

The English Tree Company Ltd

Arboricultural Consultant's Report

**The Meadows, off Blanche Lane, South Mimms
Potters Bar, Herts. EN6 3PB**

Tel: 01707 654069 Fax: 01707 649814

Tree Inspection

at

74 BELSIZE PARK GARDENS

LONDON NW3

Ref: 1115

20 September 2016

INTRODUCTION

I have been commissioned to advise on the health of trees within the site of the properties, the trees are located to the front of 74 Belsize Park Gardens, which is within a Conservation Area.

I confirm that I am a Fellow of the Arboricultural Association, and have attained the Royal Forestry Society Professional Diploma in Arboriculture.

I have over 25 years of experience in tree inspection and arboricultural reporting. I devised and managed basic and advanced tree inspection courses whilst section head of Arboriculture at Capel Manor College. I have provided expert witness services and given expert evidence in Planning Inquiries, Magistrates, County and the High Courts. I was a “significant contributor” to the publication “Lonsdale L (1999) Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management HMSO”. I am a LANTRA Registered “Professional Tree Inspector”.

Before undertaking any work to any of the trees, statutory controls should be checked. If Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) cover any of the trees, and / or if the site is in a Conservation Area then no works can be undertaken without the relevant statutory processes being followed.

LIMITATIONS

Inspection was carried out on the basis of ground level, visual examination of external features of each individual tree. The principal objective of the survey was to identify trees, or parts of trees, which appear to be in a hazardous condition and to advise remedial action to ameliorate the risk they could represent to users of the site and adjacent areas.

Visual assessment, in accordance with accepted arboricultural practice, was based on apparent vitality (leaf cover, extension growth), presence of deadwood and die back, fractured and detached limbs, evidence of excessive basal movement and external indications of stem and basal decay likely to affect the structural condition of the tree.

Trees and shrubs are living organisms whose health and condition can change rapidly. The health, condition and safety of trees should be checked on a regular basis, preferably at least once a year, and conclusions and recommendations are only valid for a period of 1 year. These periods of validity may be reduced in the case of any change in conditions in proximity to the trees or buildings. This assessment of the level of risk posed by trees, either individually or collectively is based on the available evidence, current published works, recognised professional opinion and my experience in these matters.

The Brief

I have been asked to report on:

1. The health and safety of trees within the site and appropriate management options.

Inspection method

The inspection was undertaken from ground level only to assess the aerial parts.

Percussion testing was used to test stems where appropriate.

The report and recommendations relate to the condition of the trees and of their surroundings at the time of inspection only.

FINDINGS & OPINION

The tree details and recommendations are included within the Schedule of trees and are marked on a sketch plan.

The subject tree is well within their species' potential rooting and influencing distances of buildings (which have basements) and I am unaware of any current or previous subsidence damage. There are cracks to nearby walls, paths and light structures which are almost certainly due to the influence of tree roots.

Sycamore T2 is significantly younger than the building and has a relatively high growth potential if left unattended. Minor decay pockets require checking. The crown of the tree will come into contact with the building if no action is taken.

Any tree works would be affected by the local parking restrictions.

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Schedule of Trees

Species – Common Name

Age – Fully Mature (FM), Mature (M), Early Mature (EM), Semi Mature (SM), Young (Y)

Condition – Good, Fair, Poor, Dying, Dead

Height – Estimated in metres

Spread – Average Spread in metres

DBH – Diameter at Breast Height in millimetres

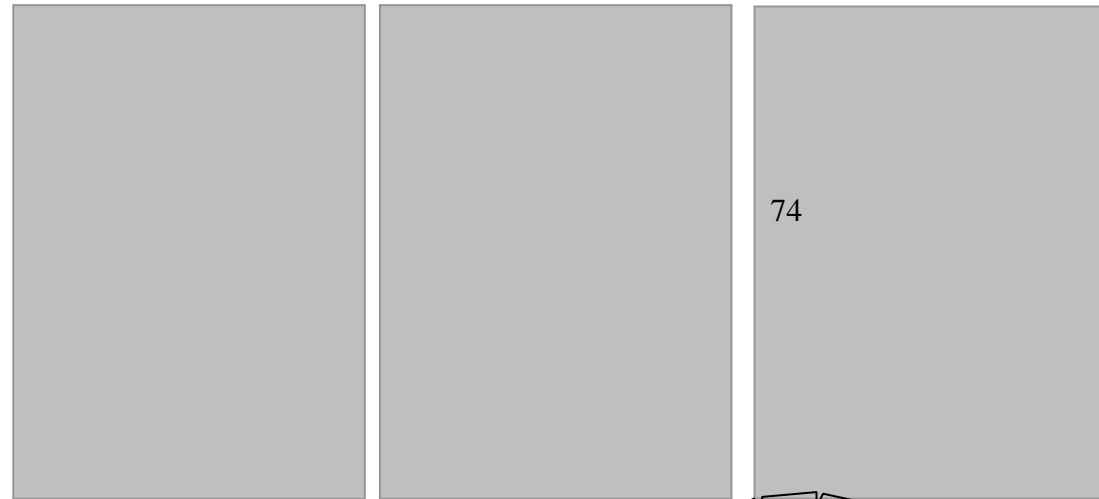
Tree	Species	Age	Condition	Height	Spread	Diam.	Comments	Recommendations
2	Sycamore	Early Mature	Fair	16	4.5	450	Single stemmed with indications of ooze on main stem, likely emanating from minor decay pockets in old pruning wounds, typical of the species. View of main stem obscured by epicormics growth. Crown extends close to building. "Honeydew" sap drip apparent, this is caused by sugary secretions from aphid type sap sucking insects. There is no appropriate treatment; previously available sprays and insecticidal soaps are no longer available for use under EU regulations.	Reduce height by 6 metres and reduce spread by up to 2.5m, remove epicormic ("sucker") growth from main stem. Inspect minor decay pockets for indications of significant decay.

All tree works to comply to BS3998 (2010)

Sketch Plan and photograph
of tree location



T2



74

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