

The Tamarind Tree (1842—2019)



The tree was planted in 1842 during Punahou School's first academic year, and in 2019 became the oldest living object on campus.

In the 1880s, Dr. Sun Yat-sen attended Punahou School (then called Oahu College), obtained seedlings from the tree, and brought them with him to Cuiheng Village in Guangdong, when he returned. A majestic tamarind stands now on the site of his former residence.

In Honolulu, the Punahou tamarind aged, and in Summer, 2019, deemed dangerous and unsalvageable, was cut down. The core was found to be hollow.



The wood of the revered tree will be fashioned into artwork, to be preserved in the Punahou archive for future generations. A seedling was planted in the same spot on the Punahou campus. There are plans for additional seedlings to be transported to Guangdong, to join its ancestor at the Sun Yatsen Residence Memorial Museum.

<https://bulletin.punahou.edu/honoring-punahous-historictamarind/?fbclid=IwAR0zljZqiwzg8Z6Lz26j7Wy1u-CymfMxYe97OGJxFNLf1aLJ9UYzerD6Z5o>

<http://sunyatsenhawaii.org/>