

## Tree ID Walk – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 10-12 – Richard Hobbs

### 1. Hornbeams (*Carpinus betulus* 'Fastigiata')

Row of 'lollipop shaped' hornbeams either side of the lily pond. Hornbeams look like Beech trees but the key distinguishing feature is the jagged edge to the leaves (denticulate) and the very slightly hairy feel to the new leaves. The trunks and branches are slightly twisted. The Hornbeams were planted by Captain Sandys-Winsch (Parks Superintendent in Norwich 1919-1953) Norfolk lies on the southernmost limit (in the British Isles) for Hornbeams and the northernmost limit for Beech.



Hornbeams

Nearby hedge is Holly (*Ilex*).



Avenue of limes

### 2. Lime Trees (*Tilia x europaea*)

The common lime is a hybrid. Leaves are heart-shaped. Buds are smooth and round. Flowers are scented. Attractive to aphids which produce sticky secretions. Popular tree for avenues for stately home estates. Rather short-lived trees.

### 3. Swedish whitebeams (*Sorbus intermedia*)

(*Sorbus* is related to the Rose) Bigger than the native whitebeam. Berries are slightly flattened and orange in autumn.

Hedge between tennis courts and lily pond is **Yew (*Taxus baccata*)** Yew is mostly found in western areas of British Isles – it likes moisture. They are amongst the oldest trees in Britain. Often found in churchyards but may pre-date Christianity and mark pagan sites.



Swedish Whitebeams



Hazel

### 4. Mixed hedge on south side of path. Contains field maple

(*Acer campestre*); leaves are opposite one another on the stems. Field maple used to be coppiced in ancient woodland and the young stems were used for wood-turning or carving. Hedge also contains hazel (*Corylus avellana*); leaves and stem are hairy. When hazel is coppiced the new shoots grow in a ring outside the old trunk. When a tree is coppiced repeatedly, the size of the ring gives an indication of the age of the tree (can be as much as 1,000 years old).



**5. Narrow-leaved ash (*Fraxinus angustifolia*)** Leaflets are arranged opposite but leaves are alternate. Unlike the common ash, these trees may be resistant to ash die-back. Striking colours in the autumn. Has

black buds.



Narrow-leaved ash

**6. Beech (*Fagus sylvatica*)**. Characterised by smooth grey bark, young leaves have hairs. Beech woods have very little undergrowth because beech trees exude a substance which prevents other plant seeds from germinating (Eucalyptus does the same thing).



Beech

**7. Oak (*Quercus rubra*)** Northern Red Oak. Has clusters of terminal buds. Leaves are larger than English Oak. Deciduous. Good colour in autumn.



Northern Red Oak

### **8. Conifers:**

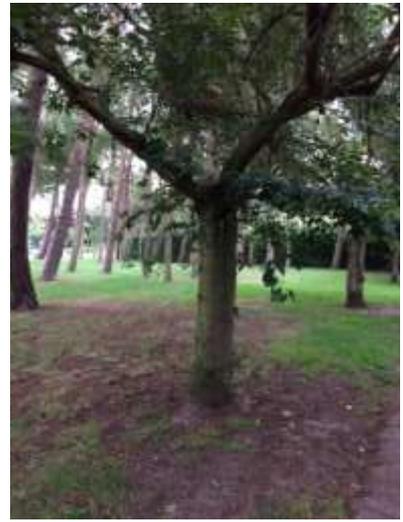
Needles in bundles of two indicates a Pine. Two sorts of pine: **Scots Pines (*Pinus sylvestris*)** have rusty red trunks and **Corsican pines (*Pinus nigra*)** have grey/brown trunks. Pines have male and female cones. The male cones are short-lived – drop off after 1-2 weeks; the female cones may persist for up to 2 years.



Scots pine

### 9. Cherries (*Prunus*)

Unusual shape (thick trunks out of proportion with lighter growth above) due to being grafted trees. Noted fungal galls – swellings – on trunks.



Cherry



Pleached Holm Oaks

### 10. Holm oaks in rose garden.

*Quercus ilex* (i.e. like holly).

Buds clustered at tips of branches. Evergreen but has leaf drop in May. Young leaves are prickly. Older leaves have a smooth outline. First Holm oak plantings in UK were at Holkham Hall. Holm oaks in rose garden are pleached (cut and trained to create the effect of a raised-up fence).



European larch

### 11. Larch (*Larix decidua*)

Needles in whorls – rather than bundles. European larch  
Non-native tree.

### 12. Lawson Cypress (*Chamaecyparis lawsonia*)

Scaly leaves in 2's (Junipers have leaves in 3's). Very small scaly cones which will split open (Juniper cones stay closed).

Lawson Cypress



**13. London Plane (*Platanus x hispanica*)**  
Hybrid of oriental plane and American plane. Sterile. Characteristic grey bark with large 'plates' which peel off. Very tolerant of pollution; good in urban areas. New leaves have fluffy bloom (indumentum).



London Plane

**14. In children's playground**  
**Balsam Poplar (*Populus balsamifera*).**  
Strong scent of balsam in spring when buds first open.



Balsam poplar

**15. Large stand of limes to north of rotunda.**  
Characteristic sprouting growth at the base of the trunks.



Limes

**16. Collection of trees on edge of meadow area.**

**Sweet chestnut – (*Castanea sativa*)** Visible flowers are male. Smaller, female, flowers are at the base of the stems. Chestnuts are very important commercially for the production of chestnut paling fencing. Not native to UK.

**Wild cherry (*Prunus avium*).** Also known as Gean. Distinctive shiny bark. Some fruit visible.

**Sequoiadendron – possibly giganteum. (Wellingtonia)**

**Small-leaved lime - *Tilia Cordata***  
Heart-shaped leaves. Native tree.



Sweet Chestnut, Wild Cherry, Lime and Sequoiadendron

**17. Fruit trees**

Apples and pears. Can distinguish growth buds (at base of leaves, slim, lying close to stem) and fruit buds (rounder and fatter and scaly).



Pear tree

**18. Hawthorn (*Crataegus*)**

Two types in UK: Hedge Hawthorn (fruit has 1 pip) and Woodland Hawthorn (fruit has 2 pips). The latter is a grafted plant. Will produce sprouting growth from base.



Hawthorn

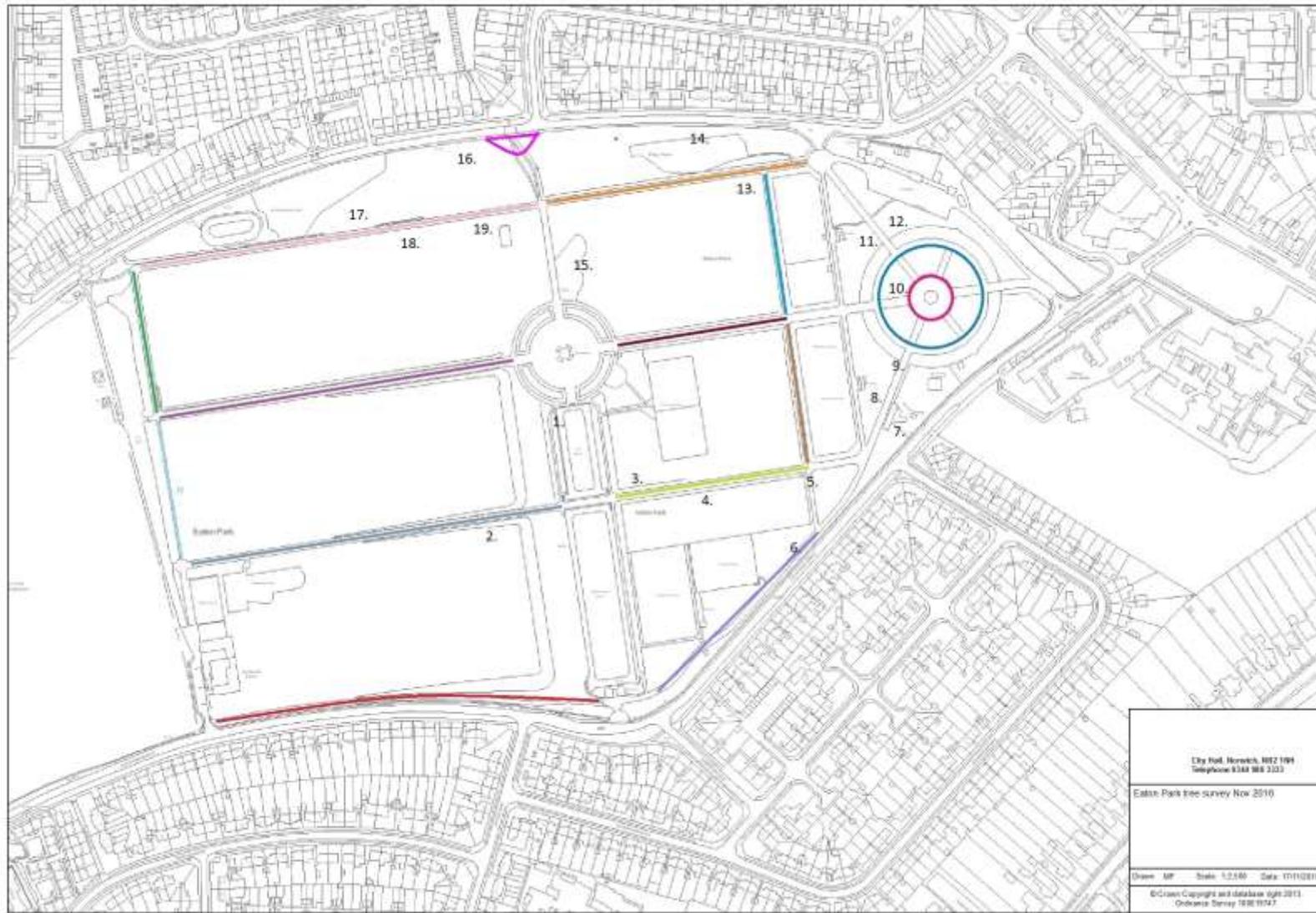


**19. Turkey Oak. (*Quercus cerris*)**

Has deeply cut leaves. Clustered buds. Deciduous.

Turkey Oak

Thank you to Alistair Bolt for his photos



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Edith Park tree survey Nov 2010

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