

ANNEX A

Transformation of Rain Trees at Connaught Drive over the years

Tree planting was formalised in 1881 by the then Superintendent of the Singapore Botanic Gardens, Nathaniel Cantley. Roadside greenery is now a main feature of the business and commercial districts in Singapore.

Photo

Photo credit: Courtesy of the National Museum of Singapore, National Heritage Board

Timeline

1887: Several Rain Tree saplings have been planted along Connaught Drive – then known as New Esplanade Road, which was renamed Connaught Drive in 1907 to commemorate the visit of Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught.



Photo credit: Robert Feingold Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

1915: The Rain Trees along Connaught Drive were well-established, creating a scenic view of the waterfront for all to enjoy.



Photo credit: Lee Kip Lin Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

1930: The lush greenery of the Rain Trees framed the forefront of the stately colonial buildings on the other side of the Padang.



Photo credit: Donald Moore Collection, courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

1955: The umbrella-shaped crowns of the Rain Trees along Connaught Drive created a 'green tunnel' effect, enhancing the cityscape.



Photo credit: Ministry of Information and the Arts Collection, Courtesy of National Archives of Singapore

Comparison of the landscape in 1984 (top photo) and present day in 2016 (bottom photo) showcase the healthy growth of the Rain Trees and the corresponding transformation and rejuvenation of the Marina Bay area.



Photo credit: National Parks Board