

Fujitaro Kubota Legacy Tree Transplant



A rich legacy was given to the Seattle University community through the work of landscape designer [Fujitaro Kubota](#). Kubota began working with Father Raymond “Greengrass” Nichols, SJ in 1958 and throughout the 1960’s shaping and creating the rich landscape of Seattle University. Many of the notable, mature Cedrus, Beech, Pine, Birch, Sequoia, Japanese Maple, and Rhododendron were chosen, placed, and planted by Kubota. Some of the Pines were even grown from seed brought in Kubota’s pocket from his native Japan.

Two of Kubota’s original trees were relocated December of 2010 to the, then, Connelly Center, now Red Hawk Center. A Pine and a Sequoia were recently moved because they were within the current construction footprint for the new Eisiminger Fitness Center. The Pine and Sequoia were both moved about 50 feet away from construction. The move of the Pine was successful.

Unfortunately, the Sequoia did not survive the move since the root ball of the tree disintegrated. This process caused the tree to become unstable and thus made it unsafe for pedestrians. The trunk of the Sequoia will be used as nurse logs and the foliage will be used to brighten the Grounds and other offices on campus. Funding for this moving project was provided by the Seattle University Facilities Department with equipment assistance from [Mortenson Construction](#). A local company, [Big Trees](#), known for their skilled success with transplanting large trees, was hired to move the two Kubota legacy trees.



Seattle University Grounds Department is grateful that there is an appreciation for the history of these trees and for the efforts made on behalf of the Facilities Department to preserve the Kubota Legacy.

