TREE ASSESSMENT
FOR
DEWITT CENTER

Placer County, California

Prepared For:

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TREE ASSESSMENT
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INTRODUCTION

At the request of the Placer County Department of Facility Services, North Fork Associates conducted a tree assessment at DeWitt Center, north of the City of Auburn, in Placer County, California. The project site is located southwest of the intersection of Highway 49 and Bell Road. It is situated in the northern half of Section 32, Township 13 North and Range 8 East of the Auburn, California 7.5-minute USGS topographic quadrangle (Figure 1). The approximate coordinates for the intersection of C Street and Richardson Drive are: 38°56′18″ N and 121°6′26″ W.

The project site is located in the lower foothills of the western Sierra Nevada Mountains. The topography of the site is generally flat, with an elevation of approximately 1400 feet. DeWitt Center is approximately 80 percent developed. The majority of natural habitat onsite is comprised of approximately 16.3 acres of oak woodland in the southwest corner of DeWitt Center, with smaller natural habitat areas located in the northeastern corner and along the southern property boundary. Land surrounding the site is a mixture of rural residential, commercial, and undeveloped parcels (Figure 2).

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Placer County's tree ordinance (Chapter 12.16 of the Placer County Code) requires the assessment of all native trees on a project site or within 50 feet of a boundary of development, except foothill pine (*Pinus sabiniana*), with a diameter at breast height (dbh) of at least 6 inches or 10 inches aggregate dbh for multi-trunk tree. In addition, the Board of Supervisors may designate a "Landmark" tree or grove of trees, which are determined to be of historical or cultural value, an outstanding specimen, an unusual species and/or of significant community benefit.

METHODOLOGY

Field Assessment

The field survey was conducted Dan Duncanson on April 30 and May 1, 2003. The primary area assessed is located in the southwest corner of DeWitt Center, around the proposed location for the Children's Receiving Home/Women's Center (CRH/WC). Tree locations and tag numbers for eighty trees were provided by Andregg, Incorporated, in CAD format. Seven additional trees were not surveyed or tagged by Andregg. These trees were tagged by North Fork Associates (#1-7) and their locations were estimated in the field. A Tree Location Map (Map Inset) was produced for all eighty-seven trees.

Three other areas were investigated for native trees protected by the Placer County tree ordinance. These areas include the proposed location of the Auburn Justice Center, Land Development Building, and the area between D and E Street. Trees in this area were tagged if no tag could be located on the tree. These tree locations were located on a color aerial photo and a Location Map was produced (Figure 2).

The majority of trees at the CRH/WC site were previously tagged with oval aluminum tags (#8204-8419). Trees at the Land Development Building site were tagged previously with different tag types. Three trees were assessed in this area (#535, 542, 543). Additional trees assessed by North Fork Associates on site were tagged with round, aluminum tags (#1-9). We completed a data form for each assessed tree, noting the following information:

- tree number
- species
- diameter(s) at breast height (4.5 feet above root crown)
- dripline radius (feet)
- health and vigor (poor, fair, or good)
- structure (poor, fair, or good)

Notes regarding branching structure, lean, location, and general observations were also recorded. These data were summarized into a spreadsheet and are presented as Appendix A. In addition, representative photographs of the tree resources are included with this report (Figure 3).

In addition, the "Pasture" area north of the proposed location for the CRH/WC was assessed generally for tree resources. Tree species composition, size classes, and estimated numbers were recorded for alternative impact analysis. These trees were not tagged, mapped, or assessed individually.

Data

Andregg, Incorporated provided North Fork Associates with survey topographical and tree location data in AutoCAD format for the CRH/WC site. The Tree Location Map of the CRH/WC site shows the surveyed locations of 80 trees and the estimated location of 7 trees (#1-7). The Tree Location Map for the total site shows the estimated locations of five trees. Tree assessment information was entered into an Access database and a spreadsheet was produced in Excel for statistical purposes.

RESULTS

Tree Assessment Data

Ninety-two native oak trees were located, tagged, measured, and evaluated. Tree species assessed include blue oak (*Quercus douglasii*) (78%), interior live oak (*Q. wislizeni*) (20%), and valley oak (*Q. lobata*) (2%). Other trees on site not evaluated consist of foothill pine, many varieties of ornamentals, and trees less than 6" dbh. Table 1 summarizes the findings.

Table 1. Tree Assessment Data Summary

Species	Number	Diameter at Breast Height Avg (single and multi-trunk)(inches)	Dripline Radius Avg (feet)
Quercus douglasii	72	18.4	17.7
Quercus wislizeni	18	24.8	16
Quercus lobata	2	16	15
Total	**92**	**19.6**	**17.3**

Forty-nine trees (53%) are single trunked and forty-three trees (47%) have multiple trunks. Of the multi-trunked trees, twenty-seven are blue oak, fifteen are interior live oak, and one is a valley oak. Single trunk diameters range from 6 to 36 inches, with an average of 14.7 inches. Multi-trunked tree diameters range from 10 to 72.5 inches, with an average of 25.2 inches. Five trunks at breast height is the maximum number of trunks recorded; however, 30 (70%) have two trunks. Of single trunk trees, dripline radii range between 5 and 30 feet, with an average of 17.3 feet. Of multi-trunk trees, dripline radii range between 6 and 35 feet, with an average of 17.3 feet.

Health, Vigor, and Structure

The majority of trees were assessed to be in fair health and have fair structure. In regards to health and vigor, 1 (1%) was rated as poor, 87 (95%) were rated as fair, and 3 (3%) were rated as good. Health problems of trees assessed include significant mistletoe infestations and sparse foliage growth. In regards to structure, 5 (5%) were rated as poor, 83 (90%) were rated as fair, and 4 (5%) were rated as good. Structural problems include rotting of the trunk and dead or broken branches. One tree (#8269) was assessed to be dead or dying. This tree can be removed without further mitigation.

Trees of Special Designation

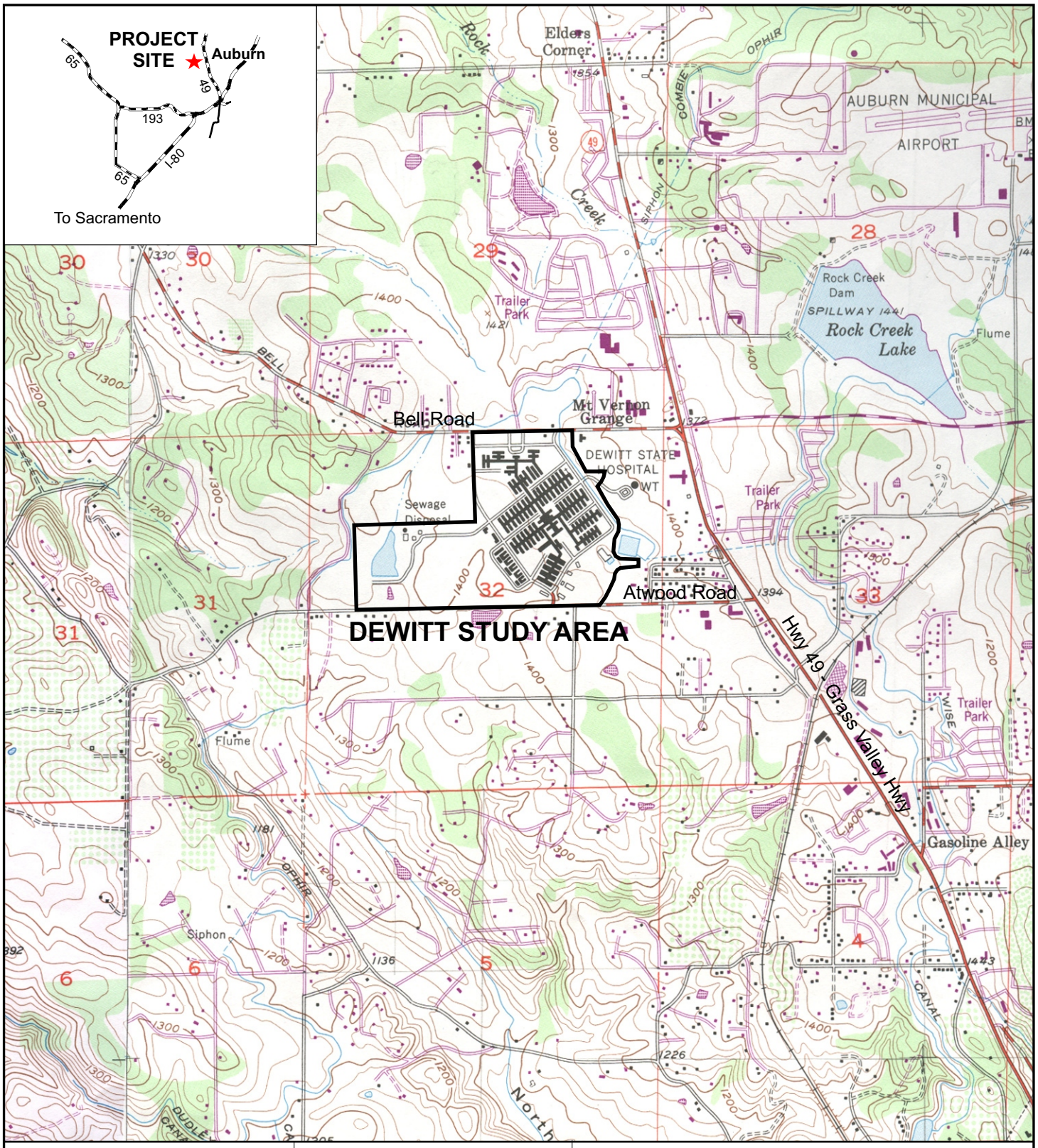
On Landmark tree has been designated within the oak woodland preservation area west of the CRH/WC site. No other trees of Landmark status have been designated on this site.

Pasture Site Tree Count

Trees within the Pasture Site are primarily comprised of small blue oaks between 6 and 12 inches in diameter. There is approximately equal numbers of valley oak and interior live oak. The trees are located primarily on the south side of the Pasture, with several groves of larger trees on the north side of the site. Overall, the trees are in fair health and have fair structure. Several of the larger ones are excellent specimens. The following table is a summary of trees counted in the Pasture Site.

Table 2. Pasture Area Tree Count

Species	6-12″	12-18″	18″+
Quercus douglasii	35	2	2
Quercus lobata	7	2	
Quercus wislizeni	6	3	



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0 1000 2000
Approximate scale in feet

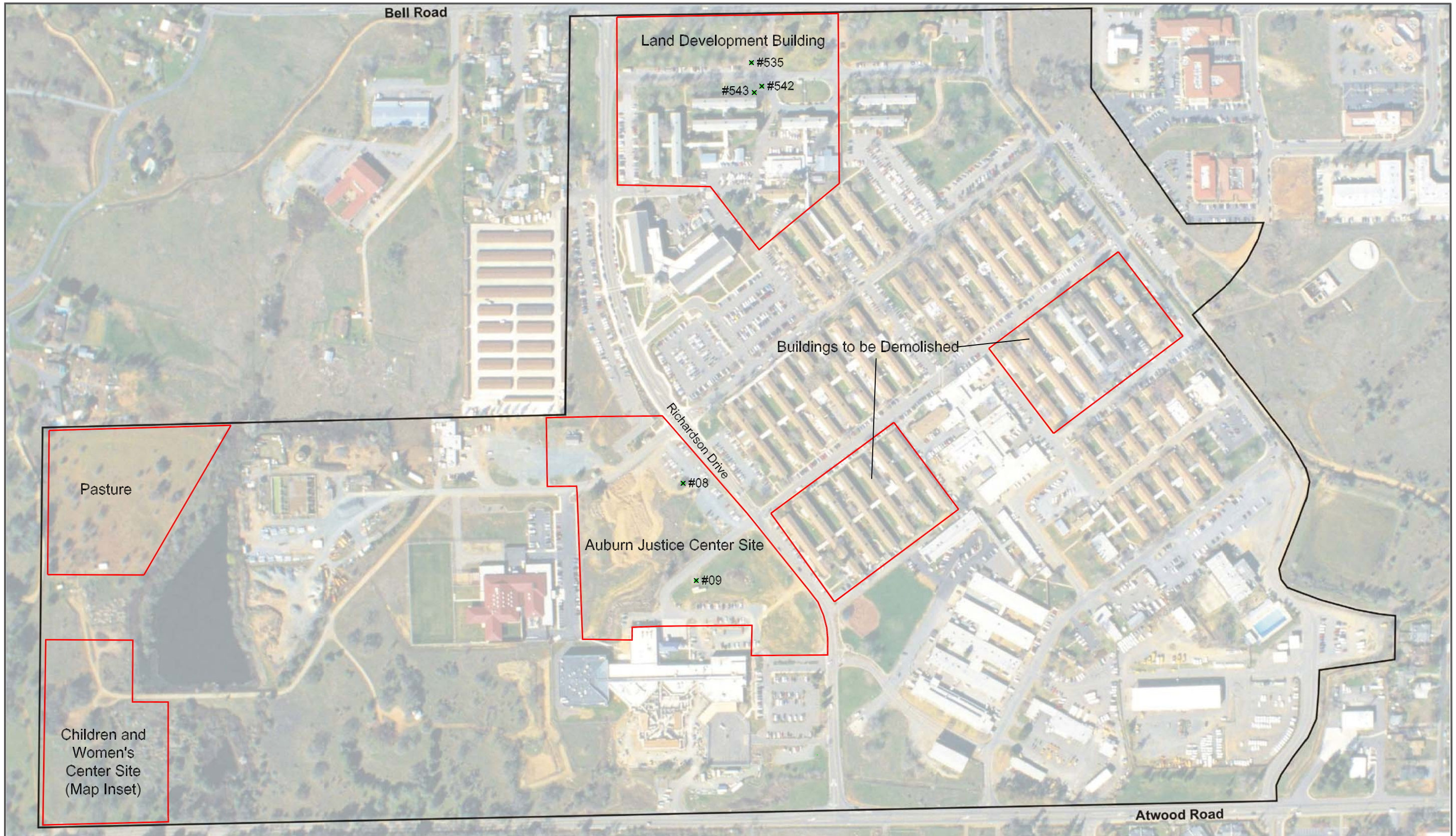
N W E S

Basemaps: Auburn and Gold Hill, CA
USGS 7.5 minute
topographic quadrangles

Figure 2-1

SITE AND VICINITY MAP

DeWitt Government Center
Facility Plan (2003 - 2010)
Placer County, California



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Tree Location and Number

#8245 Tree Location

N W E S

0 200
Approximate scale in feet

Figure 2

LOCATION MAP
DeWitt Center
Placer County, California

Looking south at oak woodland in southwest corner of site.

Looking north at Pasture in west-central portion of site.

Looking south at three blue oaks in Land Development Building Area.

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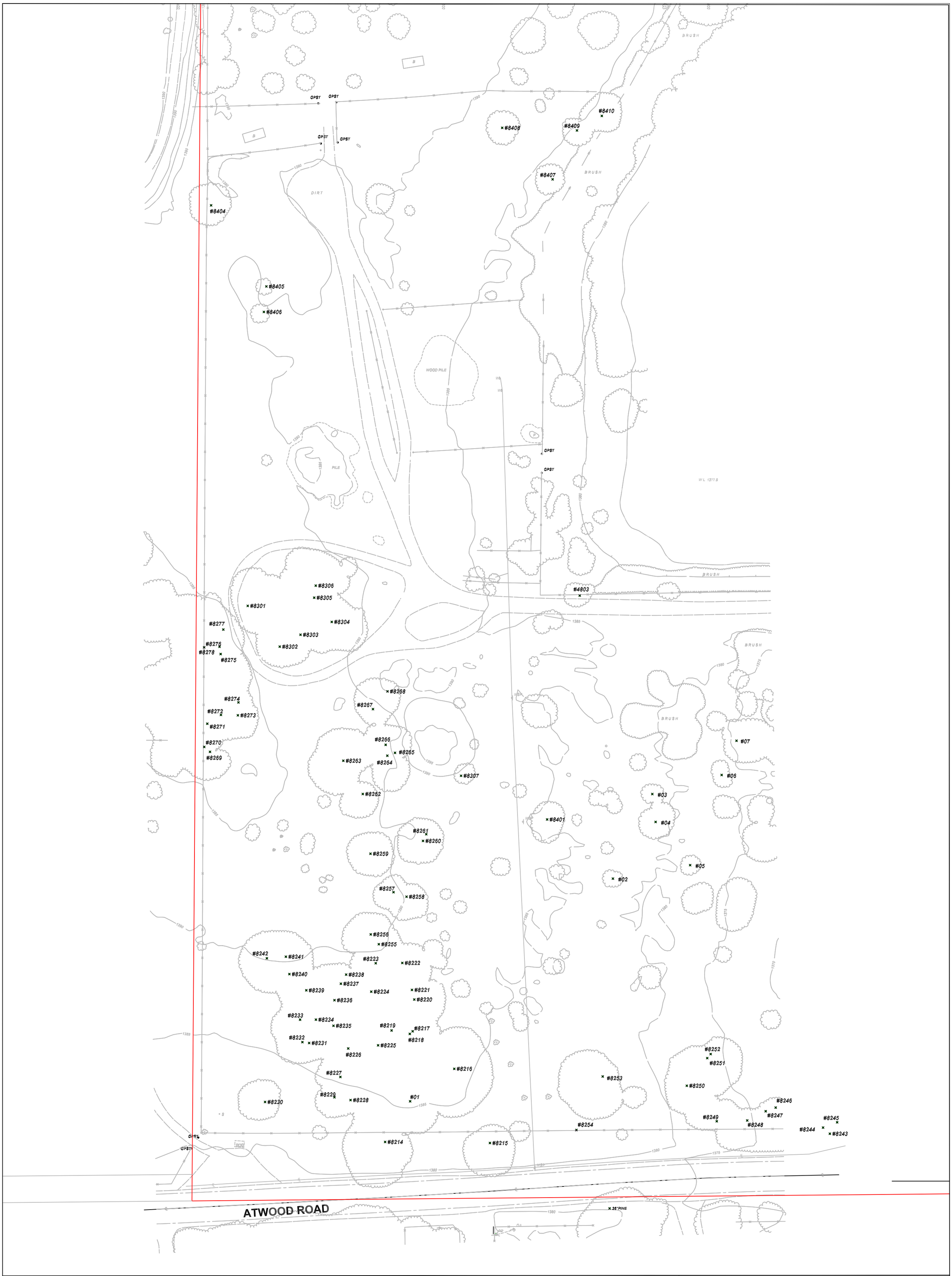
Photos taken April-May, 2003

Figure 3

SITE PHOTOS
DeWitt Center

Placer County, CA



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Tree Location and Number

X #8245 Tree Location

NOTES:

- Tree Survey Conducted April and May 2003
- Basemap provided by Andregg, Inc.

0 50'
Approximate Scale in Feet

N

TREE LOCATION MAP

DeWitt Center
Placer County, California
May 16, 2003

Appendix A: Native Trees Assessed on Dewitt Center, April-May 2003

Tag Number	Tree Species	Trunk(s) Diameter at Breast Height					Total DBH	Dripline Radius	Health and Vigor	Structure	Notes/location
1	*Quercus douglasii*	36					36	30	fair	good	Several dead/broken branches
2	*Quercus wislizeni*	5	4	3			12	6	fair	fair	Small, bushy
3	*Quercus douglasii*	6					6	5	fair	fair	Short, squat
4	*Quercus wislizeni*	6	7	8	6		27	12	good	fair	Short, shrubby, dense
5	*Quercus douglasii*	6					6	6	fair	fair	Short, bushy
6	*Quercus wislizeni*	6.5					6.5	6	fair	fair	Short, shrubby
7	*Quercus wislizeni*	3	4	6	5		18	10	fair	fair	Most branches to west
8	*Quercus wislizeni*	13	11	6	7		37	12	fair	fair	Parking lot west of AJC
9	*Quercus douglasii*	7					7	5	fair	fair	South of C Street, near jail
535	*Quercus douglasii*	23	24.5				47.5	30	good	fair	NW side of A St and West, some hollows
542	*Quercus douglasii*	24	19	18.5	11		72.5	30	fair	fair	Hollow in trunk with Erodium sp.
543	*Quercus douglasii*	34					34	28	fair	fair	SW side of A and West
8214	*Quercus douglasii*	24					24	25	good	fair	Tall, well balanced
8215	*Quercus douglasii*	21					21	25	fair	fair	Tall, well balanced
8216	*Quercus douglasii*	40	18				58	35	fair	good	Large, well balanced
8217	*Quercus wislizeni*	8	6				14	20	fair	fair	Leans E heavily
8218	*Quercus wislizeni*	3	14				17	20	fair	fair	Significant rotting in trunk
8219	*Quercus douglasii*	8					8	15	fair	poor	1 dead trunk/branch
8220	*Quercus wislizeni*	9	3	13.5	4		29.5	25	fair	fair	Several hollow portions in trunk
8221	*Quercus douglasii*	14					14	20	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8222	*Quercus douglasii*	14	13				27	18	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8223	*Quercus douglasii*	17					17	20	fair	fair	Some rotting on trunk, poor twig dev
8224	*Quercus douglasii*	4	2	4			10	8	fair	fair	Small, scrawny
8225	*Quercus douglasii*	6					6	8	fair	fair	Small, scrawny
8226	*Quercus douglasii*	6	9.5				15.5	15	fair	fair	Small, well-balanced
8227	*Quercus douglasii*	6	7	6			19	15	fair	fair	Rotting
8228	*Quercus douglasii*	8					8	10	fair	fair	Thin, scrawny tree
8229	*Quercus douglasii*	8					8	12	fair	fair	Most branches to W, min foliage
8230	*Quercus douglasii*	18	5				23	20	fair	fair	Significant mistletoe, well balanced
8231	*Quercus douglasii*	13					13	15	fair	fair	Most branches to S
8232	*Quercus douglasii*	11.5					11.5	15	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8233	*Quercus douglasii*	12.5					12.5	18	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8234	*Quercus douglasii*	15					15	15	fair	fair	Some mistletoe, most branches to E
8235	*Quercus douglasii*	8.5					8.5	15	fair	fair	All branches to N/S/E
8236	*Quercus douglasii*	6	5	4	4		19	10	fair	fair	Small, scrawny
8237	*Quercus douglasii*	8	6				14	18	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8238	*Quercus douglasii*	10	7.5				17.5	22	fair	fair	Several dead branches below 20'
8239	*Quercus douglasii*	14					14	16	fair	fair	Good branching, several dead branches
8240	*Quercus douglasii*	19.5					19.5	16	fair	fair	Good branching, some low-lying limbs
8241	*Quercus douglasii*	8	8				16	22	fair	fair	Most branches to N
8242	*Quercus douglasii*	19					19	20	fair	poor	Primary trunks twisted around each other
8243	*Quercus douglasii*	8.5					8.5	15	fair	fair	Most branches to S
8244	*Quercus douglasii*	14					14	18	fair	fair	Several dead branches, barb wire in trunk
8245	*Quercus douglasii*	12	12				24	20	fair	fair	Minimal twig dev
8246	*Quercus douglasii*	19					19	25	fair	fair	Crowded by 8247
8247	*Quercus wislizeni*	25	19				44	20	fair	fair	Some rotting in base of trunk
8248	*Quercus douglasii*	12					12	20	poor	fair	Leans S heavily

Appendix A: Native Trees Assessed on Dewitt Center, April-May 2003

Tag Number	Tree Species	Trunk(s) Diameter at Breast Height					Total DBH	Dripline Radius	Health and Vigor	Structure	Notes/location
8249	*Quercus wislizeni*	14	14				28	18	fair	fair	Some dead branches
8251	*Quercus wislizeni*	24					24	20	fair	fair	Most branches to S
8252	*Quercus wislizeni*	9	10				19	15	fair	fair	Short, compressed tree
8253	*Quercus wislizeni*	15.5	12.5	27			55	20	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8254	*Quercus wislizeni*	5	4	3	5	4	21	7	fair	poor	Min. Foliage
8255	*Quercus douglasii*	6	8.5				14.5	18	fair	fair	Crowded by others, branches to E
8256	*Quercus douglasii*	16					16	20	fair	fair	Several dead branches
8257	*Quercus douglasii*	9	11	8.5	8		36.5	18	fair	fair	Sparse vegetation
8258	*Quercus douglasii*	13	8				21	20	fair	fair	Several low-lying branches
8259	*Quercus douglasii*	13.5	12				25.5	20	fair	fair	Sparse vegetation
8260	*Quercus douglasii*	13					13	18	fair	fair	Several small dead branches
8261	*Quercus douglasii*	9.5	8				17.5	15	fair	fair	1 colony of mistletoe
8262	*Quercus douglasii*	8	11				19	20	fair	fair	Most branches to S
8263	*Quercus douglasii*	26	26				52	30	fair	fair	Good branching, some dead branches
8264	*Quercus douglasii*	16					16	24	fair	fair	Most branches to SE
8265	*Quercus douglasii*	6	6				12	8	fair	fair	Small, scrawny tree
8266	*Quercus douglasii*	16					16	22	fair	fair	1 large colony of mistletoe
8267	*Quercus wislizeni*	9	7				16	18	fair	fair	Branch at base but included bark to S
8268	*Quercus douglasii*	10					10	15	fair	fair	Significant mistletoe
8269	*Quercus douglasii*	10					10	15	fair	poor	Dead/dying
8270	*Quercus wislizeni*	10	9	12	5		36	20	fair	fair	Barbwire around N trunk
8271	*Quercus douglasii*	10	6				16	12	fair	fair	Tall, thin
8272	*Quercus douglasii*	10	5				15	10	fair	poor	Sparse foliage
8273	*Quercus douglasii*	16	14				30	20	fair	fair	Min. Foliage
8274	*Quercus douglasii*	13					13	18	fair	fair	Most branches to N
8275	*Quercus douglasii*	19					19	25	fair	fair	Most branches to S
8276	*Quercus douglasii*	9	7.5				16.5	15	fair	fair	Several small dead branches
8277	*Quercus douglasii*	16					16	20	fair	fair	Sparse branching structure
8278	*Quercus douglasii*	14					14	18	fair	fair	Crowded by 8276/8275 to E
8301	*Quercus douglasii*	22					22	26	fair	fair	Well balanced, several sm dead branches
8302	*Quercus douglasii*	12					12	16	fair	fair	Most branches to south
8303	*Quercus douglasii*	16.5					16.5	26	fair	fair	Significant mistletoe
8304	*Quercus douglasii*	26					26	26	fair	good	Large tree
8305	*Quercus douglasii*	26					26	25	fair	good	Most branches S of trunk
8306	*Quercus wislizeni*	17					17	25	fair	fair	Surveyed as one tree
8306 A	*Quercus douglasii*	20.5					20.5	25	fair	fair	Surveyed as one tree
8307	*Quercus douglasii*	6	6				12	10	fair	fair	Tall shrub appearance
8401	*Quercus lobata*	8	14				22	18	fair	fair	Minor mistletoe
8403	*Quercus douglasii*	7					7	5	fair	fair	Small, scrawny
8404	*Quercus wislizeni*	17.5	7.5				25	15	fair	fair	Short, heavy mistletoe
8405	*Quercus douglasii*	6					6	5	fair	fair	Significant mistletoe, scrawny
8406	*Quercus douglasii*	6					6	7	fair	fair	Short, compressed branching structure
8407	*Quercus douglasii*	14					14	12	fair	fair	Minor mistletoe
8408	*Quercus lobata*	10					10	12	fair	fair	Short, well balanced
8409	*Quercus douglasii*	6.5	7.5				14	10	fair	fair	Well balanced