

My name is Irene Andreae. I live in Windmill Hill House, Windmill Hill, London NW3 6SJ. My front and back gardens adjoin Fenton House. Recently I have been having serious problems with my drains and drain pipes. Twice my basement was flooded, the first time was on Friday 3 October. The second time was on Friday 14 November. Dynorod engineers and Thames Water engineers came several times to unblock the drains. I have shared drains with Enfield House because these two houses, built in 1730, were originally one house. It was separated about one hundreds years later. Subsequently it was rejoined and separated again at various times. Although each house has its own drains, the two houses also have shared drains. When these are blocked the sewage water comes into my basement because water flows into the lowest area.

It has been established that the major cause of blocked drains are the Robinia Pseudo Acacia trees near our houses. The small leaves of these trees do not disintegrate well and the trees have now reached a height above the roofs. The autumn leaves cover the roofs and grounds causing blockage of drains pipes, drains and gutters. I am having problems with my insurers.

I understand that Fenton House is seeking permission to replace some of their Robinia Pseudo Acacia. I would like to support their application because, apart from the fact that the removal of these trees would go a long way to solving my problems with blocked drains, I also feel that these trees are inappropriate for a grand entrance leading to a beautiful 17th century mansion.

I beg you to take the above into consideration and grant permission to Fenton House to replace these trees which, according to various internet reviews, are a nuisance.

Your cordially,



Irene Andreae

Letter from neighbour
living at Windmill House
regarding trees as marked
on plan.