

BALLARAT BOTANICAL GARDENS

The National Trust Toured the gardens 1992-93.

In front of cottage.

*Ulmus glabra* "Exoniensis" "Exeter Elm" only one in the Gardens. Rare tree. Found near Exeter about 1826.

Behind cottage.

*Quercus robur* "English Oak" National Trust Tree Register (NTTR)  
Historical value, significant size.  
Collar to deter possums which love the new shoots.

Next to English Oak. (N)

*Vitex lucens* "Puriri" NTTR. N.Z tree, rare species for Australia.  
40' in NZ dull red winter flowers followed by crimson berries in spring.

Next to English Oak (S)

*Salix matsudana* "Tortuosa" "Cork-screw Willow" approx. 30yrs old (Feb.95). Another Willow, to the east, was removed due to over-crowding. China & Korea.

Side Gate of fernery. (N)

*Azara microphylla*. An elegant small tree. Leaves in flat sprays, flowers cream, vanilla scented. The hardiest of this species; Chile, Argentina.

East of Azara. (Sth side of path)

*Liriodendron tulipifera* "Tulip Tree". E. North America, furnishes the American white wood.

East of Tulip Tree, Nth side of path.

*Populus tremula* "Aspen". The tree is becoming old and developing dead wood.

Main entrance to fernery.

*Sequoia sempervirens* "Californian Redwood". Healthy tree, best example in gardens. Reaches over 100m in native forests of California and Oregon. Distinction of being worlds tallest living tree, record currently held (The Hillier Manual of Trees and Shrubs Pub.1993) by the "Harry Cole" tree in the Humbolt State Redwood Park which in 1988, measured 113m (371ft). The tallest tree ever recorded was a specimen of *Eucalyptus regnans* in Victoria, SE Australia estimated to have been more than 150m in 1872. Average age of tree is 500-700 yrs. Several have reached 2000yrs and the oldest known specimen, felled in 1934, was dated at 2200yrs. The *Sequoia* genus is named after Sequoia (1770-1843), a part Cherokee of Georgia, who invented the Cherokee alphabet. An interesting character is that the butt of a felled tree will produce a sheaf of suckers, which is unusual in a conifer.

South of the Redwood.

*Magnolia grandiflora* "Southern Magnolia". Possums reduce the number of flowers by eating the young buds.

South of the Magnolia.

*Quercus canariensis* "Algerian Oak". Its canopy has been cut to reduce the number of possums in the magnolia and to allow the magnolias' canopy to spread. The oak is not completely deciduous, the leaves staying on at the top right up to next seasons growth. The road surface has been removed from around the tree and replaced with mulch, resulting in an improvement in the health of the tree.

West from Algerian Oak.

*Taxodium distichum* "Swamp Cypress". NTTR. These two trees are approx. 65yrs old. The leaf is alternate whereas the leaf of the metasequoia is opposite. When grown by water, large specimens produce "knee-like" growths, from the roots, which project above ground to get oxygen. (pneumatophores) The W Cypress, although the same age, is not as good a specimen as the E Cypress.

S E of statuary.

*Fraxinus excelsior* "Common English Ash". A good specimen, has black winter buds. Not sure if it is on register.

West of 2nd Swamp Cypress.

*Fraxinus excelsior* "Pendula". "Green Weeping Ash" 3 in gardens, 1 on NTTR, this could be the one.

possibly

*Abies pinsapo* "Glauca" "The Blue Spanish Fir" the whole tree blue-grey. Transplanted 10yrs ago (Feb 1995).

Near Abies.

Was an *Ulmus x hollandica* "Dutch Elm". The tree was pollarded which lead to the main limbs becoming diseased. The good base timber has been saved to be made into something for the Resource Centre by the Ballarat Woodworkers' Guild.

South of Wishing Well.

*Pinus ponderosa* "Western Yellow Pine". Western side of tree has been damaged by hail followed by a fungal attack, from which it has not recovered and so the sparse growth.

Next tree W of ponderosa.

*Sequoiadendron giganteum* "Giant Redwood". Hit by lightning Oct. 1994, was approx. twice current height. Timber saved for future working by Guild.

SSW G. Redwood.

*Cedrus deodara* "Deodara". Damaged roots from installation of pipes and electrical cables, will probably be removed soon.

W of Redwood on Path.

*Pseudotsuga menziesii* "Douglas Fir". Although the timber is good the tree is mainly trunk with little else, and soon to be removed. Three cedars from the South of the garden are also to be removed, the timber to be saved.

N.E. of Rose garden.

*Ulmus glabra* "Camperdownii" (*U. pendula* "Camperdownii") "Camperdown Elm" grafted; pendulous branches.

There are a number of Weeping Elms in the gardens, three are on the NTTR.

S.E. from Camerdown Elm.

*Ulmus glabra* "Horizontalis" "Weeping Scotch Elm" This tree has undergone an aeration and fertilizer program to promote new growth. It is hoped the other two in the gardens will respond to this treatment as well.

The burls on the Elms produce a beautiful wood.

one of the

*Pinus ponderosa* "Western Yellow Pine" Is the highest tree in the gardens. Approx. 42-43m.

A *Pinus jeffreyi* (*P. ponderosa* var *jeffreyi*) was removed some time ago, the timber has been milled and is waiting to be used for the Gardens.

*Sequoiadendron giganteum* "Giant Redwood" Avenue is undergoing a dead wooding program, to date Feb 95, 71/2 have been done out of 28. It takes 3 people 11/2 days to go through the canopy of one tree. Although the trees can reach approx. 100m in America, they won't reach that height here. They tend to develop 2-3 leaders and consequently need some cut out. **NTTR**

The young "Giant", has been transplanted from Lake Esmond (1993), the only exotic that was there. It is growing approx 1m/yr.

*Picea pungens* var *glauca* "Blue Spruce" Moved from a private garden a few years back. Root ball very wet when moved, needed guy ropes, since removed.

When moving trees, it is best to root prune them some time before. The root "plate" extends approx 1m beyond trunk. Trees generally have shallow root systems and they are usually fibrous. Some develop a tap root early in their growth but this is overtaken by fibrous root development.

*Araucaria bidwillii* "Bunya Bunya Pine" There are four in the gardens.

One of the trees on the W of the Prime Ministers Ave. has a pronounced lean and has had branches pruned from the underside. Two on the NTTR.

N. end of Prime minister's Ave.

Quercus cerris "Turkey oak" NTTR. Finely cut leaves, interesting double acorns.

E. side P.M.Ave.

Chamaecyparis growth may over-take position and require removal.

E. of entrance to Resource Centre.

Nyssa sylvatica "Tupelo" Has been moved 8m, was in middle of circular bed, weighed 18 tonne at the time. It would be desirable to find another Tupelo about the same size, to have a matching pair!