






This is a non-exhaustive and evolving list of fossil tree trunks, stumps and roots used as items of display in the urban environment, including, parks, botanical gardens and cemeteries in Great Britain. They occur as accessible but often forgotten or ignored aspects of urban geology. This list does not include examples of fossil trees or tree stumps housed inside museums nor does it include examples, such as MacCulloch’s Tree on Mull, which remain *in situ* in its geological context. An exception, mainly because it is so exceptional, is the Fossil Grove in Victoria Park Glasgow which is included in this list. Ornamental fossil trees fall into two main groups; Lycopsids from the Upper Carboniferous which are invariably sandstone casts of tree trunks, stumps and roots and silica permineralised trunks of the Upper Jurassic conifer *Protocupressinoxylon purbeckensis* which is found in the Great Dirt Bed of the Purbeck Group. The interest in fossil trees very much developed in the second half of the 19th Century and discoveries made in quarries became minor tourist attractions at the time. Some of these trees went on to find places in both private and public collections and in public parks.



In the list below, a photograph indicates a tree which has been visited by the author or by colleagues and has been recorded on the London Pavement Geology website. Entries without photos or examples of fossil trees of which I am aware of the location but I have yet to visit.

I would be grateful to be alerted to other examples of fossil trees that occur in public urban spaces in Great Britain (r.siddall@ucl.ac.uk).

England




County	Photo	Location Details	Fossil	Age	Provenance	References
Dorset		Purbeck Heights Hotel, Isle of Portland, DT5 2EN Grid Ref: SY 68789 72959 What.Three.Words: <i>scribbled.peachy.conga</i> <i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i>	<i>P. purbeckensis</i>	Upper Jurassic	Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group	London Pavement Geology
Dorset		Hayloft Café, Pennsylvania Road, Isle of Portland, DT5 1HU Grid Ref: SY 69509 71053 What.Three.Words: <i>showcase.twilight.handyman</i> <i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i>	<i>P. purbeckensis</i>	Upper Jurassic	Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group	London Pavement Geology

Dorset		<p>Grave of Alfred Russel Wallace, Broadstone Cemetery, 83, Dunyeats Road BH18 8AF</p> <p>Grid Ref: SZ 01349 96159</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>clip.credit.payer</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<i>P. purbeckensis</i>	Upper Jurassic	<p>Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset</p> <p>Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group</p>	London Pavement Geology
Durham		<p>St Thomas's Churchyard, Stanhope High Street DL13 2UP</p> <p>Grid Ref: NY 99657 39201</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>prouder.quaking.wipes</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	Sigillaria	Upper Carboniferous	<p>Edmundbyers Cross Quarry, Co. Durham</p> <p>Cross Ganister, Stainmore Formation, Yoredale Group</p>	London Pavement Geology <p>Percival, C. J., 1981, Carboniferous quartz arenites and ganisters of the Northern Pennines., University of Durham, unpublished PhD thesis., 353 pp.</p> <p>Thomas, B.A. & Seyfullah, L., 2015, Stigmara Brongniart: A new specimen from Duckmantian (Lower Pennsylvanian) Brymbo (Wrexham, North Wales) together with a review of known casts and how they were preserved: Geology Magazine, 152 (5), 858–870.</p>
London		<p>Crystal Palace Park, SE19 2GA</p> <p>Grid Ref: TQ 34485 70494</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>gallons.coast.hiding</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<i>P. purbeckensis</i>	Upper Jurassic	<p>Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset</p> <p>Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group</p>	London Pavement Geology

London		<p>Richard Hope Play Area, Finsbury Park, N4 1BZ</p> <p>Grid Ref: TQ 31559 87330</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>shaped.forest.skin</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<p><i>P. purbeckensis</i></p>	<p>Upper Jurassic</p>	<p>Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset</p> <p>Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group</p>	<p>London Pavement Geology</p>
London		<p>Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 5BD</p> <p>Grid Ref: TQ 26806 79023</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>simple.pouch.fears</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<p><i>Pitys withamii</i></p>	<p>Upper Carboniferous</p>	<p>Craigleith Quarry, Granton, Edinburgh</p> <p>Gullane Formation</p>	<p>London Pavement Geology</p> <p>Lyon, G., 1873, Discovery of a New Fossil Tree in Craigleith Quarry, Edinburgh., Transactions of the Edinburgh Geological Society, 2, 219-220.</p>
London		<p>The Regent's Park, NW1 4NR</p> <p>Grid Ref: TQ 28232 82494</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>gates.caring.lobby</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<p><i>P. purbeckensis</i></p>	<p>Upper Jurassic</p>	<p>Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset</p> <p>Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group</p>	<p>London Pavement Geology</p>


London		<p>Tooting Common SW16 1RT</p> <p>Grid Ref: TQ 29081 72170</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>part.prep.head</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<p><i>P.</i> <i>purbeckensis</i></p>	<p>Upper Jurassic</p>	<p>Isle of Portland & Isle of Purbeck, Dorset</p> <p>Great Dirt Bed, Lulworth Formation, Purbeck Group</p>	<p>London Pavement Geology</p>
Yorkshire, North		<p>Fernery, York Museum Gardens, Museum Street YO1 7DT</p> <p>Grid Ref: SE 60008 52107</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>retain.candle.rift</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<p>Calamites</p>	<p>Upper Carboniferous</p>		<p>London Pavement Geology</p>
Yorkshire, North		<p>Fernery, York Museum Gardens, Museum Street YO1 7DT</p> <p>Grid Ref: SE 60009 52109</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>retain.candle.rift</i></p> <p><i>Photo: Ruth Siddall</i></p>	<p>Stigmaria</p>	<p>Upper Carboniferous</p>		<p>London Pavement Geology</p>
Durham		<p>Dawdon's Fossil Tree, Dawdon's Colliery, Noses Point, Seaham; Co. Durham SR7 7TT</p>			<p>Dawdon Colliery, Seaham.</p>	


		Grid Ref: NZ 437 478 What.Three.Words:				
Yorkshire, West		Lister Park Fossil Tree Stump, Lister Park, Bradford BD9 4NS Grid Ref: SE 14897 35395 What.Three.Words: <i>wants.little.draw</i>	Sigilaria, Stigmaria		Clayton Fall Top Quarry, Clayton, Bradford Elland Flags, Pennine Lower Coal Measures Group	Adamson, S. A., 1886, IV.—Notes on the Discovery of the base of a Large Fossil Tree at Clayton., Geological Magazine, 3 (9), 406-408. Adamson, S. A., 1888, Notes on a Recent Discovery of Stigmaria ficoides at Clayton, Yorkshire., Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society., 44, 375-377. Davis, J. W., 1886, On some remains of Fossil Trees in the Lower Coal Measures at Clayton, near Halifax., Proceedings of the Yorkshire Geological Society, 9, 253-256. Thomas, B.A. & Seyfullah, L., 2015, Stigmaria Brongniart: A new specimen from Duckmantian (Lower Pennsylvanian) Brymbo (Wrexham, North Wales) together with a review of known casts and how they were preserved: Geology Magazine, 152 (5), 858–870.
Yorkshire, West		Bowling Park Fossil Tree Stump, Bowling Park, Bowling Hall Road, Bradford BD4 7TL Grid Ref: SE 173 310 What.Three.Words:	Sigilaria, Stigmaria		Clayton Fall Top Quarry, Clayton, Bradford Elland Flags, Pennine Lower Coal Measures Group	Adamson, S. A., 1886, IV.—Notes on the Discovery of the base of a Large Fossil Tree at Clayton., Geological Magazine, 3 (9), 406-408. Adamson, S. A., 1888, Notes on a Recent Discovery of Stigmaria ficoides at Clayton, Yorkshire., Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society., 44, 375-377. Davis, J. W., 1886, On some remains of Fossil Trees in the Lower Coal Measures at Clayton, near Halifax., Proceedings of the Yorkshire Geological Society, 9, 253-256.
Yorkshire, West		Horton Park Fossil Tree Stump, Horton Park Avenue, BD7 3EG	Sigilaria, Stigmaria		Clayton Fall Top Quarry, Clayton, Bradford	Adamson, S. A., 1886, IV.—Notes on the Discovery of the base of a Large Fossil Tree at Clayton., Geological Magazine, 3 (9), 406-408.

		<p>Grid Ref: SE 14887 31794</p> <p>What.Three.Words: <i>begin.actor.cover</i></p>			<p>Elland Flags, Pennine Lower Coal Measures Group</p>	<p>Adamson, S. A., 1888, Notes on a Recent Discovery of <i>Stigmaria ficoides</i> at Clayton, Yorkshire., Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society., 44, 375-377.</p> <p>Davis, J. W., 1886, On some remains of Fossil Trees in the Lower Coal Measures at Clayton, near Halifax., Proceedings of the Yorkshire Geological Society, 9, 253-256.</p>
Yorkshire, South		<p>Botanic Gardens, Clarkehouse Road, Broomhall, Sheffield S10 2LN</p> <p>Grid Ref: SK 3354 8615</p> <p>What.Three.Words:</p> <p><i>Photo: James Hogg</i></p>			Chapeltown	<p>Sheffield Botanic Gardens Trust, Evolution Garden</p> <p>Thomas, B.A. & Seyfullah, L., 2015, <i>Stigmaria Brongniart</i>: A new specimen from Duckmantian (Lower Pennsylvanian) Brymbo (Wrexham, North Wales) together with a review of known casts and how they were preserved: Geology Magazine, 152 (5), 858–870.</p>
Yorkshire, South		<p>Wortley Hall, Wortley, Sheffield, South Yorkshire, S35 7DB</p> <p>Grid Ref: SK 312 994</p> <p>What.Three.Words:</p> <p><i>Photo: James Hogg</i></p>	<i>Esquisetum arvense</i>			
Yorkshire, South		<p>Wadsley Park, Middlewood Drive East S6 1RW</p> <p>Grid Ref: SK 31911 91257</p> <p>What.Three.Words: faces.return.galaxy</p> <p><i>Photo: James Hogg</i></p>			Wadsley	<p>Sorby, H. C., 1875, On the Remains of a Fossil Forest in the Coal-measures at Wadsley, near Sheffield., Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London., 31 (1-4), 458-460.</p> <p>The stump is a replica cast. The remains of the fossil forest are now buried for protection.</p> <p>See British Geological Survey Geoscenic image P208764</p>

Manchester		Oldham Blue Coat School Grid Ref: SD 92993 05450 What.Three.Words: <i>button.game.alert</i>			Oldham Edge Quarry	O'Kane, S., 2021, The history of Oldham's Fossil Forest., The Oldham Times, 25/02/2021
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Scotland

Fife		Glen Pavillion, Pittencrief Park, Dunfermline, KY12 8QH Grid Ref: NT 08513 87268 What.Three.Words: <i>couches.serves.courier</i> <i>Photo: Katie Strang</i>	Lepidodendron	Upper Carboniferous		London Pavement Geology
Fife		Glasshouses, Glen Pavillion, Pittencrief Park, Dunfermline, KY12 8QH Grid Ref: NT 08782 87219 What.Three.Words: <i>damage.dress.movies</i> <i>Photo: Katie Strang</i>	Lycophytes	Upper Carboniferous		London Pavement Geology

Fife		Townhill Recreation Ground, Townhill, Dunfermline KY12 0EZ Grid Ref: NT 10475 89646 What.Three.Words: <i>bunk.pouch.topic</i> <i>Photo: Katie Strang</i>	Lepidodendron	Upper Carboniferous	No. 6 Pit, Townhill Colliery, Townhill, Fife	London Pavement Geology
Midlothian		Edinburgh Botanic Gardens, Arboretum Place EH3 5NZ Grid Ref: What.Three.Words:	<i>Pitys withamii</i>	Upper Carboniferous	Craigeith Quarry, Granton, Edinburgh Gullane Formation	Lyon, G., 1873, Discovery of a New Fossil Tree in Craigeith Quarry, Edinburgh., Transactions of the Edinburgh Geological Society, 2, 219-220. <i>This tree, the longest specimen in the UK is currently undergoing conservation.</i>
Lanarkshire		Fossil Grove, 51 Victoria Park Drive South, Glasgow G14 9QR Grid Ref: NS 53818 67312 What.Three.Words: <i>tube.pits.token</i>				Thomas, B.A. & Seyfullah, L., 2015, Stigmaria Brongniart: A new specimen from Duckmantian (Lower Pennsylvanian) Brymbo (Wrexham, North Wales) together with a review of known casts and how they were preserved: Geology Magazine, 152 (5), 858–870. Webster, D. & Allison, I., 2022, A geological guide to the Fossil Grove, Glasgow., Geological Society of Glasgow., 23 pp.

Wales

Glamorgan, West		Logan's Trees, Swansea Museum, Victoria Road, Maritime Quarter, Swansea SA1 1SN Grid Ref: SS 6590 9279			Cwm Llech, Coelbren, Tawe Uchaf, Powys	Morgan, K., 2021, Object 1 - Fossil Tree; History of Swansea in 20 Objects., Amgueddfa Abertawe Swansea Museum
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Acknowledgements

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