Howland Avenue's Trees

This booklet is about helping people to identify trees through a self-guided walk along Howland Avenue. I've used the data that the Annex Residents' Association TreesPlease committee, shared regarding these local trees (http://www.theara.org/Interactive-Tree-Map). I cite where I can, although many things have been related to me. Though this tour focuses on trees, I've included some tidbits of other history. Checkout the website for more details http://web.ca/~arthurgron/trees. Enjoy the walk.

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The Annex neighbourhood encompasses the area from Bathurst Street in the west to Avenue Road in the east, and Bloor Street to the south up to the railway tracks (just north of Dupont Street) in the north

The Annex neighourhood has a population density of 8,500 people/km^2, ten times that of the GTA, with a total population of 15,515. *(Wikipedia, The Annex)*

The Annex homes, mostly Victorian and Edwardian, were built in the 1880s and the early 1900s. "The most rapid growth in real manufacturing output per head of population was during the 1880s, probably followed the by 1870s, and 1900s, while the 1890s were an 'interval of stagnation'...".*(The Economic Development of Canada, Pomfret)* 1893 to 1897 saw a world recession, prompted by a coup in Argentina.

In 1883, Yorkville agreed to annexation with the City of Toronto. In 1886, Simeon Janes, a developer, created a subdivision which he called the Toronto Annex. The Annex area became part of Toronto in 1887. *(Wikipedia, The Annex)*

Bloor Street is named after Joseph Bloore (1789 -1862), born in Staffordshire, England. Originally a brewer he wento into real estate development, in 1843, and purchased land in nearby Yorkville. *(Wikipedia, Joseph Bloore)*

Howland Avenue is named after William Pearce Howland (1811 - 1907). "Between 1840 and 1857, through the rental and purchase of properties on the Humber River, Howland developed a sawmill and flour-mill complex, named Lambton Mills about 1844...By the late 1850s William was one of the wealthiest millers in Upper Canada...During the 1860s Howland's business interests became increasingly concentrated in Toronto, where he served as president of the Board of Trade [from] 1859-62...Howland was one of three delegates from Upper Canada at the London conference of 1866-67, which framed the future British North America Act...[He was] appointed lieutenant governor of Ontario." *(Dictionary of Canadian Biography, William Pearce Howland)*

Travelling 2.5 kms north to Eglinton, east of Bathurst, are the remains of a Huron village from the fifteenth century. This is the earliest known settlement found in Toronto. “There is some evidence that the Iroquois fell upon this peaceful settlement when they were on their way to Fort Ste. Marie in the summer of the year 1649."*(Jackes, An Iroquois-Huron village in north Toronto)* Perhaps instead of thinking of the Annex as north of Toronto, we can shift our thinking and place the Annex just south of the first known village in the area.

The current vegetation of Toronto reflects its position at the junction of two forest regions, the Deciduous Forest Region (Carolinian Zone), and the Great Lakes-St.Lawrence and known as the Mixed Forest Region (...transitional between conifer-dominated forests ...and deciduous forests...). *(Trees, Shrubs & Vines of Toronto, City of Toronto Biodiversity Series)*

Howland Avenue's Trees
Even Addresses

16 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The Norway Maple is an invasive species. It is fast growing for a maple and produces many seeds every year, unlike other maples that have bumper crops of seeds only every other year.

20 Howland Ave. Ginkgo.

The ginkgo is one of the oldest living, unchanged, tree species on earth, going back at least 125 million years to the time of the dinosaurs. The name means "duck foot".

24 Howland Ave. Black Walnut, Red Oak.

The Black Walnut tree is seen as a symbol of good soil fertility by the Swiss Mennonites. It was the Black Walnut that the Mennonites were searching for when they moved to Ontario from Pennsylvania 200 years ago. *(Ontario Mennonite History, 2005)*

30 Howland Ave. Lilac.

Because of how nice lilac's smell they were planted near outhouses. Archaeologists look for old lilac bushes on abandoned farmsteads to find where the outhouses might have been.

32 Howland Ave. Freeman Maple.

Freeman maples are chosen for the wonderful fall colour usually found in a red maple, but with the added traits of hardiness and ease of growing often found in a hybrid. *(Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association, Freeman Maple)*

34 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

38 Howland Ave. White Mulberry, Amur Maple, Tree of Heaven.

Because the Tree of Heaven grows so well in an urban environment it has the undeserved nickname, "ghetto palm".

40 Howland Ave. Scotch Elm, Black Locust.

The elm is a prized tree because it has a vase shape to it.

42 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

The sap of the Silver Maple is sweet but less sugary than that of the Sugar Maple. *(Eastern Trees, Petrides)*

44 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

50 Howland Ave. Norway Maple, Eastern White Cedar, Balsam Fir.

Firs are more than Christmas trees. Canada turpentine is made from the balsam fir. It is used in gluing high end optic glass like binoculars and telescopes. I once met a gent in Toronto who used to make money collecting old Christmas Trees, in the 1960s, to sell to a business making Canadian turpentine.

56 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

58 Howland Ave. White Ash.

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an introduced insect pest from Asia that attacks and kills all species of ash trees. This invasive pest has been devastating ash trees in southern Ontario and parts of the United States since its discovery in Detroit, Michigan in 2002. In 2007, The Canadian Food Inspection Agency first confirmed the presence of the EAB in Toronto in the vicinity of Sheppard Avenue East and Highway 404. *(City of Toronto, Emerald Ash Borer)*

62 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

64 Howland Ave. Common Yew.

Yew is a flexible hardwood making it durable. It was used to make the famous English longbow.

72 Howland Ave. Japanese Maple, Common Yew.

74 Howland Ave. Cherry, Red/Green Ash.

The bark of the cherry runs horizontally and makes a good material for making small "paper boxes".

76 Howland Ave. White Mulberry.

The white mulberry tree leaves are used for silkworm food, in the production of silk.

78 Howland Ave. Japanese Maple.

80 Howland Ave. Common Yew, Silver Maple, Austrian Pine, White Spruce.

Pines have been harvested for timber, including the old electrical poles.

Here is the formula for calculating the board feet one can get from a tree.

1.Diameter in feet / 2 = _____ radius in inches / 12 = _____ feet
2.Area of tree cross-section = above number squared x 3.14 =_____ sq.ft.
3.Volume of tree in cubic feet = above number x tree height / 4 = _____
4.Volume of tree in board feet = above number x 12 = _____
(USDA Forest Service, Calculating Board Footage in a Tree)

For example a tree with a 2 ft diameter and 30 ft height will give 23.55 feet of board. One "board feet" is 12 inches by 12 inches by 1 inch.

Barton Ave.

90 Howland Ave. (This is the south side of the park, St. Alban's Square) Ash, Redbud, Silver Maple.

Path in park.

90 Howland Ave. (This is the north side of the park, St. Alban's Square) Silver Maple.

"The building at 100 Howland Avenue, now part of Royal St. George's College, was intended to be the Anglican Cathedral of the Diocese of Toronto. Even though it was still only in the planning stage, it was officially made the Cathedral in 1883 and remained so until 1935, when Archbishop Owen, then Primate of Canada, formally cancelled further construction. Work had stopped over twenty years earlier and it had become obvious that it would never be completed. In 1964, St. George's College was established and leased the property. This school has occupied the property since then. In 1970-72, classrooms and offices were erected on the unfinished nave foundations. The chancel, which had been completed in 1891, became the school chapel." *(Lost Rivers, Cathedral of St. Alban the Martyr)*

120 Howland Ave. (Front of the church)Ash, Norway Maple, Norway Maple, Cherry.

Cherry trees bloom in late April, early May.

120 Howland Ave. (Front of Royal St. George's College) Ash, Silver Maple, Red Oak, Honey Locust, Black Walnut, Hackberry, Basswood, Little-Leaf Linden.

Hackberry serves as a larval plant for several species of butterfly. *(City of Trees, Choukas-Bradley & Alexander)*

Royal St. George's College driveway.

Founded as an Anglican Choir School in 1961, the college opened in 1964.*(The History of Royal St. George's College)*

120 Howland Ave. (Front of Royal St. George's College) Norway Maple, Red Oak.

"Arguably the most popular hardwood in the United States, Red Oak is a ubiquitous sight in many homes...The pores are so large and open that it is said that a person can blow into one end of the wood, and air will come out the other end: provided that the grain runs straight enough [like a straw]."

130 Howland Ave. Little-Leaf Linden.

Linden nectar makes great honey. The tree perfumes the air in June. *(City of Trees, Choukas-Bradley & Alexander)*

134 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

"Dutch Elm Disease (DED) was introduced to Canada from Europe in 1944. The disease was first detected in Ontario in 1950. Since then it has spread over the entire range of native elms in North America. All American and European elm species are susceptible to DED. Some individual trees show certain level of resistance but are not completely immune to attack. Siberian and Chinese elms have proven to be resistant to DED... In the past 50 years the City of Toronto has lost many of its largest elms to the disease." *(City of Toronto, Dutch Elm Disease)*

138 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

142 Howland Ave. Norway Maple, Common Yew.

146 Howland Ave. Silver Maple, White Mulberry.

In the 1870s and 1880s the silver maple was considered an ideal street tree. However they proved difficult to maintain and fell out of favour. *(City of Trees, Choukas-Bradley & Alexander)*

148 Howland Ave. Apple, Nannyberry.

150 Howland Ave. Yew, Manitoba Maple.

152 Howland Ave. Siberian Elm, Silver Maple, Scotch Elm.

Wells Street

88 Howland Ave. and Wells St. Manitoba Maple, Honey Locust, Norway Maple, Scotch Elm, Red/Green Ash, Silver Maple, White Mulberry.

Laneway

160 Howland Ave. Burr Oak, Eastern Hemlock, European Mountain-Ash.

164 Howland Ave. Eastern White Cedar, Cherry.

The fruit of the cherry trees ripens in late June.

166 Howland Ave. Bur Oak.

170 Howland Ave. Sugar Maple.

"...a tapped maple will produce 10 to 20 gallons of sap...it takes approximately 40 gallons of sap to produce just one delicious gallon of fresh maple syrup..." *(New York State Maple Producers Association, 2017)* So one tree can produce 1/2 to 1 litre of maple syrup.

174 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The Norway Maple retains its foliage until late autumn, and turns bright yellow.*(City of Trees, Choukas-Bradley & Alexander)*

180 Howland Ave. Red Oak

182 Howland Ave. Scotch Elm.

186 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

190 Howland Ave. Norway Maple, Scotch Elm, Black Walnut, Sycamore Maple, Manitoba Maple, White Mulberry.

196 Howland Ave. White Cedar, Scotch Elm, Sycamore Maple.

198 Howland Ave. Eastern White Cedar.

208 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

216 Howland Ave. Eastern White Cedar, Norway Maple.

220 Howland Ave. Eastern White Cedar, Norway Maple, Tree of Heaven.

Tree of Heaven, refers to the short time it takes to reach the sky.

226 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

248 Howland Ave. Eastern White Cedar.

Dupont Street

"Dupont Street is named for George Dupont Wells, son of Colonel Joseph Wells (1773 - 1853) ...With his regiment he took part in some of the hardest fighting of the Napoleonic Wars. ...in 1822 and was to become one of the original directors of the Welland Canal Company...Wells was to suffer embarrassment and even humiliation in 1839. That March the House of Assembly requested information about the finances of King's College and Upper Canada College. The lieutenant governor, now Sir George Arthur, asked Wells for a report and in consequence discovered, as he later noted, that it was "impossible to conceive anything more neglected than the affairs of the University have been." Under Arthur's prodding, the council of King's College set up a special committee to investigate, and a sorry tale emerged. Although it appeared that Wells had been conscientious and personally honest, it was also clear that his business methods had been hopelessly sloppy, that clear records did not exist, and that he had not kept college finances separate from his own. The investigation further revealed that Wells had lent more than £5,000 to the president of King's College, John Strachan, without adequate security and had made unsecured loans to others as well."*(Dictionary of Canadian Biography, Joseph Wells)*

Canadian Pacific Railway

Davenport Road

Howland Avenue ends at Davenport Road, where there is a step cliff. "13,000 years ago Toronto was covered by glaciers more than one kilometre thick...this water flowed into Lake Iroquois, a glacial meltwater lake present for thousands of years before it drained to he size and position of modern-day Lake Ontairo. Both the small cliff that runs through the city along Davenport Road and the Scarborough Bluffs are visible remnants of the Lake Iroquois shoreline."*(Trees, Shrubs & Vines of Toronto, City of Toronto Biodiversity Series)*

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Howland Avenue's Trees
Odd Addresses

Urban forests can; soften architectural design, reduce noise pollution, produce a soft ruffling of leaves as tranquil ambient sound, provide shade, and reduce greenhouse gasses.

Dupont St.

Toronto has 2,226 growing degree days/year. The number of "growing degree days/year" is used extensively to assess and compare the productivity of different regions within the country. It is calculated by summing the difference between the average temperate for a day and the reference temperature of 5^C, for all the days when the daily average temperate is greater than 5^C.(The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany) For example Kapuskasing, in Northern Ontario, has approximately 1350 growing degree days/year.

267 Howland Ave. Fir.

The needles of a Fir grow directly from the branch, and detach cleanly. Where they attach to the branch, the branch looks like it has a little suction cup.

255 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

The silver maple is similar the the red maple - except that its leaves turn pale yellow or brown, not red, in the fall.

253 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The stems and branches release a milky white sap when broken, earlier in the season this is more noticeable.

30,000 years ago Southern Ontario was covered by the Laurentide Ice Sheet. As the ice over the present site of Lake Ontario began to melt, about 12,800 years ago, a large body of water known as Lake Iroquois was formed. The St. Lawrence Valley, however, remained blocked by a lobe of glacial ice sheet. During this time, Lake Iroquois was forced to drain eastward at Rome, New York State. This large lake persisted by about 700 years until the ice melted from the St. Lawrence Valley. During this period, the wave action of Lake Iroquois eroded its shoreline. This shoreline is easily recognizable today by the steep hill ascended by Avenue Road and by Bathurst Street just north of Davenport Road. The same phenomenon created the 20 meter high shore cliff upon which Casa Loma was constructed. From the base of this old shoreline, the terrain of the Toronto slopes gently for 5 km to the present Lake Ontario shoreline at a rate of 11 meters per kilometre. (The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

245 Howland Ave. Little Leaf Linden.

The Little Leaf Linden produces clusters of yellowish, fragrant, flowers. Blooming in the summer and is a great source of pollen and nectar for bees. The tree has heart-shaped leaves that are lopsided at the base, 2"-3" long and saw-toothed around the edges.

229 and 225 Howland Ave. Siberian Elm.

The Siberian Elm shows signs of resistance to Dutch Elm Disease.

219 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The Norway Maple is prone to girdling roots. This is when a root twists over other roots, choking off the flow of water and nutrients.

215 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

The bark is smooth and and grey when the tree is young, becoming shaggy with then peeling strips as it ages.

The primary method of clearing the forests of southern Ontario was by fire. Lady Elizabeth Posthuma Simcoe, wife of John G. Simcoe, maintained a detailed outdoor nature diary. In it, she described how exciting it was to watch the evening horizon glow, for weeks at a time, as homesteaders burned the forest to prepare for farming. Also, from the late 1700s to the early 1800s, the overseas demand for potash was exceptionally high because of the Napoleonic Wars. (Potash was a primary source of potassium, an essential ingredient of gunpowder).(The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

213 Howland Ave. Siberian Elm.

The Siberian Elm was introduced in the 1860s, throughout the Midwest for windbreaks. It makes a nice hedge, when planted in a long stand, and if properly maintained by pruning to a short height.

211 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

The Silver Maple is fast growing, a 10-year-old sapling will stand about 8m tall.

209 Howland Ave. Linden.

Known in the trade as basswood, particularly in North America, its name originates from the inner fibrous bark of the tree, known as bast. From the bark, were extracted fibres, teille, which, by retting, made ropes, mats and coarse fabrics.

205 Howland Ave. Little Leaf Linden.

"There is evidence of the little-leaf linden being planted and used for social purposes as early as 760 A.D. In the Germanic and Norse countries, the tree was known as a favourite of Freya (the goddess of love) and Frigga (the goddess of married love and the hearth). Maidens would dance wildly around the village linden, and women hoping for fertility would hug the tree or hang offerings in its branches."

201 and 199 Howland Ave. Tree of Heaven.

The importation, distribution, trade, and sale of tree-of-heaven have been banned in Massachusetts effective January 1, 2009. It is a very invasive species.

Taddle Creek once flowed through the Annex. Starting north of St. Clair in the Wychwood Park neighbourhood, it meandered southeastward. It was relatively shallow in the Annex. By the 1880s the creek had developed a foul odour from waste and in 1884 the creek as buried, today it most likely runs, entombed, in a sewer pipe. (The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

195 Howland Ave. Japanese Maple.

Japanese Maple grows between 6 to 16 meters. It is an under-story plant, growing in the shade of other trees. Prone to die during periods of drought, but will not survive in boggy soil.

193 Howland Ave. Smoketree and American Yellowwood.

The flowers of the Smoketree resemble large grayish-buff, like a cloud of smoke, where the plant gets its name.
America Yellowwood is found primarily on cliffs in Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina. But is hardy and can survive further north. Typically grows 10-15 meters. The name yellowwood is derived from its yellow heartwood, used for decorative wood turning.

189 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

It has been found that in an urban environment like the Annex the average lifespan of a Norway Maple is approx. 55 years. (The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany) In a pristine habit, with ideal conditions, its age can reach 250 years.

185 Howland Ave. Japanese Maple and Honey Locust.

"During the Edo era in Japan(1603-1868), over 250 named cultivars were selected and grown. Today, there are over 1,000 varieties of different sizes, shapes and hardiness levels."
The leaves of the Honey Locust turn yellow in the Autumn. Honey Locusts typically have thorns, 3 to 10cm, growing out of the branches. It is believed that the thrones evolved to protect itself from Pleistocene megafauana (like the woolly mammoth).

179 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The Norway Maple is a fast growing tree and therefore not as hard as other maple varieties in terms of its wood strength. It is vulnerable to damage from wind storms and may drop large limbs. Many Stradivarius and other older Italian violins are suspected to have been constructed from Norway Maple.

175 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

It is often found along waterways and in wetlands, leading to the colloquial name "water maple".

171 Howland Ave. White Oak.

"Sexual maturity begins at around 20 years, but the tree does not produce large crops of acorns until its 50th year and the amount varies from year to year".

165 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

"These samara(seeds pods) of the Norway and Sugar maples are distinctly different. Sugar maple samara have a shape somewhat similar to a horseshoe while the Norway maple’s samara is more horizontal and looks more like the shape of a wooden coathanger.

161 Howland Ave. Japanese Maple and Alder.

Japanese Maple is sometimes called 'kaede' and 'momiji' by Japanese gardeners, referring to 'frogs hands' or 'babies hands' because of the hand-like shape of the leaves.
Alder. The name Alder comes from the old English word 'alor', which is derived from old German 'aliso', which was derived fromte Proto-Indo-European word 'el' meaning red or brown. "El" is also the root word for elk (as in the deer) and elm tree.

155 Howland Ave. Red Maple.

The U.S. Forest service recognizes the red maple as the most abundant native tree in eastern North America. The red maple can be considered weedy or invasive. It is taking over forests in the eastern US, replacing traditional mainstays like oaks, as well as hickories and pines.
The silver maple is closely related to the red maple (Acer rubrum) and can hybridise with it. The hybrid variation is known as the Freeman maple.

151 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

Norway maples release allelopathic (defensive) chemicals, which create bare, muddy run-off conditions immediately under the tree. As well it produces many seeds that cover the ground preventing other plants from growing. They also leaf out earlier and hold their leafs longer, shading out other plants.

149 Howland Ave. Common Pear.

"The light brown wood of common pear is hard and fine-grained. It has been used for tool handles, wood carvings, and drawing instruments. In France, the wood has been prized for the manufacture of furniture."

During the early 1900s the area between Hamilton and Toronto was known ast he Lakeshore Fruit and Vegetable District. As late as 1941 there were 1,000 fruit and vegetable farms. This area was famous for apples, pears, strawberries and vegetables.(The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

143 Howland Ave. Crabapple.

The fruits of the crabapple are valued for their superior jelly-making properties and as preserves.

139 Howland Ave. Red Oak and Scotch Elm.

Red Oak leaves are 10-20cm long, with 7-9 lobes. Central lobe about as long as the width of the leaf between opposite notches. The tips are sharply pointed. The acorns are 2 to 3 cm long. Small twigs are reddish brown. Some leaves may stay on all winter.
Scotch elm is also called wych elm (pronounced like 'witch') from an Old English word meaning pliant, 'wych' is also the base for wicker and weaker.

135 Howland Ave. White Birch and White Mulberry.

"White Birch is a native tree of Canada ranging pretty well from the Atlantic to Pacific and north to the Arctic...white birch can live to 50 years or more in the north but since they do not handle heat well, by the time hardiness Zone 6 is reached, their lifespan shortens to around 30 years."

Peeling too much of its paper like bark can kill the tree. “The wood has good machining properties, takes a good finish, and holds nails and screws well, though it is not very resistant to decay. It can be used for a variety of applications, including veneer, plywood, interior finish, furniture, woodenware, toys, dowels, pallets and crates, and pulpwood."

White mulberry leaves are oval-shaped and often have deep lobes, making them like mittens or glove shaped.

131 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

It has been found that in an urban environment like the Annex the average lifespan of a Silver Maple is approx. 73 years. (The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

127 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The Norway Maple is native to eastern and central Europe and Western Asia (an area that stretches from France east to Russia).

123 Howland Ave. Japanese Maple, Tree of Heaven, Ash.

The Japanese maple is called "momiji". "Maple leaves are sometimes eaten as tempura. Fresh leaves are salted or sugared and then fried in tempura batter, for a delicious treat." "But! These are not just regular leaves collected off the ground and then fried. They are preserved in salt barrels for over a year. Then, they're taken out of the salt and are fried in a delicious, slightly sweet batter for over twenty minutes until they are crisp.

The tree of heaven rarely lives more than 50 years, though its remarkable suckering (small shoots that sprout from the root) ability makes it possible for this tree to clone itself indefinitely and live considerably long.

121 Howland Ave. White Mulberry.

The White Mulberry has an orangish-brown bark.

113 Howland Ave. Lilac.

The word lilac dates from the early 17th century from obsolete French, via Spanish and Arabic; Persian lilak, variant of nilak 'bluish,' from nil 'blue'.

Silver Maple (this the one that fell down)

111 Howland Ave. Norway Maple, Tulip Tree.

" Tulip trees diverged from their close relatives magnolias long ago, the tulip tree was a sight probably enjoyed by the dinosaurs."

The restaurant at the top of Howland is named in honour of Fanny. "Fanny was born on January 10, 1873, and moved to 111 Howland Avenue at age 11 ...A gifted writer and actress, Fanny prolifically wrote, produced, and starred in plays which she presented in the living room of the spacious family home, to rave reviews from audiences that included members of Toronto's working press. Fanny's output dropped off after her marriage in 1898 and the birth of her son in 1900. She died in 1905 at the age of 32."

107 Howland Ave. European Yew.

The yew grows slowly, laying down hard, close grained wood giving immense strength to the trunk. It's trick to longevity, allowing fungal infections to eat up its heartwood, leaving a hollow tree, meanwhile the branches loop down, touch the ground, and set root, sometimes even inside the hollow tree, the tree then renews itself from within. This splitting and regrowing, can transform a single tree into a grove. "The ancients planted these in cemeteries, moved by the contrast between the undying tree and the sad graves around it, and also concerned to set up a durable signifier that this land had been devoted to burials and was not to be broken up for the plough. Cypress and yew therefore became the trees of mourning; their branches were hung up after a death; the Furies carried torches of yew, and consecrated the dead with them"

105 Howland Ave. White Mulberry.

The White Mulberry is "closely related to the native, endangered Red Mulberry (Morus rubra) whose only Canadian occurrence is southern Ontario at most Ontario locations of Red Mulberry, White Mulberry is hybridizing with the native tree such hybridization could eliminate the endangered Red Mulberry by a genetic swamping.

103 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

Silver Maple require careful and constant pruning. The brittle and soft wood is easily damaged in a heavy snow or being coated in freezing rain.

The Silver Maple is so called because of the pale silvery undersides of its leaves. The leaves are 8 to 16 cm long, but its 5-12 cm long stock, means that the leaves can flicker even in a light breeze, producing a silvery downy effect. The leaves also have deep notches between the lobes, making the silver underside that much more transparent.

101 Howland Ave. Ginkgo and Little-Leaf Linden.

The Ginkgo tree is the official tree of the Japanese capital of Tokyo, and the symbol of Tokyo is a ginkgo leaf."
The Little - Leaf Linden has a dense pyramidal to oval crown which casts deep shade. Architects enjoy using the tree due to its predictably symmetrical shape....little leaf Linden is sensitive to road salt.

95 Howland at the corner of Barton and Howland Ave. Crabapple, Hawthron, Norway maple.

City of Toronto borehole records indicate that silty clays and silt till occupy 1 to 3 meters of soil between Barton Avenue and Dupont Street. The high silt content of the till would contribute to the fertility of this area.(The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

91 Howland Ave. American Elm, Eastern Hemlock, Norway Maple.

"Norway maple leaves are usually broader than they are long, while sugar maple leaves are generally longer than wide."
The Tree of Heaven in standard Chinese is called chouchun (foul smelling tree).

89 and 87 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

The maple tree is symmetrical. Leaves and branches have an opposite arrangement (a branch will have a mirror branch, almost like a Y, growing in pairs).

85 Howland Ave. Linden.

The linden is a hermaphroditic, having perfect flowers with both male and female parts, pollinated by insects.

81 and 79. Howland Ave. Norway Maple

Norway Maples were introduced to N. America in 1756 by John Bartram, from England.

The 'overstory' is largely dominated by Silver and Norway Maples in the Annex. The average distance between these trees is 24 meters and ranges from 16 to 36 meters. At this spacing, these maples create the "fully stocked" forested streetscapes which are such an appealing element of the Annex neighbourhood. Yong trees would have to be planted closer together to maintain the streets' appearance as the overstory is renewed. Planting the young trees in mini-goves or bouquets may also improve the look of the streets.(The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

77 Howland Ave. Northern Catalpa.

The northern catalpa produces clusters of large, trumpet-shaped white flowers in May and June that are showy and somewhat fragrant.

69 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

65 Howland Ave. Spruce.

Boreal forest communities, dominated by white spruce, were the first to establish behind the retreating ice fields about 9,000 years ago.(The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

61 and 59 Howland Ave. Honey Locust.

51 Howland Ave. Norway Maple.

"Seedlings can grow well even in the dense shade created by Norway Maples, while its shade hinders the growth of native tree species. Leaves also emerge earlier on Norway Maples, and remain on the tree long after other species have shed their leaves, which allows for more opportunity to collect nutrients...Norway Maples are also notorious for the amount of water they require. Their thirst can have a negative impact on surrounding plants and contribute to soil erosion."

47 Howland Ave. Sugar Maple.

45 Howland Ave. Silver Maple.

Silver maples have a soft nature to their bark, this makes them susceptible to wind damage and then fungal infection. The fungal infection can lead to wood rot and the tree to become hollow. Because Silver Maples tend to become hollow they make a great shelter for squirrels. Hollow trunks and cavities in branches provide shelter and/or nesting sites for urban wildlife including birds such as wood ducks and mammals such as squirrels and raccoons. Squirrels also eat the seeds produced by the tree.

43, 41, 39 Howland Ave. Norway Maple

There is a 50 year gap of planting trees in the Annex, starting from the 1930s with the great depression to, through the war years, and the automotive focused 1950s. Tree planting began again in the 1960s and 1970s. (The Albany Neighbourhood Forest, Grassroots Albany)

35, 33 and 39 Howland Ave. Silver Maple

"The root system of the tree grows shallow and will result in an uneven lawn. Great care is required when mowing the grass lawn growing at the base of the Silver Maple or the mower blades will likely strike the protruding roots. If planted too closely to a foundation or sidewalk, the roots can cause upheaval of the walkway and crack foundation masonry."

23 Howland Ave. Silver Maple

21 Howland Ave. Blue Spruce.

The Blue Spruce grows to about 23 meters.

15 Howland Ave. London Plane.

"The multi coloured bark has a camouflage style pattern... London plane is monoecious, meaning the ball-shaped male and female flowers are found on the same tree, although on different stems."

432 bloor St. Norway Maple.

"You may remember the controversy in 2013 when the new $20 polymer bills were issued. They featured a maple leaf experts argue is that of a Norway Maple, and not a 'stylized blend' of leaves as the Bank of Canada claims."

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