

# Advanced Tree Care

965 East San Carlos Ave, San Carlos, CA 94070

650 839 9539

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Jeromey Ingalls  
Mayne Tree Expert Company Inc,  
535 Bragato Rd, Suite A  
Belmont , CA 94002

January 25, 2023

Site: 890 Upland Rd, Redwood City

Dear Jeromey,

Re: 2 Valley oaks at front of property

I looked at the valley oaks and have the following observations and summary.

## Observations and Recommendations

### **Valley oak, # 3**

The valley oak is at the front of the property, standing in an open, unused area. The tree can be seen in the attached photos.

Valley oak, *Quercus lobata*

Diameter at Standard Height: 48.0"

Height: 30 feet

Canopy Spread: 40 feet by 30 feet

The valley oak is in fair health but poor condition. The **canopy** is showing fair vigor with buds about to break in the upper canopy. The structure of the tree is very poor. The tree has a main trunk to 12 feet in height at the top of which one large scaffold limb grows towards the north and several smaller scaffold limbs radiate out in other directions. The largest scaffold limb towards the north has a large scar and **cavity** where a previous large limb failed. The union of all the main scaffold limbs has a large, exposed area of concrete suggesting there is a large cavity down the trunk from a previous limb failure. There are many cavities throughout the scaffold limbs of the tree with pockets of **decay**. The powerlines that lead to the house are attached to the tree. There are scars and cavities on the trunk. There are 2 cavities at the base of the tree in the **root crown**. I inserted a probe into the cavities which extend a foot inside the trunk before hitting wood.

I sounded the trunk with a hickory mallet and found the most decayed areas at around 4 feet above grade. I resistographed the lower trunk on the north, south, east and west sides of the tree at approximately 4 feet above grade. I found decay at 7", 10", 14" and 14.5" respectively, inside the trunk. This suggests an uneven column of decay with an average wall thickness of approximately 10". This is an acceptable level of decay to support a tree of this size and species with good sound wood at approximately 1/5<sup>th</sup> of the diameter of the tree.

**Resistograph** readings can be found at the end of this report.

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The tree is in fair health but poor condition. The decay in the lower trunk is acceptable, however the visible decay at the top of the trunk, at a critical point in the structure of the tree is unacceptable and at high risk of failure. There is further decay and cavities throughout the main scaffold limbs of the tree which may lead to further large limb failure. The root crown is compromised with visible decay.

On a tree of this age and size, now in its declining years, I believe the decay will continue to spread, decreasing the thickness of the sound wood in the trunk and scaffold limbs. The tree could be heavily pruned, this would lead to further openings for decay and lead in an unsightly tree. I recommend that this tree be removed.

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Valley oak # 3

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Decay and cavities at critical branch union

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Scars and cavities on trunk. Locations of resistograph drillings.

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One of two similar cavities in root flare

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## Valley oak, # 26

The valley oak is at the front of the property, approximately 5 feet from the front of the house.

The tree can be seen in the attached photos.

Valley oak, *Quercus lobata*

Diameter at Standard Height: 38.3"

Height: 35 feet

Canopy Spread: 45 feet by 20 feet

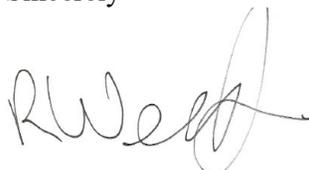
The valley oak is in fair health but poor condition. The canopy is showing fair vigor with buds about to break in the upper canopy. The structure of the tree is very poor. The tree bifurcates into 2 trunks at approximately 5 feet above grade. One trunk stays mostly vertical whilst the second trunk heads out horizontally and then develops a second vertical trunk which is cabled to the main trunk. The horizontal trunk is propped with a 2 ½" diameter steel pipe as a support. The trunks have many open cavities and decay. The root crown is partially buried but there are no signs of decay or oak root fungus.

I resistographed the lower trunk on the north and south side at 1 foot above grade and found decay and concrete at approximately 11 inches into the trunk on both sides which means there is a column of decay, centrally located within the trunk of approximately 13" diameter at 1 foot above grade. The thickness and location of the sound wood is acceptable and not likely to fail in a tree of this size and age. I then resistographed the main trunk on the north and south side of the trunk above the bifurcation where the trunk diameter is 28.0" and found decay at 3" and 4" into the trunk. The thickness of the sound wood is below 1/6<sup>th</sup> diameter of the trunk and there are several open cavities which also affect the overall strength of the trunk. The trunk is at a moderate to high risk of failure. Resistograph readings can be found at the end of this report.

The tree is in fair health but poor condition with a moderate to high risk of failure. On a tree of this age and size, now in its declining years, I believe the decay will continue to spread, decreasing the thickness of the sound wood in the trunk walls further and leading to failure. The tree could be heavily pruned to reduce the burden on the trunks, this would lead to further openings for decay and lead in an unsightly tree. I recommend that this tree be removed.

If you have any questions or I can be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to call.

Sincerely



Robert Weatherill  
Certified Arborist WE 1936a

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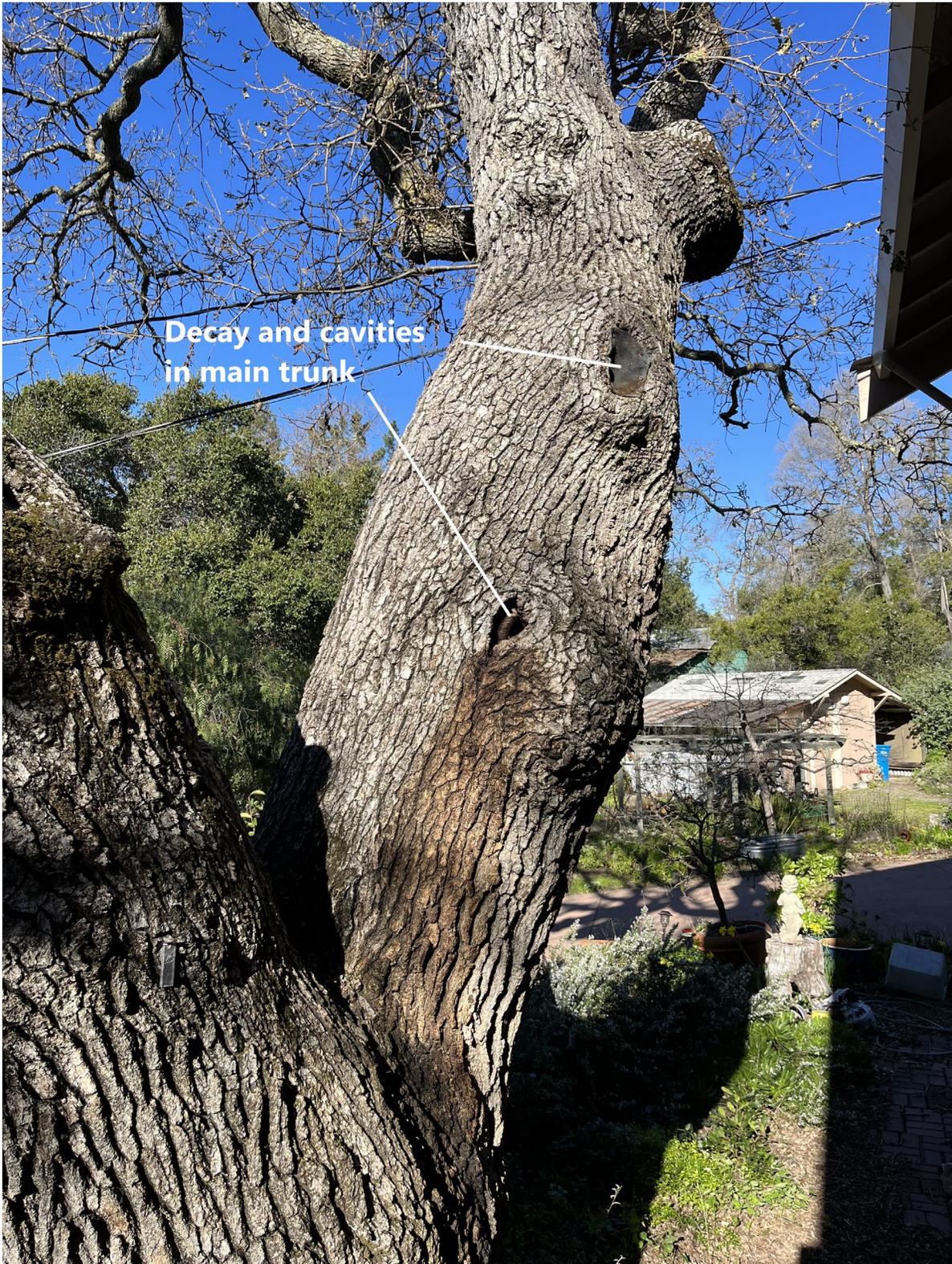


Valley oak # 26

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Decay and cavities in main trunk

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Location of lower trunk resistograph drilling

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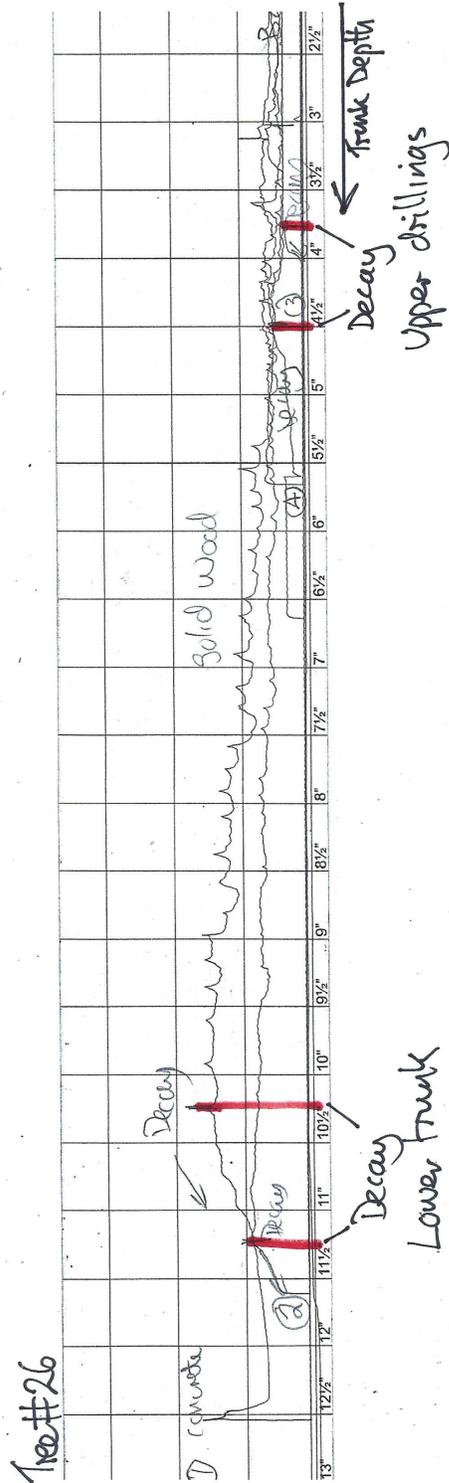
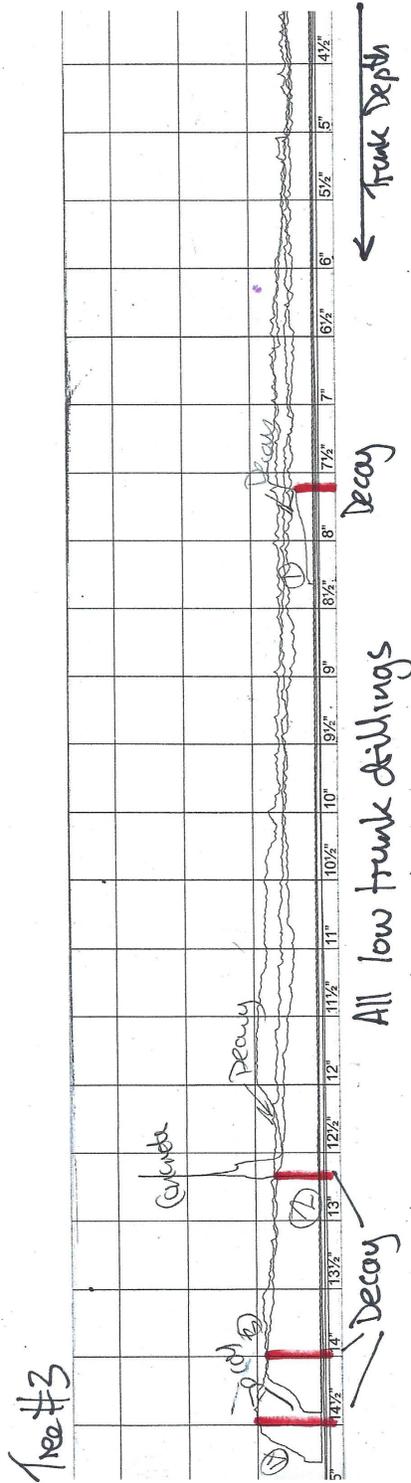


Location of drillings on upper trunk

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Resistograph Readings

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## Glossary

- Canopy** The part of the crown composed of leaves and small twigs.<sup>(2)</sup>
- Cavities** An open wound, characterized by the presence of extensive decay and resulting in a hollow.<sup>(1)</sup>
- Decay** Process of degradation of woody tissues by fungi and bacteria through the decomposition of cellulose and lignin<sup>(1)</sup>
- Resistograph** A tool used to detect decay in trees by measuring the resistance of a drill bit
- Root crown** The point at which the trunk flares out at the base of the tree to become the root system
- Standard height** Height at which the girth of the tree is measured. Typically 4 1/2 feet above ground level

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## *Certification of Performance<sup>(3)</sup>*

I, Robert Weatherill certify:

- \* That I have personally inspected the tree(s) and/or the property referred to in this report, and have stated my findings accurately. The extent of the evaluation and appraisal is stated in the attached report and the Terms and Conditions;
- \* That I have no current or prospective interest in the vegetation or the property that is the subject of this report, and I have no personal interest or bias with respect to the parties involved;
- \* That the analysis, opinions and conclusions stated herein are my own, and are based on current scientific procedures and facts;
- \* That my compensation is not contingent upon the reporting of a predetermined conclusion that favors the cause of the client or any other party, nor upon the results of the assessment, the attainment of stipulated results, or the occurrence of any subsequent events;
- \* That my analysis, opinions, and conclusions were developed and this report has been prepared according to commonly accepted Arboricultural practices;
- \* That no one provided significant professional assistance to the consultant, except as indicated within the report.

I further certify that I am a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and a Certified Arborist. I have been involved in the practice of arboriculture and the care and study of trees for over 20 years.

*Signed*



Robert Weatherill  
Certified Arborist WE 1936a  
Date: 1/25/23

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## Terms and Conditions(3)

The following terms and conditions apply to all oral and written reports and correspondence pertaining to consultations, inspections and activities of Advanced Tree Care :

1. All property lines and ownership of property, trees, and landscape plants and fixtures are assumed to be accurate and reliable as presented and described to the consultant, either verbally or in writing. The consultant assumes no responsibility for verification of ownership or locations of property lines, or for results of any actions or recommendations based on inaccurate information.
2. It is assumed that any property referred to in any report or in conjunction with any services performed by Advanced Tree Care, is not in violation of any applicable codes, ordinances, statutes, or other governmental regulations, and that any titles and ownership to any property are assumed to be good and marketable. Any existing liens and encumbrances have been disregarded.
3. All reports and other correspondence are confidential, and are the property of Advanced Tree Care and it's named clients and their assignees or agents. Possession of this report or a copy thereof does not imply any right of publication or use for any purpose, without the express permission of the consultant and the client to whom the report was issued. Loss, removal or alteration of any part of a report invalidates the entire appraisal/evaluation.
4. The scope of any report or other correspondence is limited to the trees and conditions specifically mentioned in those reports and correspondence. Advanced Tree Care and the consultant assume no liability for the failure of trees or parts of trees, either inspected or otherwise. The consultant assumes no responsibility to report on the condition of any tree or landscape feature not specifically requested by the named client.
5. All inspections are limited to visual examination of accessible parts, without dissection, excavation, probing, boring or other invasive procedures, unless otherwise noted in the report. No warrantee or guarantee is made, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the plants or the property will not occur in the future, from any cause. The consultant shall not be responsible for damages caused by any tree defects, and assumes no responsibility for the correction of defects or tree related problems.
6. The consultant shall not be required to provide further documentation, give testimony, be deposed, or attend court by reason of this appraisal/report unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made, including payment of additional fees for such services as described by the consultant or in the fee schedules or contract.
7. Advanced Tree Care has no warrantee, either expressed or implied, as to the suitability of the information contained in the reports for any purpose. It remains the responsibility of the client to determine applicability to his/her particular case.
8. Any report and the values, observations, and recommendations expressed therein represent the professional opinion of the consultants, and the fee for services is in no manner contingent upon the reporting of a specified value nor upon any particular finding to be reported.
9. Any photographs, diagrams, graphs, sketches, or other graphic material included in any report, being intended solely as visual aids, are not necessarily to scale and should not be construed as engineering reports or surveys, unless otherwise noted in the report. Any reproductions of graphs material or the work product of any other persons is intended solely for the purpose of clarification and ease of reference. Inclusion of said information does not constitute a representation by Advanced Tree Care or the consultant as to the sufficiency or accuracy of that information.