

Chapter 1 : Life Expectancy of a Red Oak Tree | Home Guides | SF Gate

One of the more common animals often seen scurrying in and around a grove of oak trees is the Eastern Gray squirrel. These little critters nest in holes in older oak trees and oak tree acorns are a staple of their diets.

Become a member Oak, English *Quercus robur* English oak is arguably the best known and loved of British native trees. It is the most common tree species in the UK, especially in southern and central British deciduous woods. English oak, pedunculate oak Scientific name: *Quercus robur* Peak acorn fecundity usually occurs around 80 years. A year in the life of an English oak tree What does oak look like? English oak is a large deciduous tree up to 100m tall. In England, the English oak has assumed the status of a national emblem. As common oaks mature they form a broad and spreading crown with sturdy branches beneath. Their open canopy enables light to penetrate through to the woodland floor, allowing bluebells and primroses to grow below. Their smooth and silvery brown bark becomes rugged and deeply fissured with age. Oak tree growth is particularly rapid in youth but gradually slows at around 100 years. Oaks even shorten with age in order to extend their lifespan. Leaf-burst occurs mid-May and the leaves have almost no stem and grow in bunches. As it ripens, the green acorn takes on a more autumnal, browner colour, loosens from the cupule and falls to the canopy below. Most acorns will never get the chance to germinate, they are rich food source, eaten by many wild creatures including jays, mice and squirrels. Acorns need to germinate and root quickly to prevent drying out or becoming victims of the harvest. Following successful germination, a new sapling will appear the following spring. Leaf lobes are rounded. Could be confused with: English oak has acorns on stalks or peduncles whereas sessile oak does not. Identified in winter by: Each bud has more than three scales. Where to find oak It is native to the northern hemisphere existing in cool regions right through to tropical climates. Value to wildlife Oak forests provide a habitat rich in biodiversity; they support more life forms than any other native trees. They host hundreds of species of insect, supplying many British birds with an important food source. In autumn mammals such as badgers and deer take advantage of the falling acorns. Flower and leaf buds of English oak and sessile oak are the foodplants of the caterpillars of purple hairstreak butterflies. The soft leaves of English oaks breakdown with ease in autumn and form a rich leaf mould beneath the tree, supporting invertebrates, such as the stag beetle, and numerous fungi, like the oakbug milkcap. Holes and crevices in the tree bark are perfect nesting spots for the pied flycatcher or marsh tit. Several British bat species may also roost in old woodpecker holes or under loose bark, as well as feeding on the rich supply of insects in the tree canopy. Mythology and symbolism The oak is held in high regard across most cultures in Europe. Each of these gods ruled over thunder and lightning, and oak trees are prone to lightning strikes as they are often the tallest living feature in the landscape. Druids frequently practised and worshipped their rituals in oak groves and cherished the mistletoe that frequents oak tree branches. Royalty has had a long association with oak trees too; ancient kings adorned themselves with crowns of oak leaves, King Charles II hid from his pursuers in an oak tree at Boscobel House and Roman Emperors were presented with crowns of oak leaves during victory parades. In England the oak has for centuries been a national symbol of strength and survival. However, it takes up to 100 years before an oak is ready to use in construction. It has been a prized hardwood timber for thousands of years, was the primary ship building material until the mid 19th century and remains a popular wood for architectural beams. Modern uses of English oak include flooring, wine barrels and firewood. Traditionally the leaves, bark and acorns were believed to heal many medical ailments including diarrhoea, inflammation and kidney stones. Historically humans also collected acorns and processed them into flour for bread making. These culinary techniques have mostly died out following the domestication of wheat production 10,000 years ago, leaving the harvest for wild birds and mammals. Tannin found in the bark has been used to tan leather since at least Roman times. Tannic acid in the leaves is poisonous to horses if consumed in excess, damaging the kidneys. Acorns are poisonous to horses and cattle, though swine can consume them safely in moderation. Threats Despite their high numbers in Britain and protection from over-harvest, our oak trees are threatened by a number of pests and pathogens. Decline of mature oaks first aroused concern in the 1950s, today most cases are in central, southern and eastern England. Key symptoms include canopy thinning, branch dieback and black

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weeping patches on stems and lesions underlying the bleed spots. Trees need your help Trees work hard for us and provide so much. They clean our air. They support a stunning diversity of life. Every penny you give us will protect the woods and trees you love. Enter a value below.

Chapter 2 : Life Span for Oak Trees | Garden Guides

Since oak trees are vulnerable to root pathogens, take care not to disturb the tree's root protection zone, which is an area half again as large as the area from the trunk to the dripline.

Oak forests and woodlands are important natural communities, furnishing cover and food for wildlife and soil erosion control. In landscaping, oaks contribute shade and aesthetic value. Oaks are either deciduous with lobed leaves or evergreen with leathery leaves. Western Live Oaks Live, or evergreen, oaks have heights to 65 feet and crown spreads of more than 70 feet. They include coast live oak *Quercus agrifolia*, hardy in U. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 9 and 10; and interior live oak *Quercus wislizeni* and canyon live oak *Quercus chrysolepis*, both hardy in USDA zones 8 through 10. They can live for more than 100 years. Stanford University estimates the ages of coast live oaks on its campus as being 100 to 150 years old. A huge coast live oak on the Pechanga Indian Reservation in California is estimated to be 1,000 years old. Southern Live Oak A large, spreading tree growing 60 to 80 feet tall and 60 to 100 feet wide, Southern live oak *Quercus virginiana* is hardy in USDA zones 7b through 10b. The University of Florida Extension recommends shaping the tree during its early years, pruning it each year for the first three years after planting and then every five years to age 10. This establishes a strong scaffold and good structure for its expected life of 100 to 150 years. A number of picturesque old Southern live oaks of monumental size are distributed throughout the South. The Angel Oak is thought to be 1,500 years old. Deciduous Oaks Valley oak *Quercus lobata*, native to central and interior valleys of California, is one of the tallest-growing deciduous oaks. Specimens growing more than 100 feet tall were recorded in the Ojai area. A tree near Covelo is 100 feet high with a crown spread of 99 feet. Estimated ages for these tall trees is about 1,000 years. Valley oak grows in USDA zones 7 through 9. The oldest known blue oak is in Sequoia National Park and estimated to be about 1,500 years old. Deciduous oaks native to the eastern United States are also long-lived. White oak *Quercus alba* is the longest-lived, with an average life of 150 years and maximum life span of 200 years in USDA zones 3b through 8b. Avoid soil compaction or paving that will affect soil drainage. Check on the mature size of your tree, and give it enough room to grow.

Chapter 3 : What type of bird lives in a oak tree

Lives of an oak tree Hardcover - by Ross E Hutchins (Author) â€º Visit Amazon's Ross E Hutchins Page. Find all the books, read about the author, and more.

Serbia Bulgaria The oak tree thrives in temperate conditions like those found in the southeastern portion of the United States. Oak trees are abundant from Maryland to Texas where they are able to get the water and sunshine they needs to thrive. Oaks do best in regions where they are exposed to full or partial sunlight and their roots are able to access plenty of water. Mature oak trees can draw more than 50 gallons of water per day. Popular Uses Oaks produce some of the hardest wood on earth. Consequently, the tree is harvested to create everything from furniture to floors, ships to railroad ties. The wood of the white oak is often used to make wine barrels and canoes. Other popular uses include: Oak Floors Native Americans would ground acorns to make flour. Bark of the white oak is heated and used to alleviate insect bites or consumed to cure stomach ailments. Tannin from oak bark is used in leather preparation. Oak trees are the preferred habitats of owls, squirrels and hedgehogs. Interesting Facts The oak tree is firmly rooted in ancient history. Centuries ago the Greeks and Romans revered the oak and used its leaves to heal wounds. Legend has it that oak trees carry the souls of men who have passed away. Another interesting oak tree fact comes from medieval times: Oak Diseases Healthy White Oak Trees Oaks may be one of the hardiest trees on the planet, but they are not indestructible. The species is susceptible to several diseases, including: This aggressive disease can kill an oak very quickly. If left unattended, the cankers can bleed and spread the deadly disease to other parts of the tree. This disease is prevalent in the United States where it is considered one of the most serious tree ailments. What makes this fungal disease so severe is that it damages leaves and can spread from tree to tree via connected root systems. Caused by a soiled-based fungus, shoestring root rot attacks oak trees from the bottom up. The disease moves up the roots and into the heart of the tree where it can linger and eventually kill the oak. Oak Care Oak trees have a reputation for being easy to care for. In order to maintain a healthy oak tree on your property consider the following tips: Avoid planting oak trees near buildings or other trees, as its large roots can affect drainage and tear up sidewalks. Add chipped bark mulch to the base of the tree to help protect the soil. Do not over prune an oak tree, as the exposing interior branches to direct sun can damage them. Finally, oaks rarely need fertilizer, especially if you pack the base of the tree in mulch.

Chapter 4 : 4 Ways to Identify Oak Trees - wikiHow

Many oak trees live longer than years, although few reach the age of one southern live oak (Quercus virginiana) in Louisiana, which American Forests, a conservation organization, estimates to be 1, years old.

The white oak represents spiritual purity and wholeness. A golden oak celebrates Solar energy, embodying hospitality, charity and prosperity. The darker oaks, moving into the redish-brown spectrum have strong Earth energies for grounding, healing, stability and security. When purchasing oak shards or gathering pieces for rituals and spells, make note of from what type of oak they come so you can apply them more effectively. Oak Tree Dreams Dreaming of an oak portends a long, prosperous life. However, this symbolism changes dramatically depending on the other factors of your dream is the tree upright? Are you in the tree? You can explore more specific meanings for Oak in your dreams in our Dream Dictionary. The Druids knew the tree spirits intimately. More interesting still is the Sanskrit word for oak as Duir door that fits with the mythology and beliefs about the Oak as a sacred spiritual gateway. Aromatherapy and Alternative Medicine The scent of Oak provides grounding and stabilizing energy, particularly when mixed with Cedar and Patchouli. Folk healers treasured the oaks bark because it has a natural astringency. Made into a tea it allayed digestive problems. As a topical, Oak eases bleeding gums, wounds and dry skin. For over-exposure to cold, Galen instructed herbalists to gather Oak leaves and boiling the. The resulting tincture was applied to the affected body parts for several hours daily over 7 days. The magical Oak appears in many ancient spells, charms and amuletic instructions. Carrying an acorn acts as a talisman against illness and an amulet that keeps the bearer young and fertile. Burning Oak wood increases the energy level for workings and facilitates manifestation. Those wishing to work with Fairy Folk would do well to honor the Oak Spirit and get to know its voice. Meditate beneath His bowers to hear their ancient songs and stories. Even the Goddess herself speaks through the rustling of Oak trees. The Celtic Tree Oracle portrays the Oak as a doorway, or the Axis Mundi "the center of the Universe through which all must travel to go from one realm to the other. Sitting under an Oak Tree brings an Angel with a message for you You can hear fairies in the hollow of an Oak trunk This is an old saying about the Oak as a weather prophet: Two acorns that drift together portends a happy future Oak Tree Numerology The number nine embraces the qualities of leadership, true-sight and unifying the energies of the spiritual, physical and mental worlds. In this place of power, the Oak represents uprightness, common causes, honesty accord and even flawlessness. Oak reflects the number nine in its ability to clarify things. These trees have been around for a long time and seen much of our history. That affords them a unique perspective on how we can reclaim our spiritual nature and work toward a common good. This naturally requires the 9s sense of tolerance, selflessness and wisdom in service of all beings. Oak Tree History It is difficult to trace the exact history of the Oak simply because they have a vast variety of species over and grow in numerous climates. What we do know is that people throughout the world used various parts of the tree for folk remedials, magic and mundane projects. In the wild, Oaks provide a home and food for various forms of wildlife. In a yard or park, the Oak not only presents a visually pleasing addition but also provides welcome shade. And still flourish he, a hale green tree. When a hundred years are gone! Chorley, With or without a lot of ancient information, there are a lot of Oaks that have risen to fame. Greek myths tell us of a sacred oak that stood at the oracle in Donada, sacred to Zeus. Baltic and Norse tradition have similar Divine connotations for the Oak, linking it to their gods of thunder. Greek folklore also tells us that Dryads live in Oak trees. Here Artemis watches over them.

Chapter 5 : Live oak - Wikipedia

The oak family is a diverse group of trees and shrubs, influenced by climatic and environmental changes. Recent studies indicate that global warming contributes to oak dieback by speeding up the reproduction of beetles and fungi that attack oak trees.

Live Oak Tree *Quercus virginiana* The ultimate in trees for shade, the live oak tree has been immortalized as the classic symbol of the South - big, beautiful, and romantically draped in Spanish moss. No plant has quite the "presence" of this magnificent tree. It can survive for centuries. It provides shelter and food for birds and squirrels. It even adds monetary value to your home. He also states having one planted near a house can help save it from hurricane damage by acting as a windbreak. These trees are very wind-resistant, even during hurricanes. These oaks are some of the most commonly planted large shade trees in Florida. One live oak tree can grow a broad-spreading canopy of arching, horizontal branches that can cover half a football field - including the sidelines and some of the stands. The wood itself is dense and heavy, ideal for everything from firewood to ship building. In fact the Navy used to grow its own forests of live oaks. Many people complain of live oaks as being very messy trees. It drops leaves that are small and hard to rake. Spanish moss is decorative on the tree but falls in big furball clumps onto the ground. The tiny yellow flowers in spring can cover everything beneath the tree with a light dusting of yellow. Some acorns sprout - often planted by squirrels burying food for "later" - and are so well-rooted they can be difficult to pull out. But young trees are much less messy than older ones - and the work involved is really a small price to pay for the shade, character, landscape beauty and value, not to mention the protection from winds that oaks provide. These trees support more than just wildlife Plant specs A live oak tree is a moderate grower to 60 feet though not likely in our lifetime with a very wide-spreading crown. It needs full sun and room to spread its wings, as well as a well-drained planting location. Oaks are cold hardy, fine in any Florida planting zone. They are considered "deer-resistant" - though there are no guarantees. Plant care Add top soil to the hole when you plant. Trimming is unnecessary for a young live oak tree but watering is. These trees must have regular irrigation to grow strong root systems that will support this large a tree. Fertilize 3 times a year - in spring, summer and autumn - with a top quality granular fertilizer. Plant spacing Plant at least 15 feet from the house, more and then some if you can. Avoid placing near other big trees that will shade it. Do not plant too near an uncaged pool due to leaf litter. Once the tree has matured, you can tuck bromeliads around the base. Other trees you might like:

Chapter 6 : Live Oak Tree Facts

Pupils could list all the animals that live in or rely upon the oak tree. Identify what the animals need the tree for, such as shelter and food.

Oaks are among the most highly prized of trees. Vikings sought out oak planks for the decks of their ships. Ancient Celts worshipped the oak as a symbol of durability, constancy, and purity. Barrel makers use oak wood for barrels in which to age fine wines and bourbons. Because the oak is dense, its wood is valued for furniture making while the tree itself is prized as a garden specimen. Red Oaks Botanists group oaks into two categories for ease of identification: White oaks tend to have leaves with rounded lobes and sweet-tasting acorns that ripen in about 6 months. Red oaks have finely divided leaves with pointed lobes and tiny bristles at the ends. Their acorns often require two years to ripen and overwinter on the leafless, parent tree. Red oaks can hybridize among the many species in this group, but not with white oaks. Red oak acorns are bitter, but a diet staple to a wide range of wildlife such as squirrels, mice, bear, and deer. Longevity of Red Oaks Longevity among red oaks varies widely by species, some living a mere 80 years and others living as long as to years. The Northern red oak *Quercus rubra* usually lives about years but can be as old as years and is hardy in U. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 3 through 9. But hands down, the oldest known living red oak in the United States, possibly the world, is The Pechanga Great Oak Tree, a coast live oak *Quercus agrifolia* estimated to be between and more than 1, years old. While most coast live oaks do not reach this age, they are hardy in USDA zones 8 through A Little TLC Life expectancy among oaks varies with species but is also governed by growing conditions, disease resistance and exposure, and predation by insects. Excavation, paving, or changing the grade level of the soil between the trunk and the drip line the outermost point of the canopy where water drips off the leaves risk killing the tender feeder roots. Irrigate established trees only over the outer third of the root system, never over roots nearest the trunk, and apply water until 8 to 12 inches of the soil is damp. Use plants under oaks that do not require additional watering. Prune evergreen oaks only in the dry season. Sudden Oak Death As with any plant, there are some diseases that devastate oaks. Making its first appearance in , this previously unknown disease killed thousands of oaks in the West. Today, its host list is long and includes hundreds of plant species. Spores of the disease are spread during cool, rainy weather. Symptoms begin with reddish or brownish sap oozing from the trunk, followed by leaf wilt. The oozing sap also attracts several bark-boring beetles. If known infestations of SOD are in the area, avoid planting susceptible varieties. Cut down afflicted trees after the leaves wilt the tree is unrecoverable at this point. Do not transport infected wood. Seek out the advice of an arborist for trees showing early symptoms, as yearly treatments are available.

Chapter 7 : Oak Tree | All About Oak Trees

Animation of the life of an Oak Tree commissioned by the Ancient Tree Hunt and TheWoodland Trust.

The *Quercus virginiana* is also known as the Southern live oak tree. The live oak tree is a southern symbol of strength. The live oak tree is the state tree of Georgia. Constitution reportedly received its nickname, "Old Ironsides," during the War of because of its live oak hull. The hull was so tough that the cannon balls of the British war ships literally bounced off it. Live oak trees are planted in historical cities for their character and appearance. Live oak trees weigh over 55 pounds per cubic foot when air dried. Live Oak Tree Fruit: Live oak trees product sweet edible acorns that turkeys, ducks, jays, quail, deer and other animals like to feed on. Live oak trees start producing acorns when they are around 20 years old. Live oak trees can live for hundreds of years! The name live oaks came from the fact that they remain green and "alive" throughout the winter when other oak trees are dormant and leafless. The name live oak came from the fact that they remain green and "alive" throughout the winter when other oak trees are dormant and leafless. Live oak trees can grow in forests, in front of buildings such as schools, parking lots, gardens, backyards and more. Live oak trees also grow by oceans. They do great resisting the salt spray. Live oak trees support many types of epiphytic plants including Spanish moss to a point ; giving live oak trees more character. The live oak tree grows 1 inch of caliper and around feet overall per year when young. Live Oak Tree Uses: The live oak tree is the broadest spreading of the oaks producing an abundance of shade. Live oak tree wood is very strong and tough and is often used for structural beams and posts. Live oak trees were used in colonial times to make ships for the navy. Historical Live Oak Trees: One of the largest known live oak tree is located near Louisburg, Louisiana.

Chapter 8 : Oak Tree Meaning & Symbolism | Tree Symbolism & Meanings

Water oak trees are ornamental shade trees and have an ease of care that makes them perfect in the landscape. But be aware that these plants are short lived, surviving 30 to 50 years. Click the following article for more water oak information.

Unfortunately, they were water oaks. Those are the kind of oaks that spontaneously fall over and crush things. Since I needed sunshine in order to plant my food forest and create my garden beds “ and since I was terrified of multi-ton wrecking logs falling through my roof “ I hired a local tree removal company to come over and take out about half of the oaks in my yard. I wanted space for something productive “ not just a lousy group of oak trees! In retrospect, I think I had too many trees removed. What are the uses for oak trees? Not only are mushrooms a valuable crop, they also have a variety of health benefits. Beyond the mushrooms you cultivate on logs, there are also edible mushrooms that live in a symbiotic relationship with oak trees, such as some boletes and chanterelles. I found these large edible boletes in the grass beneath some live oaks: Those are edible“ and I ate them. If you have oaks, chances are you have edible mushrooms that live in harmony with their root systems. Oaks Feed the Soil Photo credit The oaks in my yard are constantly dropping leaves, branches and moss. Anyone trying to keep a perfect lawn under a big tree knows how much effort it takes to keep things neat. Why not use the debris to feed your garden, orchard or food forest? Quit raking up and tossing your leaves “ and quit burning them. Feed a compost pile instead or use them as mulch. Oak leaves take a while to decompose, so I prefer them as mulch or as additives to sloooow compost piles. Oaks Host Useful Animals I know “ the first animal you think about when you imagine an oak hosting critter“ is squirrels. Beyond the dubiously helpful squirrel, oaks also host a wide variety of insect-eating birds, tree frogs, spiders, snakes and owls. All of these are useful in a healthy ecosystem and bring balance to your yard. The birds clean up insect issues, the frogs eat insects as do the spiders, the snakes keep the rodent population under control and the owls do their part to cut down on the mice in your fields. Another useful creature often living in oaks: Fortunately, acorns can feed more than just people. In fact, oak trees often along with mulberries , a spring crop used to be planted on purpose near pig pens in order to help fatten up the pigs on the fall drop of acorns. Photo credit When my wife and I used to have dairy goats we were quite amused by how the goats would pig out on the acorns that fell in the fall. They seemed to prefer them over all other foods we offered them. Some oaks are really great shade trees, such as the majestic and spreading live oak. The canopy of an oak tree will also protect nearby plants from extreme cold, even when the tree is leafless in winter. So, before you take down that oak tree in your yard, think about the many uses for oak trees first. Shiitakes and compost, baby. About David The Good David The Good is a naturalist, author and hard-core gardener who has grown his own food since At age five, he sprouted a bean in a Dixie cup of soil and caught the gardening bug. You can find his books on Amazon here. David is a Christian, an artist, a husband, a father of seven, a cigar-smoker and an unrepentant economics junkie who now lives somewhere near the equator on a productive cocoa farm. Visit his daily gardening and survival blog here: The Survival Gardener And for lots more gardening info, click here and subscribe to his often hilarious YouTube channel.

Chapter 9 : Oak (Quercus robur) - Woodland Trust

When the term live oak is used in a specific rather than general sense, it most commonly refers to the southern live oak (Quercus virginiana), the first species so named, and an icon of the Old South, but can often refer to other species regionally. The southern live oak is the official state tree of Georgia.

Live oaks drop their leaves immediately before new leaves emerge in the spring. Occasionally, senescing leaves may turn yellow or contain brown spots in the winter, leading to the mistaken belief that the tree has oak wilt, whose symptoms typically occur in the summer. The leaves are stiff and leathery, with the tops shiny dark green and the bottoms pale gray and very tightly tomentose, simple and typically flattish with bony-opaque margins, with a length of 3 - 7 inches. The male flowers are green hanging catkins with lengths of 3 - 7 inches. The acorns are small. It has a trunk circumference of 23 feet 7 inches. Depending on the growing conditions, live oaks vary from a shrub-size to large and spreading tree-size: They can grow at severe angles, and Native Americans used to bend saplings over so that they would grow at extreme angles, to serve as trail markers. The branches frequently support other plant species such as rounded clumps of ball moss *Tillandsia recurvata*, thick drapings of Spanish moss *Tillandsia usneoides*, resurrection fern *Pleopeltis polypodioides*, and parasitic mistletoe. The southern live oak has a deep tap-root that anchors it when young and eventually develops into an extensive and widespread root system. This, along with its low center of gravity and other factors, makes the southern live oak extremely resistant to strong sustained winds, such as those seen in hurricanes. Even if a tree is burned, its crowns and roots usually survive the fire and sprout vigorously. Furthermore, live oak forests discourage entry of fire from adjacent communities because they provide dense cover that discourages the growth of a flammable understory. Although they grow best in well-drained sandy soils and loams, they will also grow in clay. Live oak wood is hard, heavy, and difficult to work with, but very strong. In the days of wooden ships, live oaks were the preferred source of the framework timbers of the ship, using the natural trunk and branch angles for their strength. Simons Island, Georgia, and the density of the wood grain allowed it to survive cannonade, thus earning her the nickname "Old Ironsides". Even today, the U. Navy continues to own extensive live oak tracts. Among the animals for which live oak acorns are an important food source are the bobwhite quail, the threatened Florida scrub jay, the wood duck, yellow-bellied sapsucker, wild turkey, black bear, various species of squirrel, and the white-tailed deer. The tree crown is very dense, making it valuable for shade, and the species provides nest sites for many mammal species. Native Americans extracted a cooking oil from the acorns, used all parts of live oak for medicinal purposes, leaves for making rugs, and bark for dyes. People in past centuries harvested and fried these tubers for human consumption much as one might use a potato. Cultivation is relatively simple, as Southern live oak seedlings grow fast with ample soil moisture. After a few years live oak needs only occasional supplemental water. Southern live oak is very long lived, and there are many specimens that are more than years old in the deep southern United States. The Emancipation Oak in Hampton, Virginia The Seven Sisters Oak, estimated to be as old as 1, years, is the largest certified southern live oak tree. It has a trunk circumference of 28 feet 8 inches. The Boyington Oak, an approximately year-old southern live oak in Mobile, Alabama, that is known for the folklore surrounding its origin. It is the oldest living landmark in the city.