

Environmental History of Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee's Tree Program

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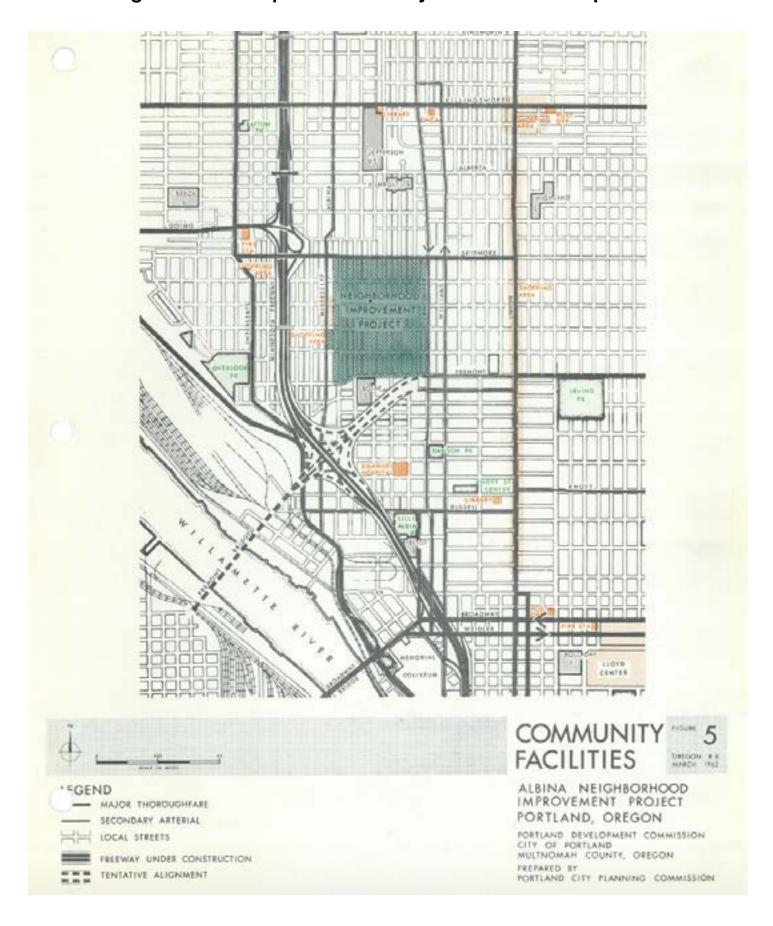
Prepared for City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services March 10, 2020

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Next page: Overview of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project area (part of upper Albina). From a 1972 chronology produced by the PDC. AD/6611, Portland City Archives.

Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project Overview Map



"Hundreds of beautiful flowering Kwanzan Cherry trees lining our streets will greatly enhance the appearance of our homes and lift the morale of the neighborhood."

Rev. F. J. Crear
 Chairman, Albina Neighborhood Tree
 Committee, 1963



"It just shows what can be done when a group of people of all races work together for one common cause to help the city, to make a more beautiful City of Portland."

Rev. Roosevelt Rogersbefore Portland City Council, 1964

Above: An iconic image of the ANIP tree planting on N. Haight Ave. in March of 1964. E.H. Thiel (left), Mrs. Luna M. Crane (center left), Father Mel Stead (center), Rev. Roosevelt Rogers (holding tree), and Herbert Lewis (right with shovel) planting a Kwanzan Flowering Cherry. Image courtesy of Oregon Historical Society, 52657.



Summary

From 1961 – 1972, a self-organized group of Albina area residents made a lasting mark in their neighborhood when they created an innovative and well-planned tree planting program. Working in partnership with the Portland Development Commission, local community leaders in the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project implemented Portland's first conservation Urban Renewal program, which channeled low interest loans and special assessment dollars into home improvements in upper Albina. This innovative program was one of the first of its kind in the nation and included tree planting to correct an "Environmental Deficiency" identified by the neighborhood. The wealth of historical records that document this project are housed at City of Portland Archives and serve as the basis for this historical analysis. Although mentioned in many other studies as an interesting footnote, this study is one of the first to dive deeply into the history of ANIP. Focused mainly on tree planting, this study also aims to encourage further studies of ANIP's other innovative, community driven programs.



Top: This 1961 view looking south on N. Vancouver Ave at N. Mason St. shows the relative absence of trees prior to the planting program. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.3979.

Above: This street view of unidentified houses in the Albina area shows the initial results of neighborhood beautification. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.3955.

Albina Neighborhood Improvement Program, Tree Planting Program Key Facts

- Neighborhood tree planting was an early and central facet of improvement and beautification of the Albina neighborhood in the 1960s.
- Tree planting was introduced as a key component of improvement in the earliest meetings in 1960.
- The ideas for tree planting and neighborhood improvement in the boundaries of ANIP appear to have originated within the community first and were supported by the PDC.
- Tree planting was directly tied to street light and sidewalk improvements aimed at addressing "Environmental Deficiencies."
- In 1962, the program initiated a full inventory of trees in the neighborhood, noting 173 trees (80%) needed removal. PGE and PP&L conducted all the removals at no cost to the homeowners.
- From 1963 1968 (phase one) some 500 street trees were planted by ANIP in parking strips.
- From 1968 1972 ANIP Phase Two planted some 500 more street trees north of N. Skidmore.
- The final project totals indicate 1,115 trees planted through the project.
- By far the most popular tree was the Kwanzan Flowering Cherry (295 in phase 1) but the program offered fifteen other tree varieties.
- The trees cost about \$5 each and were reportedly all covered by federal dollars.
- The tree planting program was led by an organized group of Albina residents, mainly from several local African American churches and community groups.

- The tree planting program utilized technical arborcultural advisors from Dale Christiansen (City Forester, Portland Parks & Recreation) and Larry Rowse (Portland General Electric) as well as Alex Pierce (Architect), and Daryl May (Landscape Architect).
- The success of the program in today's Boise and lower Humboldt neighborhoods led to tree planting as a component o future PDC and Model Cities neighborhood improvement programs in King, Sabin, Woodlawn, and Irvington neighborhoods.
- The Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project was the Portland Development Commission's first urban renewal program focused on neighborhood improvement and stands in contrast to the PDC's other land clearance projects of the time such as South Auditorium, Portland State University, and Emanuel Hospital.
- While celebrating these trees and their visionary planters and planners is paramount, recognizing the areas where trees were not planted is just as important.
- Any effort to celebrate or commemorate this program MUST consider the broader context of urban renewal efforts in the neighborhood.
 These must include context on discriminatory lending and real estate practices, housing segregation, as well as the context of Urban renewal projects such as:
- Memorial Coliseum
- South Auditorium
- I-5 Freeway
- I-405/Fremont Bridge
- Lloyd Center
- Central Albina Plan
- Emanuel Hospital

Introduction

It was an auspicious tree planting. For residents of Portland's Albina neighborhood, the morning of November 3rd, 1962 might have seemed like any other. But when twelve campfire girls from the sixth grade Capitol Hill and forth grade Humboldt School gathered that morning to plant a flowering cherry, it symbolized the beginnings of Portland's first conservation and neighborhood beautification project to use federal funds allocated for urban renewal. It also marked the start of a rather unique urban renewal program led by the Portland Development Commission (PDC, now called Prosper Portland). Unlike the PDC's earlier and later projects, which were criticized for their top down leadership and overlooking neighbors' concerns, this program had begun with the desires and concerns of the area's residents— a majority African American neighborhood. From some of the earliest records of the project, trees were part of the plan and the neighborhood leaders used tree planting as a method to keep momentum for the larger conservation/renewal project.¹

What makes the tree planting so significant historically is that it represents a departure from the more common stories of urban renewal that often overlooked the concerns of local residents. Following passage of the Housing Act of 1954, urban renewal programs channeled federal dollars and/or mortgages backed by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) into cities across the nation. A common feature of the urban renewal was demolition and redevelopment, although FHA backed urban renewal programs took on many forms. Often, local city planners targeted areas for renewal programs that were considered blighted, slims, or substandard in their housing. Given the historical context of urban planning throughout most U.S. cities, which used racist housing polices such as redlining, segregation in realestate practices, restrictive covenants to create ethnic/ racial enclaves, it is understandable why urban renewal is commonly associated with the demolition, displacement, and removal of African-American neighborhoods.² The famous Black novelist James Baldwin noted in 1963 that "Urban renewal means Negro removal." 3



Campfire Girls tree planting at ANIP Information Center, Nov. 3rd 1962. City of Portland Archives and Records A2010-003.2287.



Campfire girls reading a poem during their tree planting. City of Portland Archives A2010-003.2360.

After reading a poem, singing a song, and offering a short dedication speech, the girls planted a single flowering cherry tree in the side yard of the newly christened Albina Neighborhood Improvement Center at 3726 N. Kerby Avenue. Some fifty eight years later, that tree still stands to this day. The tree itself, a gift from Portland



Campfire Girls after plating a tree at the ANIP Information Center. 1962. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2288.

General Electric, also symbolized what would become a collaborative project between an organized multiracial neighborhood, private firms, the Portland Development Commission, and the federal government. On that day in November, it marked the first step, and how planting a tree had a simple but significant role in neighborhood improvement. ⁴

Over the next decade, thousands of more trees would be planted in the neighborhood, part of a much larger urban renewal project to keep people in their homes and break a cycle of displacement through urban renewal. By 1972, the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee (ANIC) and its Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project (ANIP) would secure nearly \$2 million in federal dollars to renovate 585 homes in a 48 block area of N. Portland's Albina neighborhood.⁵ A key feature of the



Mrs. Burton Godrich, Capitol Hill Guardian and Mrs. John Ivory, Humboldt School Guardian oversaw the Campfire Girls' tree planting. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2289.

program was the planting of over 1,100 street and front yard trees, with the Kwanzan Japanese Cheery being the most popular. In fact, the success of the program

would inspire other N. Portland Neighborhoods to use tree planting in the future urban renewal programs under PDC and the Federal Model Cities programs; projects, such as Irvington, Woodlawn, King, Sabin, and Humboldt neighborhoods. These later programs often selected the flowering cherry, perhaps thinking about the trees use by ANIP.⁶



A 1964 meeting of the ANIC Executive Board. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2482.

Arguably, the ANIP Tree Planting Program was one of the first citizen-led and comprehensive tree planting program's in the city's history. Just as significant is the fact that the program was led by neighborhood volunteers from racially diverse backgrounds and experiences. While it is critical to appreciate and acknowledge ANIP's efforts toward beatification and neighborhood improvement, it is also critical to properly contextualize the political and social history that first led the neighborhood to take this project on. For as impressive as Albina's flowering cherries have been, the significant numbers of neighbors displaced—including their homes, businesses, churches, and cultural institutions— were lost to urban renewal projects and should not be overlooked for some beautiful trees. Nonetheless, ANIP's success as an urban renewal project does stand as a glimmer of hope in what otherwise became a painful sea of memories.

Rev. Roosevelt Rogers (left) with Albina neighbors at the Improvement Center. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2415.



This study aims to document the work of the ANIP Tree Program and outline the historic context that led to its creation. The context pulls from a body of extant literature and primary documents and is by no means an authoritative overview. However, what this study does offer for the first time is a detailed analysis of the inner workings of ANIC and the ANIP Tree Program. Time and scope did not permit further analysis of the housing improvement process, which is also worthy of study. Additionally, this study raises more questions for

future research presented at the end of this report. A brief discussion of the Emanuel Hospital Urban Renewal Project is also included as that program ran parallel in both time and space to ANIP and had very different outcomes. Any effort to memorize ANIP on Emanuel Hospital grounds must consider the larger context of displacement, disinvestment, and urban renewal, and include significant outreach to community groups and elders and children who lived through this time.



Mrs. Luna Mae Crane reading during a 1962 ANIC meeting. City of Portland Archives A2010-003.2392.

Brief Context of Tree Planting in Portland

Nicknamed "stump town," Portland's 1850s name reflects a time when European American settlers cleared a vast Indigenous forest to build a city, leaving behind streets of mud and stumps. Immediately after this clearcutting, the community began to replant trees but with little comprehensive planning or organization. By the turn of the century, the city hired the Olmsted firm to produce a comprehensive plan for Portland parks and parkways. In the 1903 Olmsted Report to the Portland Parks Board, the authors recommended that a city forester or other official have "the power to regulate the planting, trimming, growing, use, and preservation and maintenance of all shade or ornamental trees, shrubs, plants or flowers in, upon, or over any street, boulevard, path, or sidewalk of the city."7 Additionally, the report recommended a comprehensive plan for planting and maintaining trees in these public right of ways. Unfortunately, the city did not adopt the Olmsted Plan fully and continued to assert the authority to regulate but was unwilling to fund

a comprehensive program. A 1912 opinion of the city attorney established the policy that the adjacent property owner was required to maintain trees in the right of way.⁸ This resulted in an unequal distribution of street trees across the city— often reflecting the socio-economic status of the citizens living in a particular house or neighborhood.

In early twentieth century Portland, generally speaking, neighborhoods with larger planting strips tended to have larger and more expensive homes in them (such as Laurelhurst, Ladd's Addition, Alameda Ridge, Irvington, Walnut Park). Neighborhoods with narrower planting strips often contained smaller, more modest homes (such as Albina, Woodlawn, Buckman, and Kenton). Of course there are exceptions to this general observation. But what is important is that many Portland neighborhoods were planted with similar tree species, not necessarily thinking about the size of the planting strip at the time of planting.

A May, 1961 Street view from N. Borthwick Ave at N. Failing shows the large "problem" trees ANIC identified for removal. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.3975.



As trees grew and matured overtime, neighborhoods that were wealthier could afford to care for their growing trees (and the damages it caused to their sidewalks) while lower income neighborhoods could not afford to care for their large trees, including the sidewalk, curb, and street damage a large tree caused.

By the 1960s, when the Albina area had become a hub of the African American community, the trees from earlier years were showing signs of decline and were causing significant damage to sidewalks, curbs, and the street. Under the city's policy, the adjacent neighbor was responsible for maintaining these trees and correcting

the sidewalk damage. Frankly, many residents looked past tree maintenance for more pressing priorities like replacing aging roofs, plumbing, and structural repairs, or just simply maintaining a residence at all. By the late 1950s and early 1960s, community members in Albina recognized that these old trees were a liability and one that needed addressing as part of a larger neighborhood improvement and reinvestment program to combat the disinvestment, often veiled in the term "blight or blighted," that so often led to urban renewal and total demolition and displacement of a neighborhood.



A common sight in 1961 Albina were large trees that were damaging sidewalks and curbs. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

Background on Portland Racist Housing Policies

Several key policies in Portland laid the groundwork for disinvestment in Albina, many of which centered on racist policies. Oregon's open hostility toward non-white populations has been well documented, and this summary only briefly incorporates some of this context.9 From the earliest days of the Oregon territory, Black exclusion laws in the territorial and state constitution made it illegal for African Americans to reside in Oregon. Despite its unconstitutional nature, the clause was not removed until 1926. To Even after the removal of this unconstitutional exclusion language, open segregation and racist attitudes against African Americans prevailed in Portland and carried over into housing segregation in three distinct and important ways:

1. Segregation in Real Estate Practices

In 1919, the Portland Realty Board adopted rules to prevent relators from selling a home to a Chinese or African American in a white neighborhood. Even after Oregon enacted the Fair Employments Practices Law in 1949 and the Public Accommodations Law in 1953, the Portland Reality Board still maintained this policy in its code of ethics until 1956.¹²

2. Restrictive Covenants

Private developers and home builders employed the racially restrictive covenant on properties. Essentially, clauses prohibiting who would live or even occupy the property, as well as property uses and development patterns were written into official property deeds recorded at the county office. In a practice seen nationwide, many Portland neighborhoods contained these clauses, which are also extremely tedious to track and inventory as they are bound to each individual property. In Portland's Laurelhurst neighborhood most homes contained exclusion covenants preventing "Chinese, Japanese, or negroes, except that persons of said races may be employed as servants" from properties.¹³

3. Redlining, Prohibiting Access to Credit

Finally, restricting access to credit also called redlining became a way for banks to enforce racial segregation in federal and private lending. The Home Owners Loan Corporation created color-coded maps of major American cities based on income, racial and ethnic makeup of residents. Correlating this data with a red, yellow, blue, green ranking, these real estate maps made it difficult or impossible for a home buyer or business to obtain a loan in a redlined neighborhood. In Lower Albina, an appraiser in 1937 noted "The area constitutes Portland's 'Melting Pot' and is the nearest approach to a 'slum district' in the city. Three quarters of the negro population of the city reside here and in addition there are some 300 Orientals, 1000 Southern Europeans and Russians." By the 1960s racial covenants and discriminatory selling practices were legally unenforceable, but banks were still redlining access to credit in Portland in 1990, offering only 10 mortgage loans in the heart of Albina over that year. 14

Following WWII and the Vanport and Guild's Lake Flood of 1948, the Portland Housing Authority, real estate industry, and private landlords funneled the thousands of displaced African American war industries workers into the Albina District. According to Dr. Karen Gibson, by 1960 Lower and Central Albina became majority black neighborhoods as some 21,000 White residents left the area for suburbs. At the same time, burgeoning urban renewal projects targeted areas like Albina as "slums" or "blighted" areas ripe for ambitious renewal projects that started a vicious feedback loop; further displacing African American residents into other redlined neighborhoods where they experienced further disinvestment and curtailment of wealth-building opportunities.¹⁵

Urban Renewal and the Portland Development Commission

As Albina's African American population grew after the great flood of 1948, a series of urban renewal and major development projects dramatically reshaped the neighborhood. Not all urban renewal projects were led by the PDC. In fact, the first several predated the institution. Nonetheless, the PDC became synonymous with urban renewal in later years. ¹⁶

Memorial Coliseum and I-5

In the early 1950s, public discussion for Memorial Coliseum looked to the location between the Steel and Broadway Bridges (there were also suggestions to locate it in South Auditorium or Delta Park). Of the 476 buildings in the Coliseum project area, 224 were occupied by African Americans, including the heart of Portland Jazz Clubs. Justifying the displacement, officials labeled the buildings with terms such as "blighted," "decaying," or "decrepit," but were unwilling to use public funds to help relocate the many African American families. At nearly the same time the proposed I-5 Freeway further displaced 125 homes and businesses in the same part of Lower Albina.¹⁷ I-5 also cut off Albina from the Overlook Park, which Reverend Roosevelt Rogers noted in a 1964 public hearing.¹⁸



The Eastbank freeway construction near Broaway and Weidler, 1962. City of Portland Archives, A2005.001.181.

Lloyd Center

With the planning and construction of the Banfield and I-5 freeways and the Memorial Coliseum project, the Lloyd Corporation moved to quickly purchase remaining lots in and around NE Broadway and the Steel Bridge. By 1960, 54% of the Lloyd district was home to African Americans. Carmen Walker, the first African American to teacher in Portland Public School's Home Economics Department and her husband Wilson has lost their home in the Vanport Flood and relocated to 1321 NE 2nd. With the booming private commercial development in the Lloyd District, a private firm purchased their home and entire block for redevelopment. 19 The Wilson's story was not uncommon, with completion of the state-ofthe-art Lloyd Center mall in 1960, a large proportion of African Americans had been pushed out to find homes elsewhere.20



Interstate 5 cut off Albina from Overlook park and was one of many housing displacements for the neighborhood. City of Portland Archives, A2004-001.1013.

PDC and South Auditorium

In May of 1958 voters approved the creation of the Portland Development Commission, an independent agency that aimed to funnel federal, state, and local dollars into urban renewal projects. The new agency claimed, "the men of Portland business and civic organizations will see their reward in the future elimination and prevention of blight and the promotion of industrial development." Chairman Ira Keller, famous for pushing his committees to reach consensus and vote

unanimously, reportedly would tour the city trying to sell residents on the benefits of his Urban Renewal programs.²¹

The PDC's first project was the South Auditorium Urban Renewal Area. Neighborhood contention over the project ran high. Using eminent domain to acquire over 300 properties in the area, one hundred went to court. A 1951 Oregon Supreme Court ruling had established the constitutionality of using eminent domain for Urban Renewal, but the one hundred property owners objected to the forced sale.²² PDC Executive Director John Kenward had labeled the predominantly Jewish, Italian, and Russian neighborhood as "blighted," a term which had become a necessary ingredient for urban renewal. Despite planners and proponents of development use of the term blighted to justify these projects, the application of the term could be subject to debate. Understandably, there was variation in how residents felt over their homes being marked as substandard or blighted.²³

Central Albina Plan

"There is neither present nor future demand for retail businesses along Williams Avenue,"

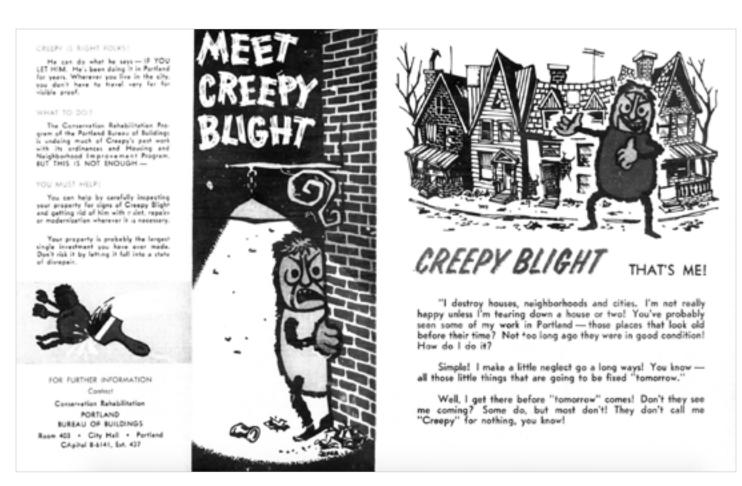
- Central Albina Plan, 1962.

The Central Albina Plan was central in determining the boundaries of the eventual ANIP program and Emanuel Hospital Urban Renewal Area. In early 1962, the Portland Planning Commission (PPC) and PDC marked the area north of Fremont as "an appropriate area for a neighborhood improvement program" and the area south to Russell Avenue in "abeyance," and that the "city's first conservation project should be undertaken elsewhere in an area where greater owner participation might be expected."²⁴ The Central Albina Study looked to the Central Albina area defined as Fremont street to the north, Interstate Avenue to the west, NE Broadway



The 1962 Central Albina Study reveals areas that were later targeted for clearance and demolitions. City of Portland Archives, 10/ED/21821.

to the south, and Union Avenue to the east (containing Emanuel Hospital). Within Central Albina, the PPC determined the area was the highest level of dilapidation in all of Albina concluding: "Clearly urban renewal, largely clearance, appears to be the only solution to, not only blight and presently exists in central Albina, but to also avoid the spread of blight to other surrounding areas." Nowhere in the study did the PPC report on the buildings also being the significant cultural and business institutions of the African American Community. The study further suggested that "there is neither present not future demand for retail businesses along Williams avenue,"26 a stunning conclusion given the numerous and thriving Jazz Clubs, restaurants, and other Black-owned businesses along Williams at that time (also staggering to think about Williams today as a major retail/commercial zone). In addition to ignoring the community there, the



This flier produced by the Portland Bureau of Buildings reveals how the term blight was frequently applied as a justification for demolition and clearance of a neighborhood. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

PPC's conclusions centered on converting the area to light industrial: "The primary characteristics of the Central Albina Area—excellent freeway and major street access, as well as the availability of all normal utilities and the stable nature of the hilltop land itself—make the are unusually well suited to transportation, distribution, and service industries." Lastly, the report noted the presence of Emanuel Hospital and the hospital's desire to acquire nine blocks around it for a major expansion, "this institution is large enough and its plans are of such magnitude that it can, to some degree, be considered as creating its own environment," the report noted. 28

To NAACP president Mayfield Webb and other Albina community leaders, the Central Albina Plan was just the latest iteration of an already established practice of using urban renewal projects to further displace the African American community. As an increasing number of community members spoke out against the Central Albina Plan, which would have displaced a third of the city's African American population, city officials informally abandoned the plan.²⁹ However, it did lay the groundwork for private redevelopment of the area for light industrial and commercial and clearly defined Emanuel Hospital's ambition to expand. Moreover, it was the use of terms like blight, dilapidation, decaying, or decrepit, that Africa American leaders were continuing to see planners and developers using to demolish and clear their communities somewhere else. The experiences of relocations from Vanport, Memorial Coliseum, I-5, and Lloyd Center had used these terms as urban renewal and continued to push African Americans further north up Albina. Community members must have wondered when would the next project come along?

Despite the many definitions of blight, city officials were using their definition of the term to determine the future of neighborhoods. In a 1962 promotional piece from the Bureau of Buildings entitled "Meet Creepy Blight," the effects of blight on the city were graphically outlined.³⁰

What is missing from the brochure is an understanding of the process which left many homeowners unable to make improvements in the first place: common poverty, low wages, poor access to credit, and older homes with outdated systems. Fully understanding that blight would continue to be a justification for the displacement of the neighborhood, African American leaders spoke out against the Central Albina Plan and began to propose their own form of urban renewal.

Albina Neighborhood Organizing

"At present time the East
Bank Freeway, the new
Memorial [Coliseum] Center,
the Lloyd Center, industrial
and commercial expansion
along Union Avenue and
Broadway, and the expansion
of Emanuel Hospital are
making definite changes in
the physical character of the
neighborhood. The ultimate
effects on Albina's potential
as a residential area are not
completely clear at this time."

-Albina Neighborhood Council Representatives, August 12, 1960.³¹

It was out of this context and experience over past urban renewal that the Albina Neighborhood Council, a group of clergymen, business owners, attorneys, and community members in Albina, began to organize themselves. In 1959, during a luncheon at the Urban League, John Kenward, Executive Director of the PDC spoke on the PDC's current and future urban renewal plans for the area. Full notes of the meeting have yet to be located, but it appears that leaders pushed Kenward toward the idea of a neighborhood improvement program as a direct response to the forthcoming Emanuel Hospital URA which would further displace neighborhood residents. Albina pushed PDC to improve homes, and thereby prevent this entire area being labeled "blighted." Multiple sources suggest that the neighborhood asked for an improvement program across Albina and the PDC agreed to support it only north of N. Fremont.³²

On August 12th of 1960, a critical meeting set the entire neighborhood improvement project in motion. Present were Mrs. Evelyn Harriman and Betty Rowland of the Albina Neighborhood Council, John Holley and James Frazier of the Urban League, Reverend Cortland Cambric of Huges Memorial Methodist Church, Reverend T.X. Graham, Ann Garnett of Williams Avenue Baptist Church, Dr. Thomas Meader of the County Health Department, Mary Kay Rowland of Stella Maris House, Charles E. Woodward and Rodney O'Hiser of the Portland Planning Commission, and Ira Keller, A.V. Fonder, Roy C. Hill, Vincent Rancho, Jack R. Caufield, John Kenward, Joy S. O'Brian, Larry Coons and Dorthy Jones of the PDC. Opening the meeting John Kenward of the PDC acknowledged his agency could help neighbors access federal low-interest loans to make much-needed improvements and that private lenders had been unwilling to loan money to many Albina residents. Ira Keller of the PDC acknowledged "we need to get ahead of this and not let any neighborhoods deteriorate to the point it is a bad place to live." It is clear from meeting records that PDC officials were quite keen on providing financial and technical tools to the neighborhood if there were sufficient support and leadership from the neighborhood. The entire group further acknowledged that ongoing urban renewal projects were causing major changes in the neighborhood: "At present time the East Bank Freeway, the new Memorial [Coliseum] Center, the Lloyd Center, industrial and commercial expansion along Union Avenue and Broadway, and the expansion of Emanuel Hospital are making definite changes in the physical character of the neighborhood. The ultimate effects on Albina's potential as a residential area are not completely clear at this time."33

Albina was changing and so was the geographic borders that defined it. When Ira Keller asked the neighborhood to define an area for a pilot program, Mrs. Evelyn Harriman, Albina Neighborhood Council Secretary quickly launched into the standard explanation: that the neighborhood encompassed federal census tracts 22 and 23, with a northern boundary at N Fremont. But by 1960, most of these tracts had already experienced the dramatic displacement from urban renewal. Rev. Cambric quickly spoke up, "Fremont is arbitrary. You could say the area north of Fremont is part of Albina now. Section 22 and 23 census tracts don't give the true picture anymore— with the freeway and ER [Memorial Coliseum] center. The neighborhood has moved north."34 Rev. Cambric's point further affirms how attentive the local neighbors were to the rapidly changing neighborhood and its shift north of Fremont, of which 56% were homeowners and 67% were African American.35 Later in October of 1960, Rev. Cambric would be appointed as Chairmen of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee.36

At the end of the meeting, the council and PDC reached important agreements, first that the PDC would assist with technical tools for community organizing, obtaining federal grants for neighborhood improvement, act as a liaison between the Albina Neighborhood Council and other governments and agencies, and finally, to provide the maps, literature, and reporting documents to carry out a project. The Albina Neighborhood Council would provide the leadership and community organizing, oversee and appoint the additional committees to carry out and plan the project, and provide the on the ground follow through to carry out and design an improvement plan.

It was at this initial first meeting that the group identified street trees as a key step in improving the neighborhood. Additionally, they identified public investment activities like street cleaning, alleyway cleanup, repaving, streetlights, park, and playground improvements. On private property, they suggested landscaping, painting, exterior repairs, interior remodeling, all to current building code standards and inspections.

The Albina Council appointed Rev. Cambric as Chairmen of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee (ANIC) which would report directly to the council and coordinate with John Kenward at PDC. Rev. Cambric's committee agreed that they would need to have the support of the local citizens for any program to be successful. "The only way that conservation and rehabilitation of an area can be successful is through the active interest and participation of the residents,"they concluded.³⁷ So on November 2nd 1960, ANIC held its first public meeting at the Vancouver Avenue Baptist Church and effectively sold the idea of Portland's first of a kind urban renewal project, one aimed at renewal through conservation and not through clearance.³⁸ Informally dubbed "operation bootstrap" some 500 Albina residents reportedly responded to Rev. Cambric's call and 44 immediately volunteered to get involved. Reverend T.X. Graham and Frank Brown began working with five or six homeowners to do voluntary inspections of needed home improvements to draft a plan with the PDC.39

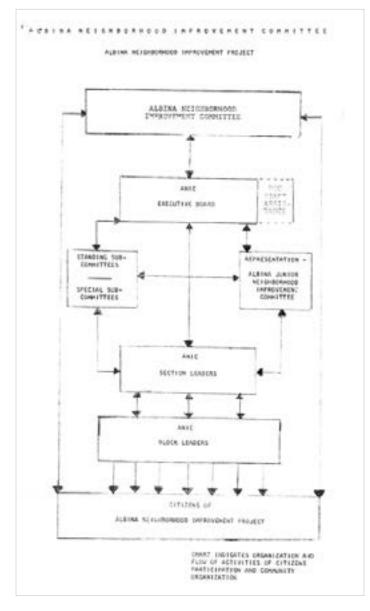
ANIC Organization

Effectively organizing an entire neighborhood was no easy task, but ANIC's organizational structure allowed multiple forums for neighbors to voice concerns and aspirations throughout the entire project.

The PDC and Albina Neighborhood Council established an Executive Board of 11 members from the two organizations to oversee the entire project and solicit and accept technical advice from specialists and subcontractors. The Executive Board did its outreach to neighbors through the section and block leaders, holding regular meetings every month throughout the project.

The larger Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee (ANIC) was made up of individual block leaders for all 51 half-blocks plus three members of the board. These meetings were held once or twice a year and usually coincided with the need to vote on a major element of the project or presentation.⁴⁰

At the block level, the block leader would hold meetings at their discretion or at the suggestion of the Executive Board or Sub-Committees. These were small meetings held in each block leader's home, with one-half of the block in attendance. This allowed for bottom-up



An early 1961 organizational chart for ANIC. Roll, 156, Microfilm 779, City of Portland Archives.

concerns to raise their way to the Executive Board and to ensure decisions were communicated to all through a friendly neighbor to neighbor relationship. An ANIP memo to the PDC noted one example where a father with a broken back and his family of four could not deal with a large willow tree in their yard that had become dangerous. The block leaders and the church community assisted in the removal and helped the wife locate suitable employment. Block level leadership, supported with PDC resources, could get things like this done efficiently.⁴¹

Lastly, there were special Standing Committees and a Youth Advisory Council that investigated specific tasks of the project and reported to both the block leaders and the Executive Board. One of the first Standing Sub-Committees was the Tree Program. Another was the Park Design Committee for what eventually became Unthank Park.⁴²

It was a remarkably designed organization, allowing twoway communication up and down, theoretically giving anyone a voice who participated. Additionally, PDC staff took meeting minutes at the upper and sub-committee levels, so the documentation of thoughts and activities of participants are quite detailed.

Throughout early 1961, the Executive Board and PDC officials began to select the overall project area boundaries. There was some significant back and forth between the Executive Board, PDC, and the Federal Housing Authority over questions if the selected area would qualify for conservation and rehabilitation loans. This careful consideration suggests how seriously the Executive Board took the potential for any project to result in a clearance project, something they very much wanted to avoid.⁴³ With some minor changes, the project area was selected to include all homes north of N. Fremont street and South of N. Skidmore from N. Vancouver (only homes on the west side of the street) to the west to N. Albina (including the west side homes on Albina). Also recall that the PPC under the Central Albina Plan, was in the process of selecting the area north of Fremont for conservation programs and the area south for clearance.

First, doing a door to door survey of the entire area, the committee took notes on the condition of homes, what repairs homeowners were wanting, and other concerns. Some neighbors were understandably suspect but the committee felt satisfied with the preliminary information from five detailed homes and 337 other general respondents to begin the long process of drafting a formal Housing and Urban Development loan and grant application. In early November of 1961 the project spent \$7,000 for a home at 3726 N. Kerby Avenue for use as the project headquarters, as office space for Portland Development Commission staff, and as a meeting place for the citizens' groups.⁴⁴



Detailed view of project area, Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project, phase 1. City of Portland Archives AD/6611.

Block Clean Ups

Late in September of 1961, Mrs. Luna Crane, a block leader and member of the Executive Board, organized an alleyway clean-up of her block along N Vancouver, N. Beech and N. Failing. It was a very successful event. Later that year she offered a presentation at the Boise Elementary school where she showed slides and offered organizing tips on how to hold a successful block cleanup. Mrs. Crane's block cleanup set the model and tone for the future of the project, well before funds were available the neighborhood was already working together to make simple improvements led by leaders at the block level. She continued to lead block cleanups and helped others organize. While the concept of a simple block cleanup may seem not worthy of note, in Albina public services like regular trash pick up were infrequent and the cost



Mrs. Lula Mae Crane's block clean ups were some of the first organized activities in the improvement program, first starting in 1961, and continuing throughout the project's duration. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2297.

of disposal of large items required time and money that many did not have. By organizing, Mrs. Crane drew the attention of the press and public officials to the hardships Albina residents were facing and also fully addressed the short term issue on her own.⁴⁵



Children climbing on dumpster during ANIP Block 28 Clean Up, 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4368.

ANIP Tree Program Sub-Committee.

In the first drafts of ANIP's 1962 federal grant, leaders listed trimming street trees one the neighborhoods "equally significant Environmental Deficiencies." 46 The January 1962 Executive Board meeting at the Improvement Center raised the importance of tree planting once again. Noting the poor condition of many of the neighborhood's street trees, the committee moved to form a special tree program sub-committee to investigate "planting trees which would preserve the ascetic value of the area, and which could also be adequately be maintained."47 In February of 1962 Portland Park's Forester Dale Christiansen and Portland General Electric's Arborist Larry Rowse toured the neighborhood and offered some general thoughts on the condition of trees in the project area to the Planning Sub-committee. Christiansen noted that many trees were indeed in poor condition and needed removal. He also suggested that he could suggest a variety of trees that were better suited to the narrow planting strips of Albina and would be easy to maintain and grow. Further, he informed the Planning Committee that his bureau could not obtain or plant the trees but that he was willing to advise.48 Christiansen's early involvement as a project consultant demonstrates the confines of the agency he worked for; on numerous occasions he noted that his bureau could not lead any planting activity. Because the city had not funded a comprehensive program for public tree planting and maintenance and passed responsibility to property owners, there was little Christensen should do but consult on what he knew as best practices. Still, his willingness to participate in planning and consulting suggests that he recognized the potential for trees to improve the neighborhood and the city.49

Finally, a few months later, the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee's Tree Program Sub-Committee held its first meeting on April 17, 1962, at the Information Center. Tom Notos, a PDC liaison and general secretary for the information center called the meeting to order at 1:45 pm and produced the first of dozens of meeting minutes that afford insight into the process and logic of the tree planting program.⁵⁰

At the first meeting were sub-committee members Mrs. Alice Kutch, Mr. Herbert Lewis, Mr. E.H. Thiel, as well as a host of other professional consultants. Portland General Electric's Arborist Larry Rowse was present for the first meeting, as was Dale Christensen. Both men continued to play an integral role throughout the conceptual and implementation phases of the tree program. Indeed, their planting preferences and tree selections were central to the overall project. Additionally, Portland City Engineer Fred Hamilton was present and would provide technical support on curbs and sidewalks as well as street lighting through the project. Lastly, Bob Lindh from the City Planning Commission and Marvis Manus from the PDC were also present. Sub-committee members learned from Rouse and Christensen that some 80% of the trees in the project area needed removal while the other 20% would be an asset with proper pruning. coordinating with Lindh and Rowse, Christensen agreed to plot a map with all tree removals. It is clear that the neighborhood Sub-Committee quickly embraced the tree removal/planting program as a way to quickly get some successful change in the neighborhood.51

More importantly, neighborhood sub-committee members felt it was very important to have strong neighbor support and involvement. Mr. Thiel suggested that it would be very important for property owners to make their own decisions whether or not to remove trees or replant them. Rowse, suggested a "planned random planting" program so that the overall effect for beautification would not be lost if some neighbors declined to plant or prune their trees. He also suggested coordinating with the Portland Beautification Association for the services of a Landscape Architect to develop conceptual drawings and materials for residents to understand the tree program.⁵²

The significance of this first meeting is that it established a clear collaboration between industry professionals (Landscape architects, planners, arborists, engineers) and the concerns and perspectives of local neighborhood representatives and that organized block groups should do most of the final work. Both groups recognized that tree planting and removal could quickly beautify the area and build momentum for larger more ambitious aspects of the urban renewal program.



Tree Sub-Committee Chair Reverend F.J. Crear and his wife were featured in the July 1966 issue of the *ANIC-DOPE* newsletter under the monthly "Your Neighbor in the Project." City of Portland Archives, AD/6608.

At the May 1, 1962 meeting the committee discussed focusing the program on the planting strips and front yards of homes in the project area. By allowing neighbors to select trees from a prepared list, it would ensure that proper trees were used and still afford some conformity and variety. At the same time, the overall plan would, in the words of Mr. Thiel, "make provisions for sustaining the beauty and usefulness of the trees." This early introduction of a prepared plant list would carry all the way through the program, and Mr. Thiel's focus on the beauty and usefulness suggests that he and other committee members saw the trees as having more utility than simple ascetic beauty. Mrs. Kutch felt that the tree program "inspired residents of the area to take an interest in tidying up the neighborhood." 53

A few days later at the May 8th, 1962 meeting the tree program voted Rev. F. J. (Faddie James) Crear as the sub-committee's new chair. Rev. Crear served as pastor at Good Samaritan Church of God in Christ at 3204 N Commercial and N Fargo (demolished for Emanuel and Freeway in 1970). He lived in the project area at 3535 N. Haight, and would, in 1966 get a federal low-interest loan for home improvements to his own house.⁵⁴ He had hosted a local radio show on KGON and had worked hard with the city in 1951 to get his parish building built.⁵⁵ Leading his first meeting he asked if there was a possibility for a commercial firm to buy up most of the

properties in the project area after the improvements had been made, and if the proposed Fremont Bridge would impact the project area. Given that his parish would eventually be demolished for the Emanuel expansion and the freeway on-ramp, one has to wonder if he had a keen sense of some of the other backroom workings going on at PDC. He also was hesitant to engage in improvements that might have led to jeopardizing current owners from keeping their homes. Mr. Thiel felt the tree program would be wonderful because it would "beautify the neighborhood and help increase the values of property." But Rev. Crear and other resident's suspicion is critical to note at this early phase. At this May 8th meeting,



An unidentified street in the project area before tree planting in about 1962. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.



A c.1962 sketch by Alex Pierce showing what the neighborhood could look like after tree planting. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

Larry Rowse also presented his initial tree map of the neighborhood, noting 175 trees seeing removal with 25 more identified for optional removal.⁵⁶

The committee held a second May meeting on the 15th, where Alex Pierce from the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Art and Daryl May from the Portland Beautification Association announced they would be advising Christensen and Rowse with the creation of the tree plan. Pierce was a noted Portland architect and had



A 1962 sketch by Alex Pierce of 3725 N Kerby Avenue. As an architectural adviser, Pierce produced several sketches and proposals to help people envision home and landscaping improvements. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4783.



A 1962 view of 3725 N Kerby Ave. before ANIP landscaping and home improvements. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4782.



A color slide from Portland City Forester Dale Christiansen suggested the popular Flowering Cherry. City Of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

a very successful career in public architecture. He also was working on some of the conceptual renderings for other PDC projects— and he did some of the renderings for the ANIP Tree Program. A member himself, Pierce noted he could request talent and resources from the American Institute of Architects if the ANIP Program needed it—potentially bringing a national spotlight on the program. Daryl May and the Portland Beautification Association (PBA) also needs further exploration. The PBA was established in 1960 as an outgrowth of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. Its mission was to "To encourage all interested organizations in the area to undertake and coordinate such projects that will contribute to the general beauty of the area and to propose certain important undertakings to the Association; and to lend support to individual organizations in their efforts to advance the beauty of the community." With support from these two planners, the ANIP Tree Program was certainly getting the attention of some of the larger civic leaders and institutions interested in a more city-wide tree planting program. In fact, the PBA was also in the process of drawing its own city charter amendment to pay for a city-wide tree planting and maintenance program.⁵⁷

At the June 12, 1962 meeting Dale Christiansen, Forester for Portland Park Bureau, offered a presentation of color slides on tree selection and planting. Not all of his suggested tree species in the presentation were on

the official selections.⁵⁸ Regarding species selection, it is unclear what the resident's desires were specifically, but beauty often appears as a justification in other reports and discussions. One of the main concerns from a plan standpoint was that owners not be forced into planting. The entire committee agreed upon the importance of each owner deciding if they wanted trees and what types, and Christiansen agreed that his "Planned Random Planting" concept would allow individuals to opt-in at later dates or not at all if they so choose.⁵⁹

There appeared to be no July meetings and August was used as a working session. At the September 11, 1962 meeting Chairman Crear asked the technical advisors to provide updates. Larry Rowse from PGE noted an average of six trees per side per block should be planted in the project area as to not obscure homes. Continuing to suggest some of Christiansen's plant selections, the group proposed to use the Kwanzan Cherry through the broader project area. At this phase, Kwanzan Cherries were being proposed for the border of Unthank Park as well. Rowse then provided some added details about the planting plan. Pre-staking would be used to indicate a tree's location and help the homeowner make the final decision if the site was acceptable. PGE and PP&L would remove all designated trees after obtaining written permission from each owner. PGE Pruned trees would have fireplace sized wood kept for the homeowner. New trees would be 8 ft. tall on 6 ft. standards, aged about 3-4 years. The plan incorporated spots for about 600 trees. The cost estimates were between \$5 - \$9 for the trees. A few days



This color slide of the Campfire Girls Nov. 1962 tree planting was likely part of Forester Dale Christiansen's presentation to the neighborhood. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

later another meeting affirmed that the program sought bids from nurseries to ensure costs were closer to \$5 per tree with the max being \$9. They also added a suggestion that the trees be guaranteed for one year. Importantly, Tom Notos of the PDC noted that owners would only be able to get trees from a prearranged, set-list along with literature from PGE on the "do's and Don'ts of tree care."

The plan had started! On November 3, 1962, the Camp Fire Girls Planted the first tree in the side yard of the Improvement Center. At the Executive Board meeting that month Larry Rowse gave the tree selection slide show as well as some slides of the Camp Fire Girls planting. Additionally, he added the benefits of planting trees would:

- 1 "help raise property values"
- 2 "bring out fine features of the home"
- 3 "absorb carbon dioxide and give off oxygen"
- 4 and "absorb sound"

By December of 1962, the sub-committee was ready to submit a year-end report to the larger Albina
Neighborhood Improvement Committee. Since April of 1962, the Tree Program Sub-Committee had met eight times. They had conducted a comprehensive inventory of street and front yard trees in the entire project area with the assistance from Dale Christensen(PP&R Forester), Daryl May (Landscape Architect), Alex Pierce (Architect), and Larry Rowse (PGE). They noted trees had damaged sidewalks and curbs, some trees were too large for their site and were causing traffic problems, and many needed pruning and care to prevent the spread of pests and diseases. Noting the opportunity to plant new trees, the committee looked to trees that:

- grew rapidly
- · produced colorful leaves and blossoms
- · will not grow so large that they will break curbs and sidewalks
- · are free from bugs and disease
- · are easier to maintain leaves and limbs

They selected the following trees for the plan:

Flowering Cherry
Incense Cedar
Oriental Maple
Malus Floribunda
Sunburst Locust
Tulip Tree
Dogwood
Copper Beech
Tri-Color Beech
Sweet Gum
Camperdown Elm
Mimosa

Tulip Tree Mimosa

Pin Oak Vine Maple

Sargent Cherry



Color slide of Kwanzan Cherry tree used in Portland City Forester Dale Christiensen's 1962 and 1963 tree presentations to ANIP residents. City of Portland Archives A2010-003.

The program used the following considerations for the site planting of each tree. Each tree was to be placed in a specific location indicated by the plan map:

- · Attractiveness to adjacent homes
- · Visibility at intersections
- · Relationship to existing trees which may be retained
- The possibility that some property owners may not want to cooperate
- A desire to establish a united but informal planting which will be pleasing to residents and visitors after the trees begin to bloom.

The program proposed using newspapers and press to advertise the plan, as well as individually mailing each property owner the information and order forms. Representatives would present the plan at four or five joint block meetings. Additionally, the tree program opened a separate ANIC Tree Program bank account for tree planting funds and the process for receiving bids

from nursery suppliers to supply all the types of trees on the list. However, later after federal funds arrived, all the monies were returned to property owners and the trees were 100% covered with the federal grant.⁶²

In October of 1962, the Columbus Day Storm obliterated trees across the Northwest and knocked out power to homes across the region. Albina was hit hard by the storm, albeit not as hard as other communities. The storm severely delayed the Albina program, which had hoped to begin planting trees in the fall of 1962. PGE and PP&L were so busy that, given the power companies schedules, the program estimated the work would be completed by March 15, 1963, with trees being planted shortly after as well. Reflecting back on PGE and PP&L's dedication to the program, despite the busy months after Columbus Day cleanup, Rev. Roosevelt Rodgers praised the companies for being "good enough to spend thousands of dollars to remove the Columbus Day storm trees." About a month after the storm, PGE's Larry Rowse, had been highly involved in organizing the Camp Fire Girls planting. The first tree planted in the program.63

Planting the Demonstration Blocks

While ANIP waited on funding approval from the federal government, Larry Coons of the PDC suggested that block cleanups and initiating the tree planting program as good steps to keep the overall project moving forward.⁶⁴ But organizing a massive tree planting takes considerable time and the sub-committee was too ambitious in thinking it could tackle every tree in one go. Removing the old trees and planting the entire area in one push was not possible; coordinating all the players and getting the trees in the ground before summer heat was a major concern. Larry Rowse warned that planting the trees after the end of March would result in the loss of a high percentage of trees to drought. Additionally, it became obvious that not enough property owners had ordered trees, that PGE and PP&L crews were still busy cleaning up after Columbus Day, and that PDC was very tasked with finalizing the federal loan and grant package, so the committee shifted its focus to planting two demonstration blocks around the Improvement



A Portland General Electric crew working in front of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Center removing the old trees before replacing, Dec. 1961. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2310.



After delays from the Columbus Day Storm, Portland General Electric and Pacific Power and Light crews conducted major tree removals prior to the replanting in the project area during the spring of 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

center (N Kerby from Fremont to Failing) to "show the effect of the over-all program." Rowse vouched for his crew's availability to carryout removals for the two-block area before the end of March. Tom Notos of the PDC obtained a bid from Wayne Mellot's nursery in Forest Grove who had agreed to supply all the tree varieties for \$5 in the fall. Mellot would also supply the trees for the demonstration blocks by the end of March.65

Over the next few weeks, PGE crews began removing sixteen old trees which were uplifting the streets, curbs, and sidewalks along the demonstration blocks, grinding the stumps, and auguring the holes for new trees. Rowse's crew bucked the wood for homeowners' wood stoves when requested and chipped the limbs. On a rainy Wednesday morning, April 3, 1963, the Tree Planting Sub-Committee began planting 22 Kwanzan Flowering Cherries along the demonstration blocks. Four local news crews and three newspapers arrived to cover the event. Honoring the homeowners of the first demonstration block plantings, the ANIC newsletter carried all 22 names and addresses of the demonstration plantings. Further, the newsletter reminded neighborhood residents that "all remaining property owners in the project area will be contacted" for the removal and subsequent replacement. The demonstrations plantings received such positive attention that the PDC presented each Tree



Larry Rowse (left) stakes up a Kwanzan Flowering Cherry as John Kenward backfills during the planting of the demonstrations blocks, in April of 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.





ANIC and Tree Program Sub-Committee posing before press during the planting of the demonstration blocks in April of 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

Committee member with a certificate of appreciation and honored them in a formal resolution on April 8th, 1963. The coordination between the neighborhood, a private utility company and the various public agencies had the neighborhood (as well as the city) excited about tree planting for neighborhood improvement.⁶⁶

Summer 1963 view of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Center after tree removals and the replanting of Kwanzan Cherry. The Campfire Girls tree can also be seen over the black sedan. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4369.

Over the next few months, the committee continued to solicit tree orders to the entire project area making steady but slow progress. Additional block cleanups took place in the spring and summer of 1963, with tree committee members attending to pitch the benefits of the planting program. Some 53 trees were removed by June of 1963 and new street lights installed, with orders for a fall planting progressing.⁶⁷ Important changes to the larger Executive Board included the nomination of Rev. Roosevelt Rogers and E.H. Thiel to co-chairs and Mrs. Luna Crane as an at large member on June 6, 1963. These three individuals became key leaders in completing the tree planting program across the entire project.⁶⁸

The July newsletter carried a short note from Mr. and Mrs. Albert Williams who had participated in the demonstration blocks and were "delighted that we had the opportunity to remove the four large trees in our

parking strip and replace with much more attractive Kwanzan cherry." These personal notes were intended to help convince other neighbors to order trees and have their troublesome oversized ones removed. But neighbors were not jumping on board as quick as the committee had hoped. At the January 1964 meeting, the tree committee received training from Mr. Wilbur Hawthorne, a door to door salesman for World Book Encyclopedia, presumably who lived in the neighborhood, on how to sell the benefits of the tree program to neighbors. After the demonstration planting, only 74 new trees had been ordered.

Next Round of Planting

In January of 1964, the Federal Housing Authority approved the ANIP loan and grant. Committee members E.H. Thiel and Herbert Lewis and Larry Rowse traveled



Herbert Lewis (left) and E.H. Thiel (right) at Wayne Mellot's Carlton Nursery in Forest Grove looking at a new batch of Kwanzan Cherry Trees before they arrive in Albina, March 1964. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2397.



Portland General Electric crews preparing the planting sites with Mrs. Luna M. Crane (left), Rev. Roosevelt Rogers (center), E.H. Thiel (left) and unidentified boy on bike, March 1964. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2400.

to Wayne Mellot's Carlton Nursery in Forest Grove to tour the facility and see the trees they had ordered. Publicizing this tour led to more orders with the total up to 151 new trees since on order since the demonstration planting. In early March of 1964, PGE and PP&L crews conducted another round of removals and auguring. On March 19th and 20th, aside from a few trees planted by ANIC and Tree Program officials, records suggest Wayne Mellot's staff planted the about 150 new trees (mainly Kwanzan Cherry) throughout the project area. However, the proposals and records mention only that "the contractor" would oversee the completion of the plantings, so it is unclear if it was Mellot, a separate subcontractor, or PGE who did the actual plantings. Nonetheless, with TV and News press present, Rev. Rogers, E.H. Thiel, Mrs. Luna Crane, Father Mel Stead of Immaculate Heart Catholic Church, and Herbert Lewis posed for cameras while planting a Kwanzan on N. Height street. This particular tree planting photo has become the iconic image of the overall project. Immediately after the tree removals of March 1964, PGE began installing new streetlights.⁶⁹



The first blooms in ANIP's demonstration blocks, April 1964. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4427.

The Executive Board understood that the good press from tree plantings and cleanups were important for the future of the larger project. In April of 1964, Rev. Crear of the Tree Program, along with the Executive Board, asked the Portland City Council to approve the ANIC plan including the building of Unthank Park, he relayed his experiences in tree planting along with photos. Mrs. Crane, Rev. Rogers, and E.H. Thiel also spoke about the benefits of the project and accomplishments in block cleanups, tree plantings, streetlights, and park planning. With council approval came the next phases of the project: Federal grants and low-interest home improvement loans. In October of 1964, Miss Lillie Florence of 3905 N Borthwick received the first lowinterest home improvement loan supplied by Western Savings Loan Association for work carried out by Pruitt Building Services. While the tree program had still not completed its overall coverage goals, the availability of home improvement dollars understandable shifted ANIC's priorities toward home improvement.⁷⁰



This March 1964 planting became the iconic image of the entire tree project. E.H. Thiel (left) Mrs. Luna M. Crane (center left), Father Mel Stead, (center), Rev. Roosevelt Rogers (center right), and Herbert Lewis (right). City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2403.

Maintaining the Tree Program

Early in the program, Larry Rowse had drafted up handouts for homeowners to care for their newly planted trees. At every planting, new tree owners received a sheet instructing them to water their trees "thoroughly, especially during the first few years of the tree's life. Once a week in hot, dry weather in the spring in July and August." Further, his handout recommended mulching "so that water and oxygen can get to the roots" and to avoid compaction. He suggested fertilizing with two pounds of a 6-10-4 fertilizer every spring after the tree's second year (which may indicate why they grew so well). Lastly, he recommended pruning suckers and waterspouts after the first few years and when they returned. Reminders to water trees were also included in summer additions of the newsletter moving forward.⁷¹

Like most tree planting programs, vandalism was a common issue and cause of young tree mortality. ANIP trees were vandalized several times, the first time the committee praised parents in the neighborhood newsletter who "by counseling their children, have helped bring about this reduction [in vandalism]." However, in

August of 1967, 37 of the flowering cherries were broken, stripped of branches, and some uprooted between N. Beech, Fremont, Kerby, and Height streets. "Such acts should not be tolerated and all efforts should be used to find the ones guilty," warned the newsletter. Further, the note went on to explain that the trees represented the neighborhood's effort to work together and improve their environment, "such accomplishments will not and cannot be destroyed because of the whims of vandals," the newsletter declared.⁷²



Unidentified woman poses in front of vandalized tree at the Improvement Center, summer of 1964. Vandalism and subsequent replacements were common for several years of the project. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.3825.

Finishing the Tree Program

December of 1965 a re-invigorated tree program with some new members aimed to get 100% tree planting coverage on the streets of the project area. In January of 1966, ANIC announced in the newsletter that federal funding for street improvements now made it possible for tree plantings to be carried out with no cost to the property owner. All monies paid to the program by others before would be returned. Very quickly, homeowners began signing up for these free trees, and the Tree Program (Herbert Lewis, E.H. Thiel, Matt Dishman,



Unidentified officials at the ANIP Improvement Center, summer of 1966. Campfire Girls tree just left of the blue car. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4475.

and Ted Parker) began setting marker stakes throughout the neighborhood to indicate where PGE crews would dig the holes and plant the trees. The monthly newsletter for the next few years continued to show improvements to homes in the project area, it is common to see a freshly planted tree, usually a Kwanzan Cherry, in front of the home in addition to all the new improvements.⁷³

On February 10th and 11th of 1966, the tree program invited City Councilman Ormond Bean to plant a tree at 3925 N Vancouver as part of an effort to plant 135 others around the bordering streets of the project area. Again, ANIC credited Christensen and Rowse for their support and equipment in making the plantings possible. Later plantings of some 465 more trees would fill in the remainder of the project area's streets on January 4 — 5 and January 10 —11 of 1967. Records of who actually did the bulk of plantings remains unclear, but again responsibility for the supplier to oversee the planting had been part of the RFP, so likely it was Wayne Mellot or a sub-contractor he hired.⁷⁴

The April newsletter carried an ode to the blooming cherry trees planted along the perimeter of the project area that February. "These beautiful pink blossoms are a sight to see. Many residents have expressed what beauty these trees add to the project—visualizing what it will look like next spring when there will be trees blooming on all streets in the project, after the remaining planting, to be completed this fall," the article noted.



ANIP Tree Program staking out planting sites before the spring 1966 plating. Ted Parker (right), E.H. Thiel (center right), Matt Dishman (center left), and Herbert Lewis (left). City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4484.



Larry Rowse (center) and Dale Christensen (holding tree) at the February 19 plating 66 along N. Vancouver Avenue. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

As a symbol of pride, beauty, and accomplishment the flowering cherry had risen to become the most popular tree. While records indicate other tree species were ordered and planted, none were ever mentioned by name in newsletters or meeting minutes. In the summer of 1967, the Albina Neighborhood Youth Corps took special care to water the cherries (and presumably other trees) as well as assist senior citizens with yard work under the auspices of neighborhood beautification and pride in the program.⁷⁵ The 36 members of the Albina Neighborhood Youth Corps were active supporters of

the entire improvement project. In a memo to the PDC John Kenward noted, "they direct their own meetings, create their own programs, and constructed their own organization under the assistance of a Neighborhood Advisor." In particular the youth's activates included recreation and aid to those who could not maintain their yards.⁷⁶

In May of 1968, during an Executive Board meeting, Herman Plummer recommended extending the boundaries of ANIP north of N. Skidmore to the north side of N. Blandena. His proposal was supported by both Rev. Rogers and Matt Dishman and passed unanimously. In December of 1968, the city and federal officials approved the extension of the project north to N. Blandena, although it took some time to work out the coordination between ANIC and the Model Cities program which had also begun in N and NE Portland. Throughout the expansion phase of the program, there appear to be no Tree Program Sub-committee meetings. Internal PDC documents reveal that the expanded planting would be "conducted in the Project Expansion Area as a continuation of the program in the original." Records indicate that Larry Rowse continued to play a central role in the expanded plantings. In the expanded project area, the PDC purchased 350 more trees from the Glenn Handy Nursery in Boring, Oregon for \$7.50.77 By the project's conclusion in 1972, some 500 more trees were planted on streets in the neighborhood and it remains unclear where the project sourced the remaining 150 trees.78



Albina Youth Corps working on Neighborhood Beautification in the summer of 1967. From *ANIC-DOPE* monthly newsletter, August 1967.

Coda: Emanuel Hospital Urban Renewal

Plans for Emanuel hospital's expansion were clear as early as 1962 with the release of the Central Albina Plan, although it took until 1970 for the urban renewal program to begin. If ANIP was the PDC's success in public/neighborhood involvement, the Emanuel Hospital URA directly to the south became a public relations disaster for the PDC and hospital and left many in the neighborhood distrustful of the entire PDC process. Although anecdotal, the amount of studies that reference Emanuel Hospital displacement and the relative few that look to ANIP signals the deep pain and distrust the latter has over the former. Both projects overlapped, but the outcomes were dramatically different.

The basis of the Emanuel project had been outlined in 1962, aiming to clear and relocate an eleven block area, including the historic Hill Block, and 188 homes, residents were given only ninety days to relocate. Although the PDC provided federal dollars for relocation and moving costs, many residents felt like they had been shut out of the process. Dr. Karen Gibson notes that ANIP attempted to expand its boundary south of Fremont to slow or stop the Emanuel expansion, and this aspect needs further research.

In their study of Portland Urban Planning, Craig Wollner, John Provo, and Julie Schablisky note that through neighborhood residents continued to request city assistance with housing concerns, the PDC and city had intentionally kept Emanuel Hospital out of the open Model Cities public process. Thus, a:

"deep concern arose about the degree of citizen involvement. As a result, Albina citizens, along with a member of the American Friends Service Committee, created the Emanuel Displaced Persons Association (EDPA) in 1970. Multiple meetings with PDC followed in subsequent years to discuss the dissatisfaction of many of the displaced citizens.... The Federal Relocation Act of 1970 provided programs that provided for purchase at fair home market value, moving costs, up to \$15,000 if a comparable home could not be found, and up to \$4,000 to help renters with their rent or towards a new home."

After rapid demolition and clearance, federal dollars dried up and Emanuel slowed its hospital expansion plans. The vacant Hill Block on N. Williams and Russel continued to remind displaced residents of the pain of seeing their neighborhood vanish and their voice being ignored in the process. The jobs promised by the hospital never materialized how they had been promised in the initial planning.⁷⁹ Mrs. Leo Warren, a founder of EDPA noted in an interview with the Portland Observer,

"Didn't they have a long range plan? After all your life's investment is smashed to splinters by a bulldozer to make room for a hospital, you could at least feel decent at least tolerable about it; but to have it done for nothing! Well, what is there to feel?" 80

Two more major redevelopments further carved up Albina and cut Lower and Central Albina from the area north of Fremont: The I-405 on-ramp at Cook Street and Portland Public Schools headquarters. While residents relocated and regrouped, these and the experience of Emanuel Hospital appears to have eclipsed, in the minds of many, the positive aspects seen in ANIP.



Aerial of Emanuel Hospital looking west, 1974 with Dawson Park in foreground. City of Portland Archives, A2012-005.

Conclusions

"These trees planted will add to the landmark name of the city, which is the City of Roses...I know for years to come it will be an asset to the City, as well as to our neighborhood, and I am on accord as a property owner and as a citizen of the City and community for it's overall improvement."

Rev. Roosevelt Rogers,ANIC Chair, Before the City Council, 1964.



Home at 4225 N Haight Ave in 1964, with a freshly planted tree prior to undergoing a home renovation. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2826.



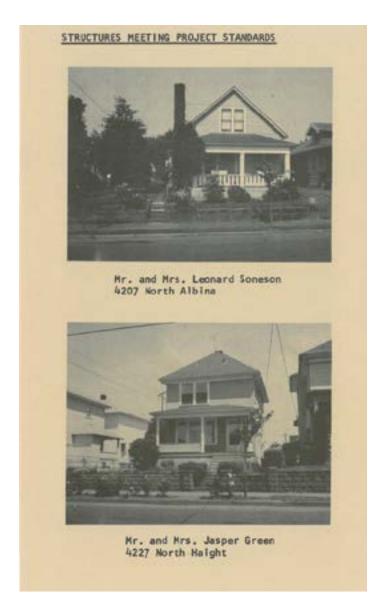
Albina Neighborhood Improvement block leaders, and Father Mel Stead (right). City of Portland Archives A2010-003.2405.

"We want to say, one and for all, that we think if we make an improvement ourselves... what can we do to help our Council keep on improving our neighborhood?"

-Mr. Herbert Lewis, Albina Neighborhood Tree Program, Before the City Council, 1964.

Generally speaking, any home in the project area with a Flowering Cherry tree participated in some form with ANIP's Urban Renewal project at the time—although one should not expect to find all the trees today. As more and more of these trees die after far surpassing their expected 30 year lifespan, it is important to study and remember what they represented to the neighborhood.

After 1964 when the bulk of home improvements began, the *ANIP-DOPE* newsletter would feature articles on who's homes were receiving renovation and repairs. Often, in these photos of the home, a freshly planted Kwanzan Flowering Cherry tree sands in the planting



Monthly issues of *ANIP-DOPE* newsletter contain numerous notices for homes that were about to or had undergone renovations with project funds. In most cases, one can spot the freshly planted tree out front. From *ANIP-DOPE*, Aug. 1965.

strip. And while there were other species of trees planted, the overwhelming majority of Kwanzan Flowering Cherry made them a marker for participation in the conservation program. The level of detail in meeting minutes, photographic documentation, press coverage and the use of a monthly newsletter from 1963 - 1968 provides a wealth of records that allow for historical analysis. For if it were not for the record keeping at the time, much of the historical significance of these trees and the neighborhood improvement they represented would be far, far, more difficult to study. ANIP's records

are a reminder for all community improvement and conservation projects to document thoroughly so to leave an accurate story of their work.

Tree planting was part of an overall beautification project that used federal urban renewal dollars and that aimed to keep residents in their homes. In the small project area, it was successful in maintain momentum and public support for the overall conservation project. Albina residents and technical advisers identified trees as a key, actionable aspect of the overall Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project. By coordinating the tree pruning with streetlights and sidewalk repair, ANIP's program was successfully able to charge the federal government for the costs of the trees as a project expenditure, not as a specific line item. Thus, the full details and invoices for all the trees remains elusive and likely was never included in the records submitted to FHA.

ANIP and the PDC first identified trees as an "Environmental Deficiency" in the initial loan application and block grant to the Federal Housing Administration. Integrating tree planting into a large Urban Renewal project was just one of ANIP's careful considerations that made the project quite innovative. Additionally, ANIP considered how previous urban renewal projects had limited access to parks and schools, advocating for Unthank Park and improvements to the Humboldt Elementary and Jefferson High School. Looking to keep people in their homes, ANIP also proposed a whole host of job training, community support groups, and home economics classes at the Boise School. All of these added programs were proposed and advocated for by the neighborhood leadership and supported by the PDC's application to the federal government.

ANIP's community-based leadership embraced tree planting and with the support of technical advisers like Larry Rowse, Dale Christensen, and Alex Pierce. The program was quite successful in encouraging residents to make inexpensive but outwardly visible landscaping improvements. While the trees were indeed beautiful and contributed to environmental improvements in the neighborhood, perhaps the most significant of these was a message to the city that the area was worth investing in and should not be ignored.

Albina's cherries symbolized some very big aspirations for the neighborhood. In the context of the study area they certainly achieved the goals of the leaders to get residents to fix up their homes. However, in the larger context of the Albina area, ANIP's innovative programs and the trees stand as positive examples in a larger history of disinvestment, displacement, and painful feeling. Any attempt to honor these trees and this program must property contextualize this small program within the larger history of the neighborhood. Nonetheless, the story of ANIP and it its success is worthy of more detailed historical analysis.

Further Questions:

History is always evolving and is never complete. The following questions are suggested for future research investigation into ANIP's tree plantings.

- Dr. Karen Gibson notes that ANIP attempted to expand its boundary south of Fremont to slow or stop the Emanuel expansion, given the discovery that Tree Committee Chair Rev. Crear's parish was directly in the Emanuel I-405 project areas, is there a connection?
- What was the relationship of the Urban League to the formation of ANIC?
- How did Alex Pierce and Daryl May become involved? As well as Larry Rowse and Dale Christensen?
- How did these technical advisers take their work into ANIP and how did ANIP influence their work outside?
- How did Model Cities programs view ANIP tree planting? Did they apply it as a model? Was it a common aspect to other Model Cities programs nationwide?
- Given Christensen's enrollment in both, how did the Portland Beautification Association view the ANIP work?
- How did tree advocates like Bill Naito view the ANIP work?
 Did it help inspire his Street Tree Advisory Committee?

Additional Historical Images

CHERRY TREES IN BLOOM



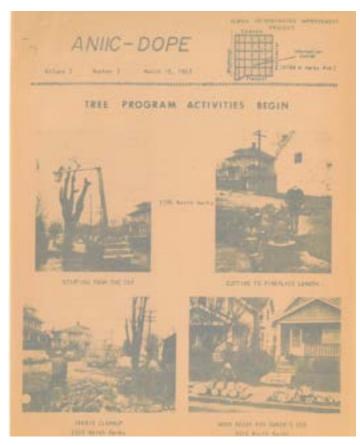
The Kwanzan Flowering Cherry Trees which were planted on the outer perimeter of the Project last February, are now blooming.

These beautiful pink blossoms are a sight to see. Many residents have expressed what beauty these trees add to the Project - visualizing what it will look like next Spring, when there will be trees blooming on all streets in the Project, after the remaining planting, to be completed this fall.

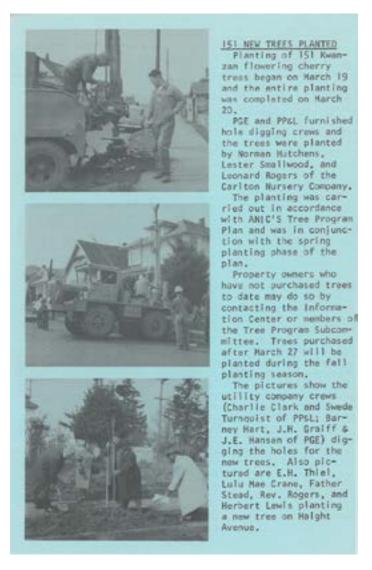
Albina Neighborhood Improvement Information Center 3726 N. Kerby Avenue Portland, Oregon 97227

Bulk Rate
U. S. Postage
PAID
Portland, Oregon
Permit No. 427

This special note in the April issue of the ANIP-DOPE newsletter envisioned blooms throughout the project area.







Three examples of how well documented the tree planting program was and how it informed the neighborhood via the *ANIC-DOPE* newsletter.



THE TREES ON YOUR STREET

One of the greatest scenic assets of our Gregon country is its luxuriant growth of trees. Nowhere in the United States are the growing conditions better. We should take full advantage of them to improve our homes, our streets and our communities.

TREE DESCRIPTIONS

Japanese Cherry, Kwanzon PRUNES SERBULATA var. KWANZAN)

This beautiful, upright, rather stiff, wase shaped tree is one of the stundiest of the Japanese Chemies. It bears no fruit, is covered with a shower of gurgoout magenta pink blossoms and is one of the latest to bloom. The flowers are large, averaging two inches across, and hang in independent clusters of three or four. This tree reaches an approximate height of 25 to 30 leet.

Incense Cedar

A handsome native evergreen which grows up to 90 fee, in height. It can be cut off at any height above 12 feet for ornamental purposes. It has tiny cones in clusters at the tips of its sprays. The most important feature of this tree is that it maintains its dark green follage throughout the year.

Pine, Shore (PINUS CONTORTA)

The only native two-needle Pine. Its beautiful deep rich green foliage makes it ideally suited as a background for flowering trees. Height varies with location, but it is normally considered a large tree.

Oriental Mapi

Comes in both dark red and groen foliage. Has brilliant autumn colors. It is very slow growing and reaches a maximum height of 20 feet. This tree is used for its shape. It is not fruit bearing and has a striking form in the winter.

Japanese Crabapole (NALUS FLORIBUNDA)

Probably the hindsemest and most reliable of the crabs. It is a small, round topped tree which grows to approximately 25 or 30 feet in height. The buds are carmine but shange to pink, then white. The flowers are single, but the sits diffect produced by this profuse bloomer is nothing short of specticular.

Sunburst Locust

Bright yellow golden foliage on tip of branches with deep inner green

Dale Christensen's color slide presentation roughly corresponded to the tree descriptions on this sheet. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) – Archival – Subject Files, A2010–003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.



inner foliage. This feature makes it look like it is in bloom all summer. A rapid growing tree - reaching a height of 35 to 40 feet.

Tulip Tree (LIRIODENDRON TULIPIFERA)

One of the finest large trees, to a height of 100 feet, which can be grown. It is a favorite because of the symmetrical habit of growth and extraordinary tulip shaped blossoms, two inches across, which are greenish white with an orange band at the base. It is resistant to insects and disease. The fall color produced by this tree is exceptional.

Oak, Pin (QUERCUS PALUSTRIS)

The pyramidel shape and slender horizontal branches give it a graceful appearance. The typical green Oak leaves of summer fade to red-bronze tists in fall, then to a leathery brown and hang on the tree all winter. The tree does not grow over 70 feet in height.

Dogwood, Pacific (CORNUS NUTTALLI)

Flowering Bogwood is especially adapted to shady locations and for shrubby effect in landscape plantings. The large white flowers in mid-April, followed by bright rod fruits, make it by far the showlest in bloom of all Dogwoods. It is one of the outstanding ornamentals that will frequently flower a second time in August or September.

Pink Dogwood

Deep pink blossess with spreading branches. A non-fruit bearing tree. Excellent colored foliage during the summer with wide spreading branches. Reaches a maximum height of 12 to 20 feet.

Beech (FAGUS SYLVATICA)

A handsome, large, round headed troc which grows up to 100 feet in height. It is not too suitable for the small garden or street plantings because of the dense growth and heavy shade. This smooth, steel-gray bank of the trunk and the fascinating braching habit provide an interesting contrast during the winter. But and leaf development in the spring reveals wonderful color tones of browns and greens.

Tri-Color Beech

A handsome, medium, round headed tree which grows up to 50 to 60 feet. The fascinating bracking habit provides an interesting contrast during the winter. Its leaves are an intermingling of white, wine and pink.

Sweetgum (LIQUIDAMBAR STYRACIFLUA)

An excellent all-around tree. It is a tree of pyramidal, symmetrical form and grows tail and straight to an approximate height of 100 feet. The leaves are star shaped, turning crimson, yellow and orange in the fall. It is a tree of beautiful proportions and is resistant to disease and insects.

Dale Christensen's color slide presentation roughly corresponded to the tree descriptions on this sheet. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) – Archival – Subject Files, A2010–003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.



Camperdown Elm (ULMUS GLABRA COMPERDOWNI)

An extremely interesting tree, reaching 15 feet in height, it can be used as a specimen for the patio or outdoor living room. Its compactness and broad unbrella shape make it a first-class small shade tree, suitable for narrow parking strips or unusual locations. Its formal appearance adds dignity to any street.

Minosa

A fairly broad tree with beautiful cream colored blossons. It is a late blooming tree. Foliage is very fine and resembles a locust tree. Grows to a maximum height of 30 to 35 feet.

Maple, Vine (ACER CIRCINATUM)

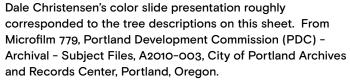
Our native Maple, similar in some respects to the Japanese Maple, is a beautiful spectacle in fall color. It is a 25- to 30-foot tree or shrub, better used in mass or group plantings.

Japanese Cherry, Sargent's (PRUNUS SARCENTI)

One of the finest of the Cherries. It grows to an approximate height of 35 to 40 feet and has a conventional shape with a beautiful manageny colored trunk. It is covered in spring with mass of deep pink single flowers. The foliage is bronze colored in the spring, a good green in the summer, turning to flaming red in the fall.

Maggard Cherry (PRUNUS AVIUM var. PLENA)

A broad pyramidal tree reaching 30 feet in height, with vigor and strength for the most adverse conditions. Small white, double flowers resembling minature roses shower the tree like snowflakes in early spring. An outstanding tree, ideally suited to the small garden or narrow parking strip.





December 6, 1962

TO:

FEOM: Albina Naighborhood Improvement Conmittee

SUBJECT: Propopal for Tree Planting

You are invited to submit a quotation for planting the dicideous and evergreen trees in the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Program which is bounded by North Yancouver, Skidmore, Fremont and the alley east of Mississippi evenues, Portland, Oregon.

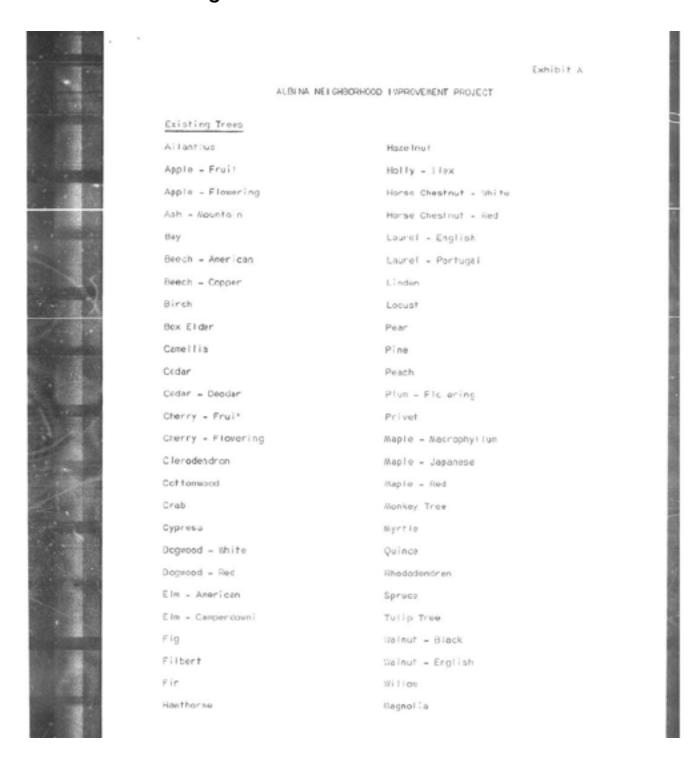
The following trees are proposed for planting under a tree program plan approved by the 3-4-1-C Committee on December 6, 1962:

nax.	Description	Size
295	Kwanzan Cherry (Prunus serrulata)	8'-10'
4	Incense Codar (Libocodrus decurreus)	4'-5'
24	Pinus Contorta	4'- 5'
19	Oriental Haple (Acer palmatum)	6'- 8'
35	Flowering Crab (Malus Floribanda)	6' - 8'
233	Mazzard Cherry Dbl. French Ligward	8'-10'
In.	Sumburst Locust (Gleditsia tricanthos	
	inerius)	8'-10'
2	Tulip Tree (Liriodendron tulipifira)	8'-10'
3	Pin Oak (Ouercus palustrus)	8"-10"
	Dogwood Red (Cornus Florida)	41-51
7	Copperbeech (Fagus sylvatica)	6'- 8'
7 3	Tri-color Beech (Fagus sylvatica tricolor)	5'- 6'
28	Sweet Gum (Liquidanbar L. styraciflua)	6'- 8'
1	Elm Camperdovn (Ulnus camperdovn)	51-61
8	Mimosa (Albizzia julibussin)	5'- 6'
6	Sargent Cherry (Prunis sargenti)	6'-8'

It is anticipated that the tree planting will begin the latter part of January 1963. Prior to planting, (1) Contacts will be node with each property owner by field workers from the Albina Information Center, and (2) Specific location of each tree will be identified. The bulk of the trees will be planted in the parking strips. Some trees will be planted in the front lawn area.

Each North-South street has been designated as a planting area in order that a minimum of one day's work is provided for the planting crew in each area. Planting schooles can be worked out with a cortain degree of flexibility for each of these areas considering, of course, that the trees should be planted as soon as possible after contacts have been completed. All work is to be completed by March 15, 1963, or as soon thereafter as possible.

The proposed planting plan from late 1962. It is important to note that this was the proposed plan, and likely the actual platings were somewhat different. For example, there is little mention of Mazzard Cherry in later meetings. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) – Archival – Subject Files, A2010–003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.



An inventory, property owner letter, permit, and order form sent out to residents in early 1963. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) - Archival - Subject Files, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.



Exhibit 8

ALBINA NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE 3726 North Kerby Avenue Portland 17, Oregon AT 2-2214

Beer Property Owner:

As a result of the many hours of work by our Tree Subcommittee and favorable action at our regular meeting on December 5, 1962, the Albina Neighborhoud improvement Committee is very placed to be able to send you the enclosed Tree Program Plan for the improvement area. This Plan includes all the background material of the program and outlines, step by step, the suggested procedures of corrying out the activities.

In order to find ways of solving the problems caused by existing trees, the Subcommittee gained technical assistance from the City Forester, local architects and Portland General Electric. Through eight months of work, these persons were able to develop a comprehensive plan which will bring about:

1) Instr'lation of 31 new street lights.

2) Conversion of existing lights to modern luninars.

3) improved pale location.

4) Replacement of pole cross-arms where necessary.

5) Improvements to wiring system.

Trimming of trees where needed.
 Removal of trees where desirable.

8) Informal planting of various types of new trees.

The outstanding features of the Tree Program include:

a plan; an informal planting plan designed to complement the individual properties as well as to blend compatible varieties of trees.

a method; a means of gaining modern and adequate lighting for each block in conjunction with coordinated action to trim and plant new trees.

an oppor _nity; a recommendation for planting a variety of trees which will bring out good features of each structure, each block and the entire neighborhood.

We ask that you give favorable consideration to this Plan and support this opportunity to solve problems created by old trees. With your participation we can help create a more attractive area around our homes.

Father Hell Stead Rev. T. X. Graham Program Chairmen ANIC

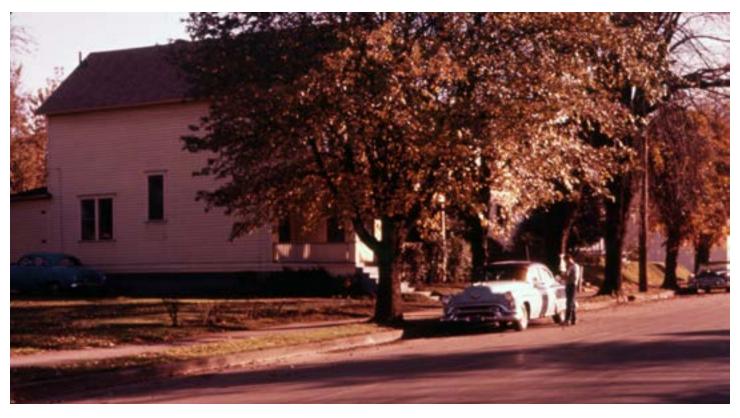
An inventory, property owner letter, permit, and order form sent out to residents in early 1963. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) - Archival - Subject Files, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.

	Exhibit C	
	ALBUNA NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE	
	3726 North Scrby Avenue	
	Portland 17, Oregon	2000
	AT 2-2214	
	Pernit to Trin or Recove Trees in	
	The Albina Neighburhood Improvement Project	
	THE ALDING METADOSINIS	and the same of
	Location of Property:	500 St. 100 St.
	Address Legal Description	
	Legal Pescription	
1	Trees to be Trimmed:	200 Miles
	Number (Write 'None' if Zero)	
	On Property: In Street Right of Way:	
1	Comments (Variety, specific location of tree, etc.):	
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1		100000000000000000000000000000000000000
		0.000000
	Trees to be Removed:	
4	Number (Trite 'None' if Zero):	19 66 (30) F
4	On Property: In Street Right of Vay:	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
ā .	Comments (Yarioty, specific location of tree, etc.):	
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ž.	Disposition of Wood:	100000000000000000000000000000000000000
g.	To be repoyed:	
ă .	To be cut to fireplace length and left	
ā.	on property	1
a	I hereby authorize and great permission for trimming or removal of trees	100000
A	located on or adjacent to this property as indicated above.	
a a	be done at no expense to me.	
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a .	DeteProperty Owner	The second
A .		63.538
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	Permit Secured By:	200 E
iii .	Mail Address	
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ACC.		
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		100 miles

An inventory, property owner letter, permit, and order form sent out to residents in early 1963. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) – Archival – Subject Files, A2010–003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.

	Exhibit D						
	ALSINA N	ALBINA NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVENENT COMMITTEE 3726 North Kerby Arense Portland 17, Gregon AT 2-2214					
	The Albie	na Heighborha	f Tree to be Plants od Improvement Pro	1665		,	
	tions of Property Or Location of Property	TVC			1		
	Logal Descript	tion			-		
	Variety(ies) Selected:	(Indicate N	unber of Trees)		- 1	10	
ALC: N	Flowering Cherry	_	Dogwood				
	Incense Cedar		Copper Beech		1		
	Pinus Conterta		Tri-Solar Beech				
	Oriental Maple		Sweet Gum				
	Malus Floribunda		Elm - Camperdo il				
7	Sunburst Locist		Nine Maple		- 1		
	Tulip Trec		Sargent Cherry		1		
	Location of Planting: According to Plan: As Indicated:						
	The above tree(s) to be guaranteed for one (1)	year except	in the case of vani	Dati set.		/	
	In the event of any unit	nded in full.	estance preventing	such planting,		,	
3-3	Number of Trees Selecte Total Receive	at: \$ 5.00					
	Date		Field No	rker			

An inventory, property owner letter, permit, and order form sent out to residents in early 1963. From Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) – Archival – Subject Files, A2010–003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.



Above: ANIP's Improvement Center Headquarters at 3726 N. Kerby Ave in 1961, a year before tree removals and replanting. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4075.

Below: Having fun during the planting of the demonstration blocks in April of 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.





Neighbors gather inside the Improvement Center for a Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee meeting, 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2324.



Rev. Roosevelt Rogers (holding a tree) next to Mrs. Lula Crane and E.H. Thiel, and Father Mel Stead after Portland General Electric dug the planting hole. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2402.



Above: Albina Neighborhood Improvement Committee dinner at the Vancouver Ave Baptist Church, 1963. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2468.

Below: A 1967 Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project (ANIP) meeting. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4541.

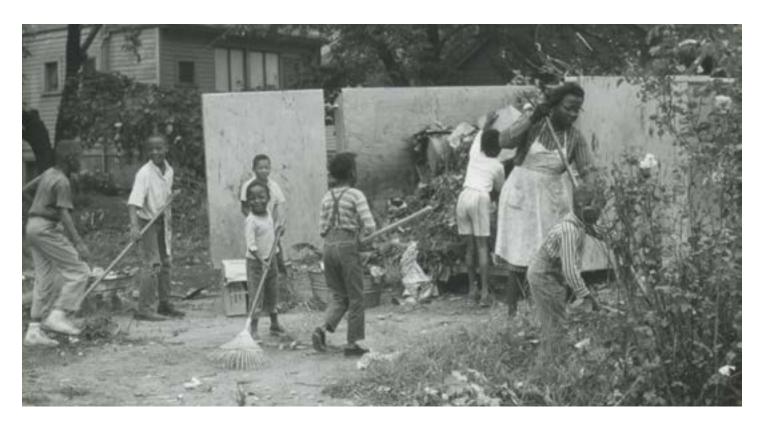




Above: Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project (ANIP) Junior Patrol at the Improvement Center, 1968. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4561.

Below: In March of 1964 Mr. Herbert Lewis (left), Mr. Wayne Mellot (behind tree), E. H. Thiel (pointing), and Larry Rowse (right) inspect a bare root tree at Mellot's Nursery for eventual delivery to the ANIP tree planting. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.2396





Above: A 1963 view of volunteers working on an empty lot at 3732 and 3738 N. Kerby during an Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project (ANIP) Clean-Up. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.

Below: A 1963 view of volunteers working on empty lot at 3732 and 3738 N. Kerby for ANIP Clean Up. City of Portland Archives, A2010-003.4363.



Endnotes

- ¹ "Girls Group Plants Tree" The Oregonian, Nov. 2, 1962, p.37.
- ² Craig Wollner, John Provo, and Julie Schablisky, *Brief History* of *Urban Renewal in Portland*, *Oregon* (Portland, Ore.: Portland Development Commission, 2001) Accessed 3/3/2020 from https://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/record/4076843.
- ³ James Baldwin, Interview on WNDT-TV, New York City, May 28, 1963.
- 4 "Girls Group Plants Tree," ibid.
- ⁵ Wollner et. al., Brief History of Urban Renewal in Portland p. 11.
- ⁶ "Albina Neighborhood Project Final Report Fact Sheet, 1972," Roll 165, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ⁷ Portland Park Board, *Report of the Park Board*, *Portland*, *Oregon*, 1904, AD/116, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, accessed 3/6/2020 from https://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/Record/2776561/.
- ⁸ Letter from City Attorney W.P. LaRoche to Mayor George L. Baker, Feb. 9, 1917, folder Public welfare sidewalks, Mayor (Archival) Baker, George Luis Subject Files, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ⁹ Carmen P. Thompson and Darrell Millner, eds., "Special Issue: White Supremacy & Resistance" *Oregon Historical Quarterly* Vol. 120 (4) Winter 2019: 356 624.
- ¹⁰ Darrell Millner, Carl Abbott and Cathy Galbraith. *Cornerstones of Community: Buildings of Portland's African American History*, (Portland, Ore.: Bosco Milligan Foundation, 1995).
- ¹¹ Karen J. Gibson, "Bleeding Albina: A History of Community Disinvestment, 1940-2000" *Transforming Anthropology* 15(1) April 2007: 3 25.
- ¹² Jena Huges et. al., *Historical Context of Racist Planning: A History of how Planning Segregated Portland* (Portland, Ore.: Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, 2019).
- ¹³ Huges et. al., Racist Planning; Kirsten Minor, Laurelhurst Historic District: National Register of Historic Places Nomination, August 2018, p. 30. Accessed 3/6/2020 from: https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/OH/Documents/OR_MultnomahCounty_LaurelhurstHistoricDistrict.pdf.
- ¹⁴ Dee Lane and Steve Mayes, "Bank Redlining creates blueprint for slum in North, inner, NE Portland, *The Oregonian*, Sept. 9, 1990. Accessed 1/30/2020 from: https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2014/08/bank_redlining_creates_bluepri.html.
- 15 Gibson, "Bleeding Albina."

- ¹⁶ Millner et. al., Cornerstones of Community; see also, Catherine Galbraith et. al., African American Resources in Portland, Oregon, from 1865 to 1973: Multiple Property Documentation Form, December 2019. Accessed 3/6/2020 from: https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/OH/Documents/2020Feb_OR_MultnomahCounty_AfricanAmericanResourcesinPortlandMPD.pdf.
- ¹⁷ Milner et. al., Cornerstones of Community, p.99; Galbraith et. al., African American Resources in Portland, p. E-30
- ¹⁸ Transcript of Portland City Council Hearing, April, 22, 1964, Folder 4, box 39011, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ¹⁹ Milner et. al., Cornerstones of Community, p. 77.
- ²⁰ Gibson, "Bleeding Albina, p. 8.
- ²¹ Wollner et. al., Brief History of Urban Renewal in Portland, p. 5.
- ²² D.T. Hemminger, *The History of the Portland Development Commission: 1945 -1990* (unpublished manuscript), 1990, p. 9, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records center, Portland, Oregon.
- ²³ Wollner et. al., Brief History of Urban Renewal in Portland, p. 6.
- ²⁴ Albina Neighborhood Analysis, March 30, 1962, AF/26192 Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project Files, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ²⁵ Portland Planning Commission, *Central Albina Study* (Portland Planning Commission, 1962) p.15. Accessed 3/6/2020 from: https://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/Record/4071533/.
- ²⁶ ibid., p. 14.
- ²⁷ *ibid.*, p. 16.
- ²⁸ *ibid.*, p.17.
- ²⁹ Kimberly S. Moreland *et. al, History of Portland's African American Community:* 1805 to the Present (Portland Ore.: City of Portland Bureau of Planning, 1993) pp. 110-116.
- ³⁰ Portland Bureau of Buildings brochure, "Meet Creepy Blight," 1962. A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ³¹ "Minutes of Albina Neighborhood Council," August 12, 1960, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) - Archival - Subject Files, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ³² ibid.; See also "History of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project," 1965 City of Portland Archives and Records Center.
- ³³ "Minutes of Albina Neighborhood Council." Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.

- 35 Gibson, "Bleeding Albina" p. 8.
- ³⁶ "History of the Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project," A2010-0, 1965, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ³⁷ Minutes of Albina Neighborhood Council Meeting, October 6, 1960, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, *ibid*.
- ³⁸ John Kenward, "Pictorial History of the First Rehabilitation Project Proposed for the City of Portland, Oregon" (scrapbook), 1964, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, *ibid*.
- ³⁹ Minutes of Albina Neighborhood Council Meeting, Nov 21, 1960, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, *ibid*.
- ⁴⁰ ANIC Organizational structure, 1961, ibid.
- ⁴¹ "A Brief of Community Services Activities: Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project, Nov. 17, 1967, AF/180480, Albina Neighborhood Improvement Project Records—PDC, A2010-003, *ibid*.
- ⁴² ANIC Organizational structure, 1961, ibid.
- ⁴³ Charlie Hanna, "'Operation Bootstrap' Pioneering, Says Mayor" Portland Reporter, Dec. 19, 1961.
- ⁴⁴ John Kenward, Executive Director PDC to Loyd T. Keefe, City Planning Commission, September 4, 1962, Albina Neighborhood Project, Collected Reports and Studies, *ibid*.
- ⁴⁵ Minuets of ANIC meeting, January, 6, 1962, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, *ibid*.
- ⁴⁶ Portland Development Commission, "Part 1 of application for loan and grant" Sept. 4, 1962, AF/ 180457, *ibid*.
- 47 Minutes of ANIC Meeting, January 4, 1962, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, *ibid*.
- ⁴⁸ *ibid*.
- ⁴⁹ Minutes of the ANIP Planning Sub Committee Meeting, Feb 13, 1962, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- 50 "Tree Program Sub-Committee Formed," *ANIC-DOPE*, Vol. 1(3): May 1962, *ibid*.
- ⁵¹ Minutes of Tree Program Sub-Committee, April 17, 1962, ibid.
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- 53 Minutes of Tree Program Sub-Committee, May 1, 1962, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival -

- Subject Files, A2010-003, ibid.
- ⁵⁴ Minutes of Tree Program Sub-Committee, May 8, 1962, *ibid*; "Improvements Underway" *ANIC-DOPE* Newsletter, Oct. 1966 noted Crear's home was getting a new roof, interior remodel, new exterior paint, cement work financed by the project.
- 55 "Council Okehs Church Plan" Oregonian, Aug. 29, 1951 p. 11.
- Minutes of Tree Program Sub-Committee, May 8, 1962, Roll 156,
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- ⁵⁸ ANIC-DOPE newsletter, vol. 1 (4), June 16, 1962 p. 4.
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 Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ⁶⁰ Minutes of Tree Program Sub-Committee, September 11 & 17, 1962, *ibid*.
- ⁶¹ ANIP Tree Program Request for Proposals, December 6, 1962, ibid.
- ⁶² "New Trees: No Cost to Property Owners," *ANIC-DOPE*, January 1966, AD/6608, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon, accessed 3/6/2020 from: https://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/Record/11262985/.
- ⁶³ Transcript of Portland City Council Hearing, April, 22, 1964, Folder 4, box 39011, Portland Development Commission (PDC) - Archival -Subject Files, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ⁶⁴ ANIC General Council Meeting, Feb 7, 1963, Roll 156, Microfilm 779, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, A2010-003, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
- ⁶⁵ Minutes of Tree Program Sub-Committee, March 5 1963, ibid.
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- ⁶⁸ "New Chairman" *ANIC-DOPE*, Vol.2 (6): June 15, 1963, AD/6607, Portland City Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon, Accessed 3/6/2020 from: https://efiles.portlandoregon.gov/Record/11255503/.

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- ⁷⁰ See *ANIC DOPE* newsletters for 1964; Transcript of Portland City Council Hearing, April, 22, 1964, Folder 4, box 39011, Portland Development Commission (PDC) Archival Subject Files, City of Portland Archives and Records Center, Portland, Oregon.
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- ⁷⁹ Wollner et. al., Brief History of Urban Renewal in Portland; Hemminger, The History of the Portland Development Commission; Moreland et. al, History of Portland's African American Community: 1805 to the Present.

80 ibid., p.140.