

石牆樹的保育情況

Wall Tree Conservation

香港城市發展步伐急促，無論是發展項目或修築鐵路，均對石牆樹的存亡構成威脅，在目前缺乏保育石牆樹的機制下，不少石牆樹的處境尤如風前燭光。

Local wall trees are vulnerable to being torn down as a result of unsustainable development. There are no laws or plans to conserve wall trees. Hectic pace of development offer an excuse for sloppy planned projects and the trees are like candles in the wind.

現時香港並沒有針對性的法例和機制保育石牆樹。部份石牆樹如般咸道(近正街)和西營盤佐治五世公園的石牆樹等因被列入古樹名木冊，而理論上受康樂及文化事務署所保護和注視；但不少石牆樹卻不在古樹名木冊之列，當中包括明星級的石牆樹，如荷理活道前警察宿舍、灣仔船街南固台和西環科士街的石牆樹。

Some wall trees such as those in Bonham Street (near Centre Street) and King George V Memorial Park are listed in the Register of Old and Valuable Trees. They are protected, in theory at least, by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. Wall trees that are left out of the Register are by no means unworthy of protection, like the now famous trees outside the former police quarters in Hollywood Road, Ship Street in Wanchai near Nam Koo Terrace and Forbes Street in Kennedy Town.

保護石牆樹的理由

- 不少石牆樹均為生存了數十年的大樹，當中大部份為本土品種，為香港人多擠迫、山多路窄的社區提供難得的城市綠蔭。
- 石牆樹在沒有人澆水施肥下，仍然能在石牆這種艱難的環境茁壯成長。這種自力更生、不屈不撓的精神與香港人多年來的拼搏精神可比擬。石牆樹的消失會令香港人的拼搏精神失去一個象徵。
- 石牆樹結合自然植物和人工建築的獨特形態，是緣於香港開埠初期的工藝與自然環境的配合，因緣際會下才無心插柳成蔭地出現。它見證了香港開埠最初數十年的景象，成為一頁活的歷史見證。
- 石牆樹有多種樹種，而且多屬本土品種，其豐富的生物多樣性，已是毋庸置疑。無論對綠化和生態研究，石牆樹都十分重要。

Reasons for protecting wall trees:

- Many wall trees have been living for several decades, most of them are native species. They proffer shades to the cramped, hillside communities.
- Wall trees flourish from the joints, unattended, just like the can-do spirit of Hong Kong people. The disappearance of wall trees means the demise of another symbol for the Hong Kong spirit.
- Wall trees bring together the unique forms of natural vegetation and man-made structures. It is a sheer coincidence of early artisanship and natural environment. They are the living witnesses of the early history of Hong Kong.
- Wall trees consist of various species and most of them native. The rich biodiversity is beyond doubt and is important to greening as well as ecological research.

位於科士街的石牆樹。
Magnificent wall trees along Forbes Street.

