



**Tree Condition Survey**  
**for the Duke of Hamilton, Hampstead**  
**30<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Completed by Stephanie Mason**

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## Contents

1. Introduction
2. Key
3. Tree Condition Survey
4. Photos
5. Site plan
6. Notes

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report and tree survey has been prepared by Stephanie Mason on behalf of Ben Mason Arb Ltd. Stephanie is a Lantra qualified professional tree inspector.
- 1.2. The survey has been commissioned by the Laird Fitzpatrick to survey the Ash tree located in the courtyard of the Duke of Hamilton, Hampstead.  
The tree has been inspected, tagged with an identifying number, mapped and remedial works advised where applicable.
- 1.3. The surveyed tree has been subject to a non-invasive ground based assessment using the visual tree assessment methodology. This method is published in 'The Body Language of Trees' by C. Mattheck. Typical defects that are identified within the survey can be referred to in 'Hazards from trees, a general guide' by D. Lonsdale.

### 2. Key

**Tree ID:** A record of the tree's unique reference number.

**Species:** Species of tree.

**Height:** Estimate of height of tree in meters.

**DBH (mm):** Estimate of diameter of tree at breast height.

**Age:** Young - Within the first third of life expectancy.

Semi Mature – Within the second third of life expectancy. The tree has not yet achieved its maximum height for the environment and species.

Mature – Tree at full size obtainable for the species and its environment.

#### **Condition:**

Good - The canopy shows good vitality with little or no deadwood. The tree appears structurally sound with no visible defects.

Fair - The canopy may show reduced leaf coverage with minor or isolated major deadwood. The structure of the tree may show visible defects.

Poor - The canopy may be sparse and/or include significant deadwood. Visible structural defects may be significant.

Dead or dying: A tree with very little or no leaf canopy. There will be extensive deadwood not limited to the canopy.

**Comments:** Further notes on the condition or specific features of the tree. Where the letters N, E, S & W are used this refers to the directions North, East, South & West.

Where the acronym FFB is used this refers to fungal fruiting bodies.

**Recommended Works:** As per BS3998:2010 Recommendations for tree works. These are the advised works required.

**Notes:** Further description of work recommendations.

**Work Priority:** The timeframe given reflects the urgency of the works required. The date on the front of this report should be used as the baseline date from which to calculate the deadline for completion of remedial work.

### 3. Tree Condition Survey

Tree ID	Site	Species	Height	DBH (mm)	Age	Physiological condition	Comments	Recommended Work	Notes	Work Priority
93	The Duke of Hamilton	Ash	11-15m	601-900mm	Mature	Fair	<p>The tree is situated in pub courtyard. This is a high use area with customer seating below on one side, neighbours residential parking to the SW &amp; public thoroughfare and access for neighbours via path on the W boundary. The canopy is 11m in diameter at its widest point. It extends over the roof of the Duke of Hamilton by approximately 3.5m. Epicormic growth is present in the mid and upper canopy (Photo 1). Loss of foliage at the tips of the canopy throughout the tree (Photos 2&amp;3). Debris in the courtyard (Photo 4) where some smaller branches have fallen from the tree. These symptoms are consistent with Ash dieback disease.</p> <p>Possible cavity at height of 10m on the NE side at site of previous pruning wound.</p>	Sectional fell, Stump removal, replant	<p>Ash dieback is known to compromise the mechanical structure of Ash trees, leading to branch and possibly stem failure in its advanced stages. Industry good practise states that a platform or similar equipment should be used to dismantle such trees rather than manual climbing or felling. Due to the position of this tree, next to a narrow alley way &amp; on a cobbled slope (Photo 5), it will be impossible to safely locate a platform in the vicinity of the tree. Early removal has been recommended before the Ash die back progresses so that the tree can be dismantled safely by manual climbing. Use of a Good rigging control system (GRCS) or similar system should be employed to safely lower the tree in sections without damaging surrounding property or putting undue mechanical stress on the tree whilst the arborist is in the tree.</p> <p>Once the tree has been felled to ground level the stump will need to be removed to allow for replanting. It has been noted that the adjacent boundary wall is listed. The boundary wall has significant cracks (Photo 6) and brick work from the low wall that surrounds the base of the tree is falling away (Photo 7) both due to the expanding root system.</p> <p>The lower wall should be removed to allow for access to grind the stump. Once the stump has been removed the wall can be rebuilt. Top soil and mulch will need to be imported to establish a new tree.</p> <p>A smaller variety of tree such as Crimson Sentry (Acer platanoides) should be considered as a replacement tree.</p>	within 6 months

**Site Photos**

1 Epicormic growth



2 Dieback of leaves



3 Dieback of leaves / sparse Canopy



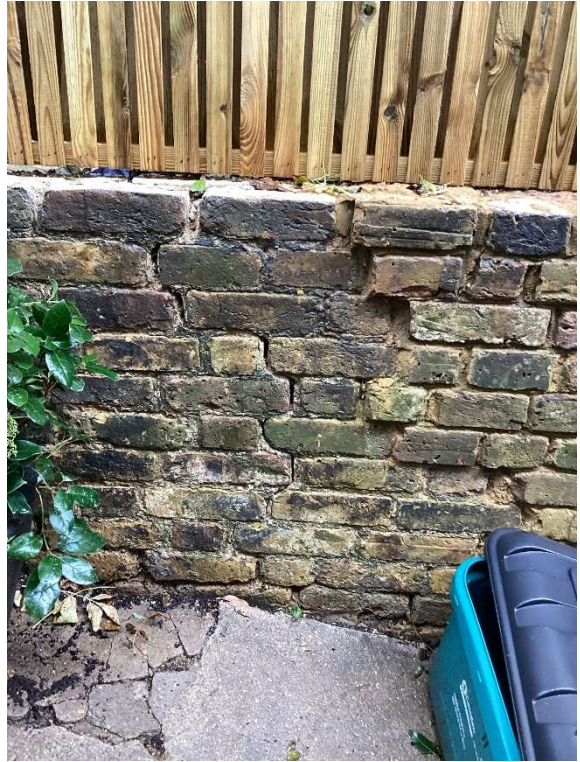
4 Debris in courtyard



5 Access (Arrow shows where access narrows next to tree)



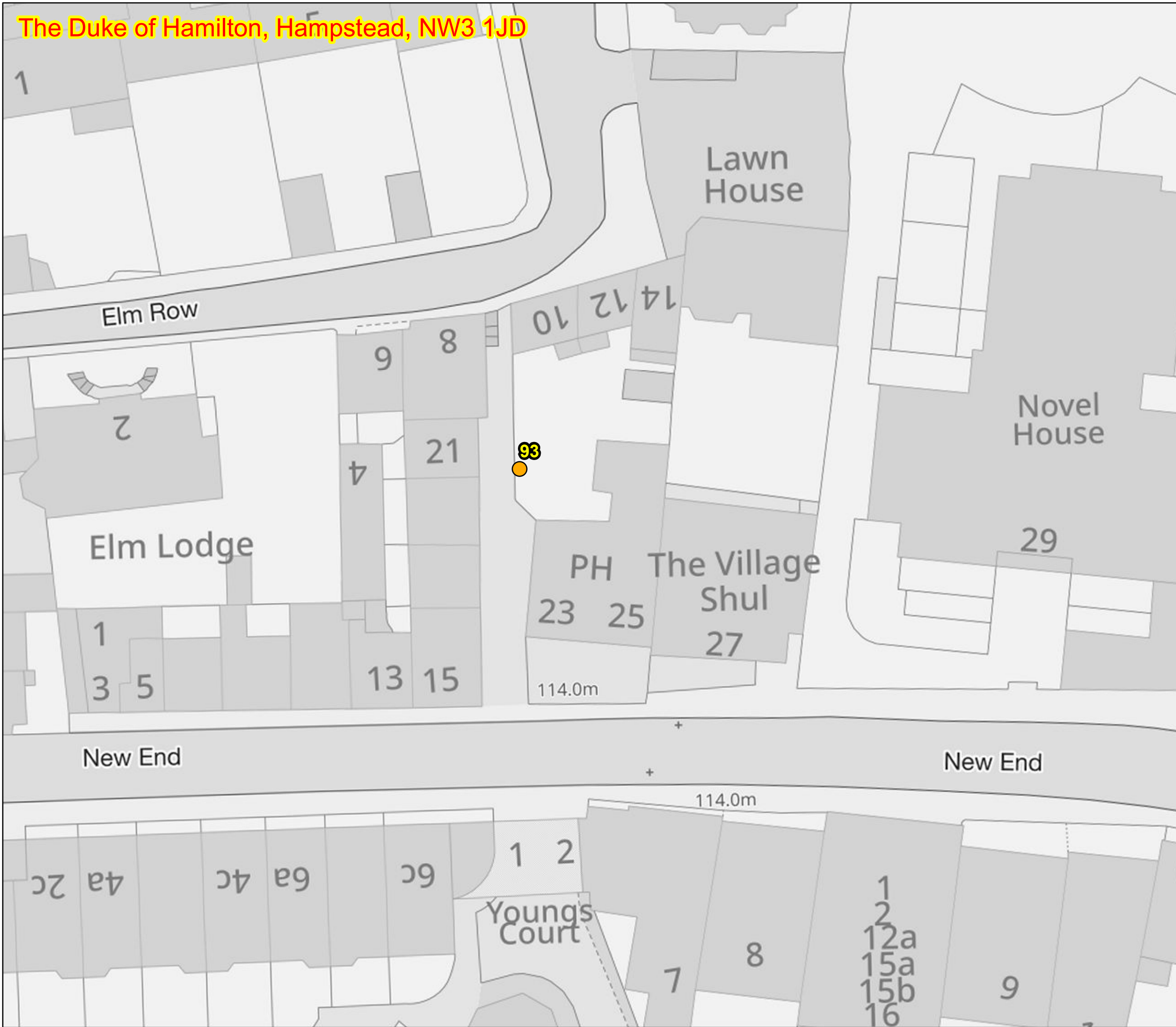
6 Cracked boundary wall



7 Lower wall

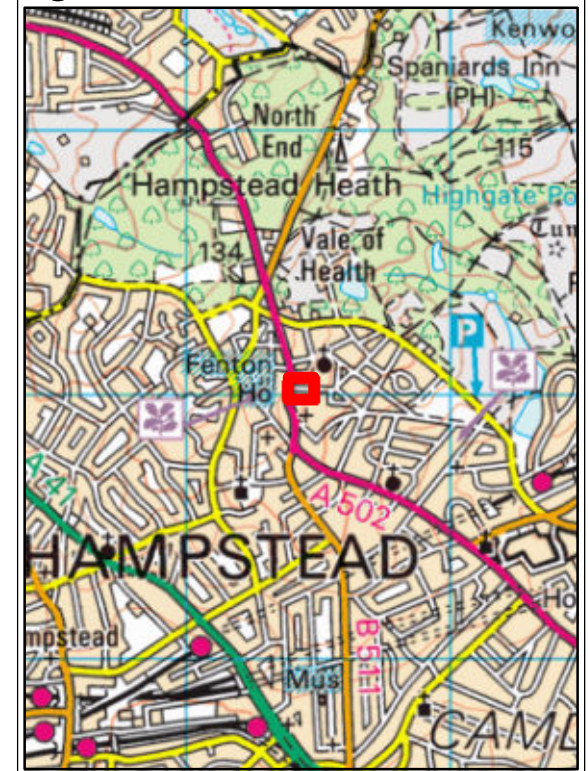


# The Duke of Hamilton, Hampstead, NW3 1JD



## Tree Work Priority

- Within 3 months
- within 6 months
- Year 1
- Year 2
- No work required



Scale: 1:300 @ A3 Scale



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## Tree Survey

### The Duke of Hamilton

Drawing No	The Duke of Hamilton_Rev1
Date	01 October 2024



## **6. Notes**

### **5.1. Limitations:**

The tree survey has been carried out from ground level. An aerial inspection has not been undertaken and no soil investigations were made. The tree survey is an assessment of the condition and health of the tree at the time of the survey..

In circumstances where the view of the tree is impeded by vegetation, other site features or if the tree's position is outside of the site boundaries, this has been recorded as a limited survey and advice given appropriately. For example if a tree is heavily laden with Ivy we may advise to sever the ivy and re-survey at a later date when the structure of the tree can be viewed in its entirety.

This report has been produced based upon site information provided by Laird Fitzpatrick and the specification agreed with him as quoted.

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### **5.2 Habitat and Wildlife considerations:**

Any arborist carrying out tree works should ensure there is no disturbance to nesting birds or roosting bats during the course of any remedial works.