

ARBORICULTURAL REPORT

103 Camley Street

Produced For:

Urbanest

Prepared By:

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Reference:

MPH0372/RHB

Date:

29 February 2012

Jonathon Beggs
Development Management
Urbanest
13 Albemarle Street
London
W1S 4HJ

MPH/0372/RHB

29 February 2012

Dear Mr Beggs

Re: 103 Camley Street

Further to my meeting on site with the Tree Officer and Bartletts Tree Experts on Wednesday 22 February I have pleasure in submitting the following brief report.

Background and Scope of Report

103 Camley Street is subject to a development proposal which includes the demolition of the existing light industrial buildings and the construction of a new residential and commercial building. An Arboricultural Impact Assessment was submitted by myself on 25 August 2011. This development includes the construction of a basement with foundations that will encroach marginally upon the Root Protection Areas of the roadside London planes T1 to T7 but at or beyond the existing line of foundations. It was always anticipated that the existing foundation line will have impeded root growth and development and that no significant root development will exist beyond the existing foundations. The Impact Assessment recommended however that exploratory excavation should be undertaken in order to determine the above more accurately.

At a meeting on the 30 September 2011 with the London Borough of Camden's Tree Officer Kevin Fischer at 103 Camley Street, it was agreed that an exploratory trench should be excavated within the 50cms wide strip of open soil that abuts and runs between the pavement and the existing foundation. The trench should be hand excavated and should be approximately 1 metre deep. The Tree Officer requested that this should be undertaken before the application was approved.

I was then able to have a further conversation with the London Borough of Camden's Tree Officer Alex Hutson during January 2012 who confirmed the request that this information was provided as part of the Application.

As a result of the above, Barrlett Tree Experts were instructed to carry out the exploratory excavations, which they were able to undertake on the week beginning the 20 February 2012.

Exploratory Excavation Specification

A trench was excavated by Bartletts using an Air Spade, Soil Vacuum and hand tools to ensure any roots uncovered, and in particular roots over 25 millimetres in diameter (with reference to BS5837 2005) and bundles of finer roots, were left undamaged. This trench was excavated within the narrow corridor of open soil that extends along the existing foundation line and within the Root Protection Areas of the trees T1 to T7 as outlined within the Google Earth Photograph Appendix 1. The trench was excavated to a depth of approximately 90cms. Photographs of the excavation have been supplied by Adam Clarke, Plant Health Care technician of Bartlett Tree Experts and are included within Appendix 1.

Exploratory Excavation Results

I was able to visit the site on Tuesday the 21 February to assess the excavation. I was able to attend a further meeting with the Tree Officer Alex Hutson at 103 Camley Street to assess the finished exploratory excavation on Wednesday 22 February.

Excavation to a depth of 90cms along the foundation line and within the Root Protection Areas of T1 to T7 had revealed relatively inhospitable 'Urban Soil' mixed with hardcore and rubble to this depth. Solid concrete foundations for the existing building were exposed to a depth of 90cms and it was clear that these foundations probably extended to greater depths.

No roots of any significance were exposed within the trench and no roots of significance that may extend to, along or beneath the existing foundation line were evident (see Bartlett Tree Experts photographs Appendix 1). Some minor finer roots sparsely located and of no significance were evident within the trench adjacent to the tree T6 and to a depth of 50cms.

Conclusion

From the above exploratory evidence it can be concluded that the majority of the trees rooting systems are confined to the more hospitable rooting area beneath the pavement and that the existing solid concrete foundation, which is at a significant depth consistent for the size of the built structure, will have impeded and prevented the development of any significant root growth adjacent to or beyond the existing foundation line.

The Tree Officer viewed the evidence during the on-site meeting on 22 February 2012 and was satisfied that the above was successfully demonstrated.

Basement construction therefore undertaken with the protective measures outlined within my Arboricultural Impact Assessment, should therefore have no impact upon the line of London Plane trees T1 to T7.

This concludes my report. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further assistance.

Yours sincerely

Michael Honey
Honey Tree Specialists

APPENDIX

Appendix 1

Bartlett Tree Experts Photographs

Re: Root investigations outside Number 103 Camley Street, Camden, London

Investigation trenches were dug to a depth of 900cm in between the building and pavement outside of 103 Camley Street. Adjacent to the buildings are a number of semi mature London plane trees. Trenches were dug using an Airspade, soil vacuum and hand tools to ensure that any roots that were uncovered were not damaged. No roots greater than 10mm were found during the investigations.

Photographs from site root investigations



Figure 1: Google earth image with red line identifying location of root investigation trenches on Camley Street, Camden, London



Figure 2: Southern section of trench, an electrical cable was uncovered at 50cm, digging stopped at this point. No roots were discovered in this trial drench



Figure 3: Looking north down trench uncovered to a depth of 900cm, no roots were discovered greater than 10mm



**Figure 4: Trench viewed from north
900cm**



Figure 5: Close up view of trench to a depth of

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