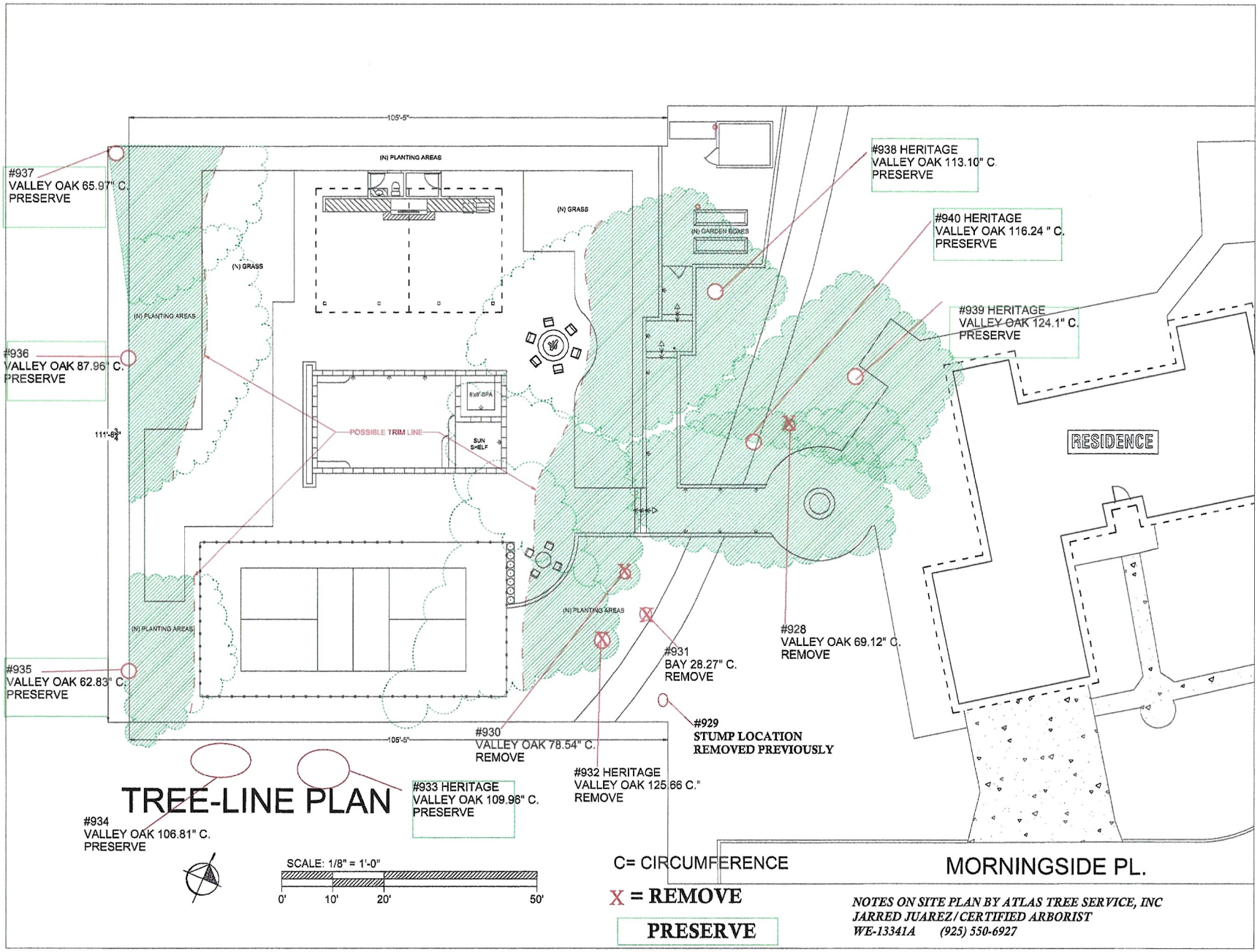
Jarred Juarez

Jarred Juarez
Certified Arborist
WE-13341A
Contractor's License #393973
JJ:cr

INVENTORY LIST FOR: 15 MORNINGSIDE PLACE ALAMO, CA 94507 (CRAIG & CAITLIN HORNSBY)					
Tag #	**Common Name**	**Species**	**Circumference**	**Condition**	**Comments**
#928	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	69.12"	Poor	REMOVE
#929	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	178.98"	----------	REMAINING **STUMP** ONLY
#930	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	78.54"	Poor	REMOVE
#931	Bay Tree	Umbellularia californinca	28.27"	Poor	REMOVE
#932	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	125.66"	Poor	REMOVE (HERITAGE TREE)
#933	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	109.96"	Good	PRESERVE (HERITAGE TREE)
#934	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	106.81"	Good	PRESERVE
#935	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	62.83"	Good	PRESERVE
#936	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	87.96"	Good	PRESERVE
#937	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	65.97"	Good	PRESERVE
#938	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	113.10"	Good	PRESERVE (HERITAGE TREE)
#939	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	124.10"	Good	PRESERVE (HERITAGE TREE)
#940	Valley Oak	Quercus lobata	116.24"	Good	PRESERVE (HERITAGE TREE)

TOTAL: 4 TREES TO BE REMOVED/ 8 TREES TO BE PRESERVED /1 STUMP

INVENTORY REPORT BY CERTIFIED ARBORIST JARRED JUAREZ WE-13341A
Contact: jarredjuarez@me.com or (925) 550-6927



TREE-LINE PLAN

SCALE: 1/8" = 1'-0"

0' 10' 20' 50'

C= CIRCUMFERENCE

X = REMOVE

PRESERVE

NOTES ON SITE PLAN BY ATLAS TREE SERVICE, INC
JARRED JUAREZ/CERTIFIED ARBORIST
WE-13341A (925) 550-6927

ALDERLAND
2037 Hermine Ave. Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Phone (925) 933-3848 Fax (925) 935-2898
Website : www.alderland.com
Email : info@alderland.com

HORNSBY RESIDENCE
15 MORNINGSIDE DR.,
ALAMO, CA 94507

SITE LAYOUT

DATE: 06-12-24
DESIGNED: DV
REVISIONS:
DRAWN: AS
PAGES OF DESIGN: 1

L1

#935 PRESERVE

#933 PRESERVE

#934 PRESERVE

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By Contra Costa County
Department of Conservation and Development

ARBORIST SERVICES
ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST JARRED JUAREZ WE-13341A

November 20, 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

Prepared For: Craig & Caitlin Hornsby
15 Morningside Place
Alamo, CA 94507

Site address: Site address listed above

This supplemental report is to address some complaints that have been submitted to the Contra Costa County's Department of Conservation and Development by two neighbors of the above property. Most importantly, I would like to mitigate the likelihood of any potential hazard amongst this property.

On November 15th, I was asked to do a second site visit and re-evaluate three Oak trees and one Bay tree on this property. (Tree specifics are listed on the original report dated August 22, 2024) I observed their health, vigor, location, structure, and suitability amongst the property. Three of these trees were healthy/dense and forced to grow with poor structure with excessive lean over its property. The trees grew like this due to a very large dominant Valley Oak (marked #929 located on original reports site map) that had to be removed some time ago. Located just beyond this stump is the three trees which are a Valley Oak tree # 932, Valley Oak # 930 and a Bay tree #931. These trees were volunteer saplings and not placed with location in mind.

These trees that are located right on a slope with excessive lean have become quite a concern. With visual surface roots, I have observed part of their root systems composed of shallow roots. The past two winters have brought excessive amounts of wind and rainfall. The last two storm seasons we have experienced have been detrimental on landscape and mature trees.

My concerns are that no one can predict mother nature and how much more erosion this slope can take. I believe that these trees are at risk and a liability if they were to fail amongst this property

causing damage. The owners have small children that are young and active who like to play within the property boundary. I believe with these trees removed it will secure certainty and safety among this property.

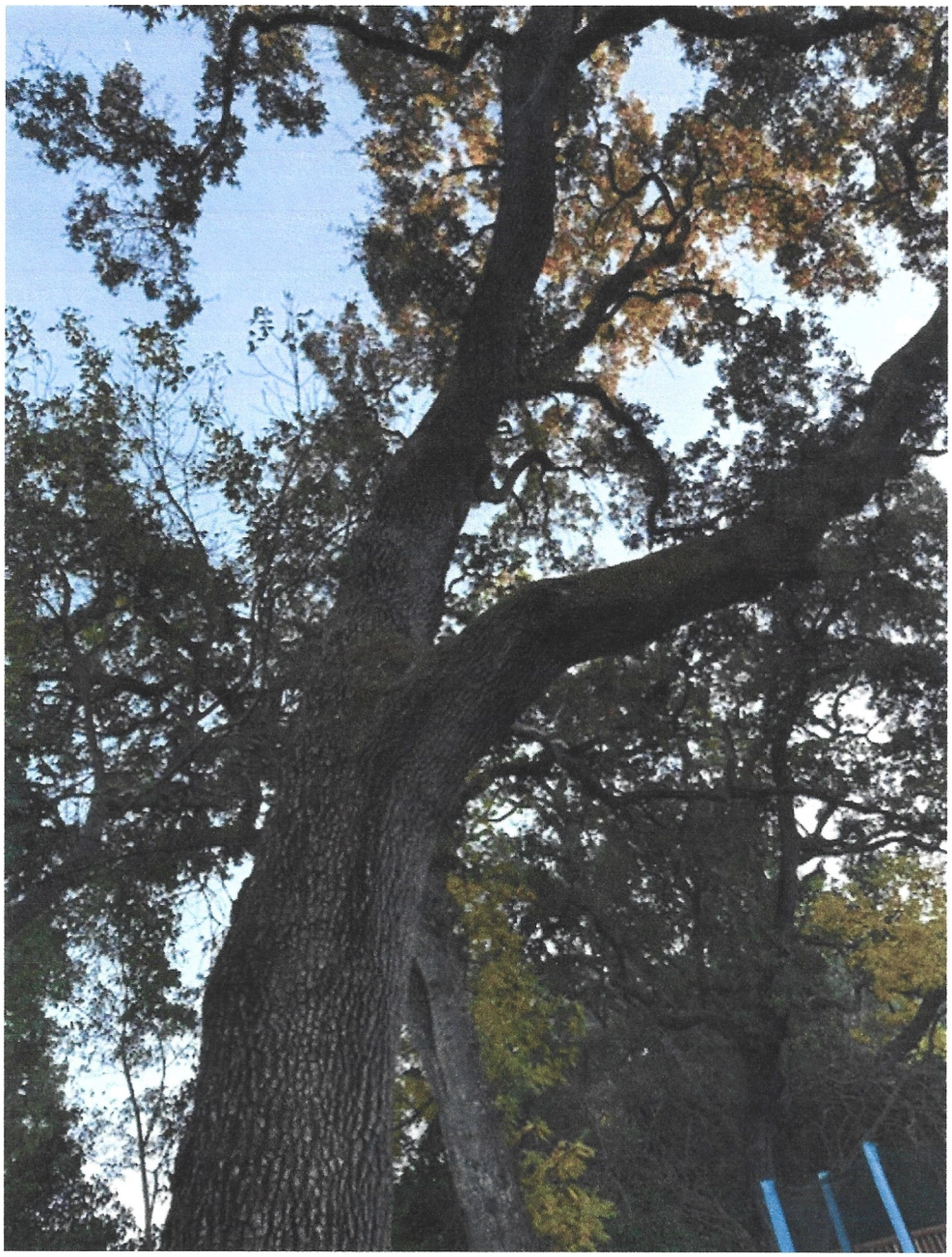
The last Oak tree #928 is located in close proximity to two much more dominant Oaks that are healthy and thriving. This tree grows with lean right toward the house. Since its poorly located and crowded, I believe removing this tree will help mitigate a future hazard as well.

I understand there are concerns about these 4 removals. Removing each tree will have absolutely no impact to the neighboring properties. Each of these trees do not compliment any of the neighboring trees and removing them to grade will have no impact on the soil, compaction, or neighboring roots. I understand the value that Heritage Oaks give to a property, air quality, sound acoustics, natural beauty, elegance and significance to the land but when it comes to safety of public or private property or kids feeling safe in their own backyard-nothing is a greater risk.

There are plenty of various mature native Heritage Oaks still on the property that are to remain, which the Hornsby's have been maintaining every 3-5 years as required. The neighbors have property Oak trees as well that will continue to thrive. I believe what the neighbors disagree upon has to do with lack of knowledge and experience, and is based on their personal opinions. They do not see the actual locations of these trees and haven't observed how the run off from this property affects the location and slope where the trees are located.

Once again, I strongly believe these 4 trees should be removed so that this family feels safe amongst their property and backyard.

If you have any questions after reviewing, please contact me anytime at (925) 550-6927.

Respectfully submitted,

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