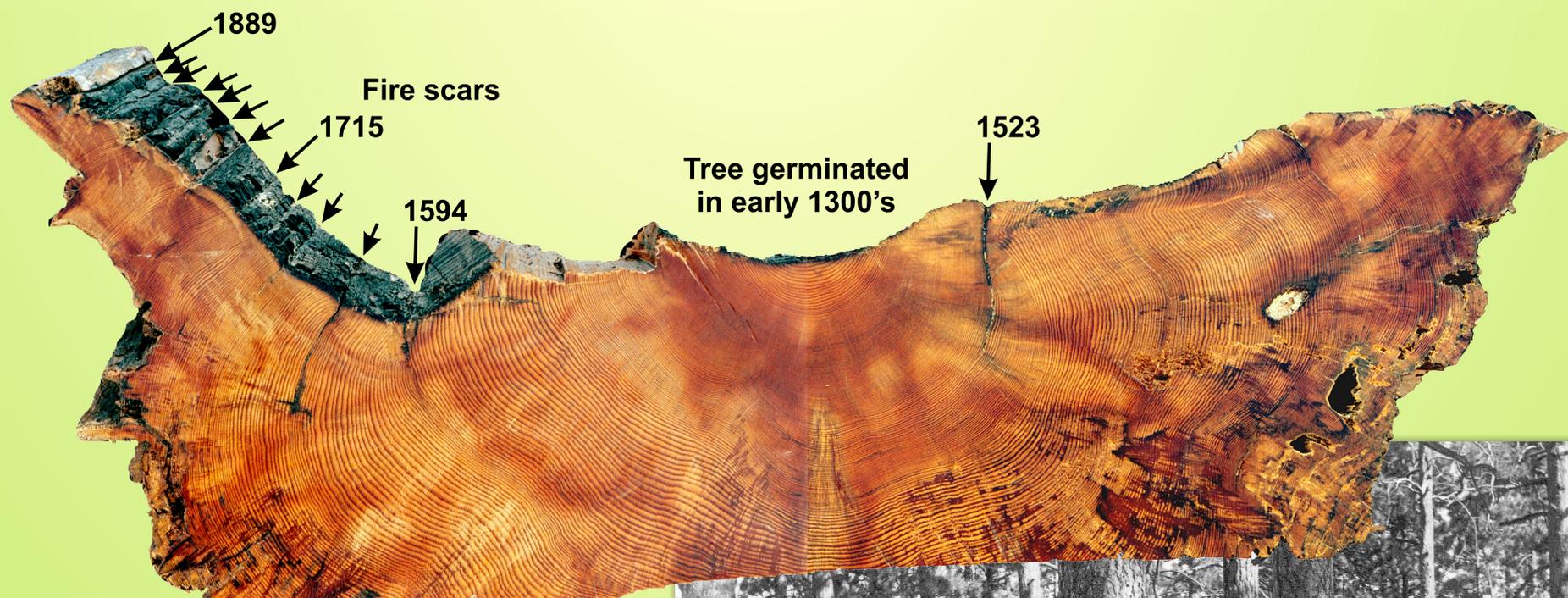


The Story Tree

The Story Tree, a cross section from the stump of an ancient ponderosa pine, was found in the mountains near Missoula, Montana.



A slice of Fire History



The fire scarred stump shows that the Story Tree survived at least 13 fires before it was cut in 1919. The fires probably kept the surrounding forest open, with large, tall trees and a few younger trees, like the forest shown in this 1909 photo.

