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# Various Stuff!

Peter Thurman

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# Some Notes On:

- The Tenacity of Trees
- Some Benefits of Trees
  - Trees and Culture
- Some Threats to Trees + Some Solutions
  - Biosecurity
  - Biodiversity
- Tree Planting & Aftercare
  - Some Trees to Avoid
  - New trees to Consider?

# The Tenacity of Trees



## Coping & Helping with Soil Erosion





Moving Concrete  
St Jose, USA





Chinese privet  
(*Ligustrum lucidum*)

Clipped hard  
every 4 years

“Planting the Space”

Orvieto, Italy





Proliferating root growth  
*Tetrameles nudiflora* at Ta Prohm Temple in Cambodia





Hong Kong  
Chinese banyan  
*Ficus microcarpa*





Looking for oxygen and trying to get rid of carbon dioxide but seeking moisture in the paving joints - Hong Kong





## Tolerance of Very Low Ground and Air Temperatures [here = Bavaria]





Long Living/Resilience  
Ancient Olive [*Olea europaea*] tree in Montenegro





High wind / exposure  
Trees adapt, evolve and survive – Phenotypic and Genotypic adaptation





...but not always...

"Base of a Wine Glass root systems"





# Benefits

Why do we plant trees?

## ☐ **Aesthetics**

Their attractive visual appearance – Decoration and Ornament

## ☐ **Oxygen!**

The Air that we Breathe

## ☐ **Architecture and Landscape Design**

Framing, Screening, Shelter, Unifying, Softening, Space Division, Green Mass and Infrastructure

## ☐ **Engineering**

SUDS, Canopy Cover, Climate and Pollution Amelioration, Soil Stabilisation, Erosion Control

## ☐ **Cultural/Historical/Educational**

Linking the past with the present and the future, Social Traditions

## ☐ **Wildlife**

Biodiversity and Flora, Fauna & Habitat Conservation

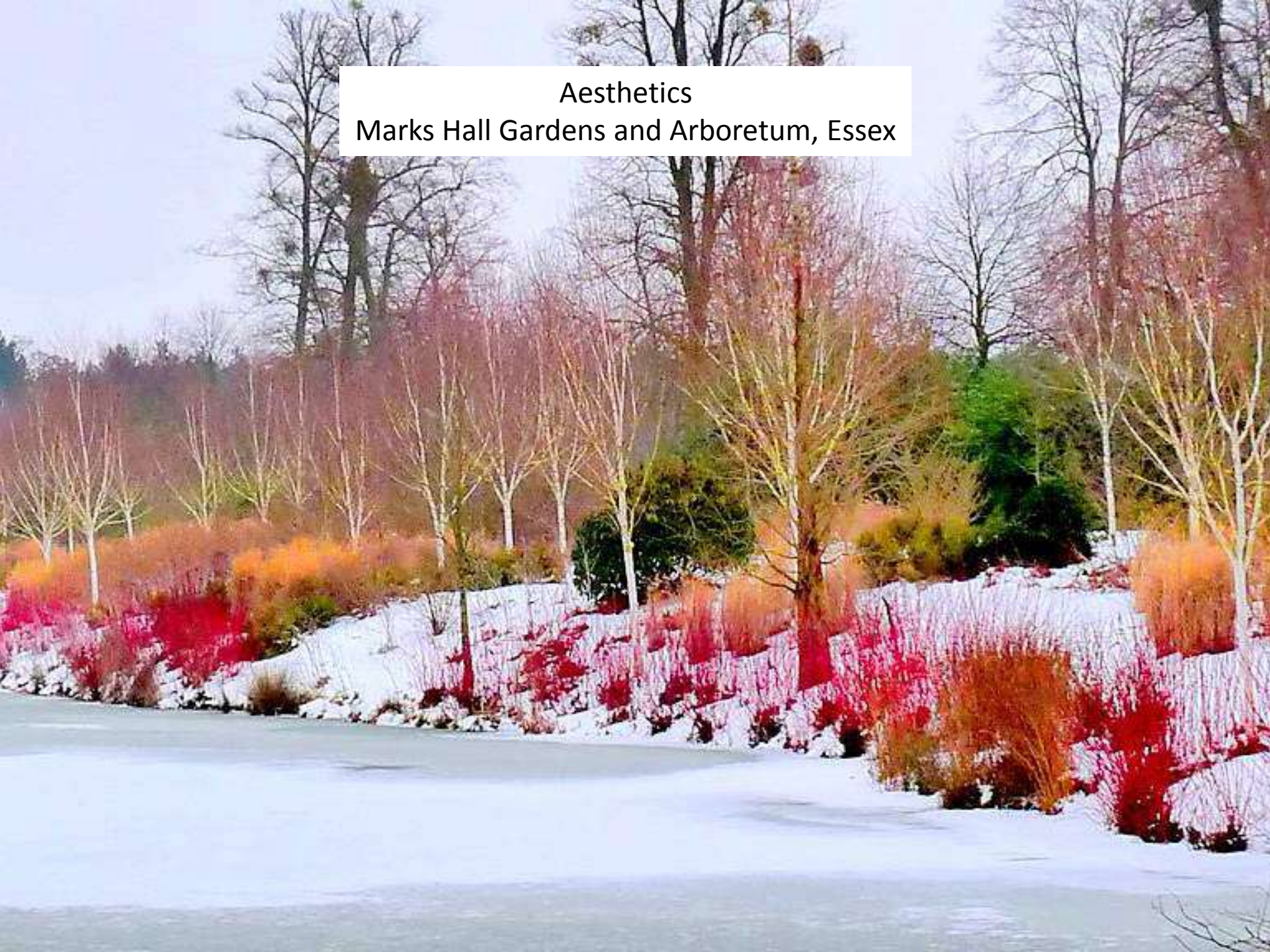
## ☐ **Well Being and Recreation**

Contributing to the Mental and Physical Health & Happiness of humans - Biophilia

## ☐ **Economic**

Added-value to properties and districts, Energy conservation, Bio-Fuels, Timber and many other Bi-products

Aesthetics  
Marks Hall Gardens and Arboretum, Essex





Do people notice plant form more than flowers?



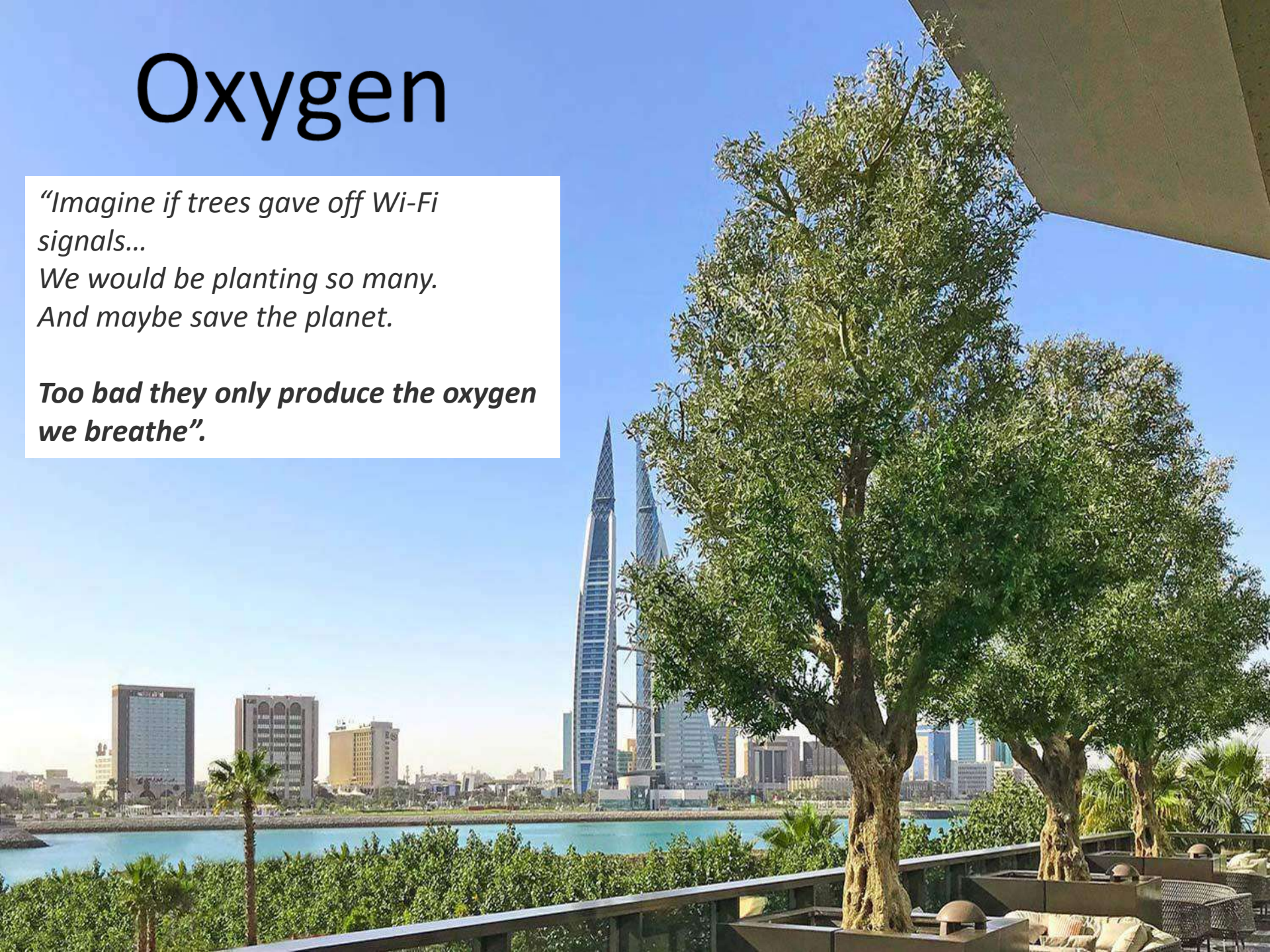


# Oxygen

*"Imagine if trees gave off Wi-Fi signals..."*

*We would be planting so many.  
And maybe save the planet.*

***Too bad they only produce the oxygen  
we breathe".***



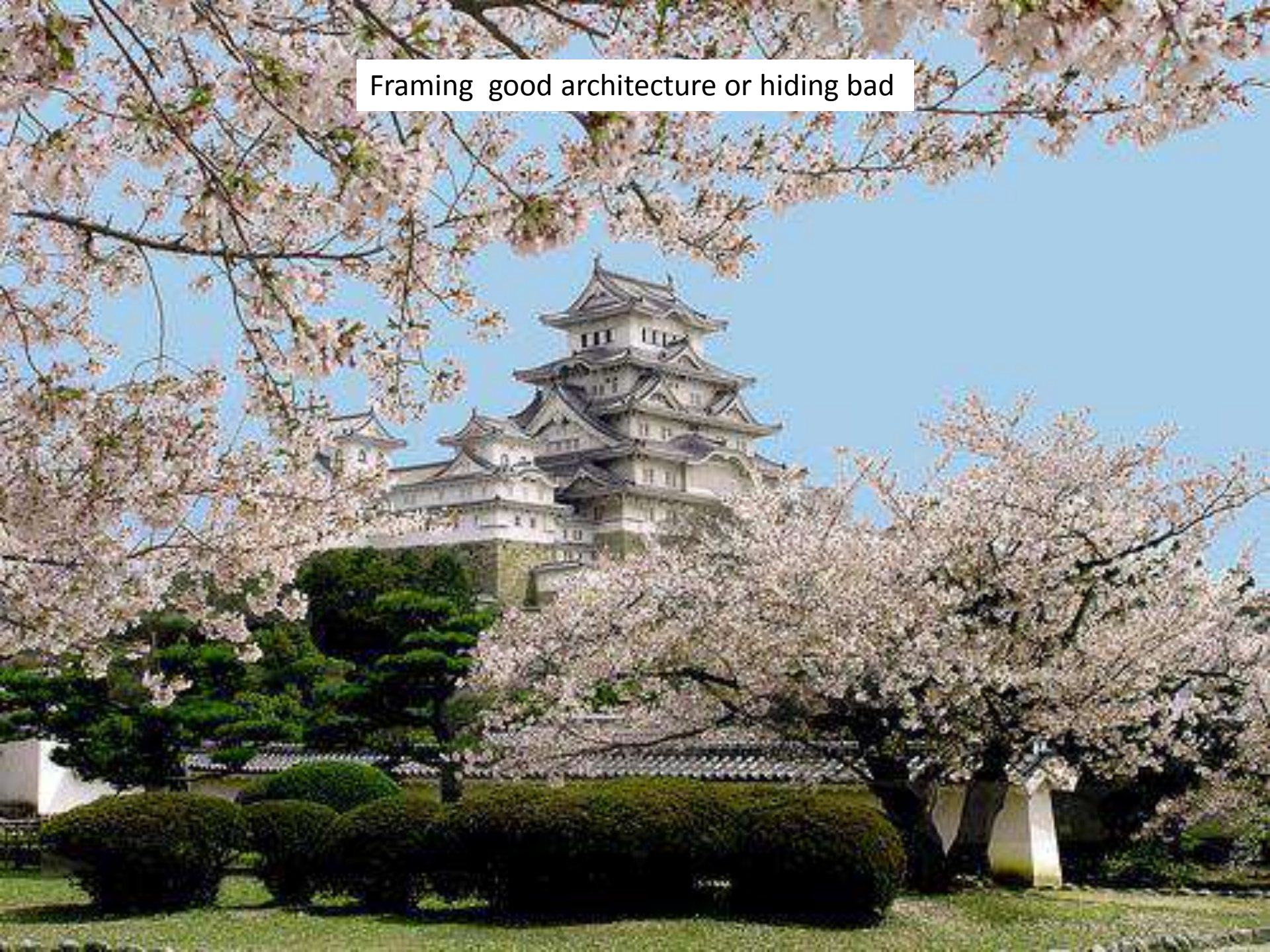


Central Park, New York  
The 'lungs' of the city





Framing good architecture or hiding bad





Trees offer a comforting 'umbrella' more in scale with humans...





Trees provide a unifying and connecting link of similarity in cities, towns parks & gardens





They increase property values and save on energy costs





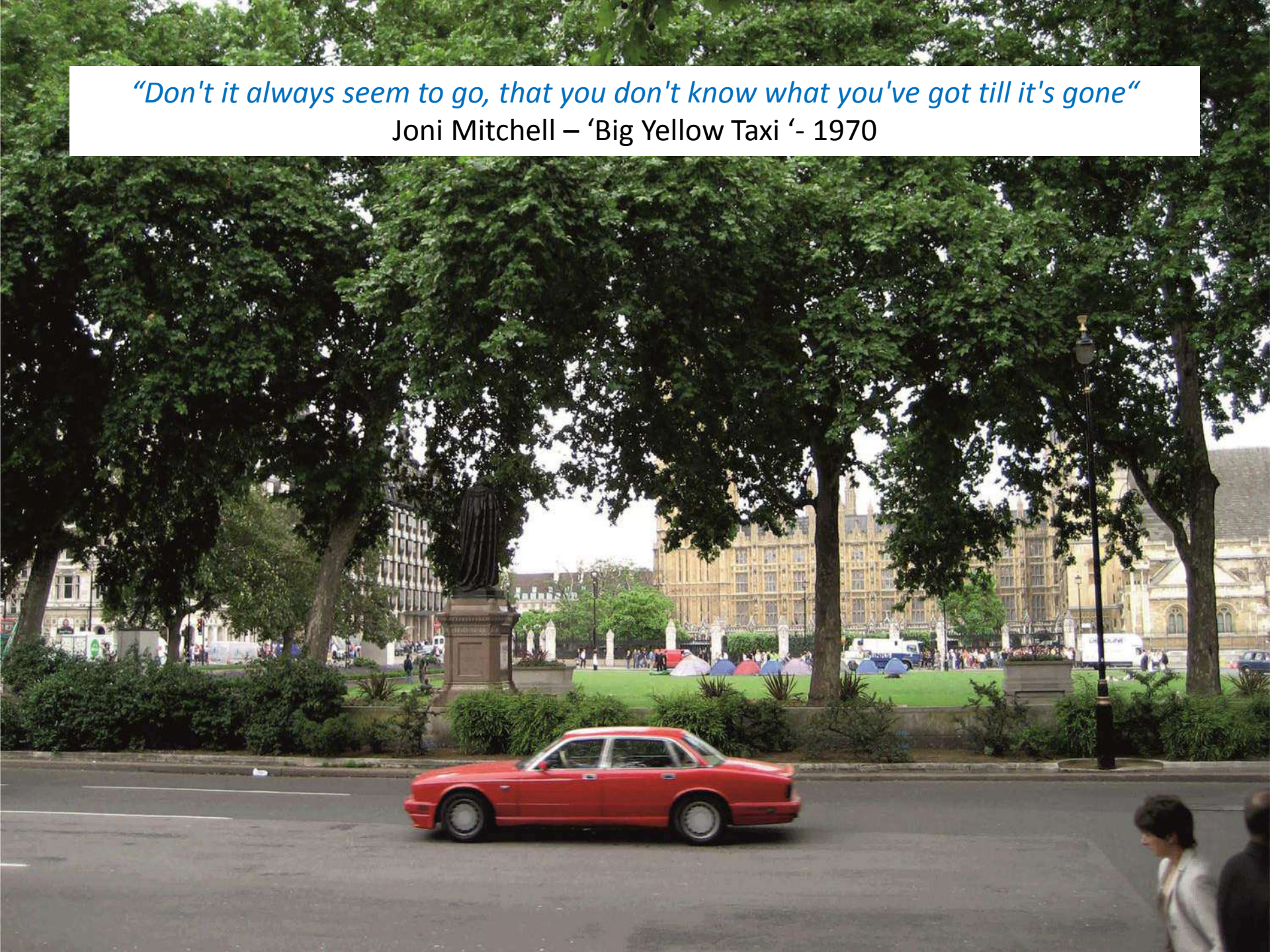
Clipped Magnolia in Wiltshire , England – In the USA they call it “Curb Appeal”





*"Don't it always seem to go, that you don't know what you've got till it's gone"*

Joni Mitchell – 'Big Yellow Taxi' - 1970









Filtering, Collecting and Absorbing both Ground and Air Pollution





Contributing to SUDS and reducing the risk of flooding





We need to keep planting big trees!  
Shade and canopy cover are very important  
*Albizia saman* [not hardy in the UK]





In the UK it is thought that, if we increase tree canopy cover by 10% we will lower annual mean temperatures by 6%

Locals

Tourists



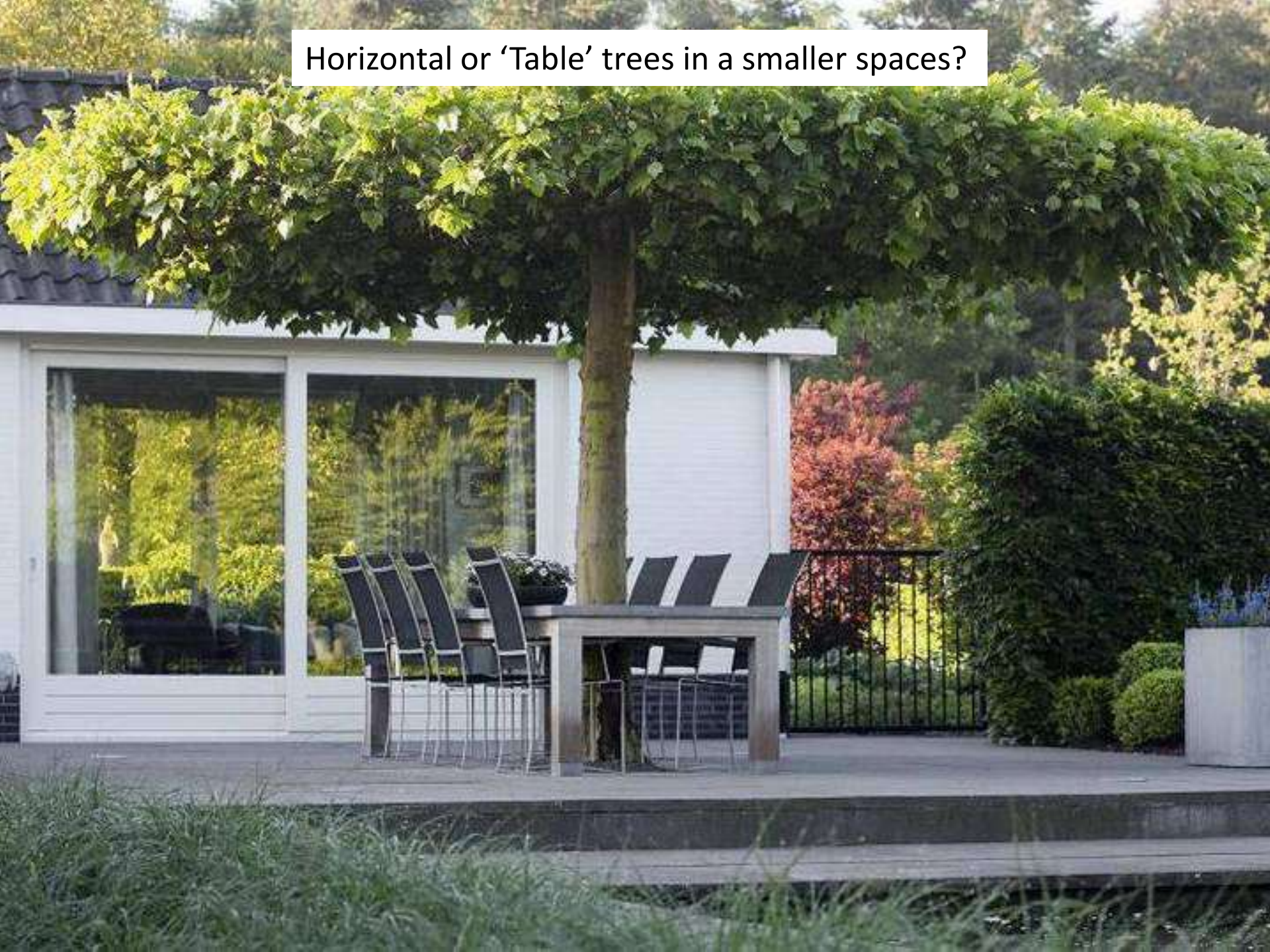


*Catalpa bignonioides* 'Nana' – but right for here?



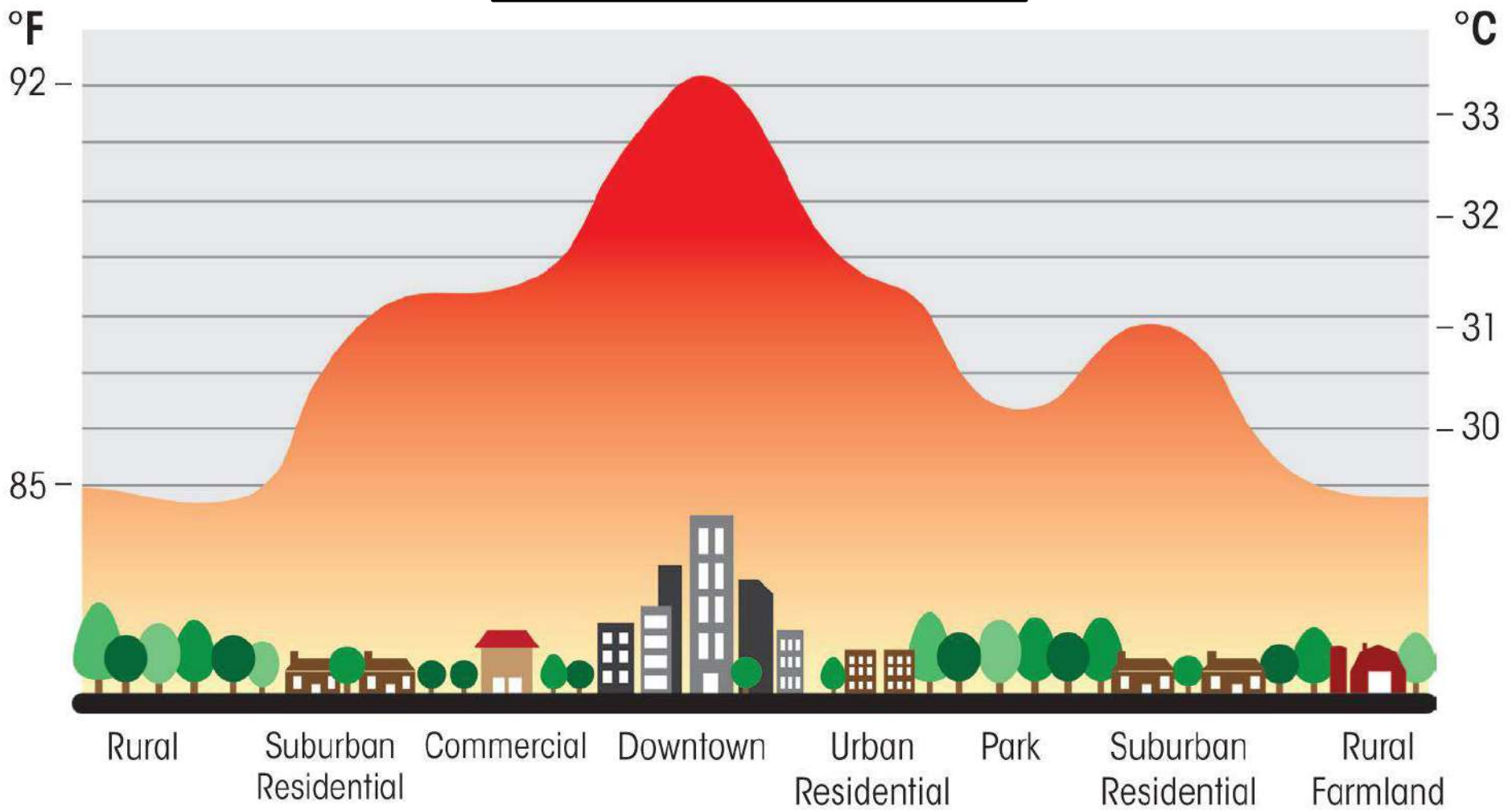


Horizontal or 'Table' trees in a smaller spaces?



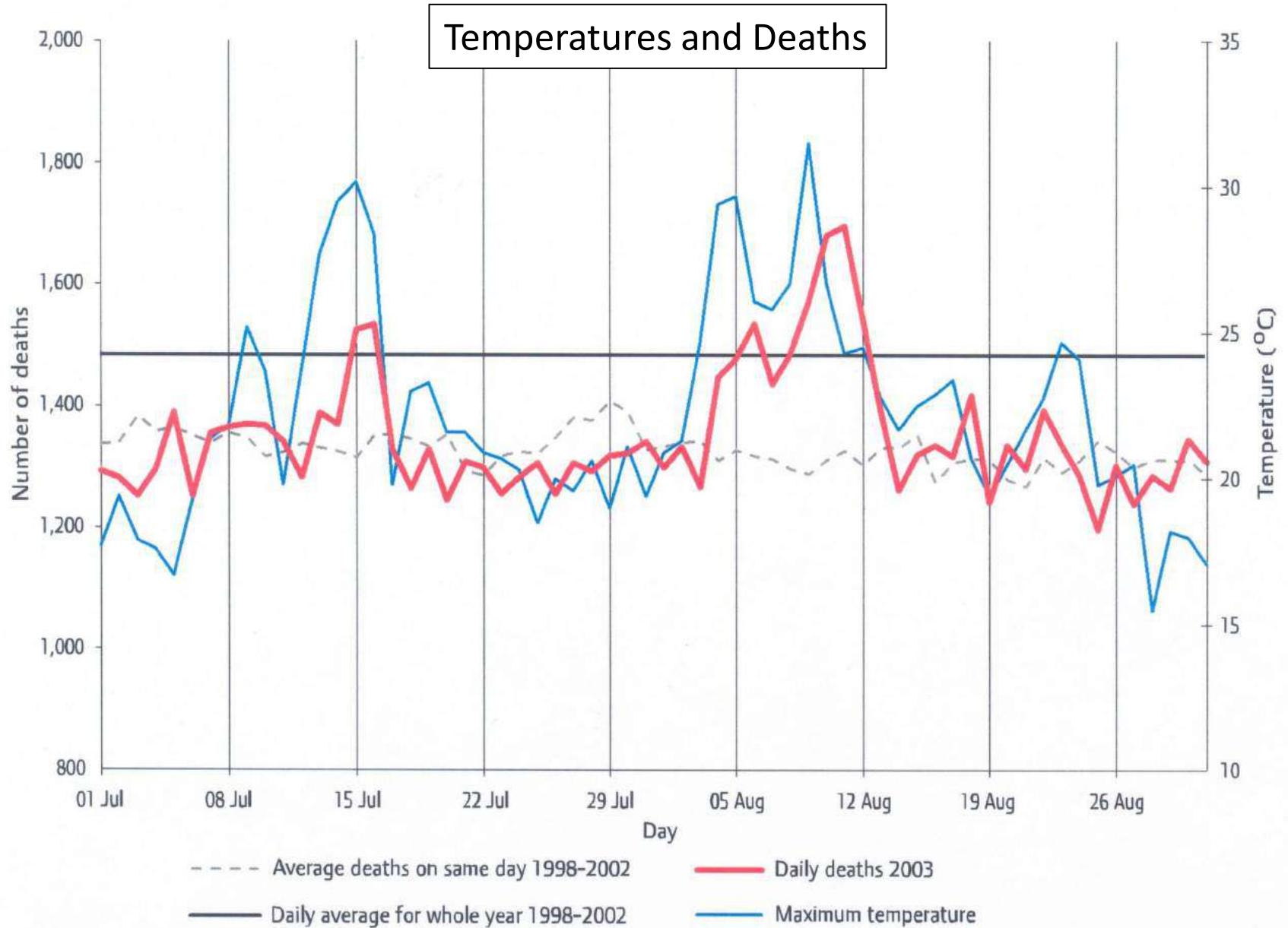


# The Urban Heat Island Effect + Climate Change





Daily deaths in England and Wales during the 2003 summer heatwave





Green Space = 'green happiness' and better Well-Being..



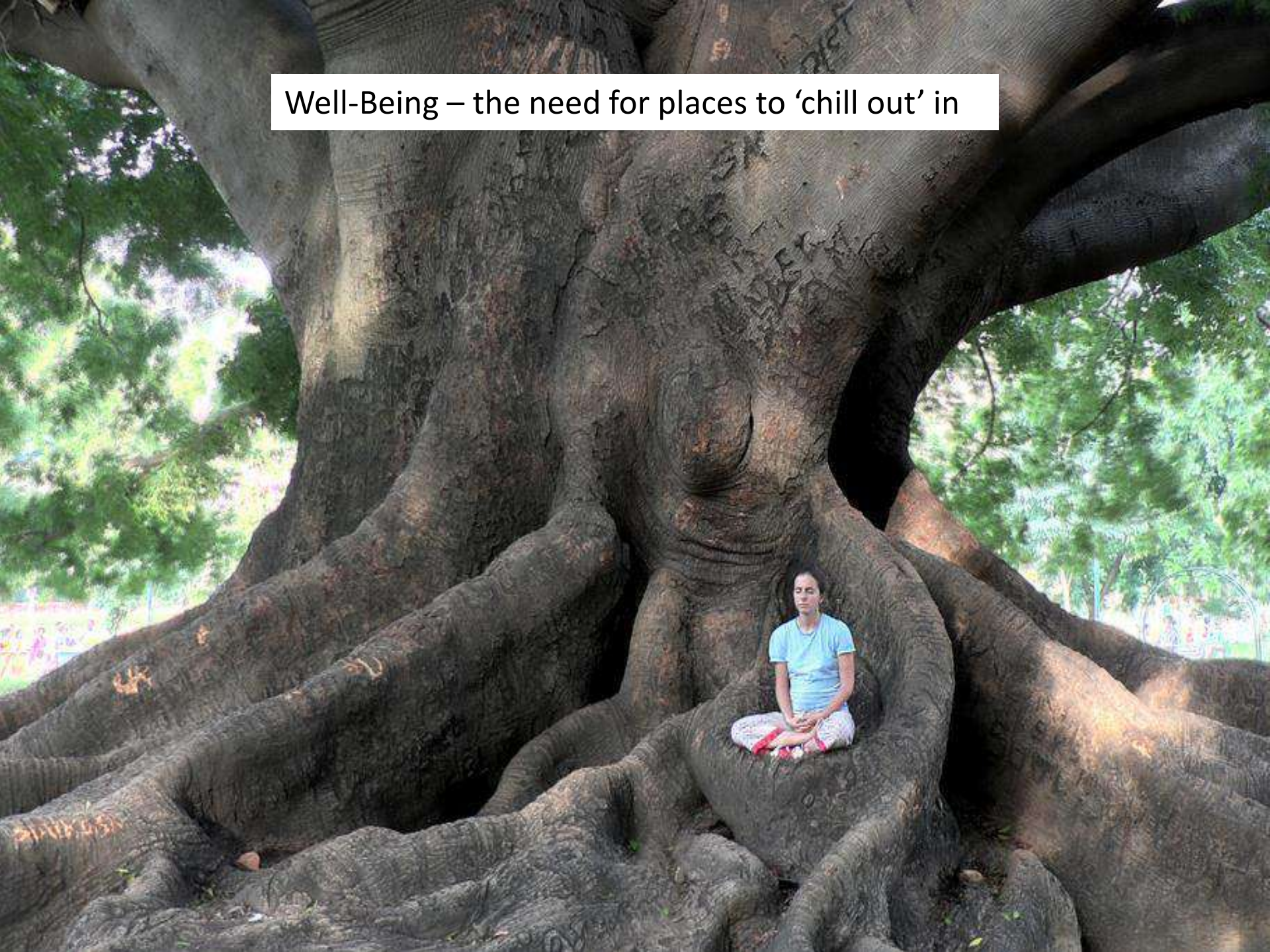


Including for Elderly people





Well-Being – the need for places to ‘chill out’ in





## Wildlife and Habitat Values



Violet Click Beetle

Golden Oriole



Brown Long-Eared Bat

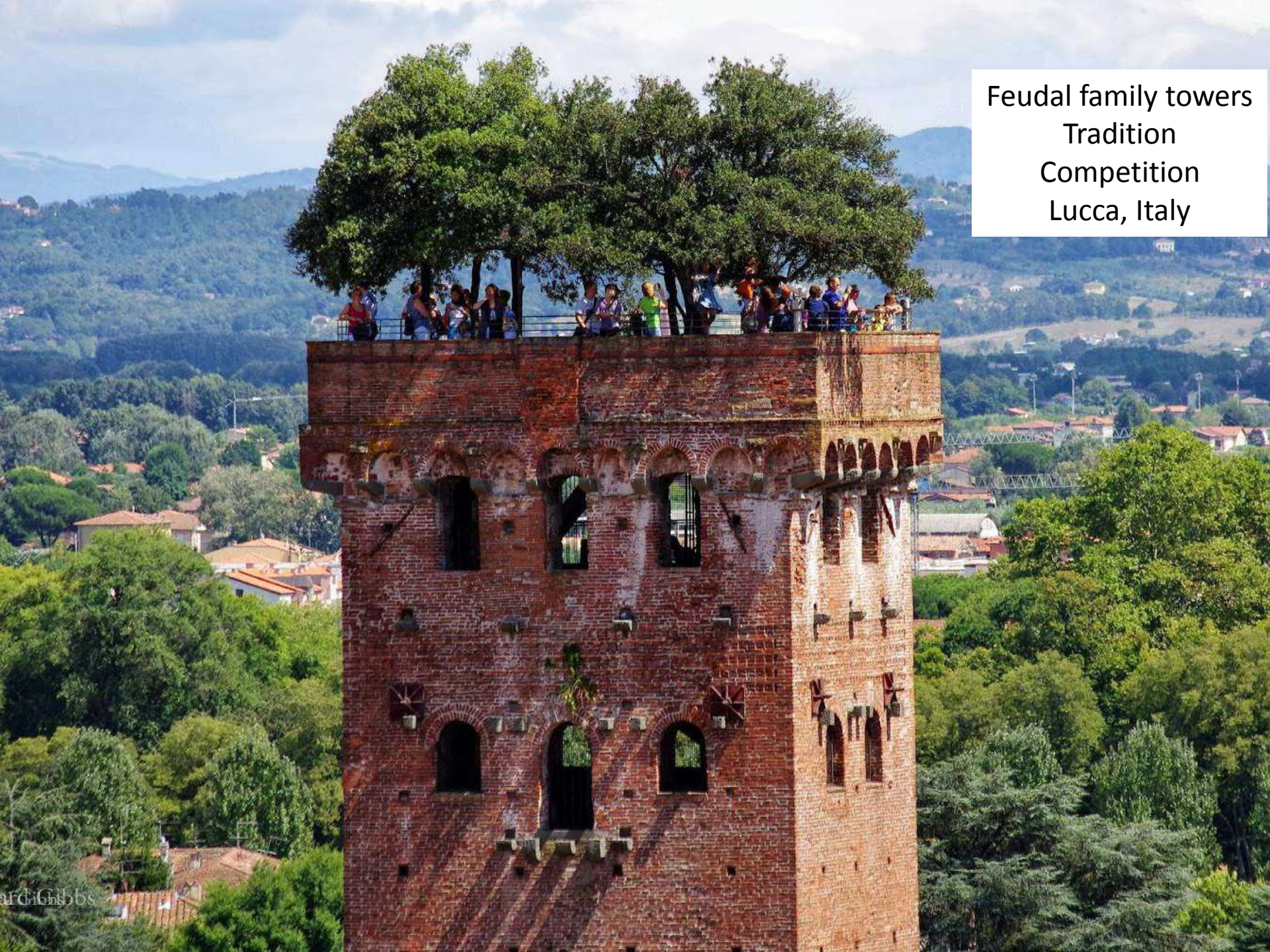


# Trees and Culture

[More prevalent in other countries?]



Feudal family towers  
Tradition  
Competition  
Lucca, Italy





'Honour Avenues', 'Town Trees', 'Gateway Trees' & 'Signature Trees'  
Pollarded Limes in French village square





'Welcome' Tree Planting – you are arriving home!!  
Gateway Trees





## Village Arboretum de Vernet-les-Bain, France

Started in the 1960s and in 1996 officially titled the "village arboretum", with a statement of faith that provides (among other things) that for every child born in the town, the parents will plant that child's tree.





Commemorative 'Avenues of Honour' – Big in Australia, Canada and the USA





“Forest Bathing” or, *shinrin-yoku* 森林浴 in Japanese  
Which means bathing in the forest atmosphere or taking in the forest through our senses.





*Komorebi* 木漏れ日 – ‘sunlight through trees’





*Hanami* 花見 “flower viewing”: Japanese Cherry Blossom Viewing Picnic  
Celebrating the arrival of spring – 1000 year-old tradition



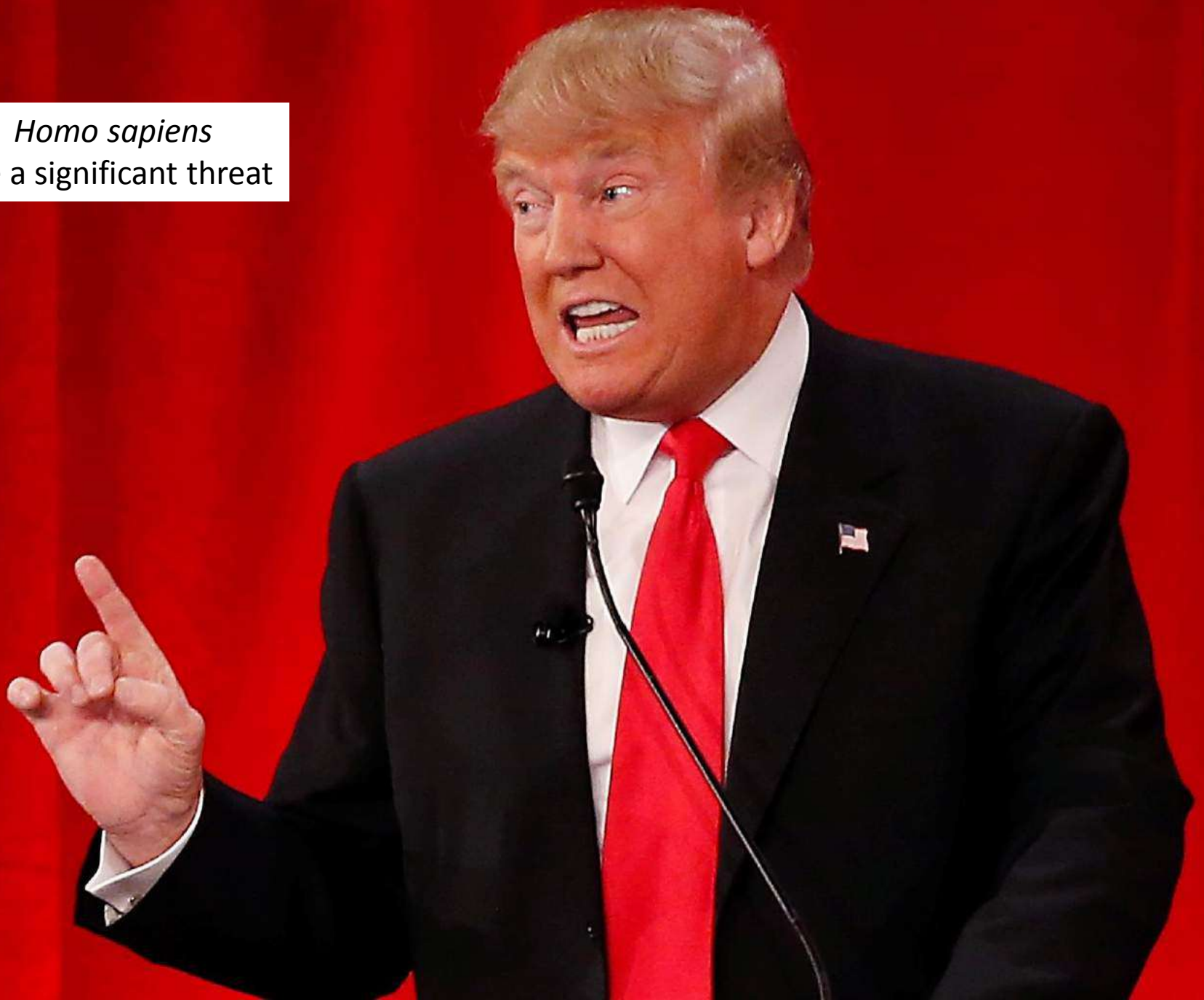


# Some Threats to Trees

And a few solutions



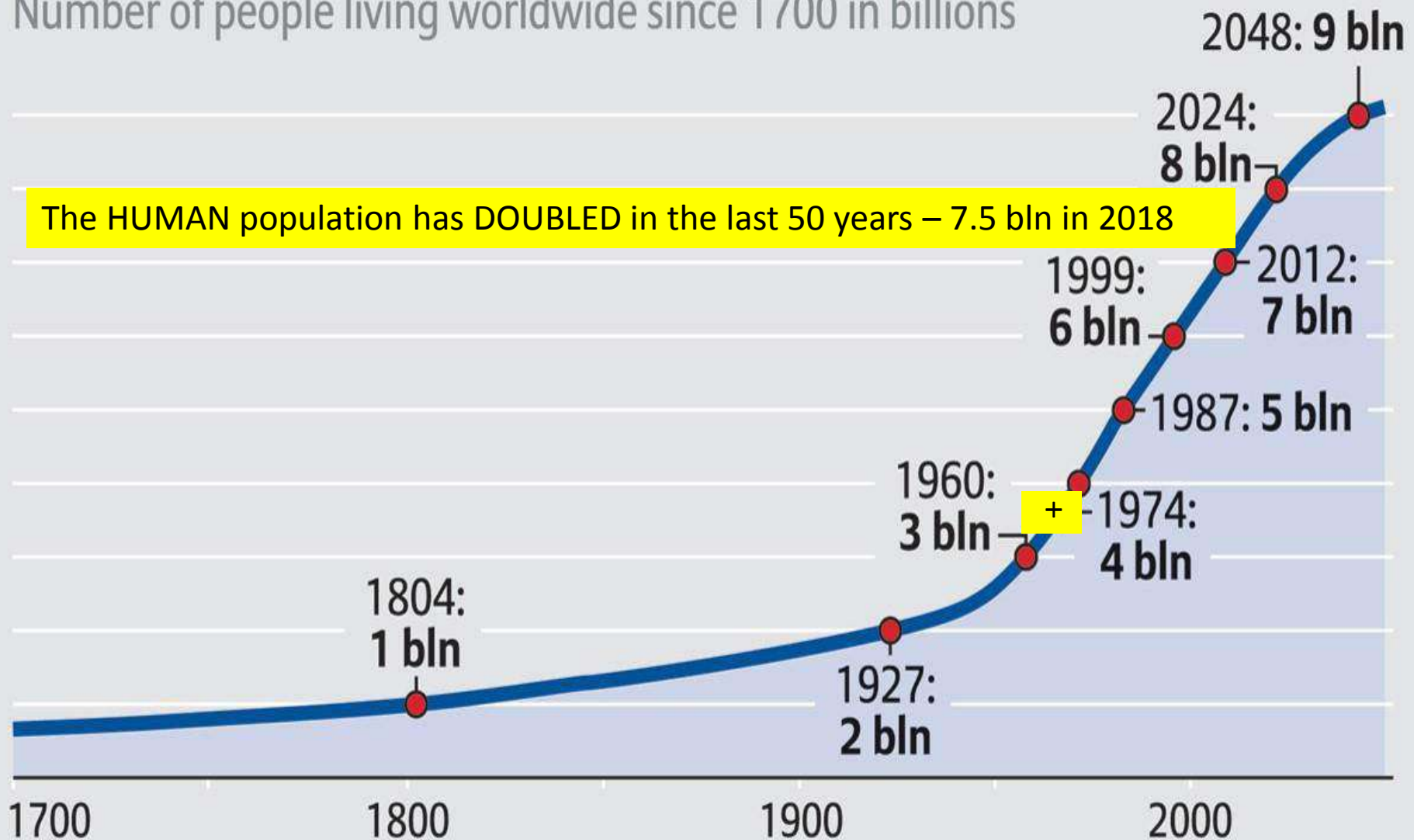
*Homo sapiens*  
Are a significant threat





# POPULATION OF THE EARTH

Number of people living worldwide since 1700 in billions



Source: United Nations World Population Prospects, Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung

For further information please visit: [www.knowledge.allianz.com](http://www.knowledge.allianz.com)



58% of humans now live in towns and cities





In Sussex alone - 60,000 houses must be built over the next 15 years





Are we building the tree-less slums of tomorrow?





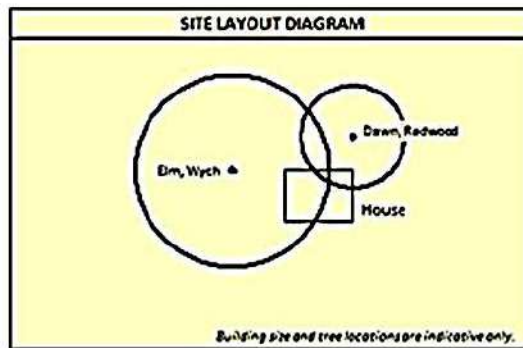
A problem for not just trees...





GENERAL DATA		
Climate zone:	Postcode:	
Site location:	Oxford	OX
Foundation type:	Strip foundation	
Volume change potential of soil:	Medium	
Specify Plasticity Index if known:	35 %	

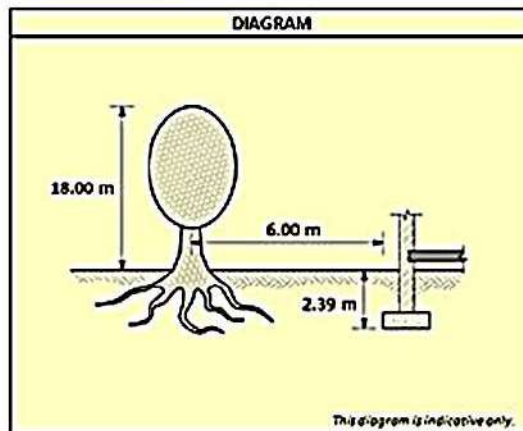
SUMMARY OF RESULTS			
Tree species:	Distance to found.:	Mature height:	Foundation depth:
Elm, Wych	6.00 m	18.00 m	2.39 m
Dawn, Redwood	4.00 m	16.00 m	1.15 m



#### FIRST TREE: DATA, CALCULATIONS AND RESULTS

TREE DATA	
Tree status:	Retained or to be planted
Name of the species:	Elm, Wych
Latin name of the species:	Ulmus glabra
Distance to foundation:	6.00 m

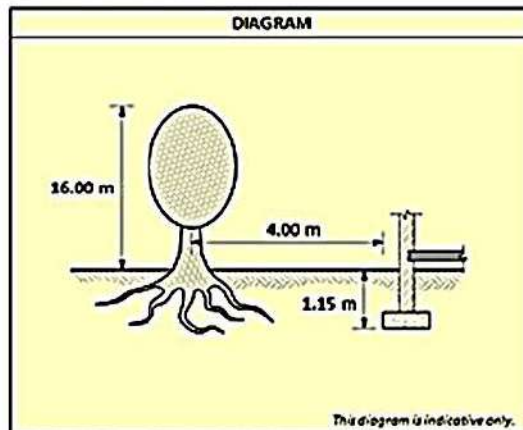
CALCULATIONS	
Tree group:	Broad leaved
Mature tree height:	18.00 m
Water demand:	High
Influence zone:	22.50 m
Required foundation depth:	2.44 m
Reduction in required depth:	0.05 m
Final required foundation depth:	2.39 m



#### SECOND TREE: DATA, CALCULATIONS AND RESULTS

TREE DATA	
Tree status:	Removed or to be removed
Name of the species:	Dawn, Redwood
Latin name of the species:	Metasequoia glyptostroboides
Distance to foundation:	4.00 m
Actual tree height:	15.00 m

CALCULATIONS	
Tree group:	Coniferous
Mature tree height:	16.00 m
Water demand:	Moderate
Influence zone:	12.00 m
Required foundation depth:	1.20 m
Reduction in required depth:	0.05 m
Final required foundation depth:	1.15 m



## NHBC Chapter 4.2 Trees and New Houses

Guidelines and Certification  
to protect house buyers?

Or, is it:

Allowing builders & developers to  
construct with minimum footings  
[1m in heavy clay] to make  
maximum profit?

By:

Dictating to their landscape  
architects what tree and hedge  
species they can use within 40m of  
the new house!



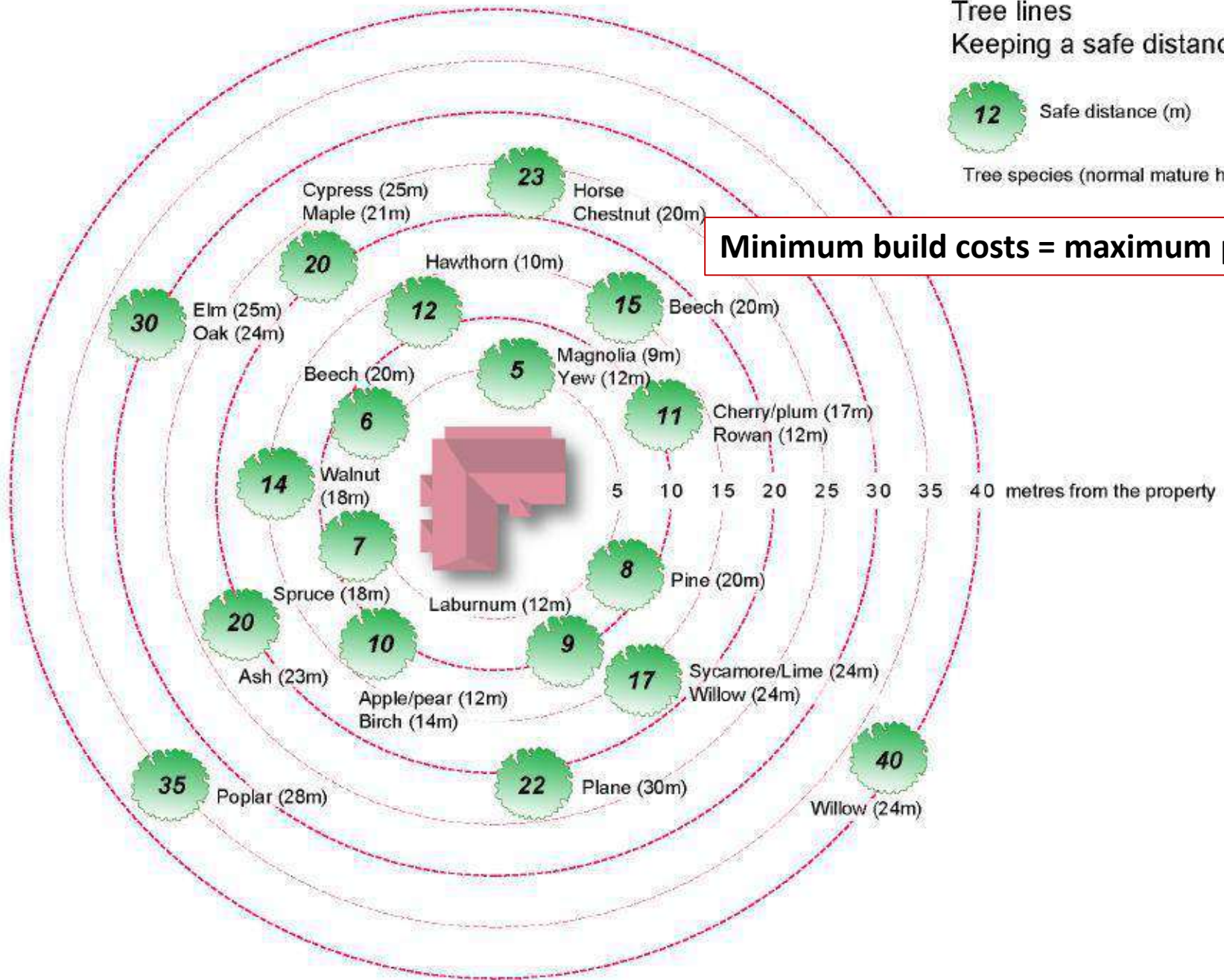
Tree lines  
Keeping a safe distance



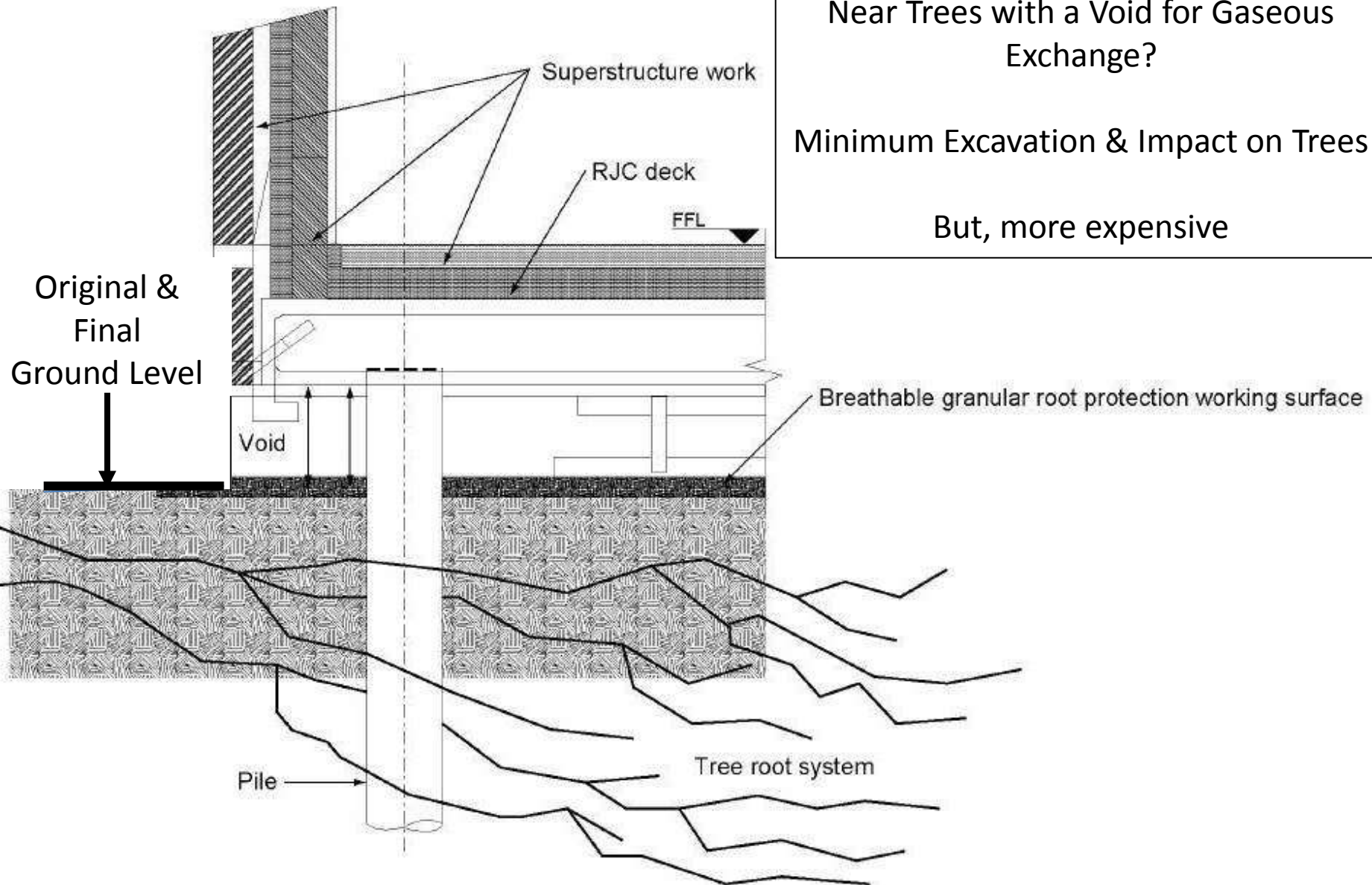
Safe distance (m)

Tree species (normal mature height)

**Minimum build costs = maximum profit**







Suspended Pile and Beam foundations  
Near Trees with a Void for Gaseous  
Exchange?

Minimum Excavation & Impact on Trees

But, more expensive

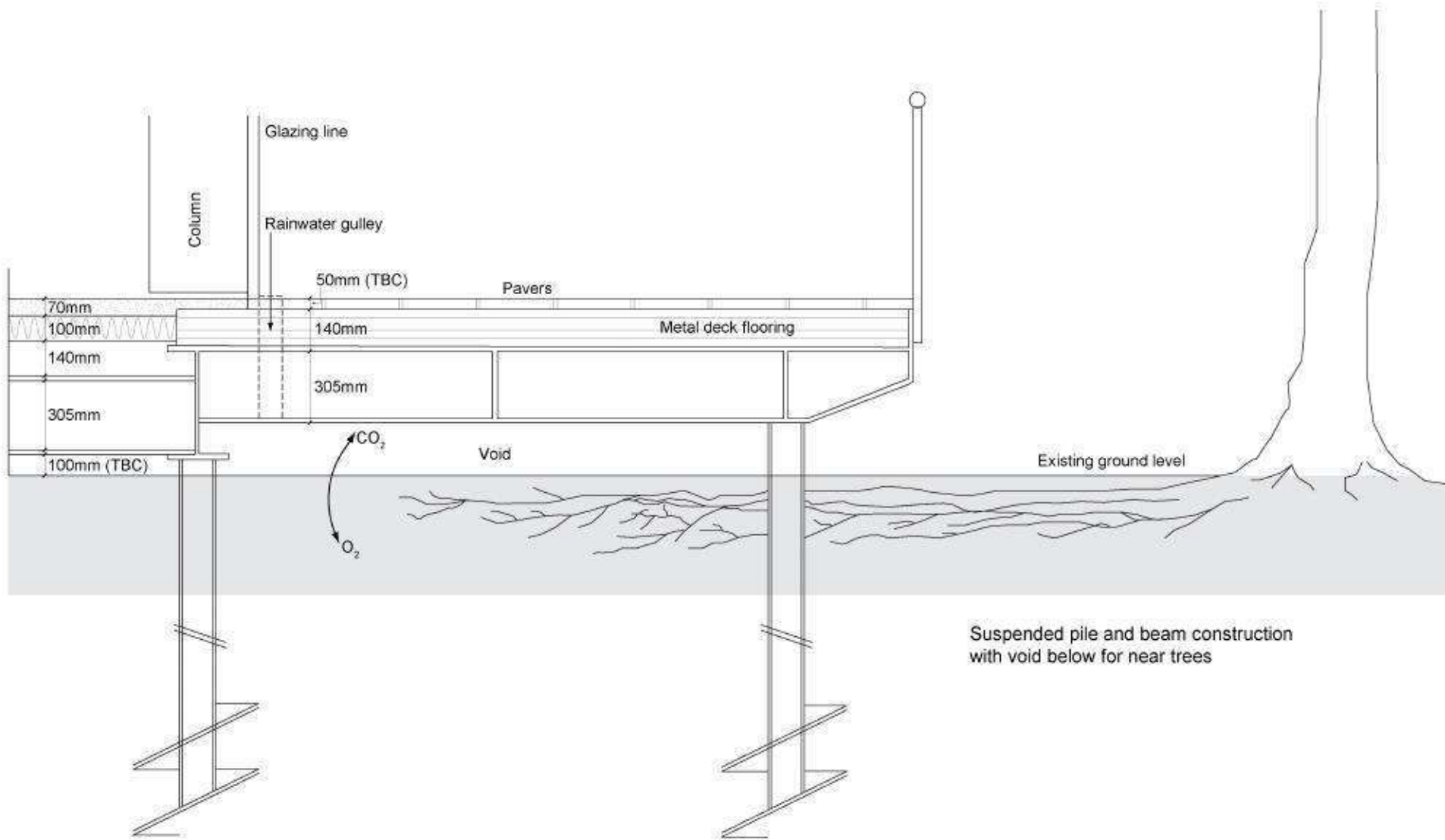


School classroom in a woodland built on piles





## Similar - cantilevered construction near trees for terraces & decks





**BS 5837:2012: “Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations”**  
**12 x stem diameter = root protection radius – this oak tree needed 12m radius protection**



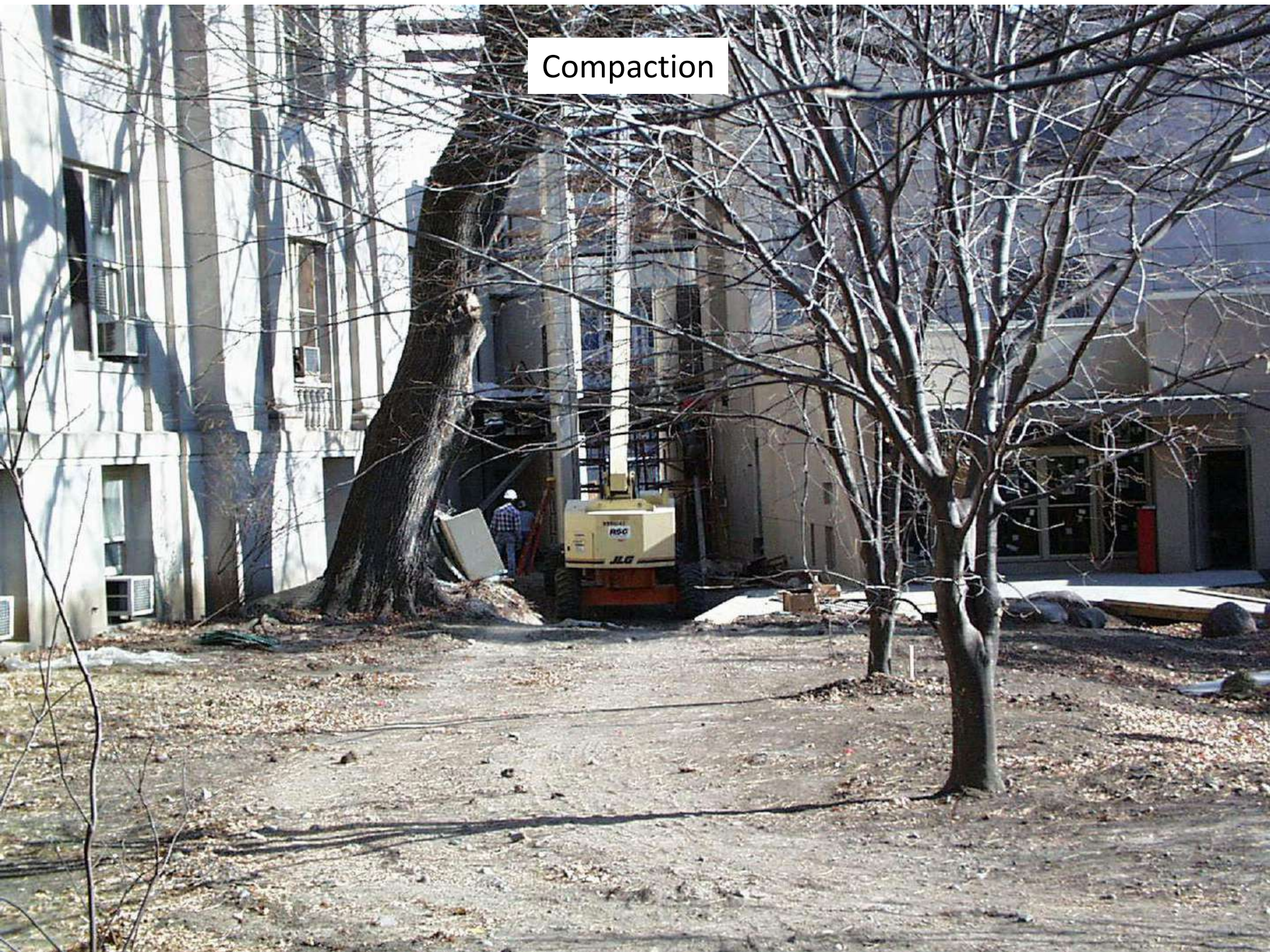


Near Borde Hill, West Sussex  
January 2018 – Approved by the local planners





Compaction





Bonfires and Compaction  
Paris, France

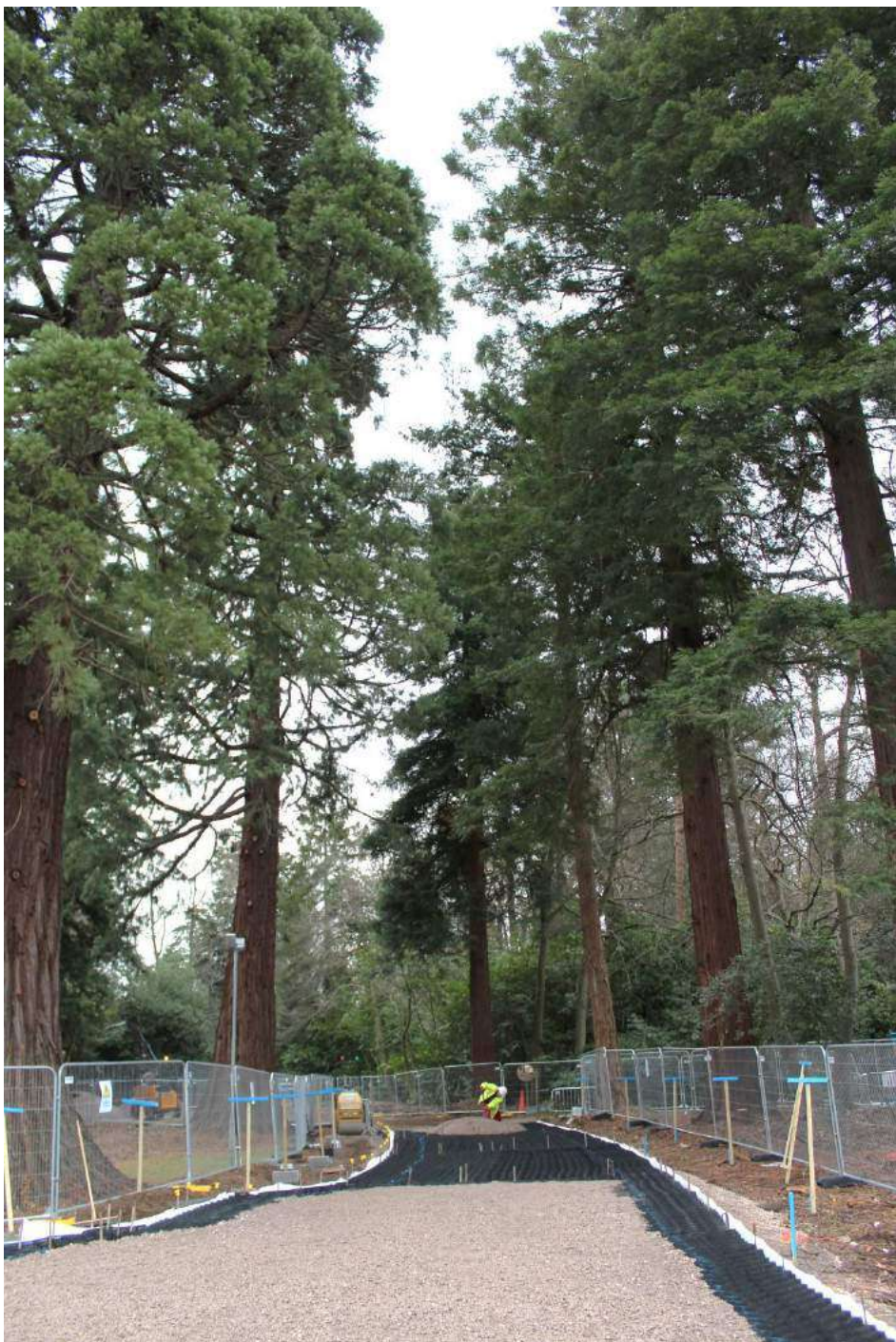




## Cellular Confinement Systems

No dig construction near trees etc.

- Minimal excavation – a surface scrape
- Porous / permeable surface and sub-base
  - No root severance
  - No compaction
- Allows gaseous exchange:  $O_2$  in and  $CO_2$  out

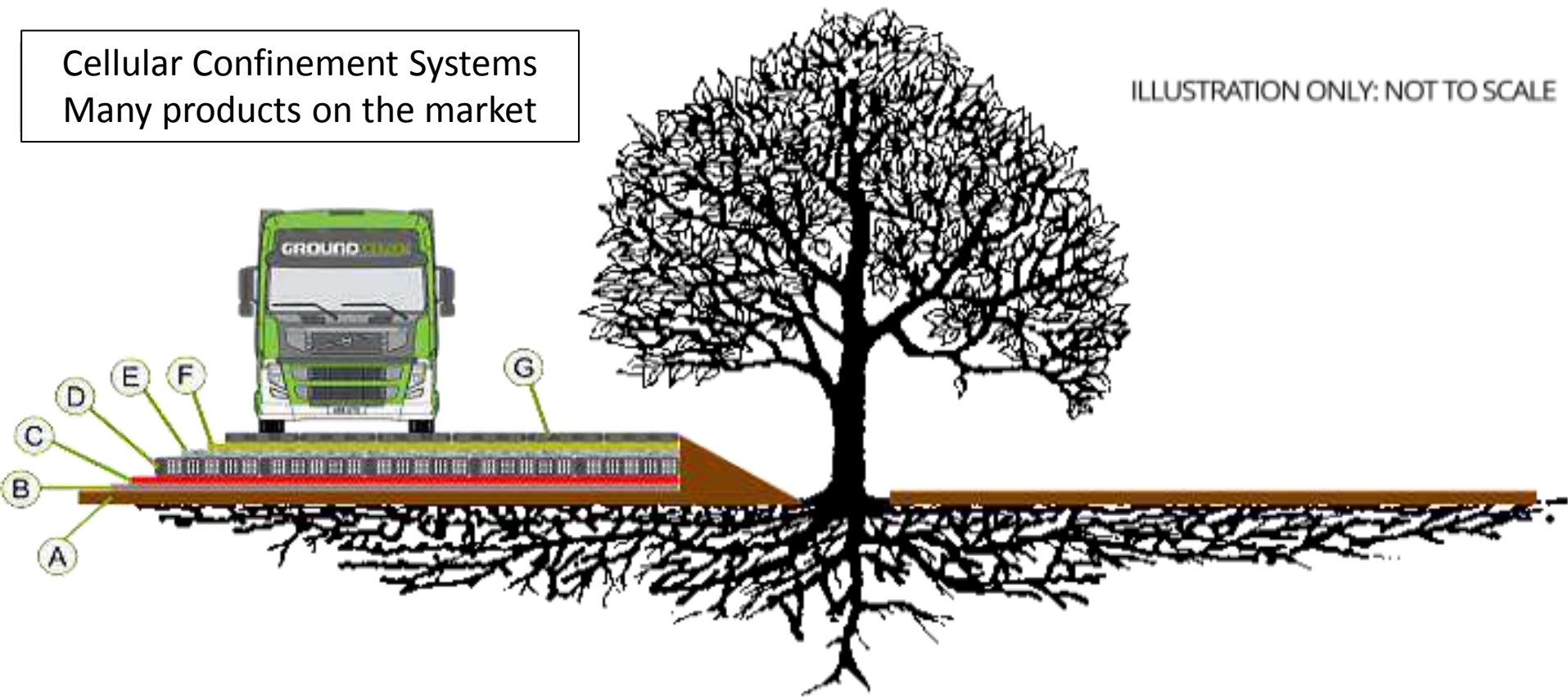




## Cellular Confinement Systems

Many products on the market

ILLUSTRATION ONLY: NOT TO SCALE



A

SUB GRADE - EXISTING SOIL OR  
BEDDING LAYER

B

GEOTEXTILE - GEOTRAX TS1000  
*(If a heavy grade geotextile is required, please contact  
us as other grades are also available)*

C

OPTIONAL GEOGRID - GEOTRAX GX 20/20  
OR GX 30/30

D

GEOTRAX GC 75/100/150/200

E

25-50MM WEARING LAYER OVER  
THE CELLS (FROM INFILL MATERIAL)

F

GEOTEXTILE LAYER (FOR PERMANENT  
USE WITH ITEM 'G')

G

CELLULAR PAVERS (PERMANENT USE)  
CELLPAVE 40, 65 OR HD



Raising of Soil Levels near trees





Tree Protection on your sites?  
What happened before you arrived?





Statutory undertakers





Trenching  
Monitor your contractors and sub-contractors





Excavation using an air spade

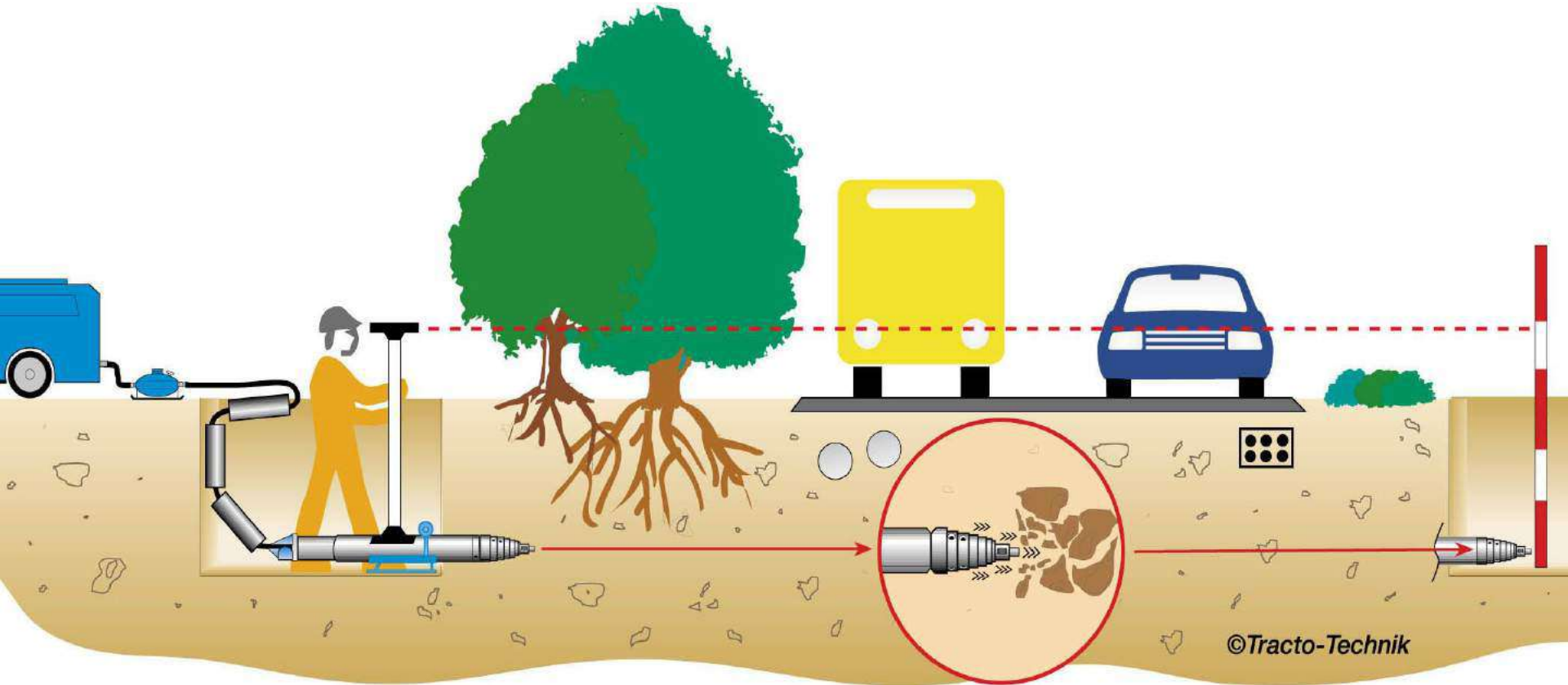


Excavation by hand, air spade and mini digger





## Underground Moling Systems for installing services without trenching





Vandalism





Romania in early 2018. Forty 100+ old lime trees 'pruned' to accommodate new kerbing





Ring-barking of oaks for development





CCTV cameras and lighting – including for domestic gardens





Tree Houses?





## Differing Opinions





Poisoning



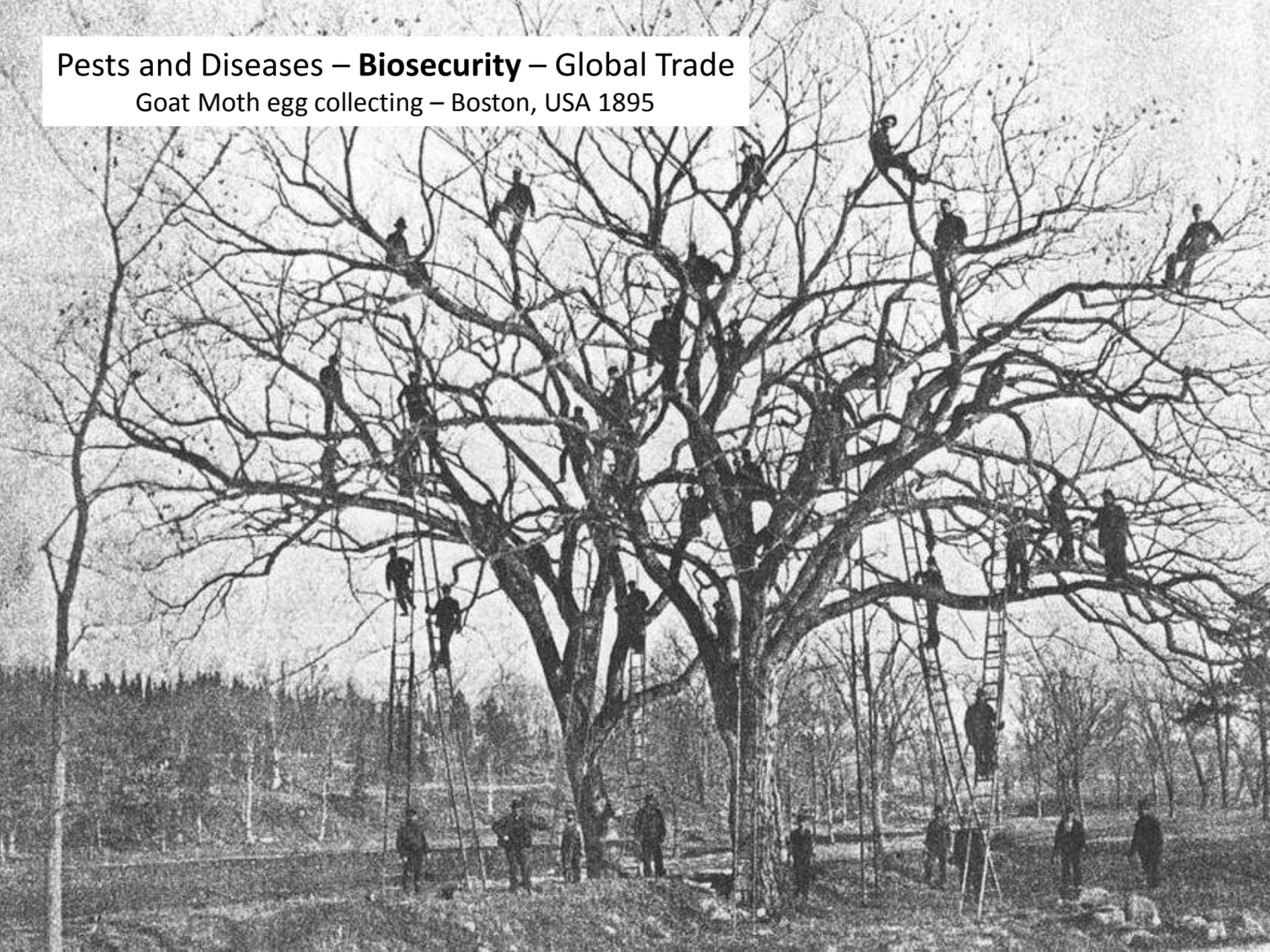


Anti-bird spikes fixed to trees in Bristol





Pests and Diseases – **Biosecurity** – Global Trade  
Goat Moth egg collecting – Boston, USA 1895





# New Pests and Diseases already in the UK:



Oak  
*Processionary*  
*Moth*  
(*Thaumetopoea*  
*processionea*)

**Uncontrolled in  
Holland at  
present**



Ash Dieback  
(*Chalara fraxinea*)



Horse Chestnut  
Leaf Miner  
(*Cameraria ohridella*)



# Heading this way – already here?



Asian Long Horned  
Beetle

*Anoplophora glabripennis*



Emerald Ash Borer

*Agrilus planipennis*



Canker Stain of Plane

*Ceratocystis fimbriata f. platani*



Pine Processionary Moth

*Thaumetopoea pityocampa*



Pine Processionary moth - *Thaumetopoea pityocampa*  
This is a killer





## PPM now established in:

- Albania
- Algeria
- Austria
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- France (including Corsica)
- Greece (including Crete)
- Hungary
- Italy (including Sardinia and Sicily)
- Libya
- Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Portugal
- Serbia
- Slovenia
- Spain (including the Balearic Islands)
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Tunisia.

## Susceptible Species

Pine trees particularly susceptible:

Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*)

Aleppo pine (*P. halepensis*)

Canary Island pine (*P. canariensis*)

Lodgepole pine (*P. contorta*)

Maritime pine (*P. pinaster*)

Monterey pine (*P. radiata*)

Scots pine (*P. sylvestris*)

Stone pine (*P. pinea*)

Other recorded hosts include:

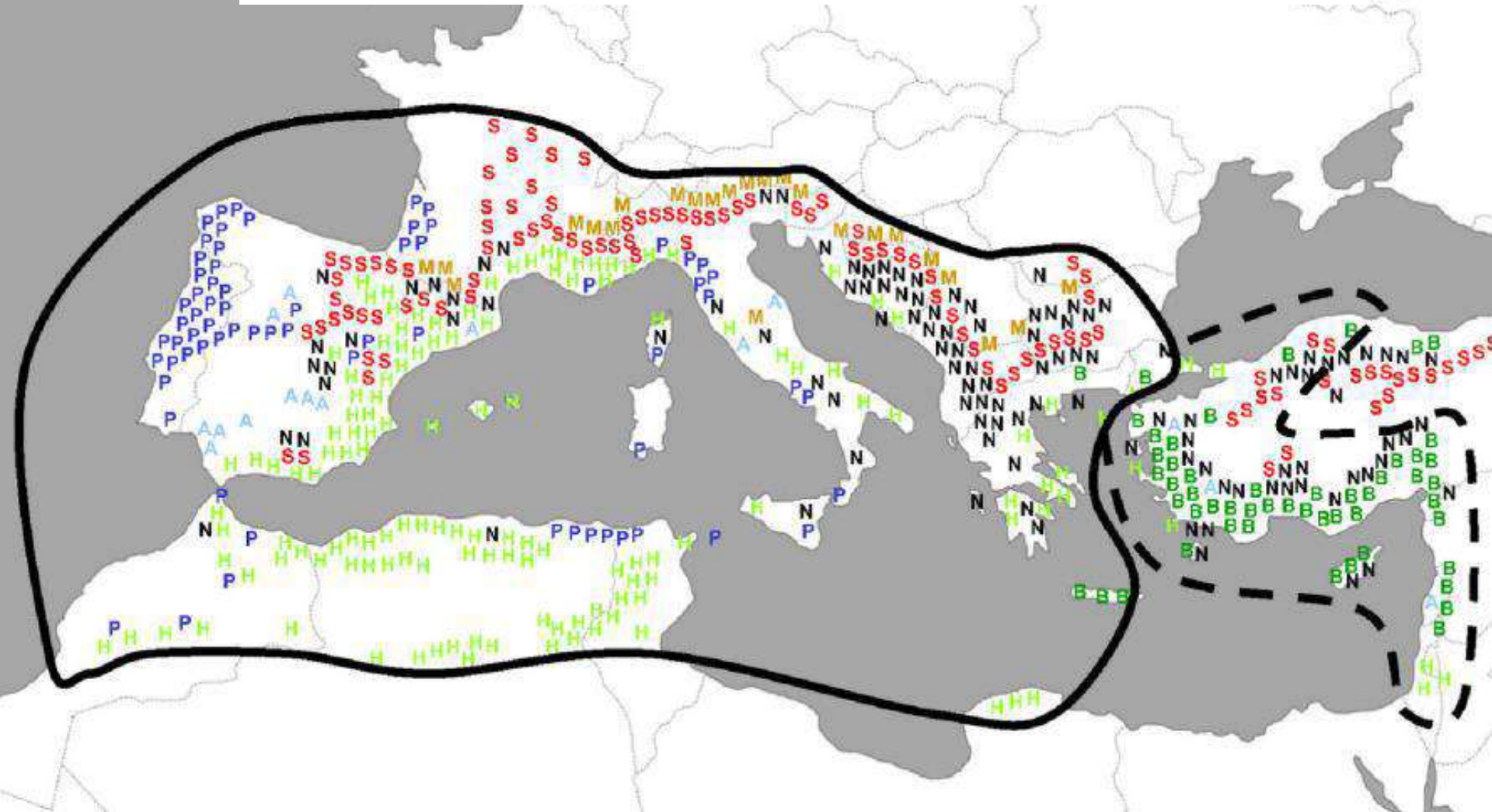
Atlas cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*)

European larch (*Larix decidua*)



500 km

2009 - Ranges of the Pine Processionary moths *Thaumetopoea pityocampa*, solid line;  
*Thaumetopoea wilkinsoni*, dashed line;  
A = *Pinus pinea*, B = *P. brutia*, H = *P. halepensis*, M = *P. mugo*, N = *P. nigra*, P = *P. pinaster*,  
**S = *P. sylvestris***. Each letter refers to a land unit where the indicated pine species is dominant  
but not necessarily exclusive.





# Biodiversity

At the Arboricultural Association Annual Conference September 2014

*“Urban tree diversity for resilient and attractive cities”*

by

Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch

Sweden

SLU Landscape - [cecil.konijnendijk@sl](mailto:cecil.konijnendijk@sl)

**“The Curse of Symmetry”**

**We should no longer plant monocultures?**



The “Curse of Biodiversity”?  
Muddled ‘Stamp Collections’?





We shouldn't plant grids and blocks like this any more?





Single species avenues have a wow factor  
Jacaranda avenue in S. Africa





People notice bold plantings - that provide a strong visual effect





Creating unity in plantings is now a dirty word?





Also, can we afford to just plant British natives and accept the 'rising tyranny of ecology'?  
We only have 35 woody native plant species – plus a few rare/endangered types





Do we have to plant Native trees all the time and everywhere?

**Beware of the 'Native Tree Taliban'**





This is the real problem:

**Over reliance on too few species**

Tree populations in three Scandinavian capitals

From Sjöman et al. (2012)

**Stockholm:** Tilia: 31.8 %  
Acer: 21.0 %  
Sorbus: 11.7 % = **64.5%**

**Oslo:** Tilia: 27.1 %  
Acer: 23.7 %  
Betula: 11.7 % = **62.5%**

**Helsinki:** Tilia: 44.7 %  
Acer: 12.7 %  
Betula: 11.1 % = **68.5%**



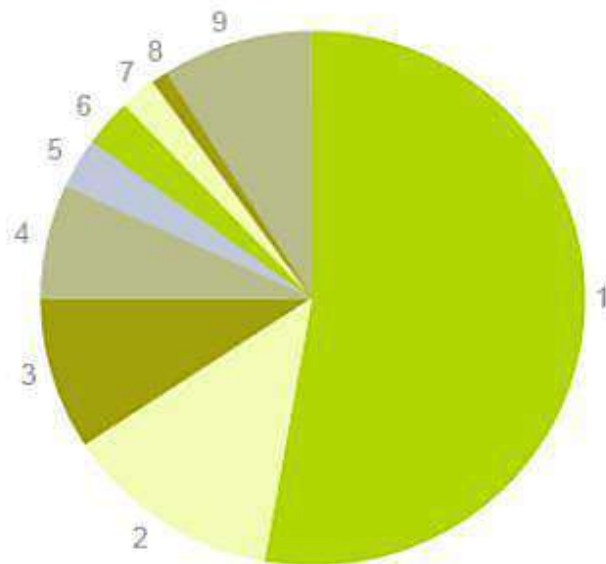
## Example: Lyon, France

In 1994 75% of Greater Lyon's city street trees belong to just 3 species

In Greater Lyon, 254 different tree species grow in hard landscapes  
(+69% compared to 10 years ago)

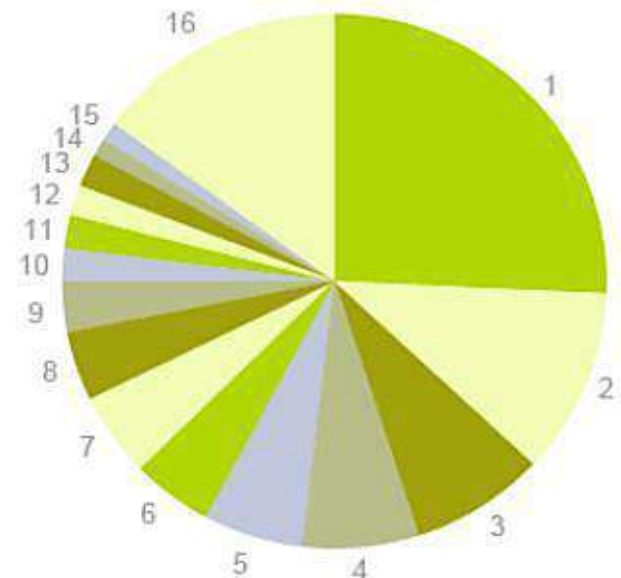
Increase the range of plants  
and we can still plant  
single species blocks  
and avenues

Species distribution in 1994 (%)



1	Platanus	53
2	Acer	13
3	Tilia	9
4	Robinia	7
5	Aesculus	3
6	Prunus	3
7	Celtis	2
8	Populus	1
9	Other	9

Species distribution in 2013 (%)



1	Platanus	26	9	Sophora	3
2	Acer	11	10	Corylus	2
3	Tilia	8	11	Gleditsia	2
4	Celtis	7	12	Aesculus	2
5	Fraxinus	6	13	Ulmus	2
6	Quercus	5	14	Malus	1
7	Prunus	5	15	Zelkova	1
8	Pirus	4	16	Other	15



# “TREES FOR URBAN PLANTING: DIVERSITY UNIFORMITY, AND COMMON SENSE”

FRANK S. SANTAMOUR, JR.

U.S. National Arboretum  
Agricultural Research Service  
Washington, D.C.

*“A broader diversity of trees is needed in our urban landscapes to guard against the possibility of large-scale devastation by both native and introduced insect and disease pests. Urban foresters and municipal arborists should use the following guidelines for tree diversity within their areas of jurisdiction”:*

- ☐ Plant no more than 10% of any species
- ☐ Plant no more than 20% of any genus
- ☐ Plant no more than 30% of any family

*From: Santamour, F.S. 1990 in ‘ Trees for the Nineties: Landscape Tree Selection  
[Proceedings from MTIA – 7<sup>th</sup> conference Illinois]*



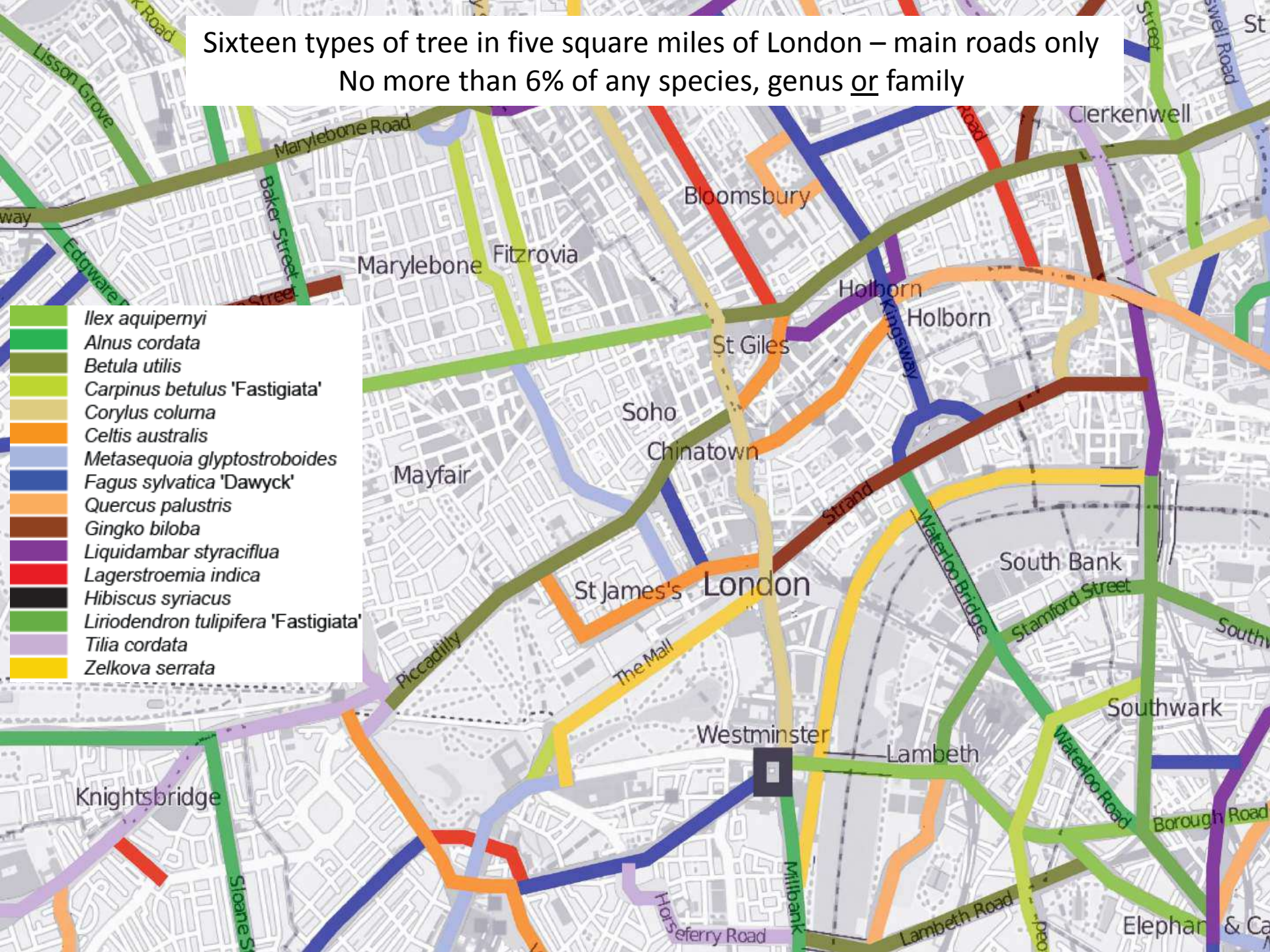
# Maintaining Biodiversity among Street Trees - yet keeping single species avenues

19 Families = 5%; 33 Genera = 3%; 33 Species/Cultivars = 3%

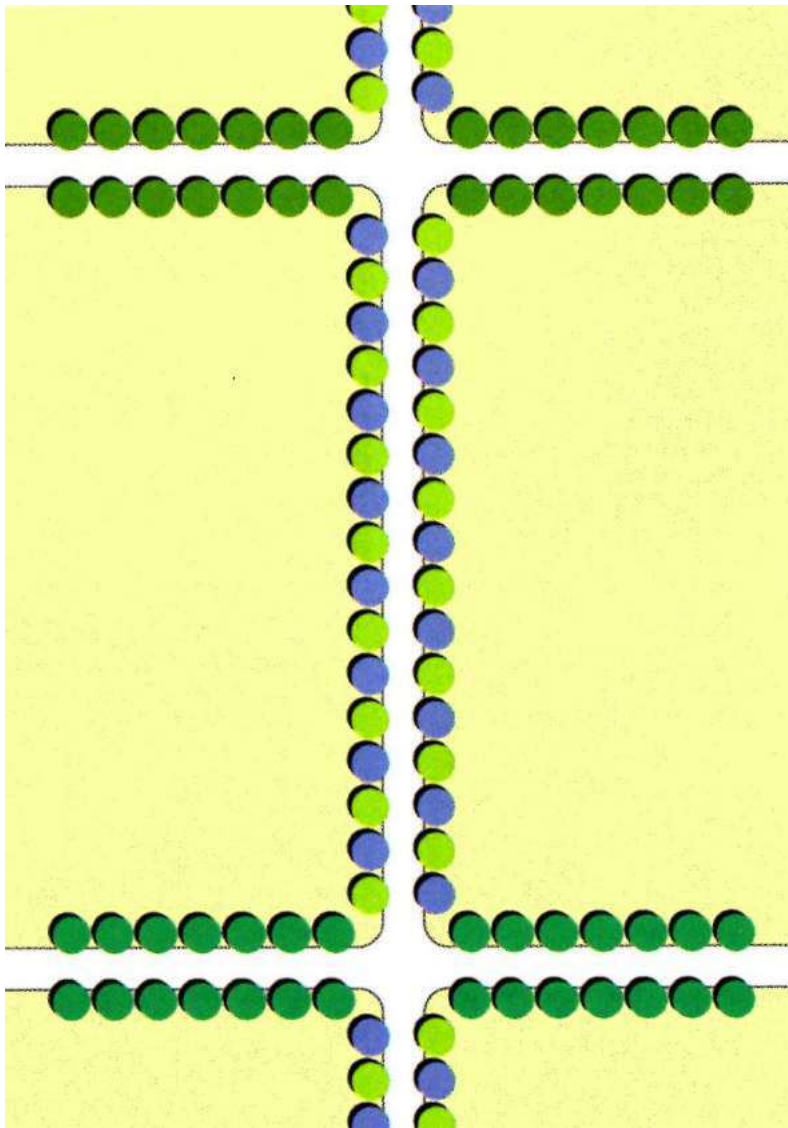
Aquifoliaceae	<i>Ilex aquipernyi</i>	Meliaceae	<i>Melia azedarach</i>
Betulaceae	<i>Alnus cordata</i> <i>Betula utilis</i> <i>Carpinus betulus</i> 'Fastigiata' <i>Corylus colurna</i>	Moraceae	<i>Broussonetia papyrifera</i>
Cannabaceae	<i>Celtis australis</i>	Oleaceae	<i>Fraxinus ornus</i> 'Obelisk' <i>Ligustrum lucidum</i>
Cupressaceae	<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	<b>Fabaceae</b>	<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i> <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> 'Skyline'
Fagaceae	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Dawyck' <i>Quercus palustris</i>	Platanaceae	<i>Platanus orientalis</i>
Gingkoacaeae	<i>Gingko biloba</i>	Rosaceae <b>18%</b>	<i>Amelanchier arborea</i> 'Robin Hill' <i>Crataegus x prunifolia</i> <i>Malus</i> 'John Downie' <i>Prunus</i> 'Okame' <i>Pyrus calleryana</i> 'Chanticleer' <i>Sorbus aria</i> 'Majestica'
Hamamelidaceae	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	Salicaceae	<i>Salix alba</i> 'Liempde'
Lythraceae	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i>	<b>Sapindaceae</b>	<i>Acer buergerianum</i> <i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> 'Fastigiata'
<b>Malvaceae</b>	<i>Hibiscus syriacus</i> <i>Tilia cordata</i>	Ulmaceae	<i>Zelkova serrata</i>
Magnoliaceae	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> 'Fastigiata' <i>Magnolia kobus</i>		



Sixteen types of tree in five square miles of London – main roads only  
No more than 6% of any species, genus or family

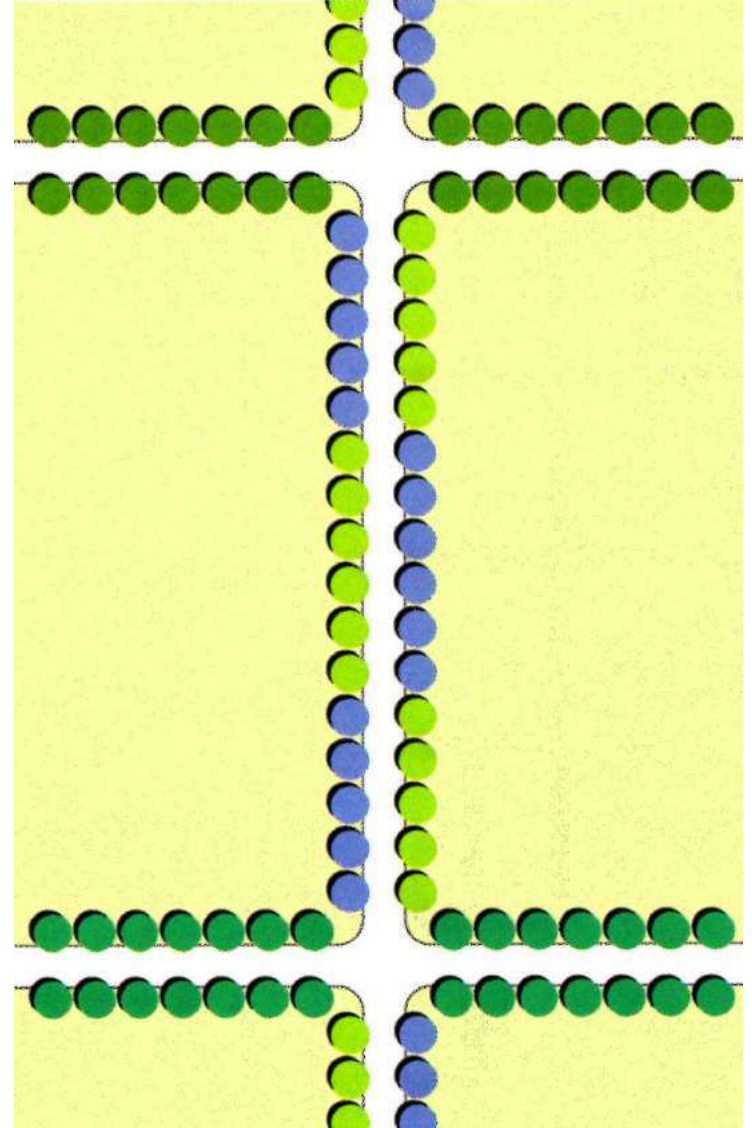






Repetition using two species  
alternating on opposite sides of street

*After Simons and Hauer – ISA, August  
2014*



Different single-species segments on  
one side of street, alternating on  
opposite side of street



9/11 Memorial Site – New York  
Only, Swamp white oak planted – *Quercus bicolor*

