



FURTHER INVESTIGATION REPORT:

6 Nutley Terrace,

London NW3 5BX

REPORT PREPARED FOR:

Mr Shamim Shafi

6 Nutley Terrace,

London, NW3 5BX

REPORT PREPARED BY

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Ref: SHF/NTL/PCS/02

Date: 1ST December 2014

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Site Address: 6 Nutley Terrace, London, NW3 5BX.

Client: Mr Shamim Shafi 6 Nutley Terrace, London, NW3 5BX

Instruction: Carry out Picus Tomograph Decay detection on the main stem of a Poplar tree.

Date of Inspection: 20th November 2014

Species: Hybrid Poplar. (*Populus 'Serotina'*)

Height: 14.2m Diameter at 1.5m above ground level (agl) 1390mm

General Observations:

The tree (T3 on enclosed plan: 6 Nutley Terrace - REV-TCP - Dec 2014 - BO - 6 Nutley Terrace A2 Landscape) is situated in the rear garden of No 6 Nutley Terrace on the northern boundary, very close to a brick wall.

At the base of the tree to the north west and west, there are old brackets of tinder fungus (*Fomes fomentarius*). Around the sites of the fungus, the stem sounds hollow when tapped.

The tree has been pollarded with lots of old wounds with new regrowth in the crown.

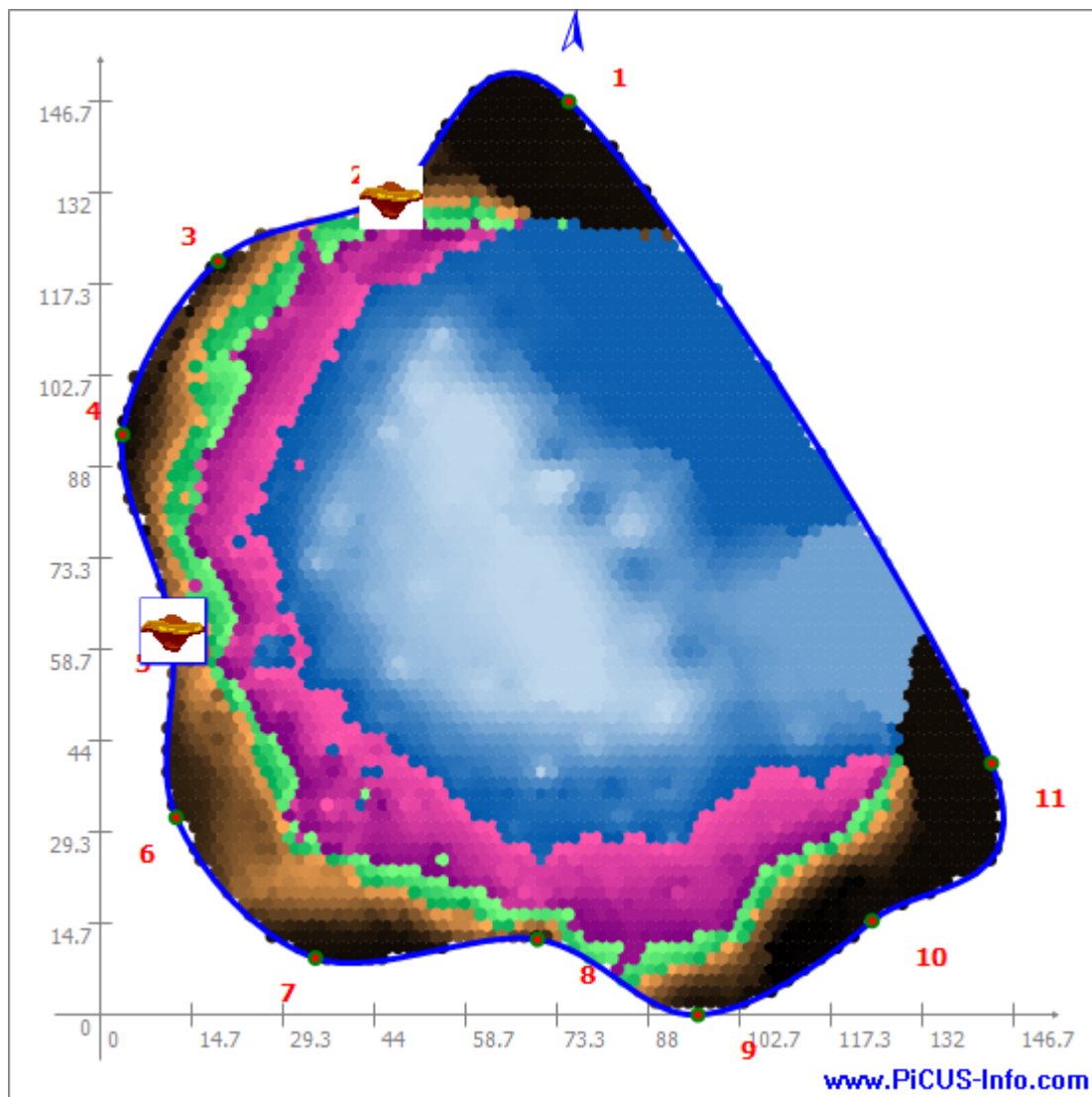
Picus Sonic Tomography

The Picus Sonic Tomograph is made by a German company called Argus-Electronic-GmbH. It is a specialised electronic instrument which can 'look' internally into a branch or tree trunk and display a computer generated image of its condition. It achieves this by measuring the speed that sound travels through the wood in a number of different positions and directions. Sound travels fastest through solid wood. Decayed wood will slow its path. By measuring the speed that sound takes to pass through a tree, an idea of its condition can be obtained.

The PICUS Sonic Tomograph consists of 8 to 14 sonic sensors. These sensors are spaced out evenly around the circumference of the trunk. They detect stress waves induced by manual impact propagated through the wood. Time-of-sound-transmissions are used to generate two-dimensional pictures that document decay and cavities.

The sounds are generated manually by tapping on a number of metal nails with a hammer. Special sensors fixed around the stem read the interval the sound takes to travel through the wood. Once all nails have been tapped, and recordings taken, the computer software works out a visual image that requires professional assessment to assess decay.

Picus Tomograph Results:



Test at 30cm agl

The Tomograph shows the cavity to the over most of the section coloured blue. There is a small amount of decay coloured purple and some incipient, early decay coloured green. The straight line from point 11 to point 1 is where the tree was close to the perimeter wall.

Conclusion:

The Tomograph shows that the cavity and decay is extensive and could affect the structural integrity of the tree.

Recommendations:

Fell as soon as practically possible. This work to be carried out by a full qualified and insured tree surgeon to British standard BS3998 (2010), Tree work.