

9 Parkhill Road
Tree Impact Assessment Report

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Introduction

This report provides an assessment of the impact of the proposed extension of 9 Parkhill Road on a Bay Tree (*Laurus nobilis*) in the garden of the adjoining property. This report aims to assess whether the impact on the tree is significant and therefore whether more detailed assessment is required and also whether measures are likely to be required for tree root protection during construction. The author is a qualified ecologist (BA York University 1982) and environmental manager (MA UCE Birmingham 1996) and an experienced woodland manager and so has sufficient understanding of trees to identify where the expertise of a qualified arboriculturalist is required.

The Condition of the Tree and Proximity of the proposed works

The tree shown in the Figure 1 below is a mature bay tree, an evergreen shrubb. Which has been heavily pruned. It is within the rear garden of 11A adjacent to the garden wall forming the boundary between 11A and No9. The original garden wall footings extend 600mm below ground level.

Following a Party Wall Award In 1997 the garden wall was underpinned in mass concrete to a depth of 1800 below ground level adjacent to the bay tree, as Annex 2.

Figure 1 – Photo of Bay Tree from Garden of No 9



The tree is a small heavily pruned shrub it has two trunks which are both approx 200 mm diameter at 1.5M height and so the Root Protection Zone can be taken to be 2.4 metre radius for each trunk (See annex D in BS 5837 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction). This has been marked on the enclosed site plan – **Annex 1** showing the intersection of the root protection zone with the existing walls and paving.

The areas calculated and relative percentages are given below:

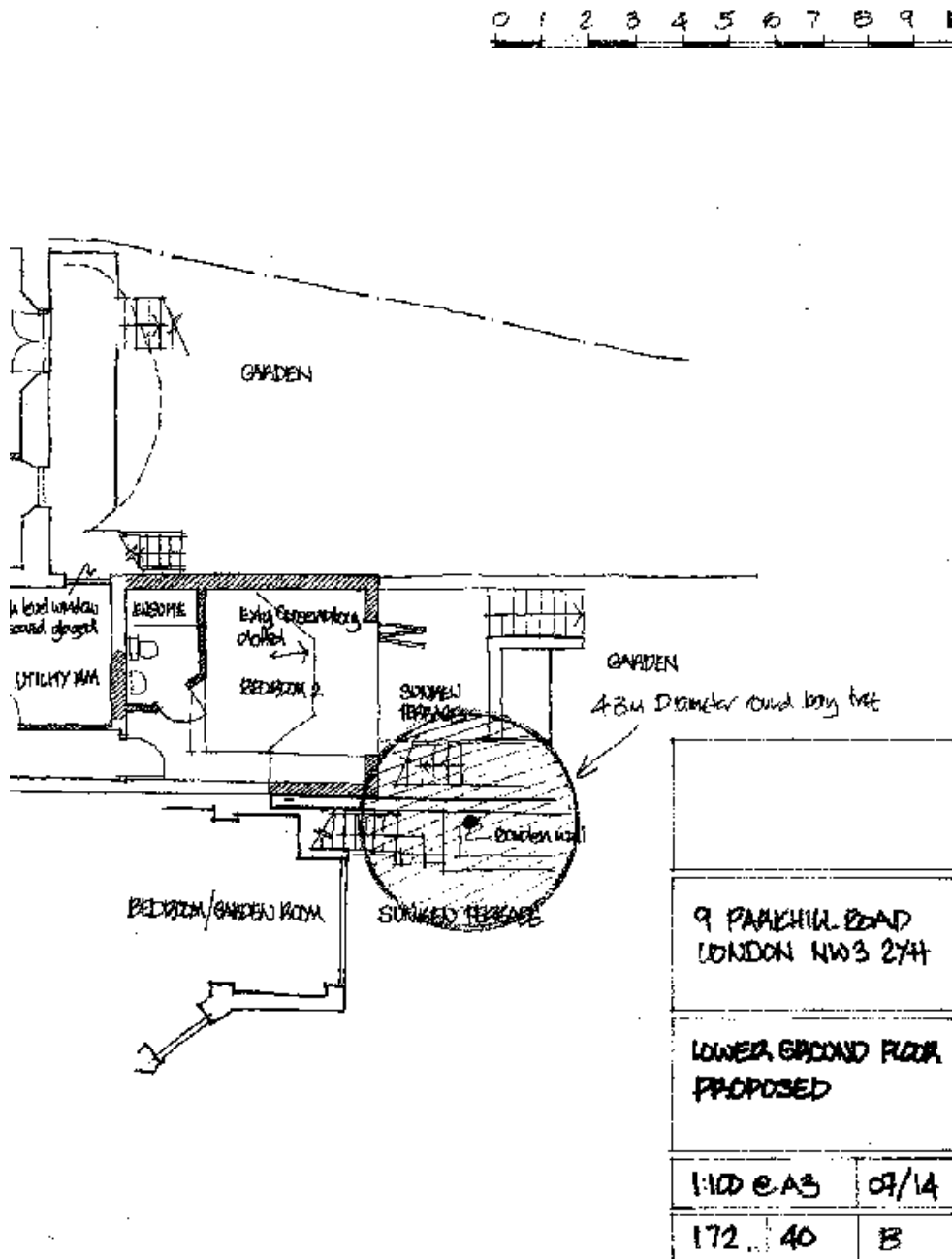
	Area in sq. metres	% of whole RPZ
Whole Root Protection Zone	18	
% of RPZ within the garden of No 9		50%
Area of lightwell within RPZ	2	10%

The lightwell excavation will have very slight impact on the RPZ for the following reasons:

1. The new excavation is 10 % of the theoretical RPZ as shown on the plans
2. The Underpinning if the garden wall undertaken in 2006 is at a depth which will act a significant barrier to the roots of the tree stopping many of the roots extending into the garden of No 9.
3. The tree has recently severely pruned by the neighbour, Bay trees respond well to pruning, being a popular tree for topiary and so this means that the effective area of the active Root Zone will be reduced.

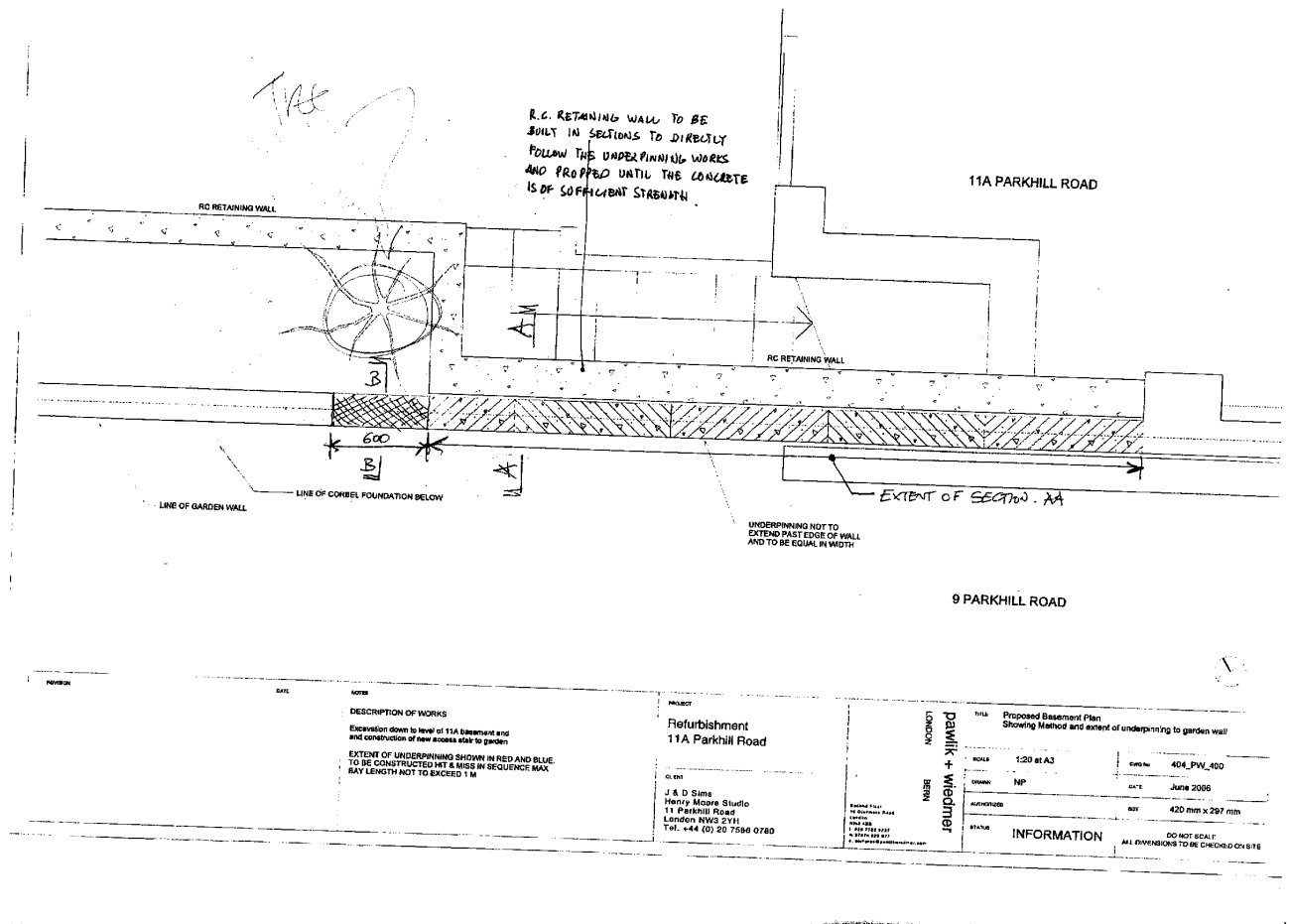
Because of this it can be concluded that the work proposed will have a small impact on the RPZ and so it is reasonable to conclude that a full Arboricultural assessment will not be required.

Annex 1 – Plan showing Root Protection Zone and new structure



Annex 2 – Drawings showing Underpinning of Garden Wall in 2006

1.. Plan of Underpinning. (Scales 1:20 at A3)



Annex 2 – Drawings showing Underpinning of Garden Wall in 2006

2. Section through Underpinning

