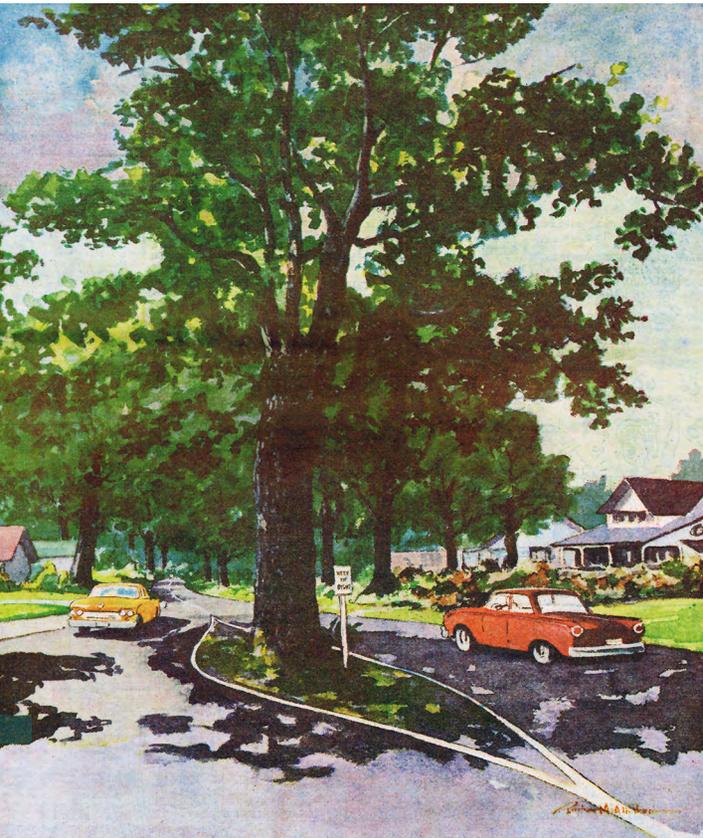


# Oak Harbor

## Garry Oak Tree Tour



See the many majestic  
Garry oaks for which  
our City was named!

Free | Self-Guided | Unique

## What Is A Garry Oak?

**Garry oak**, *Quercus garryana*, is a deciduous tree that is the only native oak of our state.

Garry oak trees grow in diverse climates, need full sun exposure, and are extremely drought tolerant once established. They provide crucial habitat to many plants and animals, some of which have become rare or endangered.

Since the 1850's, up to 99% of Garry oak habitat has been lost to logging and development. Oak Harbor now has special legal protections for the Garry oaks that grace our city's skyline.

## The Society's Work

The Oak Harbor Garry Oak Society is a non-profit, grassroots organization consisting of volunteers and community leaders working together to steward Garry oak trees on Whidbey Island.

Our members are raising the community's consciousness of this iconic tree by planting and protecting hundreds of Garry oaks for future generations. Learn more, explore volunteering, donate, and become a member on our website:

[ohgarryoaksociety.org](http://ohgarryoaksociety.org)



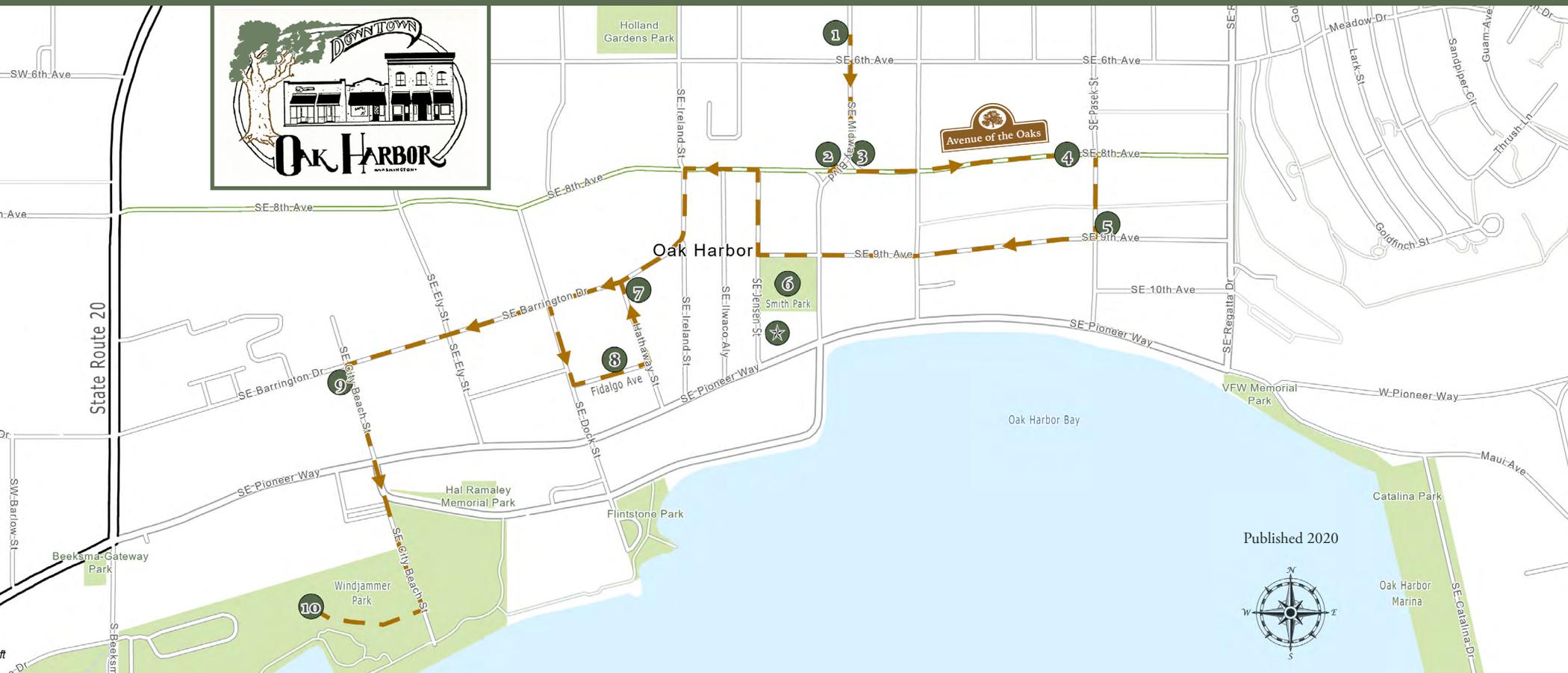
**Oak Harbor Garry Oak Society**

Outreach | Education | Preservation

Cover Art Credit: Parker McAllister / The Seattle Times, 1962

Downtown Logo Credit: Island County Historical Society,  
Library and Archives, Downtown Oak Harbor Emblem





### 1. Oak Bowl Tree - A Landmark

Start your tour in front of Oak Bowl on Midway Blvd. Iconic tree is estimated to be 226 years old.

### 2. Presbyterian Church Grove

Corner of 8th Ave. and Midway Blvd. The largest collection of Garry oaks at any Oak Harbor church (please respect this private property).

### 3. Whidbey Playhouse Oak

In front of the Whidbey Playhouse. Estimated tree age is 231 years old (respect this private property).

### 4. Avenue of the Oaks

Known as “the oak in the middle of the street” (on the tour cover from a 1962 watercolor) it was saved by oak advocate Dorothy Neil from removal.

### 5. Impressive Diameter Oak

Across from Calvary Chapel at a private residence near the driveway (please respect private property).

### 6. Smith Park & ★ Oak Mural

Largest public oak grove in Oak Harbor with over 150 mature Garry oak trees, interpretive signs, and views of the harbor - the only park in Washington composed entirely of Garry oak trees! Note the unique, contorted branch shapes and springtime native wildflower blooms. A new Garry oak mural is on a building just south of the park on Jensen St.

### 7. Oaks Adjacent to City Hall

A trio of young Garry oak trees planted in 1998, a sculpture, and a commemorative plaque with an Irish blessing for the Garry oaks of our city.

### 8. The Historic Jewel of Fidalgo

A unique gem on Fidalgo Ave! Two Garry oaks each with three trunks; also the former site of Jerome Ely’s house, Oak Harbor’s first mayor in 1915 (please respect this private property).

### 9. Native Plant Garden

Located near the post office is a massive Garry oak tree stump, Garry oak native plant garden, and new interpretive signs. The Grand Old Oak grew here from 1684-2014 (330 years old.) Several young Garry oaks now grow in the garden.

### 10. Windjammer Park Oak

End the tour near the interpretive center and flag pole. Estimated tree age 45 years old. Look for the many newly planted Garry oaks in the park.