

NIKKI LEE
GARDEN DESIGN AND CONSULTANCY

19 East Heath Rd, Hampsted

Date: 12/07/2012

1.0 INTRODUCTION

I Nikki Holtom was instructed to attend the site 19 East Heath Rd and assess the potential for biodiversity and habitat improvement in relation to the proposed scheme to build a new underground dwelling within the site. And the impact on the existing two trees within the site.

2.0 CLIENT BRIEF

To attend site and undertake a visual survey of the two trees within the site. To provide recommendations for the garden plan no2 supplied to increase habitat value and the biodiversity of the site.

3.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

The site was formerly a garage block and car park. 19 East Heath Rd is bounded by residential and public open space, Hampsted Heath. This is a large area of public open space containing numerous trees and a wide and varied amount of habitats.

4.0 SURVEY

The survey was carried out by myself, a trained arboriculturist on the 12 July 2012. A total of two trees were surveyed and the data collected is presented at Appendix 1. Individual trees are identified on the schedules and plans by a T prefix.

5.0 TREE STOCK

T1 GLEDITSIA tricanthus honey locust

T2 PYRUS common pear

5.1 SPECIES DIVERSITY

There are two different species represented on site with a further five species around the outside boundary. Non of the trees surveyed are evergreen so do not provide all year colour or visual separation throughout autumn and winter. Neither are rare or unusual.

5.2 AGE DISTRIBUTION

Within the site the Pyrus was identified as over mature and the Gleditsia was identified as young.

5.3 GRADING CLASSIFICATION

Category Grading	Number
A - 'Those of high quality and value'	0
B - 'Those of moderate quality and value'	0
C - 'Those of low quality and value'	1
R - 'Remove for reasons of sound Arboricultural management'	1

6.0 TREE CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Root protection area:

In order to avoid damage to the roots or rooting environment, a minimum area in m² should be left undisturbed around each retained tree. The RPA's for T1 and T2 have been shown in app 2. As can be seen the issue for the T1 Gleditsia maintaining sufficient root-able soil post build is negligible and the possibility for the death of the tree or tree failure is greatly increased.

7.0 TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

7.1 Protective Fencing

Prior to any development of the site continuous protective fencing must be erected around T2 in accordance with BS5837 and be cited following the outer extremities of the RPA's as indicated in the drawing app2

7.2 Material Storage

During construction there should be no vehicular movement or storage of materials within the RPA enclosed by the protective fencing. These measures are considered to minimise the risk of soil compaction or contamination.

8.0 OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Trees Subject to Statutory Controls

The Gleditsia growing within the site is covered by a Tree Preservation Order and will require consultation with the local authority before any tree work can be carried out. The removal of this tree will facilitate the introduction of 3 native Sorbus trees which bearing flowers and fruiting berries will encourage both pollinating insects and birds to the site.

8.2 Habitat Improvement

The landscape design will include 2-3 bird boxes both standard and open fronted to encourage nesting birds. Invertebrate hides and boxes will be included in all planted raised flower beds and a bat box will be installed to the rear wall of the apartment block. Native aquatic plants will be used within the water feature to attract aquatic invertebrates and this in turn will provide a valuable drinking resource to all wildlife visiting the garden.

Native flowers incorporated in the garden design will benefit pollinators and flying insects. Ivy, hydrangea and honeysuckle grown up vertical fences and walls provide hiding, nesting, nectar and berries for insects and birds. All the above will benefit the wider area and improve the site both visually and the areas biodiversity.