

Tree Ring Sample JAK01A

Dated by Dendrochronologist: \_\_\_\_\_

Removed from Land Plot 37- Jackson County – White Oak Sample

Year tree planted: 1950

Age of tree? \_\_\_\_\_

Observations of the tree ring sample:

Working together as a group, what do you think happened to the growth of the tree during the first 14 years of growth? List at least three different scenarios.

How would you find out? What evidence do you need to determine which scenario might have occurred?

The county clerk has various historical documents for you to research. Records of the weather, land use, and natural phenomena in the county are available for you. You may visit the county clerk’s office to request the documents you need. Complete the chart as you follow-up on each of your possible scenarios.

Scenario	Source	Evidence	Possibility?
1			
2			
3			

After researching in the county clerks’ office, what do you now think happened to your tree in the first 14 years? Is there more than one possibility?

Based on the evidence you found, write the story of what happened to your tree during its entire life span.

In solving this mystery, how did you act like a scientist?

### County Records for Plot 37-40 in Jackson County

**Details of plot:** wooded area by river; many types of trees present.

#### Rainfall for Jackson County 1950-1975

Years	Amount of Yearly Precipitation
1950-1955	Every year average
1956-1960	Every year average
1961-1965	Average
1962	Drought year-very low rainfall
1966-1970	Average
1970-1975	Average

#### Storm and Fire History Log-Jackson County

Date	Occurrence
May 15, 1950	Severe Wind Storm – flat line winds; minimal damage reported in county
April 1, 1952	Funnel cloud spotted-no damage reported
May 25, 1953	High winds reported –few roofs damaged
June 23, 1955	High winds reported-no damage
July 14, 1956	High winds reported-no major damage
August 13, 1958	Funnel Cloud spotted-did not touch down
April 5, 1963	Funnel Cloud touched down-no damage reported
April 20, 1969	Forest fire destroys many trees in the area

#### Insect Outbreak History -Jackson County

1969-Emerald Ash borer outbreak- Insect population peaked, and trees suffered significant damage. Significant damage to ash trees in plots 37-40 by river. White oak trees and maples present in the area did not receive damage.

### Logging Activity-Jackson County

Natural vegetation remained in plots 15-40 until 1946. Cleared is defined as total removal of trees.

Date	Location	Activity
Summer 1950	Plots 15-20	cleared for farm land
Summer 1952	Plots 22-30	cleared for cow grazing land
Summer 1958	Plots 21-22	cleared for farm land
Fall 1960	Plot 25	Cleared for roads
Spring 1961	Plots 34-36	Cleared for housing subdivision
Summer 1962	Plot 37	Removed approximately half of the trees for park and playground
Summer 1969	Plots 38-40	Removed 25% of existing vegetation for picnic area and boat dock by river