

# SYCAMORE GAP – A RHETORIC OF REMAINS



Landscape with monument. [\[Link\]](#) [\[Link\]](#)

One of the most photographed trees in the UK, standing alongside Hadrian's Wall in Northumberland, east of Steel Rigg by Milecastle 39, in the northern borders of the Roman Empire.



October 2020.

In the early hours of September 28, 2023, the tree was cut down by Daniel Graham and Adam Carruthers.

The felling of the tree gained worldwide attention. Motivation [\[Link\]](#) ? I'll have more to say about this in another post.



December 2025.

In the meantime here are just a few of the images of the tree that have come as a kind of iconic legacy.

A rhetoric of remains – simultaneously metonymy, synecdoche, metaphor, index, icon, allegory.



Monotype by Rebecca Vincent



Northern Lights by David Holliday



Emily Ward Art



Sycamore Gap in Harris Tweed by Jane Jackson



Autumn – Peter Phillips Creative



Julie Smith Photography

# HADRIAN'S WALL



Betty Boyns