

Treehouses

By
Anthony Aikman



Lady Amelia Paget's treehouse at Plas Newydd, Anglesey

In memory of my grandfather, the late H. F. MacMillan FLS,
Curator of the Royal Botanical Garden, Peradeniva,
Ceylon, 1895—1925

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Preface

Queen Elizabeth I banqueted in a treehouse in Kent, Elizabeth II was proclaimed Queen in one in Kenya, Victoria spent a sketching holiday in one which still exists near Shrewsbury. The Emperor Caligula feasted in them, castaways have lived in them, authors from A. A. Mims to Major Charles Gibson have written about them, Bosch and Brueghel painted frightening allegorical scenes in them, Robin Hood and his outlaws sheltered in them, hunters use them as hides. Treehouses have been adapted to the most extraordinary purposes: there are pubs in trees, churches in trees and even a railway station in a tree.