

# Urban Forestry Council Landmark Tree Evaluation Form and Criteria

Pursuant to Ordinance 0017-06 and Public Works Code Section 810, the UFC has developed these criteria for evaluating potential landmark trees in San Francisco. When evaluating or considering potential landmark trees, please consider the context of the tree within its site location. For example, a tree on PUC land may not have the same community importance that a street or park tree would. Use comment sections, as appropriate, to explain or support evaluation. Attach sheets if more space is needed.

Evaluator's name: Mei Ling Hui

Date of evaluation: June 6, 2014

Scientific name: Cupressocyparis × leylandii

Common name: Leyland Cypress

Street address: 38 Newman St., SF CA

Cross streets: Holly Park

**Rarity**    \_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ Partially    **X No**

**Rarity:** \_\_\_ Rare    \_\_\_ Uncommon    **X Common**    \_\_\_ Other

Unusual species in San Francisco or other geographic regions.

Comment: Appears to be a relatively common tree.

**Physical Attributes**    \_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ Partially    **X No**

**Size:** \_\_\_ Large    **X Medium**    \_\_\_ Small

Notable size compared to other trees of the same species in San Francisco.

Comment: This is a nice tree, though it is not particular large. Approximately 14' DBH.

**Age:** \_\_\_ Yes    **X No**

Significantly advanced age for the species.

**Distinguished form:** \_\_\_ Yes    **X No**

Tree is an example of good form for its species, has a majestic quality or otherwise unique structure.

**Tree condition:**    **X Good**    \_\_\_ Poor    \_\_\_ Hazard

Consider overall tree health and structure, and whether or not tree poses a hazard

Describe: The canopy is very dense and covered in vines, making it difficult to discern branch spacing and health. Vines are growing throughout the canopy, which were recently cut to remove; at approximately 4-5' above ground, the vines were severed to the ground. Remaining vines were left in the tree and were wilting. The vines and flowers on the vines were still alive enough to be a nectar source to visiting hummingbirds. Overhanging branches from this tree have been cut at the property line. The tree's root crown is about 1' from the property line; the tree trunk curves away from the property line and at about 4.5' from the ground the trunk is approximately 3' from the rear property line.

**Historical**    \_\_\_ Yes    \_\_\_ Partially    **X No**

**Historical Association:**            \_\_\_ Yes            **X None apparent**  
Related to a historic or cultural building, site, street, person, event, etc.

**Profiled in a publication or other media:**    \_\_\_ Yes            **X Unknown**  
Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

**Environmental**    \_\_\_ Yes    **X Partially**    \_\_\_ No

**Prominent landscape feature:**    \_\_\_ Yes            **X No**

**Low tree density:**            \_\_\_ Low            **X Moderate**            \_\_\_ High  
Tree exists in a neighborhood with very few trees.

**Interdependent group of trees:**            **X Yes**    \_\_\_ No  
This tree is an integral member of a group of trees and removing it may have an adverse impact on adjacent trees.  
Describe: The trees are growing pretty closely together.

**Visible or Accessible from public right-of-way:**            **X Yes**    \_\_\_ No  
High visibility and/or accessibility from public property.  
Describe: Trees are visible from the side street – the yard to the east doesn't have any trees or tall vegetation.

**High traffic area:**            \_\_\_ Yes            **X No**  
Tree is located in an area that has a high volume of vehicle, pedestrian or bike traffic and has a potential traffic calming effect.  
Describe: Though the trees can be seen from the street, they're tucked back a bit.

**Important wildlife habitat:**            \_\_\_ Yes            **X No**  
Species has a known relationship with a particular local wildlife species or it provides food, shelter, or nesting to specific known wildlife individuals.  
Describe: Hummingbirds were observed using flowering vines that had recently been cut as a nectar source. It was difficult to discern if any birds or other animals nested in the trees from the vantage points we had available.

**Erosion control:**            \_\_\_ Yes            **X No**  
Tree prevents soil erosion.  
Describe: There is a sharp grade change to the property to the south (with a shared rear property line).

**Wind or sound barrier:**            \_\_\_ Yes            **X No**  
Tree reduces wind speed or mitigates undesirable noise.  
Describe: Tree are dense, however not very close to a building.

**Cultural**     Yes     Partially     **No**

**Neighborhood appreciation:**                     Yes             **None apparent**

Multiple indicators such as letters of support, petition, outdoor gatherings, celebrations adjacent or related to tree, etc. Attach documentation:

**Cultural appreciation:**                     Yes             **None apparent**

Particular value to certain cultural or ethnic groups in the city.

**Planting contributes to neighborhood character:**     Yes             **No**

Tree contributes significantly to, or represents, neighborhood aesthetic.

**Profiled in a publication or other media:**     Yes             **Unknown**

Tree has received coverage in print, internet, video media, etc. **Attach documentation** if appropriate.

**Prominent landscape feature:**  Yes             **No**

A striking and outstanding natural feature.

Describe, attach photo if possible: They are nice trees. Their positioning in the rear of the heavily planted yard prevents the tree from being a prominent feature.

**Additional comments**

Trees appear to overhang into the rear yards of all surrounding properties.