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THE PRE-SETTLEMENT FLORA OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY (FCT) WOODY PLANTS

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Introduction

My memory of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) dates back to the 1970's when as an undergraduate of the University of Ife (now Obafemi Awolowo University), we used to undertake field trips to Jos and environs. Travelling from western Nigeria to Jos entailed going through Ilorin-Jebba-Mokwa, then to Bida and Suleja (known as Abuja then) and from there, traversing the territory now known as the FCT on to Keffi and then to Jos. Suleja was always a pleasant place to visit but what comes to memory after it is bush, bush. The onward journey through the territory was almost always at night under hunger and tiredness. The pleasant scenery on approach to Jos through Gidan Waya and the teak plantation around Nimba was always ever cheering.

The Federal Capital Territory (FCT), created by Act No. 6 of 3rd February 1976 was carved out of the present day Niger State but with some other portions from the present Nasarawa State (old Plateau State) and Kogi State (also old Plateau State), but the bulk of its landmass was carved out of Niger State. The town now named Suleja in Niger State used to be called Abuja but had to be assume it's new name when the Federal Government of Nigeria decided that the new Federal capital be called Abuja. The two names have some cultural connection but need not concern us here. FCT, in which the built-up capital city, Abuja (municipal) is located has, by the 1976 Act has an area of 8000 km^2 and is south of Suleja in Niger State, the state that bounds the territory to the northwest. Kaduna State is north, Plateau is east, Kogi to the west and Nasarawa to the south. There are five other area councils in addition to Abuja municipality that constitute the FCT.

Lying between latitudes 8^0 25$^{'}$ and 9^0 20$^{'}$ N and longitudes 6^0 45$^{'}$ and 7^0 39$^{'}$ E, the Federal Capital Territory is geographically located at the center of the country (Figure 1). A key criterion during the planning stages in the choice of the FCT was consideration for human health. FCT is one of those areas where river blindness (onchocerciasis) was prevalent. Eco-Development Group of the Department of Zoology, University of Ife was given the task of identifying the sites that had *Simulium* (the insect species that transmits onchocerciasis) and its control by the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA). The study of the flora of the FCT was carried out under the auspices of the Eco-

Development Group in 1981. The survey was conducted in mid-dry season, in February and early March 1981. Between 1976 and the 1980's when the city of Abuja was being built and from December 1991 when the seat of the Federal government of Nigeria moved from Lagos, the FCT has undergone huge urban transformations and it is necessary that the pre-settlement vegetation be made known. Environmental conservation, for several reasons including responses to climate change necessitates sound background of pre-disturbance vegetation. In this report the pre-settlement woody plant species composition of the FCT is presented.

Before the creation of the capital territory, the area between Kaduna and FCT was regarded as sparsely populated and was noted to be a farming area; same applies to the area in the vicinity of Keffi. Adamu (2023) refers to the land of Abuja as exceedingly fertile, and with the small population, the people have plenty of room for rotational farming. Adamu notes that not all the land is suitable for cattle because of the tsetse flies, particularly in the south, though sheep and goats are kept, and pigs in the towns and villages of the Gwari, the main indigenous ethnic group of the area. Rainfall is abundant, between 65-70 inches (1650 – 1779 mm), and so the people are able to grow very many different kinds of crops. He observes that the favourite food has always been yam. In the forests there is fine timber, whilst in the marshlands are the oil-palms which give both red oil and palm-wine and bananas, pawpaw, and even an edible fungus which some call "Gwari meat"; all these point to the fact that the area is fairly humid.

Figure 1. Political map of Nigeria with the Federal Capital Territory in the Centre

Geology, Soil, Topography and Climate

The Territory, with the exception of a very small area to the south, lies over Precambrian Basement Complex with ferruginous tropical soils on crystalline rock. A very limited area in the south is undifferentiated ferrisol over Upper Cretaceous formations. Locally soil varies greatly in texture, mineral content and depth largely due to topography with consequent erosion or sedimentation, leaching or accumulation. Probably, soil depth is the most variable, often determining very local plant distribution. In many areas, the soil is fine-grained.

Geologically, FCT is just north of the wide alluvial plain formed by the confluence of Rivers Niger and Benue. The Jemaá platform, a continuation of Jos plateau, extends well into FCT. Gurara River flows from the western edge of the territory and its watershed drains most of the FCT into River Niger; Kaduna River is to the west and north. FCT is a tilted plain rising from about 100 m above sea level in the south west to about 700 m above sea level in the north west. Rising above the plain are inselbergs, the most famous of which are Zuma Rock and Aso Rock. Kaduna to FCT is 180 km, to Minna 117 km, to Jos 313 km and Lokoja 138 km.

Overall moisture availability in an area is determined by the ratio of total precipitation to potential evaporation. Sanford (1969) in his study of orchids in the area estimated a range of 1.01 in the northeast to 0.77 in the southwest of the FCT. This range is close to the value of 0.90 predicted for the northern part of the Territory and 0.78 for the southern sector obtained by Kowal and Knabe (1972). Such predictions may not, however reflect the tremendous importance of topographic variation as is known to obtain in the area. A small narrow valley with a seasonal stream often supports forest trees and a variety of macro-epiphytes while the hillsides, not more than 50 m away support only savanna trees without any macro-epiphytes: the great difference is brought about by soil depth and water storage. Plant growth and species distribution are functions of the interactions of topography, soil and climate on a very local basis. Because of this, the vegetation of the FCT is extremely diverse

Soil and Topography

While the basal altitude of the area that became FCT is about 150 m, areas along major streams are only about 90 m, and steep hills rise to over 700 m in the northeast and along the central part of the eastern border. Steep hills over 450 m are also found in the northwest and near the centre. This heterogeneous topography provides extremely varied plant habitats - everything from rock domes with desert conditions, to marshland.

Vegetation and Habitat Diversity of the FCT Area

The basic vegetation type of the area is savanna woodland (which might be termed "Dry forest"). This large-tree vegetation may be excluded largely by edaphic factors (shallow and infertile soils) but is more often degraded by man's activities.

The two major vegetation classifications in use in Nigeria (Keay 1959) and White (1983) give descriptions of the FCT. According to Keay the area consists of Derived savanna in the southern parts, Southern Guinea savanna in middle areas and Northern Guinea in the north. The respective equivalents of these in the scheme of White are mosaic of lowland rainforest and secondary grassland, mosaic of lowland rainforest, *Isoberlinia* woodland and secondary grassland and Sudanian woodland with abundant *Isoberlinia*. Moisture indexed length of the growing season lasts between 30 and 270 days and precipitation: evapotranspiration ration of between 0.20 and 1.0. UNESCO (1979) simplifies the classifications as Sudanian savanna formations in a sub humid climate that derive from the degradation of dense dry forest and Guinea-type savanna in a humid climate that have replaced moist semi deciduous forest. Moist savannas generally have annual rainfall amounts ranging from 900 to a little over 1000 mm, with active growth period of between 5 and 7 months (Isichei and Akobundu 1995, Sanford and Isichei 1986). Woodlands are open stands of trees with crowns $8 \geq 20$ m, these are now mostly degraded with typical economic trees left around large towns and cities. *Isoberlinia* (*I. doka* and *I. tomentosa*) woodlands often associated with plinthite and quartzite ridges, are widespread in savanna (Ubom and Isichei 1995). Outside woodlands, grasses can grow up to 4 m.

According to the Abuja Master Plan (FCDA1979) six vegetation types exist in the FCT, namely Riverine complex, Rainforest, Savanna woodland, Swampland, Park savanna and Shrub savanna (Figure 2). The species composition of these vegetation types were not listed but Adejuwon (1977) has estimated that about 7.4% of the Territory is covered by Rain Forest, about 12.5% by Riparian (Riverine) vegetation, 12.8% by savanna woodland, 53% by park savanna and 12.9% by shrub savanna. He was of the view that the potential vegetation of most of the Territory is Forest.

There are clearly three broad categories of savanna in FCT. The savanna is greatly disturbed by agriculture so that only scattered large trees usually not destroyed because of their value for food (e.g. *Parkia, Adansonia, Butyrospermum*) occur; 2) Savanna where there has been recent enough disturbance that few if any large trees remain but considerable shrubs and small trees occur - this "bush" savanna may sometimes develop locally over very shallow or infertile and dry soil; 3) Savanna woodland or tree savanna, with varying densities of relatively large trees.

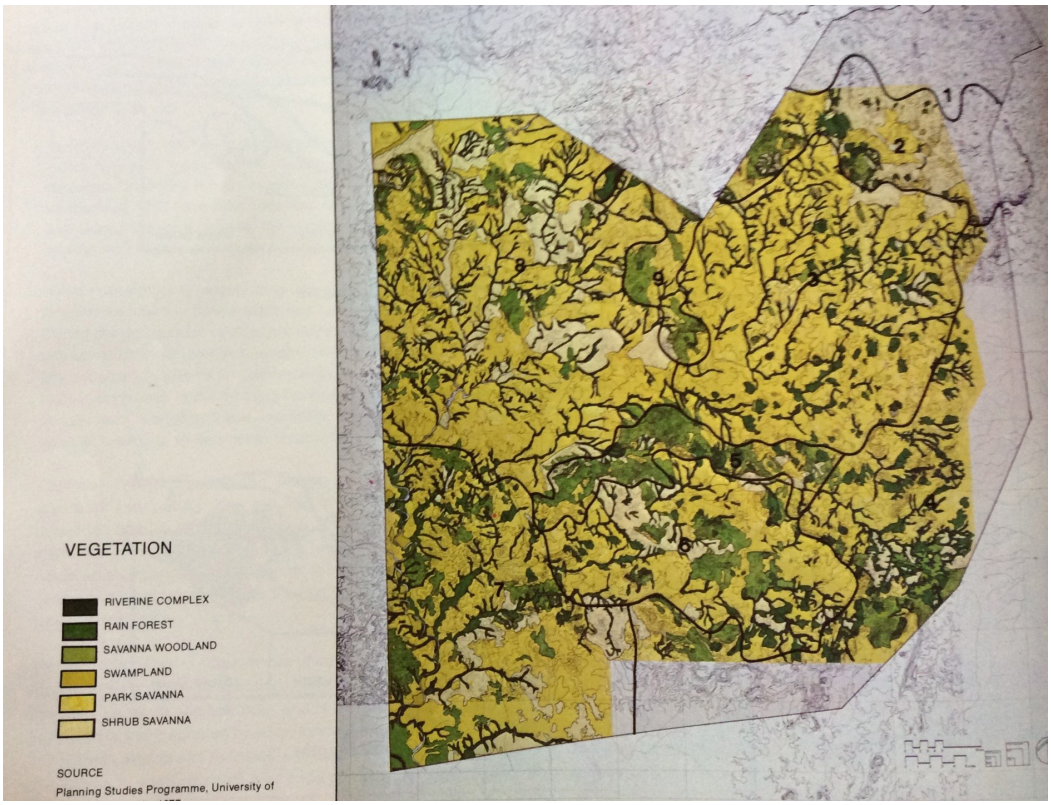

Figure 2. Pre-settlement vegetation map of Abuja (From FCDA 1979)

STUDY METHODOLOGY

The Federal Capital Territory as defined by the law setting it up is shown in Figure 3. In view of the vastness of the area, walk-through trails were marked out as shown as red circles in Figure 3. An experienced taxonomist (Mr. James Latilo) and ecologists familiar with Nigerian savanna vegetation walked the trails recording the plant species within sight. The survey was carried in February and March 1981, in the middle of the dry season. Abundance of species was noted but this was not directly measured. Prior to the field survey, published records in the *Flora of West Tropical Africa* and *Nigerian Trees,* and unpublished inventories of the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria, herbarium specimens and personal collecting records were catalogued.

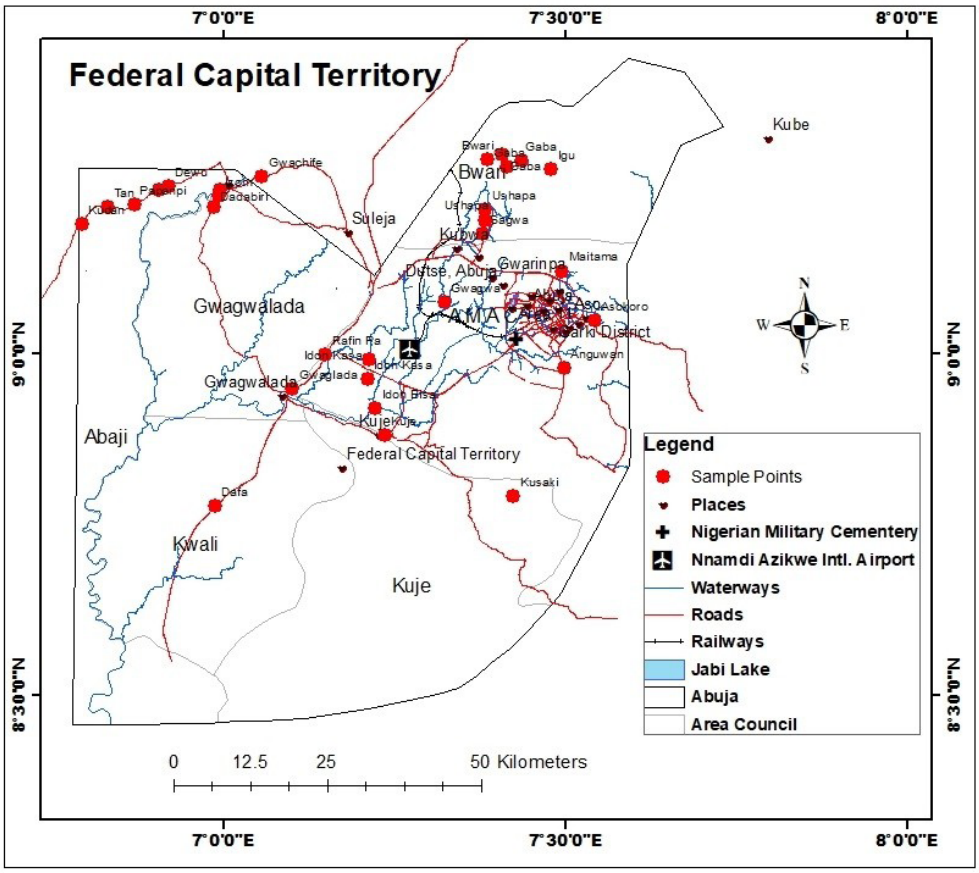

Figure 3. Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria showing the sampling points used in the study of the woody flora

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Floristic summary

Alphabetical lists of trees, shrubs and woody climbers are presented in Table 1. Aware of the several nomenclatural changes of plants in the recent decades, we have retained plant names as used in 1981, to reduce confusion and for easier reading. Records from the *Flora of West Tropical Africa* and *Nigerian Trees* give 159 species of woody plants belonging to 45 families occur in the FCT. The 1981 survey increased the number to over 265 woody plant species in 64 families. Species found in the Territory include savanna, forest, stream and marsh, and rock dome plants. Of the woody plants, about 37% occur predominantly in (associated with) forest, 38% in savanna and 25% in both habitats. In numbers, 94

listed species are usually found in the forest zone while 94 are found in savanna, 63 are found in both zones. Considerable variation in topography and orographic effect of the Jos Plateau that is prevalent in the northeast of the FCT results in wetter conditions than can be predicted by latitudinal position (Figure 4). The fairly wet conditions created niches that allow for the growth of rainforest trees such that despite being in the savanna zone, FCT has an abundance of plants associated with wetter climates in Nigeria and West Africa. Again, the difficult terrain acts as a constraint, hindering the exploitation of the forest trees.

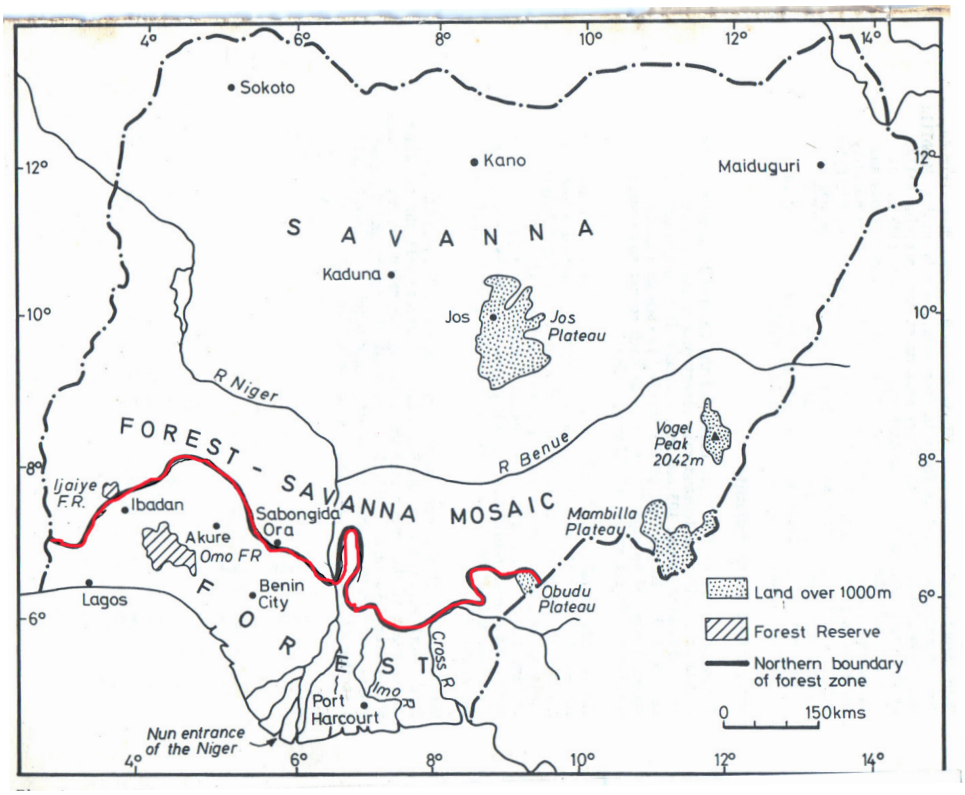

Figure 4. Map of Nigeria with the forest – savanna boundary shown in red (from Onochie 1979)

The Federal Capital Territory was until our survey one of the floristically poorly known in Nigeria. Only 77 species of woody plants are cited from the Abuja area in the Flora of West Tropical Africa (FWTA) (Hutchinson et al. 1954-1972) and Nigerian Trees (Keay et al. 1960-1964) combined; only 50 species of herbaceous plants from the area are cited in the Flora. Other than occasional collections along the road (the Bida-Keffi axis), only

Keay, Onochie, Daramola and Latilo are recorded as having collected around Suleja (then Abuja) prior to 1975.

As recorded in FWTA and the Forestry Herbarium, Ibadan (FHI), Obafemi Awolowo University Herbarium (IFE), many of the collections made were from Bonu Forest Reserve and Gurara Falls, just northwest of the Territory but included in the above species summary. Unpublished inventories were made by the Forest Research Institute at Zuma Hills in 1940 and 1942, of Idu Forest Reserve in 1961, and of Kurmin Gwagwa (date unknown). Zuma was characterized as savanna forest dominated by *Daniellia oliveri*. A few of the deeper valleys contained high forest species - *Chlorophora, Khaya, Berlinia, Pterocarpus* and *Sterculia*. Idu contained 54 species of trees including high forest species - *Khaya grandifolia, Antiaris africana*, *Chlorophora excelsa*, while Kurmin Gwagwa contained about the same species. *Triplochiton scleroxylon* appears very scattered in occurrence. The forestry inventory of Bonu 'high forest' states that no *Triplochiton* occurs there. It was reported from Zuma but not from Idu.

Latilo and others from the Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria collected in the area in 1975, but this collection has not been published. The most extensive earlier collections were made by Sanford and students in July 1965, July 1968, June, September and October 1970 and January and November 1971; Hall, April 1969 and Medler, March 1972. The only definitive collections so far made have been the sedge (Cyperaceae) collection of Hall (24 species) and the orchid (Orchidaceae) collection of Sanford (48 species). (All records from Forestry Herbarium, Ibadan (FHI) and Ife Herbarium (IFE).

If published records and available unpublished collections from the area are combined, a total of 159 woody plant species in 45 families and 140 herbaceous species in 25 families are known to occur in the FCT. This total of 299 plant species may just represent only a fraction of the species actually occurring here.

Urbanization and Vegetation Changes in the FCT

It would indeed be expecting the impossible to imagine that the FCT vegetation will remain what it was in the 1970's, especially with the movement of the seat of government from Lagos. The causes of forest decline in Nigeria include timber logging, urbanization, farmland expansion, pastoralism and fuelwood collection (Okali and Isichei 2019, Popoola et al. 2019, Ola-Adams et al. 2019). All these factors have been at play in the FCT. For example, Agbelade *et al*. (2016) carried out a biodiversity assessment that entailed complete enumeration of tree species in public parks/garden, private gardens/ home gardens, avenue/roadside trees, school grounds, public and private institutions and any space with conglomerates of trees in Abuja and Minna. A total of 695 individual trees in 69 species (35 of which are exotic) and 12 families were observed in Abuja. *Gmelina arborea* with 72 individuals was the most abundant. This was followed by

Terminalia ivorensis (42 individuals), *Delonix regia* (37), *Terminalia catappa* (37), *Khaya senegalensis* (32) and *Eucalyptus citriodora* (32). Lugbe, a peri-urban settlement had fewer trees but also dominated by exotics – *Gmelina arborea* (72 trees), *Parkia biglobosa* (26), *Mangifera indica* (20), *Delonix regia* (17), *Vachellia nilotica* (17) and *Azadirachta indica* (16). A visit to Abuja and the FCT in general today would show how our local plants are totally neglected in modern horticulture (Plates 1 & 2). Visually, most parts of Abuja appear wooded but of the trees that line the roads and avenues are not indigenous as defined by Keay (1989) in his Introduction.

But there are indeed many indigenous plants that are suitable for landscaping and beautification. We recommend that woody plants listed in Table 2, most of which could be excellent in landscapes, be included in any botanical garden and be used in decorations of avenues and roadsides. Several of the woody species are particularly interesting and/or rare and are recommended for conservation (Table 3). These are particularly worthy of collection, propagation and use as ornamental plants.

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Plate 1. The road out of the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport, Abuja lined with Eucalyptus, an exotic species (Augustine O. Isichei)

Plate 2. An Abuja residential area with exotic Terminalia (Augustine O. Isichei)

Table 1a: Alphabetical list of trees, shrubs and woody climbers of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria (1981): Species names A to B

Plant Name	Family	Usual Habitat
Acacia farnesiana	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Acacia hockii	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Acacia pennata	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Acacia polyacantha subsforestp campylacantha	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Acacia sieberiana	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Acioa barteri	Rosaceae	Forest
Adansonia digitata	Bombacaceae	Savanna
Adenodolichos paniculatus	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Adina microcephala	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Afrormosia laxiflora	Papilionaceae	Savanna

Afzelia africana	Cesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Albizia zygia	Mimosaceae	Forest
Alchornea cordifolia	Euphorbiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Allophyllus africana	Sapindaceae	Forest/Savanna
Allophyllus spicatus	Sapindaceae	Forest/Savanna
Alstonia boonei	Apocynaceae	Forest
Ampelocissus leonensis	Ampelidaceae	Forest/Savanna
Ampelocissus bombycina	Ampelidaceae	Forest/Savanna
Ampelocissus multistrata	Ampelidaceae	Forest/Savanna
Andira inermis	Papilinioceae	Savanna
Annona senegalensis var senegalensis	Annonaceae	Savanna
Annona senegalensis var deltoides	Annonaceae	Savanna
Anogeissus leiocarpus	Combretaceae	Forest/Savanna
Anthocleista djalonensis	Loganaceae	Forest/Savanna
Anthocleista vogelii	Loganaceae	Forest/Savanna
Antiaris africana	Moraceae	Forest
Antidesma membranaceum	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Aphania senegalensis	Sapindaceae	Forest
Bambusa vulgaris	Graminea	Forest
Baphia pubescense	Papilionaceae	Forest
Belonophora hypoglauca	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Berlinia grandiflora	Cesalpiniaceae	Forest
Berlinia sp.	Cesalpinaceae	Forest
Blighia sapida	Sapindaceae	Forest/Savanna
Bombax buonopozense	Bombacaceae	Savanna
Bombax costatum	Bombacaceae	Savanna
Borassus aethiopum	Palmae	Savanna
Bosquiea angolensis	Moraceae	Forest
Boswellia dalzielii	Buseraceae	Savanna
Bridelia ferruginea	Euphorbiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Bridelia scleroneura	Euphorbiaceae	Savanna
Buttyrospermum paradoxum	Sapotaceae	Savanna
Byrosocarpus coccineus	Connaraceae	Forest/Savanna

Table 1b: Alphabetical list of trees, shrubs and woody climbers of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria (1981): Species C

Plant Name	Family	Usual Habitat
Calotropis procera	Asclepiadiaceae	Savanna
Canthium manii	Rubiaceae	Forest
Carpolobia lutea	Polygalaceae	Forest
Cassia podocarpa	Caesalpiniaceae	Forest
Cassia siebberiana	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Cassipourea congoensis	Rhizophoraceae	Forest
Ceiba pentandra	Bombacaceae	Forest/Savanna
Celtis brownii	Moraceae	Forest
Celtis intergrifolia	Moraceae	Forest
Celtis zenkeri	Moraceae	Forest
Cephaelis peduncularis	Rubiaceae	Forest
Cissus palmatifida	Ampelidaceae	Forest/Savanna
C. quadrangularis	"	Forest/Savanna
C. corylifolia	"	Forest/Savanna
C. cornifolia	"	Forest/Savanna
C. adenocaulis	"	Forest/Savanna
C. ibuensis	"	Forest/Savanna
C. araliodes	"	Forest/Savanna
C. cymosa	"	Forest/Savanna
C. crotalariodes	"	Forest/Savanna
C. flavicans	"	Forest/Savanna
Clappertonia ficifolia	Tiliaceae	Forest
Cleistopholis patens	Annonaceae	Forest
Clerodendron bulchozii	Verbanaceae	Forest
Clerodendron polycephalum	Verbanaceae	Forest/savanna
Clerodendron volubile	Verbanaceae	Forest
Cochlospermum planchonii	Cochlospermaceae	Forest/savanna
Cola acuminata	Sterculiaceae	Forest
Cola gigantea	Stercculiaceae	Forest
Cola hispida	Sterculiaceae	Forest
Cola laterita	Sterculiaceae	Forest
Cola laurifolia	Sterculiaceae	Forest/Savanna

Cola millenii	Sterculiaceae	Forest
Cola verticillata	Sterculiaceae	Forest
Combretum constrictum	Combretaceae	Forest
Combretum hispidum	Combretaceae	Forest
Combretum lamprocarpum	Combretaceae	Savanna
Combretum molle	Combretaceae	Savanna
Combretum paniculatum	Combretaceae	Forest/Savanna
Combretum racemosum	Combretaceae	Forest
Connarus africanus	Connaraceae	Forest
Crossopterix febrifuga	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Crotolaria lachnosema	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Croton zambezicus	Euphorbiaceae	Savanna
Cussonia barteri	Araliaceae	Savanna

Table 1d: Alphabetical list trees, shrubs and woody climbers of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria (1981): Species D to H

Plant Name	**Family**	**Usual Habitat**
Dalbergia melanozylon	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Dalbergia hostilis Benth.	Papilionaceae	Forest
Daniellia oliveri	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Detarium microcarpum	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Detarium senegalense	Caesalpiniaceae	Forest
Dichapetalum guineense	Chailletiaceae	Forest
Dialium guinense	Caesalpiniaceae	Forest
Dichrostachys glomerata	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Diospyros elliotii	Ebenaceae	Forest/Savanna
Diospyros ferrea	Ebenaceae	Forest/Savanna
Diospyros mespiliformis	Ebenaceae	Forest/Savanna
Diospyros monbuttensis	Ebenaceae	Forest
Dissotis grandiflora var. lambii	Melastomataceae	Savanna
Dissotis theifolia	Melastomataceae	Savanna
Dracaena arborea	Agavaceae	Forest
Dracaena mannii	Agavaceae	Forest
Dracaena surculosa var. surculosa	Agavaceae	Forest

Dracaena sp.	Agavaceae	Forest
Drypetes floribunda	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Drypetes gilgiana.	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Elaeis guineensis	Palmae	Forest
Elaeophorbia drupifera	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Entada abyssinica	Mimosaceae	Forest/Svanna
Entada africana	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Entada gigas	Mimosaceae	Forest
Entandophragma angolense	Meliaceae	Forest
Erythrina senegalensis.	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Erythrina sigmoida	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Erythrophleum guineense	Caesalpiniaceae	Forest/Savanna
Fadogea erythrophloea	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Fagara leprieuri	Rutaceae	Forest
Feretis apodanthera	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Ficus glumosa var. glumosa	Moraceae	Savanna
Ficus abutilifolia	Moraceae	Savanna
Ficus platyphylla	Moraceae	Savanna
Ficus sycomorus (Syn. F. gnaphalocarpa)	Moraceae	Savanna
Ficus vallis-choudae	Moraceae	Savanna
Garcinia afzelii	Guttiferae	Forest
Garcinia kola	Guttiferae	Forest
Garcinia ovalifolia	Guttiferae	Forest/Savanna
Gardenia erubescens	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Gardenia ternifolia	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Glyphaea brevis	Tiliaceae	Forest
Grewia mollis	Tiliaceae	Savanna
Harungana madagascariensis	Hypericaceae	Forest/Savanna
Heeria insignis	Anacardiaceae	Savanna
Hibiscus rostellatus	Malvaceae	Forest/Savanna
Holoptelea grandis	Ulmaceae	Forest/Savanna
Hymenocardia acida	Euphorbiaceae	Savanna
Hymenodictyon floribundum	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna

Table 1e: Alphabetical list of trees, shrubs and woody climbers of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria (1981): Species I to O

Plant Name	Family	Usual Habitat
Irvingia smithii	Irvingiaceae	Savanna
Isoberlinia doka	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Isoberlinia tomentosa	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Ixora cf. brachypoda	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Khaya grandifoliola	Meliaceae	Forest
Khaya senegalensis	Meliaceae	Savanna
Kigelia africana	Bignoniaceae	Forest/Savanna
Landolphia owariensis var. owariensis	Apocynaceae	Forest/Savanna
Lannea kerstingii	Anacardiaceae	Savanna
Lannea welwitschii	Anacardiaceae	Forest
Lannea nigritana var. pubescens	Anacardiaceae	Forest
Lannea schimperi	Anacardiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Lantana rhodesiensis	Verbanaceae	Savanna
Lecaniodiscus cupanioides	Sapindaceae	Forest/Savanna
Leea guineensis	Ampelidaceae	Forest
Linociera nilotica	Oleaceae	Savanna
Lonchocarpus cyanescens	Papilionaceae	Forest
Lonchocarpus sericeus.	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Lophira alata	Ochnaceae	Forest
Lophira lanceolata	Ochnaceae	Savanna
Macaranga sp.	Euphorbiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Malacantha alnifolia	Sapotaceae	Forest/Savanna
Manilkara obovata	Sapotaceae	Forest/Savanna
Maytenus senegalensis	Celastraceae	Savanna
Millettia thonningii	Pailoniaceae	Forest/Savanna
Mimosa pigra	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Mimusops kummel	Sapotaceae	Savanna
Mitragyna inermis	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Mitragyna stipulosa	Rubiaceae	Forest
Mondora tenuifolia	Annonaceae	Forest/Savanna
Monotes kerstingii	Dipterocarpaceae	Savanna
Morelia senegalensis	Rubiaceae	Savanna

Mussaenda arcuata	Rubiaceae	Forest
Mussaenda elegans	Rubiaceae	Forest
Myrianthus arboreus	Moraceae	Forest
Napoleona imperialis	Lecythidaceae	Forest
Napoleona vogelii	Lecythidaceae	Forest
Nauclea latifolia	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Newbouldia laevis	Bignoniaceae	Forest
Ochna afzeli	Ochnaceae	Savanna
Olax subscoreioidea	Olacaceae	Forest
Oncoba seinosa	Flocourticaeae	Forest/Savanna
Opilia celtidifolia	Opiliaceae	Savanna
Oxyanthus racemosus	Rubiaceae	Forest
Oxyanthus unilocularis	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Oxystelma bornouense	Asclepiadiaceae	Savanna

Table 1g: Alphabetical list of trees, shrubs and woody climbers of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria (1981): Species P to S

Plant Name	Family	Usual Habitat
Pachystela brevipes	Sapotaceae	Forest
Pandanus candelabrum	Pandanaceae	Forest
Parinari curatellifolia	Rosaceae	Savanna
Parinari kerstingii	Rosaceae	Savanna
Parinari polyandra var. polyandra	Rosaceae	Savanna
Parkia bicolor	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Parkia clappertoniana	Mimosaceae	Savanna
Paullinia pinnata	Sapindaceae	Forest/Savanna
Pavetta corymbosa	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Phoenix reclinata	Palmae	Forest/Savanna
Phyllanthus discoideus	Euphorbiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Piliostigma thonningii	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Piper umbellatum	Piperaceae	Forest
Piptadeniastrum africanum	Mimosaceae	Forest
Premna angolensis	Verbanaceae	Forest
Prosopis africana	Mimosaceae	Savanna

Protea elliottii var. elliottii	Proteaceae	Savanna
Pseudocedrela kotschyii	Meliacaeae	Savanna
Pseudospondias microcarpa var. microcarpa	Anacardiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Psorospermum corymbiferum	Hypericaceae	Savanna
Psychotria obscura	Rubiaceae	Forest
Psychotria psychotrioides	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Pterocarpus erinaceus	Papilionaceae	Savanna
Pterocarpus mildbraedii	Papilionaceae	Forest/Savanna
Pterocarpus osun	Papilionaceae	Forest
Pterocarpus santalinoides	Papilionaceae	Forest
Pycnanthus angolensis	Myristicaceae	Forest
Rauvolfia caffra	Apocynaceae	Forest/Savanna
Rhaphiostylis beninensis	Icacinaceae	Forest
Ricinodendron heudelotii	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Rothmannia longiflora	Rubiaceae	Forest
Ruspolia hypocrateriformis	Icacinaceae	Savanna
Rytigynia nigerica	Rubiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Sabicea brevipes	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Salacia pallescens	Celastraceae	Forest
Salacia senegalensis	Celastraceae	Forest
Salix ledermannii	Salicaceae	Forest
Secamone afzelii	Ascepiadiaceae	Forest
Securinega virosa	Euphorbiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Sida rhombifolia	Malvaceae	Forest/Savanna
Smeathmannia pubescens	Passifloraceae	Forest
Solanum dasyphyllum	Solanaceae	Forest
Spondias mombin	Anacardiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Steganotaenia araliacea	Umbelliferae	Savanna
Sterculia oblonga	Sterculiacaeae	Forest
Sterculia rhinopetala	Sterculiacaeae	Forest
Sterculia setigera	Sterculiaceae	Savanna
Sterculia tragacantha	Sterculiaceae	Forest/Savanna
Stereospermum kunthianum	Bignoniacaeae	Savanna
Strychnos nigritana	Loganiaceae	Forest
Strychnos spinosa	Loganiaceae	Savanna
Swartzia madagascariensis	Caesalpiniaceae	Savanna
Syzygium guineense	Myrtaceae	Savanna

Table 1h: Alphabetical list of trees, shrubs and woody climbers of the Federal Capital Territory, Nigeria (1981): Species T to Z

Plant Name	Family	Usual Habitat
Tabernaemontana pachysiphon	Apocynaceae	Forest
Tapinanthus dodoneifolius	Loranthaceae	Forest/Savanna
Tapinanthus globiferius	Loranthaceae	Savanna
Tapinanthus heteromorphus	Loranthaceae	Savanna
Terminalia avicennioides	Combretaceae	Savanna
Terminalia brownii	Combretaceae	Savanna
Terminalia glaucescens	Combretaceae	Savanna
Terminalia macroptera	Combretaceae	Savanna
Terminalia mollis	Combretaceae	Savanna
Tetracera alnifolia	Dilleniaceae	Forest/Savanna
Tetrapleura tetraptera	Mimosaceae	Forest
Treculia africana	Moraceae	Forest
Trema guineensis	Ulmaceae	Forest/Savanna
Tricalysis chevalieri	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Tricalysia okelensis	Rubiaceae	Savanna
Trichilia prieureana	Meliaceae	Forest
Trichilia roka	Meliacaeae	Savanna
Triclisia subcordata	Menispermaceae	Forest
Triplochiton scleroxylon	Sterculiacaeae	Forest
Triumfetta lepidota	Tiliaceae	Savanna
Uapaca guineensis	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Uapaca heudelotii	Euphorbiaceae	Forest
Uapaca togoensis	Euphorbiaceae	Savanna
Urena lobata	Malvaceae	Forest
Uvaria chamae	Annonaceae	Savanna
Vincentella passargei	Sapotaceae	Savanna
Vitex doniana	Verbanaceae	Savanna
Waltheria indica	Sterculiacaeae	Forest/Savanna
Xylopia parviflora	Annonaceae	Savanna
Zanha golungensis	Sapindaceae	Savanna
Ziziphus abyssinica	Rhamnaceae	Savanna

Table 2. Potential Ornamental trees/shrubs/woody climbers of the FCT

Acacia farnesiana
Acioa barteri
Allophyllus africanus
Andira inermis
Anogeissus leiocarpus
Anthocleista djalonensis
Bambusa vulgaria
Belonophora hypoglauca
Berlinia grandifiora
Bombax costatum
Borassus aethiopum
Boswellia dalzielii
Carpolobia alba
Cassia sieberana
Clappertonia ficifolia
Cola lateritia
Combretum hispidum
Combretum paniculatum
Combretum racemosum
Cussonia barteri
Daniellia oliveri *Dichapetalum guineense*
Dichrostachys cineria
Dissotis grandiflora
Dracaena arborea
Dracaena surculosa
Erythrina senegalensis
Erythrina sigmoidea
Feretia apodanthera
Ficus abutilifolia
Gardenia erubescens
Heeria insignia
Hymenodictyon floribundum
Irvingia smithii
Isoberlinia doka

Kigelia africana
Lannea kerstingii
Leea guineensis
Lonchocarpus cyanescens
nchocarpus sericeus *Lophira lanceolata*
Manilkara obovata
Maytenus senegalensis
Milettia thonningii
Mimusops kumroel
Monodora tenuifolia
Mussaenda elegans
Myrianthus arboreus
Napoleona imperialis *Napoleona vogelii*
Nauclea latifolia
Newbouldia laevis
Ochna afzelii
Oncoba spinose
Oxyanthus racemosus
Oxyanthus unilocularis
Oxystelma bornouense
Pavetta corymbosa
Phoenix reclinata
Prosopis africana
Protea elliottii
Pterocarpus erinaceus
Pterocarpus santalinoides
Rothmannia longiflora
Ruspolia hypocrateriformis
Smeathmannia pubescens
Sterculia tragacantha
Stereospermum kunthianum
Syzygium guineense

Terminalia macroptera
Uapaca togoensis
Uvaria chamae
Vincentella passargei

Table 3. List of indigenous woody plants recommended for conservation in the FCT

Plant Name	**Comment**
Acacia hockii	
Afrormosia laxiflora	
Afzelia africana	Rare, scattered
Albizia zygia	Rare
Alchornia cordifolia	Only along the steam
Annona senegalensis	Frequent
Anogeissus leiocarpus	In scattered clumps
Bridelia scleroneura	
Butyrospermum paradoxum	
Byrsocarpus coccineus	
Cola gigantea	Only along the stream and rare here
Combretum lamprocarpum	
Combretum molle	
Combretum paniculatum	
Cussonia barteri	
Daniellia oliveri	
Dialium guineense	Rare
Elaeis guineensis	Only along the stream
Entada africana	
Grewia mollis	
Hymenocardia acida	
Lophira lanceolata	
Nauclea latifolia	
Ochna afzelii	
Parinari curatellifolia	
Parinari polyandra	
Parkia bicolor	

Parkia clappertoniana	
Piliostigma thonningii	
Prosopis africana	
Pterocarpus erinaceus	
Securinega virosa	
Strychnos spinosa	
Syzygium guineense	
Terminalia avicennioides	
Terminalia glaucescens	
Uapaca togoensis	
Vitex doniana	