TREES OF ST ANDREWS

Hannah Maryam Jamil

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Outer Southern Districts

Outer Western Districts

NORTH STREET
(and THE SCORES)

1. HEART-LEAVED ALDER, ST SALVATOR'S QUADRANGLE

English Name:
Heart-leaved alder or Italian alder

Latin name:
Alnus cordata
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
tour.undercuts.bookshop

Figure 1: Large Heart-leaved alder (centre) and smaller Heart-leaved alder to left of path, St Salvator's Quadrangle. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

St Salvator's Quadrangle (also known as the United College Quadrangle or Sallies Quad), is home to St Salvator's Chapel and the buildings of the United College, used for lectures, club meetings and events. Next to St Salvator's Chapel, by the north street gate entrance, there is a large **Heart-leaved alder** tree (*Alnus cordata*), also known as an Italian alder (Figure 1). Alders are monoecious, meaning both male and female flowers are produced by the same tree. Female catkins are oval whereas male catkins are narrow, and both flower in spring. The leaves of this particular alder are heart-shaped resulting in the name heart-leaved alder (Woodland Trust, 2024a). John H. Wilson in 'Rambles Round St Andrews' (1910), mentions a symbiotic relationship with *Frankia alni*, a nitrogen-fixing bacteria that inhabit tubercles on the roots of this tree and other trees of the genus *Alnus*. This bacteria allows the Alder to thrive in nutrient-poor soil, perhaps explaining its longevity in the quad (Woodland Trust, 2024a). Slightly behind this tree is smaller Heart-leaved alder, to the left of the path.

2. SILVER BIRCH, ST SALVATOR'S QUADRANGLE

English Name:
Silver birch

Latin name:
Betula pendula
Date planted:
2021
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
sticky.toned.polar

Figure 2: First tree of 'St Andrews Forest' (Silver birch), St Salvator's Quadrangle. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

In the corner of St Salvator's Quadrangle, is a small **Silver birch** tree (*Betula pendula*) planted by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, who were former students at the University of St Andrews (Figure 2). This tree, planted 26th May 2021, marked the first tree of 'St Andrews Forest', a new project by the University as part of their vision to become carbon net zero by 2035. St Andrews University states that this tree is '*The first and only tree to be planted in the ancient quadrangle, it occupies a central position symbolic of the importance of sustainability to the University's future'.* In attempts to combat the University's contribution to climate change through the 20,000 tons of carbon generated each year by student travel, calculated as two return journeys on public transport and flights, the University encourages alumni to plant trees worldwide. Already, alumni such as the Lavelle family in New Jersey, USA and the O'Hara family in San Francisco, USA have planted a tree as part of the project. As well as this, alumni Tim and Kim Allan in Clackmannanshire, UK, have dedicated a part of their farm to plant trees for the St Andrews Forest (St Andrews Forest, 2024; University of St Andrews news, 2021).

3. LIMES, YOUNGER HALL

English Name:
lime or linden

Latin name:
Tilia x europaea
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
defaults.processes.indulgent

In front of Younger Hall, there is a row of medium sized **lime** trees (Figure 5).
These trees have replaced a row of **Jersey elms** (*Ulmus minor 'Sarniensis'),* which J.A. Macdonald in 'Trees in St Andrews' (1977), mentioned '*discreetly masked' 'the architectural peculiarities of the Younger Hall'* (Figure 3&4).
These Jersey elms were '*sadly depleted'* in 1977, and have since been entirely removed.

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Figure 3: Jersey elms, Younger Hall. *Photograph by J Valentine & Sons, Registered 1934.*

Figure 4: Jersey elms, Younger Hall. *Photograph by George Middlemass Cowie, ca.1950.*

Figure 5: Row of lime trees in front of Younger Hall. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

4. ROWAN,
ALL SAINT'S CHURCH

English Name:
rowan or Mountain ash

Latin name:
Sorbus aucuparia
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
gloom.dweller.internet

Figure 6: Rowan tree, All Saints Church. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

All Saints Church, North Castle Street, one of the two Episcopal churches in St Andrews, the other being on Queen's Terrace. The Church was completed with funding from Mrs Annie Younger after WWI. Dr James and Mrs Annie Younger of Mount Melville also paid for Younger Hall. In the courtyard of All Saints Church, there are two small **rowan** trees amongst a mass of decorative flowers and shrubs (Figure 6). The courtyard also used to have a large **wych elm** against the wall fronting the street. This wych elm was felled in 1975 with J.A. Macdonald in 'Trees in St Andrews' (1977), stating that '*It is impossible not to deplore this loss. This graceful tree made North Castle Street the most photographed place in the city. Now it is gaunt and bare'*. J.A. Macdonald also mentions a '*graceful **laburnum***' in the courtyard, '*said to be the largest tree of its kind in Fife'* which has also since been removed.

Rowan leaves are alternately arranged, with 5-8 pairs of leaflets on each leaf. Its fruits are formed in clusters of scarlet beads and are eaten by a range of birds, including blackbirds and redstarts. This tree is deeply entwined with folklore and used to be planted in front of houses as a protection against witches (Woodland Trust, 2024k). Rowan trees can also be seen in many places around town. For example, at Abbotsford Crescent, Deans Court, the North Haugh and along the Scores.

5. CHERRY PLUM, DEANS COURT

English Name:
Cherry Plum

Latin name:
Prunus cerasifera
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
wagers.initiated.wizard

Figure 7: Cherry Plum, Deans Court. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

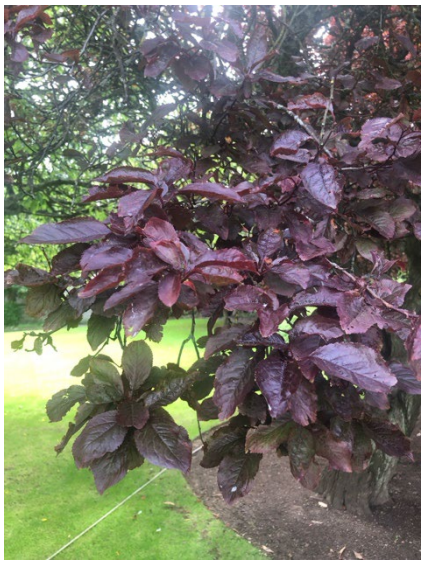

Figure 8: Cherry Plum leaves, Deans Court. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Through the inner archway of Deans Court, with the Stirling family coat of arms above it, is Deans Court's inner garden. Particularly striking here is the deep purple-leaved **Cherry plum** (*Prunus cerasifera*) at the back left corner of the central grass patch (Figure 7 &8). Naturalised in the UK, Cherry plums are native to southeast Europe and western Asia. In the autumn, flowers develop into edible fruit that can be used to produce wines or jams (Woodland Trust, 2024i). Cherry plums can also be found around the grounds of St Mary's Quad and University Hall. The inner garden also has a range of other trees, including: **sycamore**, **holly**, **cherry**, **whitebeam**, **rowan**, **tulip**, **ash**, **Turkey oak** and a **Doublefile viburnum**. On the right side of the inner garden there used to be three old **Wych elms** fronting North Street that was removed in 1962. However, four trees – oak, birch and beech – were planted here in 1953, anticipating this felling (J.A. Macdonald, 1977).

6. SYCAMORES, THE SCORES

English Name:
Sycamore

Latin name:
Acer pseudoplatanus
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
standard.baths.pens

Figure 9: Sycamore, The Scores. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Along the Scores there is a line of medium sized **sycamores** on the right-side of the road, starting at St James's Church. This line of sycamores continues all the way down the street towards the castle, with some sycamores on the left side too, particularly along the inside wall of the Principal's House garden. J.A. Macdonald notes in 'Trees in St Andrews' (1977) how resistant these trees are, being exposed to such harsh conditions next to the sea and being subject to intensive pruning. Of particular note here, is the sycamore in the front garden of Edgecliffe (Figure 9). Situated in the corner of the grass lawn, its wide branches lean over into the entrance of the Wardlaw museum. There is also a group of **laburnums** and **rowan** trees facing the street from the inside wall of the Spanish Gardens and a leaning **Holm oak** at the top of the grounds surrounding Castlecliffe.

Sycamores are very common in St Andrews, stated by J.A. Macdonald as being the most common tree in the town in 1977. They can be found in many other places including: Abbotsford Crescent, in front of the University's main library and around the St Salvator's Hall front garden. Some of these sycamores, for example, the sycamores behind the Dyers Brae building, have been subject to gall mites (*Eriophyidae*) which produce small reddish galls on the upper surface of the leaves. These mites are able to take sap from the plant cells but do not affect the plant's health (RHS, 2024a).

MARKET STREET

7. LIMES, ST MARY'S PLACE

English Name:
Lime or Linden

Latin name:
Tilia x europaea
Date planted:
Ca.1879
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
firming.crescendo.tilts

Figure 10: lime tree outside the Students Union, St Mary's Place. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Figure 11: limes trees east and west of car park next to the Student's Union. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

In 'Rambles Round St Andrews' (1910), Wilson mentions **lime** trees (*Tilia vulgaris*) planted at the request of Captain Stewart of West Park in front of the old West End (Infant) School and West Park, the latter of which is now part of the University's Students' Union.

Planted around 1879, some of these limes can still be seen today, in front of Rector's Café (Figure 10) and on either side of the car park next to the Students' Union (Figure 11) (Wilson, 1910). Of particular note is the lime in front of Rector's Café, due to its large size and the abundance of 'suckers' covering the lower part of the trunk. There are now also five smaller lime trees along this side of the street just before the Students' Union and on either side of this larger lime. Some of the lime trees that are not present today along St Mary's Place leading onto the front end of Market Street, were removed after complaints by Woolworths at No.139, where H&M is now.

SOUTH STREET
(and QUEEN'S TERRACE)

8. LIMES, SOUTH STREET

English Name:
lime or linden

Latin name:
Tilia x europaea
Date planted:
1879 and 1880
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
campsites.opinion.vivid

Figure 12: Lime tree near South Court, South Street. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The **lime** trees (*Tilia x europaea*) of South Street, lining both sides of the road, were planted in 1879 and 1880 at the proposal of Bailie John Milne. The north-side trees were planted first, reported as being 20ft at planting. The south-side trees, planted a year later, were of a lesser quality, resulting in the lack of uniformity in the tree sizes (Macdonald, 1977, Wilson, 1910). A particularly large specimen can be seen to the right of the South Court entrance to the Byre theatre (Figure 12). Since being planted, a few of these trees have been cut down, for example, one to the right of the entrance to St Mary's Quadrangle, which has shown some regrowth from the stump in recent years.

Figure 13: South Street lime trees. *Photograph by John Anthony Weir, ca.1960.*

9. WEEPING ASH, BLACKFRIARS CHAPEL

English Name:
Weeping ash

Latin name:
Fraxinus excelsior 'Pendula'
Date planted:
Ca. 1870
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
louder.grudge.instructs

Figure 14: Weeping elm, Blackfriars Chapel. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Built in the 1520s, the Blackfriars Chapel is one of St Andrews' most famous landmarks. The **Weeping ash** trees (*Fraxinus excelsior 'Pendula'*), are said to have been trained in Stravithie Den by Charles Howie, and planted by him on either side of the Blackfriars Chapel around 1870 (Figure 14) (Wilson, 1910). This Weeping ash is created by grafting the "weeping" variety onto a Common ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), to accentuate the pendulous branches while maintaining the strength of the Common ash.

Today, only one of these original weeping ash trees remain, with a new ash planted on the left side. Though still standing, this right-side ash is greatly deteriorated, with the left side of the tree almost completely bare due to ash dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*). Predicted to wipe out 80% of UK ash trees, ash dieback is a fungus that blocks a tree's water transport system and results in dieback of leaves and shoots. Due to native ash trees having no resistance against this fungus, having originated in Asia and introduced to Europe around 30 years ago, ash dieback is fatal to European ash trees (Woodland Trust, 2024c). Ash dieback can also be seen in many other ash trees around St Andrews, for example in St Mary's Quad.

Figure 15: Blackfriars Chapel before Weeping elms planted. *Photograph by Thomas Rodger, ca.1850.*

Figure 16: Weeping elms at Blackfriars Chapel. *Photograph by Robert Moyes Adam, 1950.*

10.WHITEBEAM, LOGIES LANE

English Name:
Common Whitebeam

Latin name:
Sorbus aria
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
blasted.inspector.overruns

Figure 17: Whitebeam next to Hamish McHamish statue. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Figure 18: Common whitebeam leaves. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

On the left side of Holy Trinity Church, on Logies Lane, is statue of Hamish McHamish which was unveiled in 2014. Hamish McHamish was a renowned ginger cat who died in September 2014, just 5 months after his statue was unveiled. Hamish was known to wander around town (on one occasion even disrupting a Madras College school assembly by walking across the stage) and make friends with tourists, students and locals (McMullan, 2011). His statue is appropriately placed in the heart of the town and also puts a spotlight on the **Common whitebeam** (*Sorbus aria*) which he sits under (Figure 17&18). This tree, previously unassuming, will now always have a historical connection with St Andrews' most famous cat. Common whitebeams are also present in Deans court and the Cathedral grounds.

11. LIMES, HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

English Name:
lime or linden

Latin name:
Tilia x europaea
Date planted:
1845
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
archives.spectacle.trainers

Figure 19: Limes, Holy Trinity Church . *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The Holy Trinity Church, also known as 'The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity' is situated on South Street. Today, two mature **lime** trees can be seen within the railed grounds of the church (Figure 19). Three limes were originally planted here around 1845 (Wilson, 1910). However, the third lime, which used to be on the right side of the path leading up to the church's entrance, has subsequently been removed. Figure 20 shows that there were other trees amongst these limes in 1903, before the Church exterior was rebuilt in its current Gothic style in 1907.

Figure 20: Limes amongst other trees in railed grounds of Holy Trinity Church before church exterior was rebuilt. *Photograph by J Valentine & Sons, Registered 1903.*

Figure 21: Limes in railed grounds of Holy Trinity Church. *Photograph by J Valentine & Sons, Registered 1955.*

12. GLASTONBURY THORN, ST MARY'S QUADRANGLE

English Name:
Glastonbury Thorn

Latin name:
Crataegus oxyacantha
Date planted:
1950
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
pollution.saved.debater

Figure 22: The Glastonbury Thorn, St Mary's Quadrangle. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

A tree overshadowed by the two significantly more famous trees in St Mary's Quad, is the **Glastonbury Thorn** (*Crataegus oxycantha)* (Figure 22). Situated in front of Parliament Hall, to the left of St Mary's Quad entrance, it was reputedly planted by Winston Churchill in the 1930's. It was believed that Hitler would try and bomb "The Holy Thorn of Glastonbury" in Glastonbury Abbey, to lower British morale due to its biblical connection. This tree is purported to have been a cutting from either the original thorn used to make the crown of thorns worn by Jesus before the crucifixion or from Joseph's hawthorn staff. The story goes that, for protection against foreign invaders, Winston Churchill planted cuttings of "The Holy Thorn of Glastonbury" all over the UK, and supposedly one of these cuttings was planted in St Mary's Quad (Cook, 2005).

However, as mentioned by J.A.Macdonald (1977) and an article on the Glastonbury Thorn by *The StAndard* in 2005, this tree was actually planted by the students of St Mary's College in 1950 to commemorate Principal Duncan's position in 1949-1950 as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland (Figure 23). Principal G.S. Duncan was a professor of Divinity at St Andrews University and Principal of St Mary's College, with a particular interest in the foundations of Christendom.

Consequently, the planting of a Glastonbury Thorn was felt appropriate to mark his term of office. It is stated in an article reporting the events of the tree's planting by the *St Andrews Citizen* on 22nd April 1950, three days after the ceremony, that this '*offshoot of the famous Glastonbury Thorn*' was secured by Michael Scott, though there is no record of where he sourced the tree from.

Therefore, it is still possible that this tree is a cutting from the famous Holy Thorn, and despite it having no connection to Winston Churchill, it still remains a nice addition to the quad, flowering in mild winters at Christmas (Cook, 2005).

Figure 23: Principal Duncan, Principal Irvine, Professor Baxter and Professor Forrester at the planting of the Glastonbury Thorn, St Mary's College. *Photograph by George Middlemass Cowie, 1950.*

13. HOLM OAK, ST MARY'S QUADRANGLE

English Name:
Holm oak

Latin name:
Quercus ilex
Date planted:
1740
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
pricier.nursery.basically

Figure 24: The Holm oak, St Mary's Quad. *Photograph by Peter Adamson, ca.1990.*

'I have seldom seen a tree, of any species, quite so happy in its surroundings'
– John McEwen about the Holm Oak (McEwen, 1951).

The **Holm Oak** tree (*Quercus ilex*) is St Andrews' most famous tree, situated at the front of the quad, north-west of the entrance gate (Figure 24&25&26). Thought to have been planted in 1740, this evergreen tree it is the largest Holm Oak recorded in Scotland with a girth of 3.92 metres and a height of 1.5m (Woodland Trust, 2024l). It is part of the Trees of National Special Interest (TNSI) and was one of two trees in North East Fife to be included in The Queen's Green Canopy in 2022 to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. It is also listed in the Forestry Commission Scotland's 100 'Heritage Trees of Scotland' and said to be '*a fine, healthy specimen of a species that was introduced to Great Britain in about 1500*'. Over the years, the Holm oak has been carefully looked after, with cable-support and careful pruning. However, this tree has survived much damage, including a gale in December 1900, resulting in the remaining boughs being bound together, and a near-miss with a bomb in October 1940, that fell on the Quad (Macdonald, 1977; McEwen, 1951; University of St Andrews news, 2022).

Figure 25: The Holm oak. *Photograph by J.A. Macdonald, 1909.*

Younger Holm oaks can be spotted elsewhere in St Andrews, at Castlecliff and in front of Andrews Melville Hall.

Figure 26: The Holm oak, St Mary's Quadrangle. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

14. QUEEN MARY'S HAWTHORN, ST MARY'S QUADRANGLE

English Name:
Common hawthorn

Latin name:
Crataegus monogyna
Date planted:
1563
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
siesta.escalates.lanes

Figure 27: Queen Mary's hawthorn, St Mary's Quadrangle. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The second most famous tree in St Andrews is **Queen Mary's hawthorn** (*Crataegus monogyna*), situated on the right side of the quad in front of the School of Divinity buildings (Figure 27). It was also included in the Forestry Commission Scotland's 100 'Heritage Trees of Scotland', with the listing stating that "*Queen Mary's Hawthorn is living proof that trees don't always have to be big to be important*". Supposedly planted by Mary, Queen of Scots on one of her many visits to St Andrews in 1563, it was suggested by J.C. Loudon in 'The Trees and Shrubs of Britain' (1838), that its parent tree was from '*a garden near Edinburgh, which once belonged to the Regent Murray'.* It has undergone a lot of damage since its planting, having been uprooted by a gale on 14th November 1893, and subsequently '*supported by beams'* with *'fresh soil laid about its roots.'* In 1973-74, this hawthorn also lost a very large branch (Wilson, 1910). It now has a girth of 2.24m, compared to the girth of 1.80m recorded in 1876 by Jeffery and Howie (Jeffery and Howie, 1879; Woodland Trust, 2024j). Potentially over 450 years old, this tree is still standing though somewhat scrawny, and as mentioned by the Heritage listing '*It is almost as if it knows its reputation as a living link with one of Scotland's most famous historical figures, so that it doggedly continues to survive by producing new and vigorous growth from around the decayed and shattered hulk of the original tree'* (University of St Andrews news, 2004).

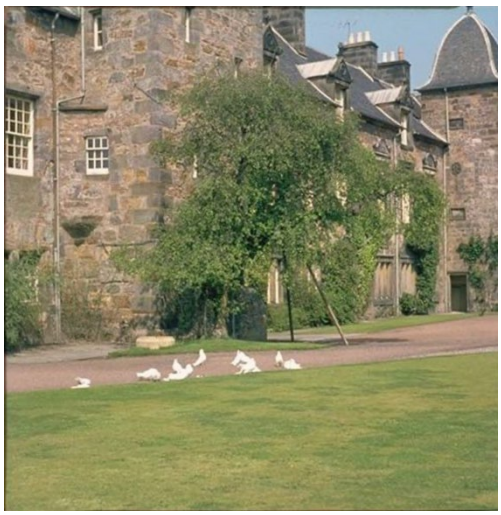

Figure 28: Queen Mary's hawthorn. *Photograph by James Valentine, 1888.*

Figure 29: Queen Mary's hawthorn. *Photograph by Andrew Govan Cowie, ca.1970.*

15. SWEET CHESTNUT, THE LONG WALK

English Name:
Sweet chestnut

Latin name:
Castanea sativa
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
crumple.highbrow.tribal

Figure 30: Sweet chestnut, The Long Walk. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Amongst the many trees of the Long Walk, there is a **Sweet Chestnut** (*Castanea sativa*) on the right side of the lower entrance to the edible garden (Figure 30). This tree has an interesting, twisted bark and though it is not known what date exactly this tree was planted along the Long Walk, it is thought to be older than 114 years, due to being mentioned by John. H. Wilson in '*Rambles Round St Andrews*' (1910) and in a list of Long Walk Trees from May 1953 by the Committee on Trees of St Andrews (University of St Andrews: Committee on Trees, 1953).

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As a deciduous tree, Sweet chestnuts lose their long, serrated-edged leaves in the autumn. Male and female flowers are present on long, yellow catkins, with female flowers becoming clusters of spiky-cased nuts after pollination. These nuts are known for being edible, in contrast to the poisonous nuts of the Horse chestnut, and are popularly roasted at Christmas time (Woodland Trust, 2024e).

The Long Walk leading down from St Mary's Quad has undergone many changes over the last 75 years (Figure 31). A report in 1951 by the Committee on Trees, stated that '*Practically all of the trees on the wall side are dangerous and particularly the very old / old decayed ash trees. Every tree against this wall should be felled at an early date*'. Following this report, fifteen trees were felled along the Long Walk in 1953, including eight **ash** trees, three **elm** trees, a **sycamore,** a **Horse chestnut**, a **Pink chestnut**, and an old **laburnum**, stated as being in '*an extremely bad state*'. A report carried out in the same year on the state of the trees felled, described most of the trees as being in states of advanced decay, particularly in the trees' roots (McEwen, 1951).

There used to be another Sweet chestnut near St Salvator's Quadrangle in front of the old chemistry building. This building is now the Irvine Building, home to the School of Geography and Sustainable Development. Though this tree was reported to be '*in a very bad and dangerous state'*, its main reason for requesting its removal was to allow for '*the widening of the path on the east side of the laboratories'* (McEwen, 1951).

Figure 31: The Long Walk.
Photograph by John Anthony Weir, ca.1958

16. HIMALAYAN DOGWOOD, OLD WEST GARDEN

English Name:
Himalayan dogwood, Bentham's cornel or Strawberry dogwood

Latin name:
Cornus capitata
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
rust.bins.blinking

Figure 32: Himalayan dogwood tree in the Old West Garden, St Mary's Quadrangle. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Figure 33: Petal-like bracts of the Himalayan dogwood tree in the Old West Garden. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Through the gate on the wall side of the Long Walk are two connecting gardens that used to be part of the St Andrews Botanic Garden. The north section of the old West Garden is part of Transition's Edible Campus Project, where students and members of the wider St Andrews community can volunteer to produce locally sourced food. In St Andrews, there are fourteen community gardens, comprising of many Halls of residence gardens, like at Powell Hall, Dean's Court and University Hall (Sustainability Blog, 2020; Sustainability Blog, 2024). The southern side of the old West Garden is filled with an arrangement non-native plants. In this garden, there is a large **Himalayan dogwood** tree (*Cornus capitata*) (Figure 32), also known as Strawberry dogwood or Bentham's cornel, flowering in summer with petal-like bracts of a yellow/cream colour (Figure 33). As its name suggests, it is native to the Himalayas in Pakistan, India, China, Bhutan and Nepal (iNaturalist, 2024).

17. COMMON HORNBEAM, LAIDLAW MUSIC CENTRE

English Name:
Common hornbeam or English hornbeam

Latin name:
Carpinus betulus
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
shunning.pixies.forgotten

Figure 34: Turkey oak (centre) and Common hornbeam (right) in front of Laidlaw music centre. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

A new addition to the south end of St Mary's Quadrangle is the Laidlaw Music Centre, completed in 2021. Designed by Flanagan Lawrence, an integral part of the award-winning building's design was the incorporation of the surrounding mature trees, including **Common hornbeam** (*Carpinus betulus*), **Turkey oak** and **Copper beech** (Figure 34). Trees have not only influenced the shape of the building, but also the use of large vertical windows throughout the building, to frame the trees from the inside. Flanagan Lawrence states '*The walls and staircase which frame the foyer are cast in-situ with the timber board marked concrete creating a tactile link between the trees outside and the wooden panelling within*,' detailing how prominent trees were in the interior design (Flanagan Lawrence, 2024).

Common hornbeams are native to the UK, and can live over 300 years. With similar shaped leaves to beech trees, hornbeams are also deciduous. Both beech and hornbeams display marcescence, where leaves are held onto throughout the winter period after changing colour in the autumn (Woodland Trust, 2024d). Female catkins turn into green, winged fruits, called samaras, after pollination (Woodland Trust, 2024f).

18. JAPANESE CHERRY, BAKER LANE

English Name:
Japanese Cherry blossom

Latin name:
Prunus serrulata
Date planted:
1973
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
woodstove.wooden.roughest

Figure 35: Baker Lane, Hamada's Cherry Trees felled. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Zenya Hamada was a Japanese philanthropist and businessman. As a golf fanatic, he visited St Andrews many times, and is known for replicating the Old Course in Tokyo, Japan. Designed by American golfer, Jack Nicklaus, and designer Desmond Muirhead, the 'New Saint Andrews GC' in Otawara, Tochigi, Japan, opened in 1973 and has great geographical differences from St Andrews' Old Course, being amid 600-foot hills. Hamada presented many gifts to St Andrews, including a reproduced typescript of *The Sound of Paris*, one of his own plays, and to the St Andrews Golf Club in 1973, The Hamada Trophy. He also established The Hamada Charitable Trust, gifting £100,000 in the first two years, starting 1972, and then a subsequent £10,000 every year after. In correspondence with Provost David Niven in 1972, Hamada writes that he desires '*to make a sum of money available for the benefit of the community of St. Andrews and of golf in St. Andrews',* expecting '*the trustees to act in consultation with the Town Council'.* Benefactors of the trust included the Edinburgh Fringe and St Andrews Botanic Garden. However, Zenya Hamada's most impressive gift to the town of St Andrews was the donation of one thousand Japanese Cherry blossom (Sakura) trees in 1973. Distributed at collection points around the town, these five varieties of cherry trees can still be seen today in many private gardens and on public streets.

'…in the grey town under the grey Scottish sky, the fragrant cherry blossoms from the mountains of Yoshino would hang like a mist. Yamada had presented to the old Scottish town 3000 saplings of Japanese cherry. The town's name was St Andrews, and the green of St Andrews were suited to the Japanese climate, and the pink of the Japanese cherry blossoms seemed to suit the grey masonry of the town of St Andrews…'
-The Sound of Paris (1975) by Zenya Hamada

Figure 36: Baker Lane, Hamada's Cherry Tree stump. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

It is unknown whether *The Sound of Paris* was written before or after Hamada's gift of the cherry trees, the play being published around 1975, but the words ring true with the town's grey masonry lighting up with the cherry trees' pink blossoms. It is difficult to tell which of the cherry trees around town were gifted by Hamada and there are disputes over the origin of some (CSPPG, 2018; Putter, 2012). The cherry trees down Baker lane (Figure 35), have been stated in an article from the Centre for the study of Philanthropy & Public Good (CSPPG) to have been from Hamada, but by J.A.Macdonald in 'Tree in St Andrews' (1977), to have been presented in 1973 by the National Council of Women. Regardless of their origin, two of these cherry trees were removed in the last five years (Figure 36), and the third remains severely cut back.

Hamada's cherry trees are so important to the town that houses like 43 Lade Braes, are advertised as featuring a Hamada cherry tree. Being built around 1978, 5 years after Zenya Hamada gifted his trees, it is likely that house was planned with the cherry tree in mind. ESPC, even state on this house's listing that '*the mature garden, complete with the famous cherry blossom tree welcomes you to the house*' (ESPC, 2024). Hamada's trees can also be seen out of town, for example, on Tom Morris Drive. Since Hamada's mysterious disappearance in 1993, The Hamada Charitable Trust has been joined with The Kinburn (St Andrews) Charitable Trust. However, his legacy still remains in the many Cherry trees blooming in St Andrews each spring (CSPPG, 2018; Putter, 2012).

19. MULBERRY, SOUTH COURT

English Name:
Common mulberry or Black mulberry

Latin name:
Morus nigra
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
priced.thinnest.snuggle

To the right of the entrance to South Court, via the archway at 40-42 South Street, can be found an old **mulberry** tree (*Morus nigra*) (Figure 37&38). J.A. Macdonald states in 'Trees in St Andrews' (1977), '*Here a quiet and beautifully planted garden was laid out in 1970. Among the many interesting plants, pride of place must go to the old mulberry*.'

Native to Southwestern Asia, this deciduous tree produces heart-shaped leaves and fruits in the autumn (RHS, 2024c).

Figure 37: Entrance pend to South Court with mulberry. *Photograph by William Murray Jack, 1968.*

Figure 38: Mulberry, South Court. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

20. SYCAMORE, THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

English Name:
Sycamore

Latin name:
Acer pseudoplatanus
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
scribbled.dreamers.projects

Viewed from Queen's Terrace and when walking up 'The Travelator' from Dempster Terrace, the very large **sycamore (***Acer pseudoplatanus*) in the grounds of the St Andrews Episcopal Church has grown so much, that its trunk has swallowed up the railing and the tree now sits half in the front grounds of the Church and half on the street (Figure 39).

Interestingly, many other tree species, including **holly**, have self-seeded into the trunk of this sycamore and their small saplings can be seen in gaps of the trunk and in between branches.

Similar to this tree, a large sycamore seen towards the end of Queen's Terrace sits in between the back wall of the langrigg 46 South Street's garden (Figure 40). In this case, the wall was built intentionally around the tree allowing it to continue growing, unaffected by the human infrastructure.

39

40

Figure 39: Sycamore in front of the Episcopal Church. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Figure 40: Sycamore in back wall of 46 South Street. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

21. *ACER MONO AMBIGUUM*, SIR HAROLD MITCHELL BUILDING

English Name:
Acer

Latin name:
Acer mono ambiguum
Date planted:
1984
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
overgrown.boost.scrapping

Figure 41: *Acer mono ambiguum* planted to mark the opening of the Sir Harold Mitchell Building. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The Sir Harold Mitchel Building and Dyers Brae are the home of the Centre for Biological Diversity at the University. Both buildings can be accessed from Dempster Terrace or via the gate on Queen's Terrace. In *The Spice of Life* (1974), Sir Harold Mitchell wrote: '*My most recent involvement in British education was at the University of St Andrews, the oldest in Scotland, and naturally having special meaning for me as a native of Fife,'* with The Harold Mitchell Building also being funded by Sir Harold Mitchell after his death in 1983. He had strong links with the University, receiving an honorary LL.D degree from the University of St Andrews in 1968 (Mitchell, 1974). To mark the opening of the Sir Harold Mitchell Building in 1984, his wife, Lady Mary Mitchell, planted an ***Acer*** tree (*Acer mono ambiguum*) by the stairs leading down from Queen's Terrace (Figure 41).

This tree can still be seen today amongst a **Norway maple** (*Acer platanoides*) and a **Horse chestnut** (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) by the picnic benches next to the glass walkway connecting both buildings.

22. TURKEY OAK, THE EASTERN CEMETERY

English Name:
Turkey oak

Latin name:
Quercus cerris
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
clattered.brass.stooping

Figure 42: The Eastern Cemetery. Turkey oak is the tree to the back left. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The Eastern Cemetery can be accessed by a gate on Pends Road (Figure 42). In 'Trees In St Andrews' (1977), J.A. Macdonald comments on the presence of a **weeping elm**, **ash**, **oak**, **lime** and **laburnum** in the Eastern Cemetery, but of these only a **Turkey oak** (*Quercus cerris*) (Figure 43) and a **lime** tree can still be found towards right side of the grounds. Turkey oaks are fast-growing deciduous trees, that are native to southern Europe and southwest Asia. Introduced to the UK in the 1700s, they are affecting native oak populations by hosting the Knopper oak gall wasp (*Andricus quercuscalicis*) which can alter the growth of acorns (RHS, 2024d; Woodland Trust, 2024g).

Figure 43: Turkey oak, The Eastern Cemetery. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Turkey oak trees can also be seen at Abbotsford Crescent, the inner garden of Deans Court, and along the path towards Hallow Hill.

OUTER
SOUTHERN DISTRICTS

23. PEAR,
THE COMMUNITY ORCHARD

English Name:
Common pear

Latin name:
Pyrus communis
Date planted:
2009
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
sobbed.folders.lamplight

Figure 44: Common pear tree in The Community Orchard. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Figure 45: The Community Orchard. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Behind Lamond Drive is a community orchard established in 2009 by Henry Paul (Figure 45). Located in Stanks Park, there are 75 different fruit trees, forty-eight of which were planted for the Commonwealth Orchard with the help of Scottish Orchards in March 2011. It is open for locals to pick whatever fruit they want, with many **pear** trees dotted around the slope (Figure 44). There is also many other seasonal fruit, such as **apples** and **plums**. The St Andrews Orchard group also own an apple press and electric fruit shredder that is available to anyone living in St Andrews and was paid for by the St Andrews Common Good Fund. Though updates on the success and community involvement of the orchard has declined over the last few years, the orchard is still functioning while also, in June, boasting a medley of wildflowers including an abundance of meadow buttercups (*Ranunculus acris*).

OUTER
WESTERN DISTRICTS

24. *GINKGO BILOBA*, JURASSIC GARDEN

English Name:
Maidenhair tree

Latin name:
Ginkgo biloba
Date planted:
2003
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
toothpick.agenda.golden

Figure 46: Ginkgo biloba at Jurassic Garden, Kinburn Park. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Many old trees in Kinburn park have blown down or have endured damage from recent storms, but there are still a great variety of trees to be seen in the park. Particularly the trees planted in 2003 for Richard A Bachelor' Jurassic Garden (Figure 47) in the centenary year of Geology at St Andrews University (University of St Andrews, 2003). Richard A Batchelor was the chairman of geoHeritage Fife and also an Honorary Research Fellow at St Andrews University for the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, 2024). Funded by The Royal Society, Fife Council and The Russel Trust, The Jurassic Garden shows examples of plants that would have been present during the Jurassic period.

One of the most interesting trees in the Jurassic Garden is the ***Ginkgo biloba*** or **Maidenhair** tree (Figure 46). *Ginkgo biloba* is the only surviving species of the order Ginkgoales and is known as a 'living fossil'. Unlike modern leaves, *Ginkgo* leaf veins do not branch out, but rather radiate from the stalk. These leaves also turn gold and shed in autumn. Native to the Chinese province of Zhejiang, this tree has many uses such as for food, medicine and ornamental purposes. The leaves of this tree are known to help with memory, blood circulation, mental focus and cognitive performance and so have been used to relieve Alzheimer's disease and dementia (Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, 2024).

Also in this garden, there is **Monkey Puzzle** (*Araucaria araucana*), **Monterey Cypress** (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) and the native **Yew** (*Taxus baccata*) tree. A limestone plinth details the plan for the garden as well as information on the evolutionary history of the major plant groups. It also provides information on the trees planted as well as other Jurassic plants such as ferns and modern horsetail (*Equisetum arvense*), as well as mosses, lichens and cyanobacteria. The top of the sign explains the aim of the Jurassic garden, stating:

'*This garden has been created using plants whose ancestors grew during the Jurassic period, when dinosaurs roamed the world. Herbivorous dinosaurs such as Diplodocus and Camptosaurus might have grazed some of these plants. Take some time to inspect the primitive features of these plants and compare them with those of our modern species elsewhere in this park. This display board sits on top of a plinth of Portland Limestone of Jurassic age. The limestone was deposited in a warm shallow sea, such as is found today around the West Indies. It contains fossils of oysters, and fragments of other shells, which lived in the warm seas of that time'*

A Ginkgo tree can also be found to the right of the University Hall entrance accessed via Kennedy Gardens.

Figure 47: Jurassic Garden, Kinburn Park. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

25. VARIEGATED SYCAMORE, LADE BRAES

English Name:
Variegated sycamore

Latin name:
Acer pseudoplatanus f. variegatum
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
ombudsman.rebounder.photo

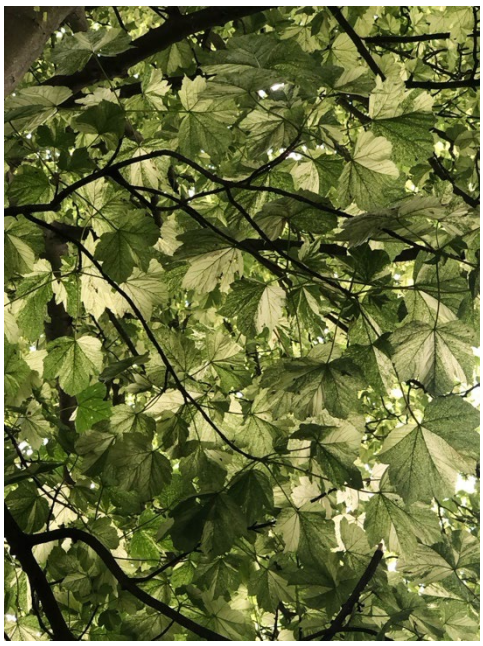


Figure 48 & 49: Variegated sycamore, Lade Braes Walk. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The Lade Braes Walk follows the original stream (*lade*) that ran to the Priory, through St Andrews, to supply power for the watermills and deliver water to houses. Along the first part of the walk, adjacent to Cockshaugh Public Park, there is a **Variegated sycamore** (*Acer pseudoplatanus f. variegatum*) (Figure 48&49). Like other sycamores, this cultivar has palmate leaves with five lobes. However, the leaves of this tree display a variegated pattern of cream and green (Woodland Trust, 2024m). It sits here amongst another variegated sycamore and a variety of **birch**, **oak**, **horse chestnut**, **ash**, **cherry** and **elder** trees.
A variegated cream and green sycamore can also be seen in the garden of St Leonards School, previously the Sir Hugh Lyon Playfair's Provost garden.

26. DAWN REDWOOD, WARDLAW HALL

English Name:
Dawn redwood

Latin name:
Metasequoia glyptostroboides
Date planted:
1947
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
puns.chestnuts.likes

Planted by J.L. Mowat in 1947, the **Dawn redwood** (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides)* situated behind Wardlaw Hall was one of the first of its species to be introduced to Europe (Figure 50). This extremely large tree sits in the hall's garden, amongst four raised beds for gardening and a **Japanese cherry** tree. A third-generation tree of this Dawn redwood can be found in the car park of the St Andrews Botanic Garden, planted in commemoration of the Botanic Garden's founder, John Hardie Wilson (Mitchell, 2014).

Dawn redwoods are deciduous conifers, losing their leaves in the autumn. Native to Lichuan county, Hubei province, China, the leaves of this tree are linear and formed in two ranks. Starting as light green, the leaves turn into a tawny brown colour in autumn (RHS, 2024b).

This tree can also be seen around David Russel Apartments and Fife Park, in front of the Ruskin Building and behind the Donaldson and Fraser Buildings.

Figure 50: Dawn redwood behind Wardlaw Hall, planted by J.L. Mowat. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

27. SCOTS PINE, DRA AND FIFE PARK

English Name:
Scots pine

Latin name:
Pinus sylvestris
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
dine.gobbling.chop

Figure 51: Scots pine beside balancing pond, David Russel Apartments. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

In attempt to use manage rainwater runoff in a sustainable way, David Russel Apartments (DRA) and Fife Park have three balancing pond systems (Figure 52). These pond systems replicate natural drainage processes, allowing for the rainwater runoff to settle and clean before it is discharged into the local watercourse. The first ponds were installed in May 2005 and another pond was added in September 2006. These ponds have also created a new habitat for wildlife, and they flourish with a range of wildflowers, trees and wildlife species.

Surrounding the ponds are a variety of tree species. Of note are the **Scots pine** towards the right end corner of the main ponds behind the Facilities Building (Figure 51). Scots pine is the only pine that is native to the UK and can live for up to 700 years. They are monoecious, meaning each plant has male and female flowers and are identifiable by their needle-like green leaves and their grey-brown pinecones. Lots of wildlife benefit from the presence of Scots pine, including Red squirrels, Pine martens and Pine hawk-moths (Woodland Trust, 2024h).

There are also many species of birch along the edge of the main balancing ponds, including: **Silver**, **Paper** and **Himalayan birch**. In addition, there are a few **rowans** and a **Norway maple** along the inside edge of the pond. Scots pine can also be seen in the car park of David Russel Apartments and in other places around St Andrews. For example, beside Whitehorn Hall, at St Andrews Botanic Garden and along the Lade Braes walk.

52 a)

52 b)

Figure 52 (a&b): Balancing ponds, David Russel Apartments and Fife Park. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

28. APPLE,
ST ANDREWS BOTANIC GARDEN

English Name:
Apple tree

Latin name:
Malus domestica 'Katy'
Date planted:
2011
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
typical.diets.flattered

Figure 53: Apple tree, St Andrews Botanic Garden. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

The St Andrews Botanic Garden is also home to an orchard in the back right corner of the 18-acre site (Figure 54). At the front of this orchard, is an **apple** tree (*Malus domestica 'Katy'*), planted to commemorate the marriage of HRH Prince William of Wales to Miss Catherine Middleton. This tree was planted alongside its companion, a **European pear** tree (*Pyrus communis* 'Williams' Bon Chrétien') by the children of Junior Hortus on 29th April 2011. In this orchard, there is also a variety of other apple (Figure 53), pear and plum trees, including a **culinary plum** (*Prunus domestica 'Warwickshire Drooper'*).

Figure 54: Apple and pear tree planted in celebration of the marriage of HRH Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton to the left. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

29. LODGEPOLE PINE, ST ANDREWS BOTANIC GARDEN

Status: Present

English Name:
Lodgepole pine
Latin name:
Pinus contorta
Date planted:
1964
Native to UK:
No
What3words:
miles.permit.cracking

Figure 55: Border of St Andrews Botanic Garden with Lodgepole pine. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Along the border of the left side of the Botanic garden, there are many large conifer trees. Some of these trees are wild origin conifers donated by the Forestry Commission in 1964, including a collection of **Lodgepole pine** trees (*Pinus contorta*), sourced from a geographical range as far as Queen Charlotte Island, B.C. to north California. In addition, there is **Scots pine** (*Pinus sylvestris*) from Turkey and other trees planted by the City fathers in the 1800s along the Kinness Burn banks, which can be seen both inside the Botanic Garden and from the other side, along the Lade Braes walk (Figure 55) (Mitchell, 2014).

Native to North America's Pacific coast, Lodgepole pines were first brought over to Britain 1855. This evergreen tree has needle-like leaves that are arranged in pairs and occasionally twisted. With the ability to grow higher than 12 metres when in tree form, they were the perfect choice to outline the borders of the Botanic Garden when it moved from the south east corner of St Mary's Quadrangle to its current site at Canongate in 1960 (Forestry England, 2024; RHS, 2024e).

30. COMMON ASH, LAWNMILL POND

English Name:
Common Ash

Latin name:
Fraxinus excelsior
Date planted:
Unknown
Native to UK:
Yes
What3words:
treetop.scoring.hungry

Turning left across the late 18th century Lawnmill Bridge along the Lade Braes, is Lawnmill pond. In front of the Lawn Mill grain kiln, with its orange/red pyramidal roof, is a large **ash** tree that has been greatly pruned (Figure 56).
Common ash have pinnate leaves of opposite paired leaflets and a 'terminal' leaflet. These leaves fall in autumn, when still green or slightly yellowed.

As a dioecious tree, the reproductive organs of male and female flowers are usually on different trees, with the female flowers developing into ash 'keys' during the late summer and autumn period. Common ash is susceptible to ash dieback, which may explain why this tree has been so severely cut back (Woodland Trust, 2024b). Also around Lawnmill pond are **sycamores**, **holly**, **pine**, **European beech**, **elder, hawthorn** and a **European plum** tree.
Common ash trees can also be found in the private garden of Abbotsford Crescent, Deans Court, the Eastern Cemetery and the North Haugh.

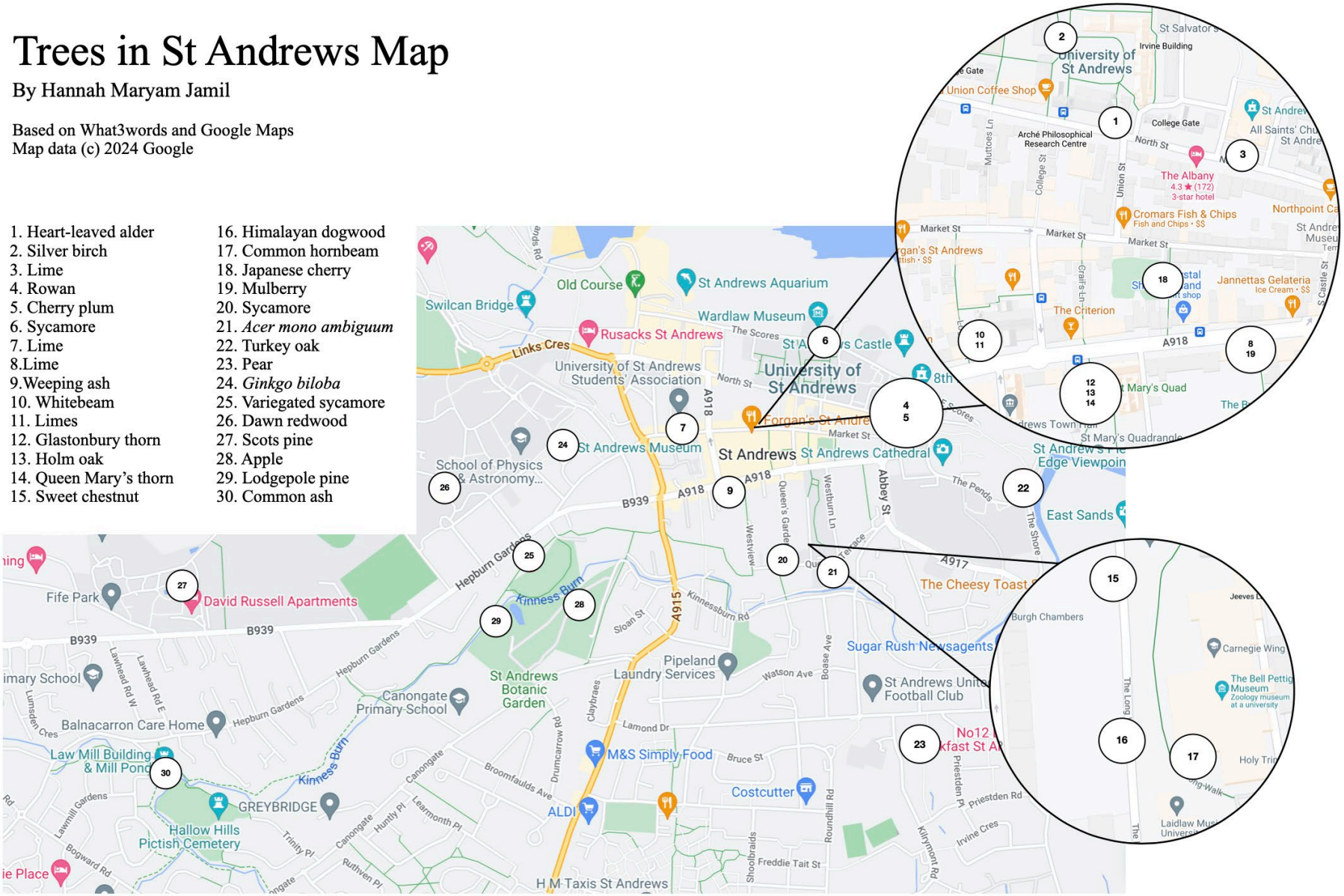
Figure 56: Ash tree at Lawnmill pond. *Photograph by H.M. Jamil, 2024.*

Trees in St Andrews Map

By Hannah Maryam Jamil

Based on What3words and Google Maps
Map data (c) 2024 Google

1. Heart-leaved alder
2. Silver birch
3. Lime
4. Rowan
5. Cherry plum
6. Sycamore
7. Lime
8.Lime
9.Weeping ash
10. Whitebeam
11. Limes
12. Glastonbury thorn
13. Holm oak
14. Queen Mary's thorn
15. Sweet chestnut
16. Himalayan dogwood
17. Common hornbeam
18. Japanese cherry
19. Mulberry
20. Sycamore
21. *Acer mono ambiguum*
22. Turkey oak
23. Pear
24. *Ginkgo biloba*
25. Variegated sycamore
26. Dawn redwood
27. Scots pine
28. Apple
29. Lodgepole pine
30. Common ash



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