# FLEET STREET PLANT PRESS

A NEW URBAN GARDEN FOR THE FLEET STREET QUARTER

and project for

The London Festival of Architecture



WAYWARD tom@wayward.co.uk 07817782431

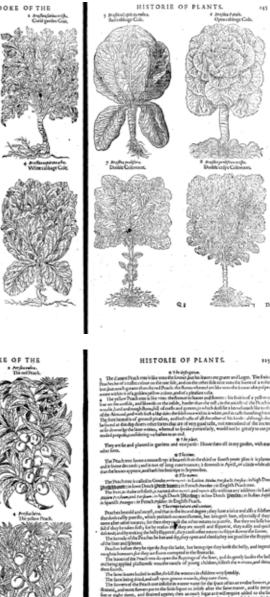
### JOHN GERARD

An English herbalist with a prominent garden in Holborn (approximately where Fetter Lane is now), Gerard created his Herbal, or Generall Historie of Plantes", printed in 1597, also in Holborn area, near the Old Bailey. He also published a catalogue of the plants in his personal garden, including exotic plants from the New World. Both publications where printed by the Queen's Printer (King's Printer)of the time.

Gerard has become a key narrative in this project with his Catalogus becoming the source for plants and his woodblock prints as a key visual element in the final project.



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HISTORIE OF PLANTS.

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## HISTORIE OF PLANTS.

7 Pyrm fuperba, fine Katherina. The Katherine Peare tree.



#### \* The place.

The tame Peare trees are planted in orchards, as be the apple trees, Quorum varia infitione ex agre-flibus mites at edules fructus redditi funt. All these before specified, and many fortes more, and those most rare and good, are growing in the ground of Master Richard Pointer, a most cunning and curious graffer and planter of all manner of rare fruites, dwelling in a finall village neere London called Twicknam; and alfo in the ground of an excellent graffer and painfull planter, Mafter Henry Banbury, of Touthill ftreete neere vnto Weftminfter; and likewife in the ground of a diligent and most affectionate louer of plants Master Warnar neere Horfey Downe by London, and in divers other grounds about London (but beware the Bag and Bottle) feeke elfewhere for good fruit faithfully delinered.

#### \* The time.

The flowers do for the most part come foorth in Aprill, the leaves afterwardes : all Peares are not ripe at one time; fome be ripe in Iuly, others in August, and divers in September or later.

#### \* The names.

The tame or orchard Peare tree is called in Greekeames, or with a double an and the Latin Pyrus wrbana, or Cultina : of Tarentinus in his Geoponikes armidles : in high Dutch Bifrbaum : in lowe Dutch Decrhaom ; in French Porrier.

The Peare or fruit it felfe is called in Greeke amore in Latine Pyrum : in high Dutch Birn ; in lowe Dutch Beere: in Italian Pere : in French Poyre : in Spanish Peras : in English Peare. \* The temperature and vertues.

Leauing the divers and fundrie furnames of Peares', let vs come to the faculties which the A Nnnn I phificians

8 Pyrns hyemalis. The Winter Peare tree.



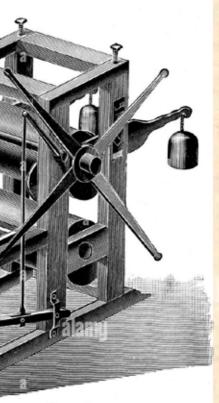
## **DESIGN REFERENCES**

These early printers and prints are key design references in the project from key forms to tiny details.





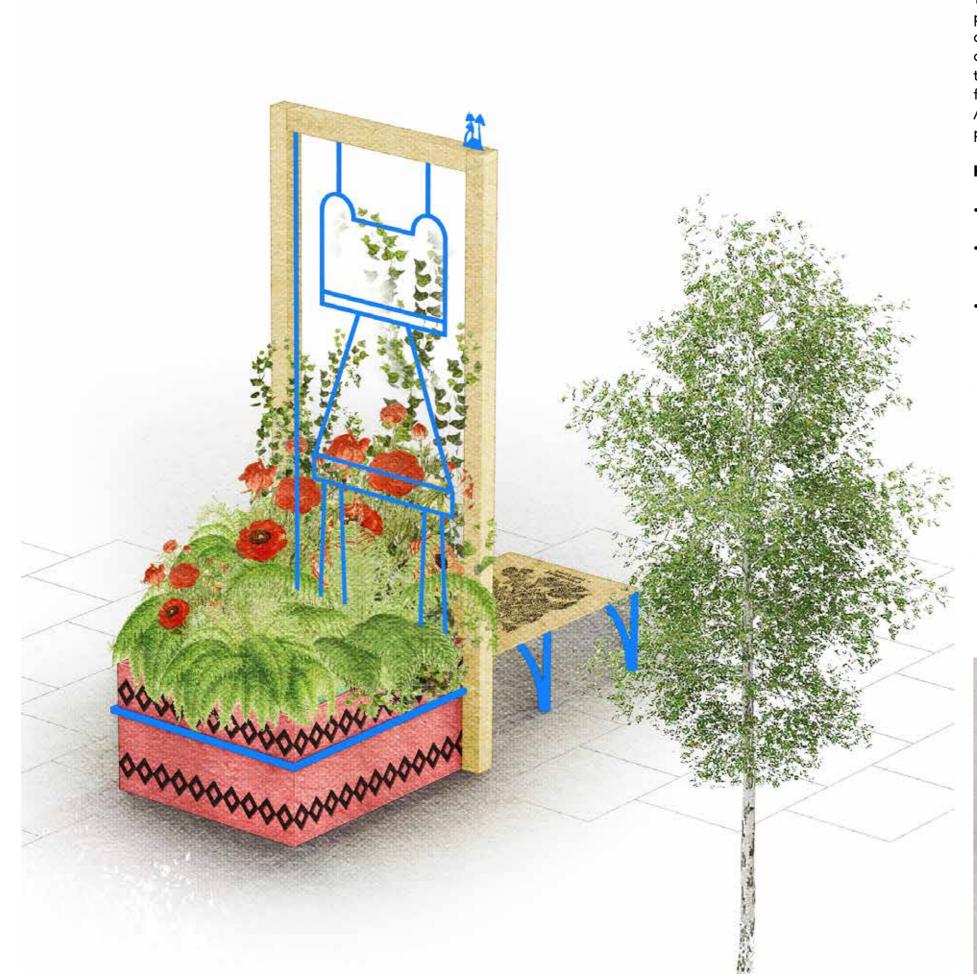








## TRANSFORMING THE PRESS



The design takes inspiration from the 15th and 16th century printing presses, the first in the UK, that found their home in Holborn, Fleet St and around the Old Bailey. Each planter is placed within frames whose forms and manner align themselves with the printing presses. In the same way that the presses were double sided, allowing the paper to roll back and forth to make the print, each of these planters has a second side (a bench / seat) which it appears the plants have been printed on to. Each of the prints is taken from Gerards Herbal.

### Key points:

- •
- in the CoL).





• Each will be made as a kit of parts to make sure they can be quickly moved. Any heavy items can be lifted with a pallet truck.

Both planters and seating will be design at different heights to allow different users (age, height, disability) access - this will be based on previous information supplied for the Mobile Arboretum.

Trellis / metal frames will all be embedded into the planters with horizontal structure well spaced and made of a thin metal to discourage climbing (based on previous work for Moor Lane and Mobile Arboretum

## THE FINE PRINT - design details



Early woodblock details from Wynkyn De Wordes work comes to life and start to appear across the structures





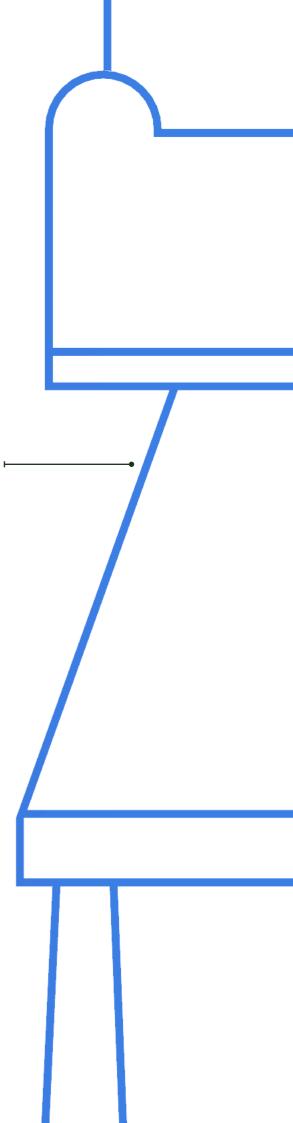
or a place to espalier a tree on.



Early woodblock details from Wynkyn De Wordes work also forms a woodblock print that runs



Forms taken from images of the first printing presses give shape in the project, becoming trellises



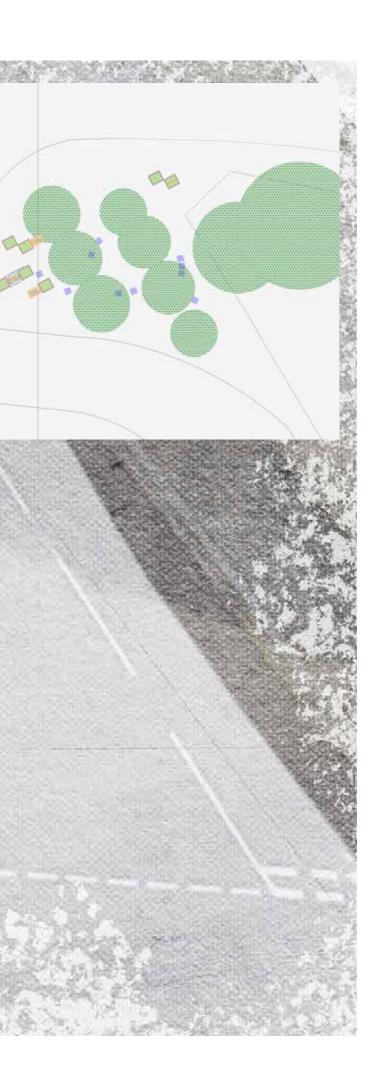
## CATALOGUS OF PARTS



## SITE PLAN - proposed at Holborn Circus

The proposed layout is based on the following points:

- A clear 1.2m, distance from the edge of the pavement to allow access and clear viability next to the road.
- Careful placement alongside existing seating so they feet integrated and as if they support the existing infrastructure
  The layout has room to be tweaked on site in relation to
- service hatches.
- A potential addition 2 on the north side will act as a sign post allowing pedestrians to see it from all routes clearly.





## THE FLEET STREET CATALOGUS

As a part of the project we want to create a small zine that mirrors Gerards original Catalogus. The new Plant Press Catalogus will contain all the plants in the new garden supported by the prints of John Gerard to tie it to it's history.

#### CATALOGVS ARBO RVM, FRVTICVM AC PLANTARVM TAM INDI-GENARVM, QVAM EXOTICARVM, in horto Johannia Gerardi Ciuis & Chirugi Londineasis nafcenium.



LONDINI, Exofficina Arnoldi Hatfeld, imperfisioannis Norton.

1599

Rei herbariæ ítudiofis falutem.

On praces borti neilri celebritas perpatis est feriò apud me lepise de Lodice plantarum, ques s'alis, tam neilro calo natas, quàm alunde petitis planimas de rarifamas, inflarent : quabus cum grame effet tam bongha petentibus operam bane denegare, forigi attem prasieres de molgitorem futarum proficerum tamicribro repetitum exferibendi laborem jecirco tum ne anicotum precibus dee form, de es fund la cui de si do de superere, pete boris mei catalogum futice. Qua fi qui viri una un vel fortami bonà repertum, vel labore improbo comparatum in bone genere babeia regento velo ve communicette, mattum laboralitatem nofran A diversion of the diversion of the diversion of the diversion of diversion of the diversion of the diversion diversion of the diversion diversion of the diversion diversion diversion during the during











## **PLANT CATALOGUS**

The planting takes itself from the original garden of John Gerard and his Catalogus of Plantes. The initial focus has been on evergreen, scented and medicinal plants.

There are more to be added to the plan including some small fruiting trees such as apple and pear.

The final plant list with aim to both compliment the story of the plants coming from Gerards original garden in Holborn as well as creating a year round and low maintenance plant pallet.



Artemesia (southernwood)



Yarrow



Bugle



Comfrey









Solomons Seal



Ladies Mantle



Great Burnet

Self Heal

## PLANT CATALOGUS



Dyers Woodruff



Hyssop



Iris



Lavender



Lemon Balm



Meadowsweet



Winter Savory



Sweet woodruff



Soapwort



Cotton Lavender



Oregano



# THANK YOU