

Autumn Trail



1. Liquidambar— (sweet gum). A tree with intense autumn colour, it's leaves when crushed on a warm day release a resinous smell, resembling burnt sugar. Originates North and Central America

Discover Autumnal highlights at Martineau Gardens. Can you find these around the Gardens?

See overleaf, for locations.



2. Colletia cruciata (crucifix thorn) A shrub rarely seen with stout flattened spines in opposing pairs, resembling a bird in flight. If you dare to smell this prickly plant's small autumnal flowers, you'll be rewarded with a scent of honey, Originates from Uruguay, South America.



3. Autumn sunlight

Picture credits: Jean Fletcher. October 2013

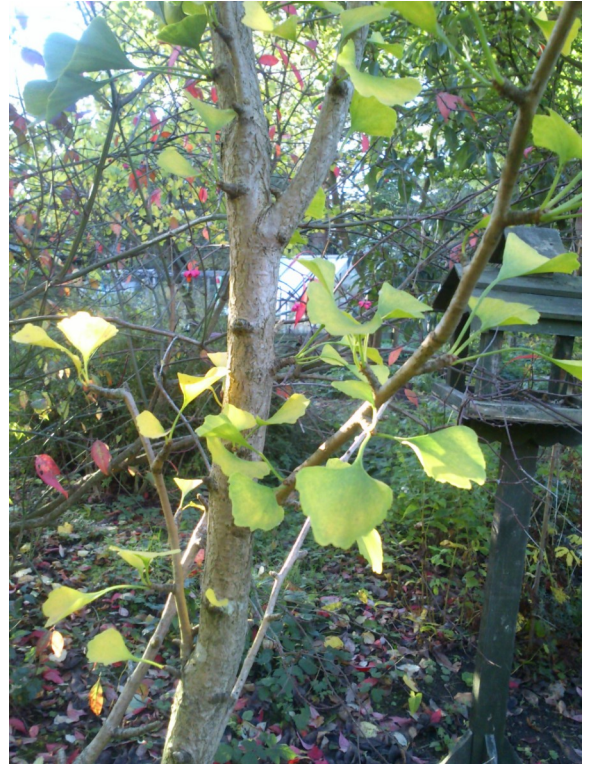


4. Callicarpa (beauty berry)



5. Poncirus (Japanese bitter orange)

Deciduous shrub, grows wild in Northern China and Korea. It produces hard, slightly furry fruits which are inedible raw, but occasionally Martineau Gardens volunteer jam-makers make a tangy Marmalade with them.



6. Ginkgo biloba (Maidenhair tree)

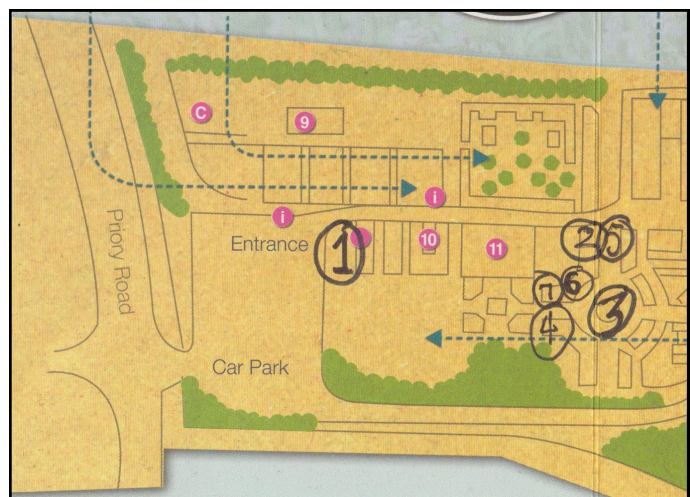
Considered by some, a 'living fossil', its species unchanged since the Jurassic era. Its fanshaped leaves are unique, turning saffron yellow in Autumn. Native to China. The tree is deciduous, so look to the ground for the leaves.



7. Euonymus europaeus (Spindle tree)

The twigs are straight, smooth and heavy. The spindles used to spin raw wool (the wool is wrapped around the twig). The twigs were also used for skewers, tooth-picks, pegs and knitting needles (hence some of its other names). In the past the berries were used as a laxative or baked and powdered and used as a treatment for headlice. (Info source: The Woodland Trust) The berries are poisonous.

LOCATION GUIDE:



1. Liquidambar
2. Colletia cruciata
3. Autumn sunlight
4. Callicarpa

5. Poncirus
6. Ginkgo biloba
7. Euonymus europaeus