

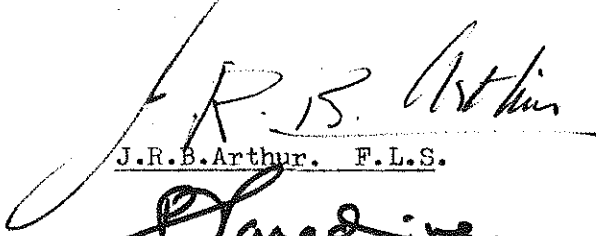
NEW PALACE YARD. Comment.

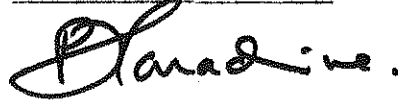
The disseminules identified from the waterlogged deposits taken from New Palace Yard, London, represent plants that grew in Anglo-Saxon times.

The continuous change in plant life is, in most cases, with us all the time. These changes although caused by a number of factors such as climatic or edaphic - that is, changes of soil structure, not the least by man himself, the biotic change. In this instance we have a very positive example. These plants at one time grew in the heart of the capital; a community of plants that grew profusely in a watery, not necessarily bog environment. Plants such as Mentha aquatica L., water mint and of course Nasturtium officinale R.Br. the watercress, at that time the environment would preclude any suggestion of pollution, therefore the watercress would most probably have been utilised for human consumption.

A little away from this situation, on a higher site most probably forming a bank and bounded pasture or semi-wooded land, we find plants such as Cornus sanguinea L., dogwood and Sambucus nigra L., elderberry.

These are some of the plants that helped compile the flora in the vicinity of the Thames in Anglo-Saxon times.


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	<u>Disseminule</u>	<u>Approx. Dimensions</u>	S.11	S.14	S.15/1	S.15/2	S.17	S.18	S.22	S.24	S.25	S.26	S.27	S.29
<u>LABIATAE</u>														
<u>Mentha aquatica</u> L. Water mint	Nutlets	1.5 x 0.5 mm.	5	1	7	2								
	Fragments *				*							1		
<u>Stachys palustris</u> L.	Nutlet Eroded	2.2 x 1.7 mm.												
<u>POLYGONACEAE</u>														
<u>Polygonum aviculare</u> L.	Nut	2.2 x 1.5 mm.		1		16								
<u>P. hydropiper</u> L.	Nut	2.2 x 1.5 mm.	3	4										
<u>P. persicaria</u> L.	Nut	2.0 x 1.7 mm.	1			1								
<u>Rumex acetosella</u> agg.	Nut	1.5 x 1.0 mm.		1										
<u>RANUNCULACEAE</u>														
<u>Ranunculus hederaceus</u> L.	Achene	1.5 x 1.0 mm.		3	1	2								1
<u>R. repens</u> L.	Achene	2.0 x 1.9 mm.		14	17	7	2	3	7	1				
	Fragments *		*	*										
<u>R. scleratus</u> L.	Achene	1.0 x 0.8 mm.			9	14						1		
	Fragments *				*									
<u>ROSACEAE</u>														
<u>Rubus caesius</u> L.	Endocarps	4.0 x 2.0 mm.								4				
<u>R. sp.</u> most probably <u>R. fruticosus</u> agg.	Endocarps	2.0 x 1.2 mm.	7		4			7		7			2	
	Fragments *		*	*	*	*		*		*	*	*	*	
<u>RUBIACEAE</u>														
<u>Galium</u> spp.	Mericarps	1.2 x 1.0 mm.										1	2	
<u>SOLANACEAE</u>														
<u>Atropa belladonna</u> L.	Seed	1.5 x 1.0 mm.	1	1						1		4		
<u>UMBELLIFERAE</u>														
<u>Apium noiflorum</u> (L) Lag.	Mericarp	1.0 x 1.5 mm.	1	28	65	27	1	1		5		1	1	2
	Fragments *			*	*	*		*				*	*	*

		<u>Disseminule</u>	<u>Approx Dimensions</u>	S.11	S.14	S.15/1	S.15/2	S.17	S.18	S.22	S.24	S.25	S.26	S.27	S.29
<u>CYPERACEAE</u>															
<u>Carex flacca Schreb.</u>	Nut		1.6 x 1.1 mm.												1
<u>C. pendula Huds.</u>	Nut		2.0 x 1.2 mm.				2		1	1	1				1
<u>C. riparia L.</u>	Nut		4.5 x 1.3 mm.	5 + perigynium				1 + perigynium							
<u>C. sylvatica Huds.</u>	Nut		2.4 x 1.3 mm.	30	4						1				2
	Fragments *					*				*					
<u>C. spp.</u> too fragmented for accurate identification					4	2		1				*			1

Several samples contained fragments of capsules and seeds which were too eroded or fragmented for accurate assessment even at Family level.

NEW PALACE YARD SAMPLES

	<u>Disseminule</u>	<u>Approx. Dimensions</u>	S.11	S.14	S.15/1	S.15/2	S.17	S.18	S.22	S.24	S.25	S.26	S.27	S.29
<u>CAPRIFOLIACEAE</u>														
<u>Sambucus nigra</u> L. Elderberry	Seed Fragments	3.0 x 2.5 mm.	7 *	*	7 *	*		*		6		2 *	1 *	1
<u>CARYOPHYLLACEAE</u>														
<u>Myosoton aquaticum</u> (L.) Moench.	Seed	0.6 x 0.4 mm.	1		1									
<u>CHENOPODIACEAE</u>														
<u>Atriplex patula</u> L. Orache	Seed	1.5 mm. dia.			1									
<u>Chenopodium album</u> agg. Fat Hen	Seed	1.2 mm. dia.								1				
<u>COMPOSITAE</u>														
<u>Cirsium arvense</u> (L) Scop. Creeping Thistle	Achene	3.5 x 1.5 mm.	1											
<u>Sonchus asper</u> (L) Hill.	Achene	2.0 x 1.0 mm.							1					
Unidentified achenes, too eroded									1	2				
<u>CORNACEAE</u>														
<u>Cornus sanguineus</u> L. Dogwood	Endocarp	3.0 mm. dia.		1						5				
<u>CRUCIFERAE</u>														
<u>Brassica</u> sp.	Seed	1.3 mm. dia.			1									
<u>Capsella bursa pastoris</u> L.	Seed	0.9 x 0.5 mm.				1								
<u>Nasturtium officinale</u> R.Br.	Seed	1.0 x 0.9 mm.		2										
<u>DIPSACACEAE</u>														
<u>Dipsacus fullonum</u> L.	Fruit, very eroded							1						
<u>FUMARIACEAE</u>														
<u>Fumaria</u> sp. most probably <u>F.purpurea</u> Pugs1.	Capsule	2.5 mm. dia.						1						

NEW PALACE YARD. LOWER PEAT SAMPLES

	<u>Disseminule</u>	<u>Approx. Dimensions</u>	<u>Lower</u>	<u>2nd.</u>	<u>3rd.</u>	<u>4th.</u>	<u>5th.</u>
<u>CAPRIFOLIACEAE</u>							
<u>Sambucus nigra</u> L. Elderberry	Seed	3.0 x 2.5 mm.				11	22
	Fruit and seed fragments*		*		*		
<u>LABIATAE</u>							
<u>Mentha aquatica</u> L. Water mint	Nutlets	1.0 x 0.5 mm.	3	1			
Unidentified, too eroded				3			
<u>RANUNCULACEAE</u>							
<u>Ranunculus repens</u> L. Creeping buttercup	Achenes	2.0 x 1.9 mm.	177	6		1	2
<u>R.scleratus</u> L. Celery-lvd. buttercup	Achenes	1.0 x 0.8 mm.	4				
<u>ROSACEAE</u>							
<u>Rubus</u> spp. most probably <u>R.fruticosus</u> agg.	Endocarps	2.0 x 1.2 mm.			2	16	2
	Fragments*		*		*		
<u>CYPERACEAE</u>							
<u>Carex nigra</u> (L) Reichard	Nut	2.0 x 1.3 mm.	2			1	
<u>C.riparia</u> Curt.	Nut	4.5 x 1.3 mm.	2				
<u>C.sylvatica</u> Huds.	Nut	2.4 x 1.3 mm.	2	5	3		2
<u>C.spp.</u> immature.	Nut			*	*		
<u>JUNCACEAE</u>							
<u>Juncus</u> sp. Rushes.	Seeds.	0.5 x 0.2 mm.		2			