

Taken from an article in Capitol Journal

November 5, 1947 written by Oz West

Dan Waldo, Virginia born and Kentucky and Missouri reared came to the Willamette Valley in 1843. The town and the Waldo Hills bear his name. His Missouri born son William Waldo joined the Union Democrats to form the Union Party and to uphold Lincoln and his cause. He later became a republican. He served Marion County as a lawyer and judge and lived on Mill Creek. The large Sequawia tree marks the Northeast corner of his property. Here he lived as a good neighbor and respected citizen. He died at the age of 74.

His brother was a lawyer and a member of our U.S. Supreme Court from 1884 to 1886. He was a champion of the agricultural class and he spent many years exploring the Cascade Mountains. He died in November, 1911. He was a great conservationist and helped to establish our National Park Service.

The Sequawia tree was planted in 1872 and was purchased from a traveling salesman. The salesman also sold several other trees to Salem residents. One such tree was planted on the corner of Center and Summer Streets, another on Chemeketa and Court Streets, on property now owned by the State of Oregon.

The monument was erected by the Gold Star Mothers. The 1850 census shows there were eight children in the William Waldo family. Tablet at base of tree reads:

This tree planted 1872

by

WILLIAM WALDO

A pioneer of 1843

Size 12 x 20 ft.