



This guide has been created through the Portals to the World programme, a partnership initiative between the University of Cambridge Museums and Dementia Compass.

Dementia Compass are a social venture with over a decade of experience supporting individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias and their families.

Dementia Compass builds and provides resources that reduce the impact of dementia and help people stay connected with who and what matters.

For more information visit the Dementia Compass Website:

www.dementiacompass.com



Or contact them on

07876 350 638

hello@dementiacompass.com

Notes:



Access information

Are there places to sit?

There are benches at regular intervals around the Garden and wheelchair accessible picnic tables in most of the picnic areas.

Is the Garden wheelchair accessible?

Brookside Gate is fitted with a low-level counter. Path surfaces are mostly gravel and there are large stretches of lawn with sloped paving ramps to allow access.

The tropics house has some bark paths unsuitable for wheelchairs.

Is this walk wheelchair accessible?

The walk is wheelchair accessible. There are some low hanging branches along the route which can be avoided by going onto the grass.

Are Wheelchairs available to borrow?

Manual Wheelchairs are available to borrow free of charge at both the Brookside Gate and Station Road Gate. These can be pre-booked by phone or email (see below).

Are there accessible toilets?

There are accessible toilets behind the Glasshouses, in the Café and at the Brookside Gate.

Is the Garden accessible with visual impairments?

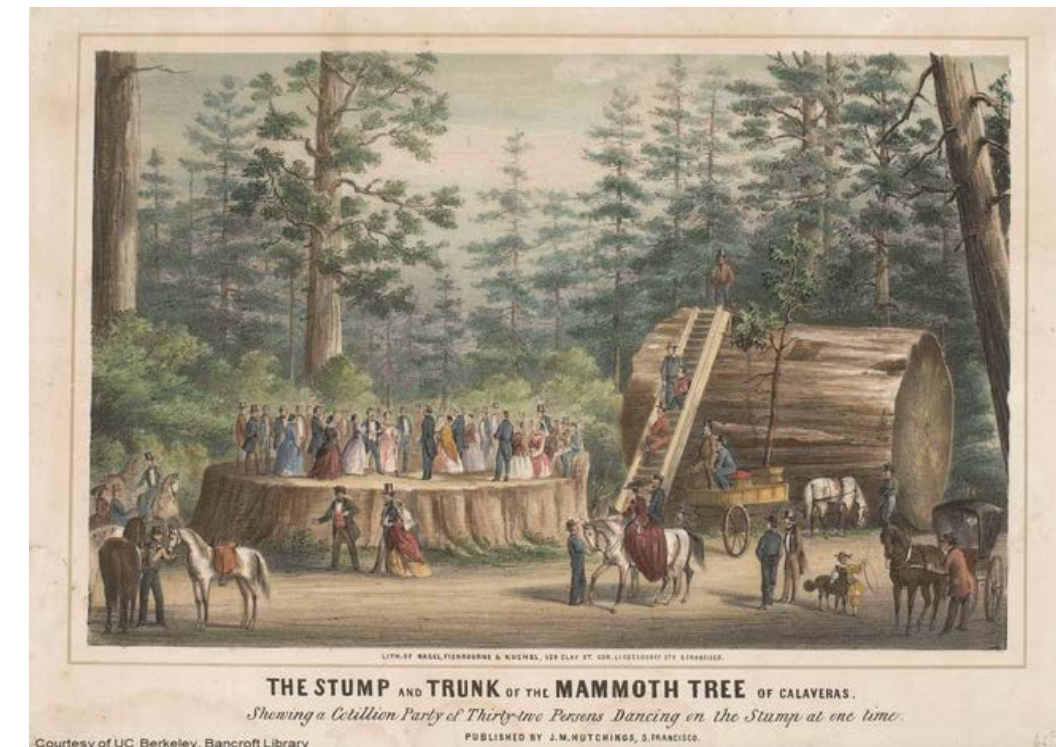
Trained assistance dogs are permitted to visit the Garden, when supporting a disabled handler.

Telephone: 01223 336265

Email: enquiries@botanic.cam.ac.uk

Redwood Trees

Giants of the Botanic Garden



Giant Redwood

Sequoiadendron giganteum

The largest tree in the world is a Giant Redwood. People could not believe that such enormous trees existed. Giant Redwoods were felled and sections were exhibited while their stumps became tourist attractions.

In California, a 1244 year old, 90 metre high tree took 22 days to fell. Its stump was used as a dance floor large enough for 40 people and a two lane bowling alley.

1

Giant Redwood

Sequoiadendron giganteum



The tallest tree in the Garden and amongst the first Giant Redwood to be grown anywhere in the world outside of its native California.

Victorian plant hunter William Lobb brought Giant Redwood seeds back to the UK in 1853. Cambridge University Herbarium has the first samples of the Giant Redwood that Lobb collected and the trees you see in the Garden were grown from seeds brought back.

3

Dawn Redwood

Metasequoia glyptostroboides



The Dawn Redwood was first discovered in China about 80 years ago, before this the tree was thought to have been extinct for approximately 5 million years. The Dawn Redwoods in the garden are the first to be grown in the UK and possibly the first outside of China.

Unlike the Giant and Coastal Redwoods, the Dawn Redwood sheds its leaves in the autumn with the foliage going from a beautiful lime green to a copper red before falling to the ground.

2

Coastal Redwood

Sequoia sempervirens



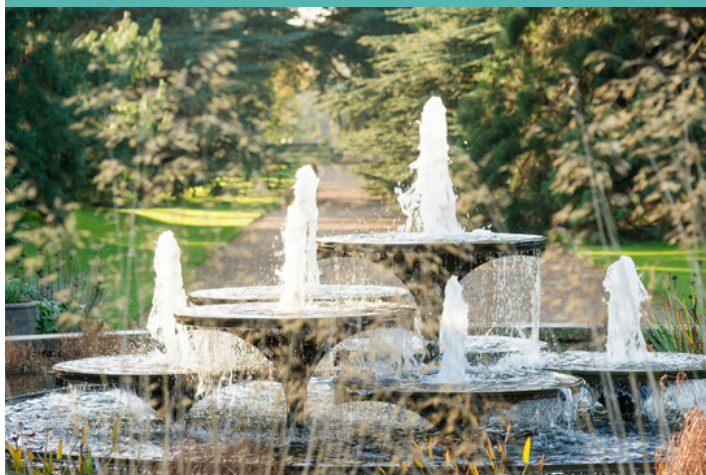
Coastal Redwoods are the tallest tree species in the world and can live for thousands of years with the oldest recorded tree living to 2,200 years old. How can it live for so long? The secret is in the bark.

The 30 cm thick and fibrous bark gives protection against fire damage and contains tannin which protects it from insect and fungal attack.

4

The Fountain

1970



The Garden's Fountain was designed by David Mellor, a silversmith from Sheffield and one of the best known designers of his day. Famed for his cutlery designs, Mellor was also responsible for the design of bus shelters and traffic lights in the UK.

The bubbling columns of water echo the vertical forms of neighbouring Giant Redwoods.

Looking down the Main Walk, can you see the trees that may have inspired David Mellor?

