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## **Tree Survey Schedule**

**Montague Place, London WC1B**

**September 2018**

# Tree Survey Schedule: Explanatory Notes

## Montague Place, London WC1B

This schedule is based on a tree inspection undertaken by Jeff Mashburn of SJA trees (the trading name of Simon Jones Associates Ltd.), on Tuesday the 4th September 2018. Weather conditions at the time were clear, dry and bright. Deciduous trees were in full leaf.

The information contained in this schedule covers only those trees that were examined, and reflects the condition of these specimens at the time of inspection.

The trees were inspected from the ground only and were not climbed, and no samples of wood, roots or fungi were taken. A full hazard or risk assessment of the trees was not undertaken, and therefore no guarantee, either expressed or implied, of their safety or stability can be given.

Trees are dynamic organisms and are subject to continual growth and change; therefore the dimensions and assessments presented in this schedule should not be relied upon in relation to any development of the site for more than twelve months from the survey date.

### 1. Tree no.

Given in sequential order, commencing at "1". Numbers correspond with numbering on topographical survey plan.

### 2. Species.

'Common names' are given, taken from MITCHELL, A. (1978) A Field Guide to the Trees of Britain and Northern Europe.

### 3. Height.

Estimated with the aid of a hypsometer, given in metres.

### 4. Trunk diameter.

Trunk diameter measured at approx. 1.5m above ground level; or where the trunk forks into separate stems between ground level and 1.5m, measured at the narrowest point beneath the fork. Given in millimetres.

### 5. Radial crown spread.

The linear extent of branches from the base of the trunk to the main cardinal points, rounded up to the closest half metre, unless shown otherwise. For small trees with reasonably symmetrical crowns, a single averaged figure is quoted.

### 6. Crown break.

Height above ground and direction of growth of first significant live branch.

### 7. Crown clearance.

Distance from adjacent ground level to lowest part of lowest branch, in metres.

### 8. Age class.

Young: Age less than 1/3 life expectancy

Semi-mature: 1/3 to 2/3 life expectancy

Mature: Over 2/3 life expectancy

Over-mature: Mature, and in a state of decline

Veteran: Mature, with a large trunk diameter for the species; but showing signs of ancientness, irrespective of actual age, with decay or hollowing, and a crown that has undergone some retrenchment and has a structure characteristic of the latter stages of life.

Ancient: Beyond the typical age range and with a very large trunk diameter for species; with extensive decay or hollowing; and a crown that has undergone retrenchment and has a structure characteristic of the latter stages of life.

### 9. Physiology.

Health, condition and function of the tree, in comparison to a normal specimen of its species and age.

### 10. Structure.

Structural condition of the tree – based on both the structure of its roots, trunk and major stems and branches, and on the presence of any structural defects or decay.

Very good: No significant physiological or structural defects, an upright and reasonably symmetrical structure; a particularly good example of its species.

Good: No significant physiological or structural defects, and an upright and reasonably symmetrical structure.

Moderate: No significant pathological defects, but a slightly impaired physiological structure; however, not to the extent that the tree is at immediate or early risk of collapse.

Indifferent: Significant physiological or pathological defects; but these are either remediable or do not put the tree at immediate or early risk of collapse.

Poor: Significant and irremediable physiological or pathological defects, such that there may be a risk of early or premature collapse.

Hazardous: Significant and irremediable physiological or pathological defects, with a risk of imminent collapse.

### 11. Comments.

Where appropriate comments have been made relating to:

- Health and condition
- Safety, particularly close to areas of public access
- Structure and form
- Estimated life expectancy or potential
- Visibility and impact in the local landscape

### 12. Category.

Based on the British Standard "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations", BS 5837: 2012, Table 1, adjusted to give a greater weighting to trees that contribute to the character and appearance of the local landscape, to amenity, or to biodiversity.

**Category U:** Trees in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.

- Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category 'U' trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning).
- Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline.
- Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality.

**Category A:** Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.

- (1) Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual.
- (2) Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.
- (3) Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value.

**Category B:** Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.

- (1) Trees that might be included in category 'A', but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage) such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category 'A' designation.
- (2) Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees present in numbers but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.
- (3) Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.

**Category C:** Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.

- (1) Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or of such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.
- (2) Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary landscape benefits.
- (3) Trees with no material limited conservation or other cultural value.

## TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

### Montague Place, London WC1B

No.	Species	Height	Trunk diameter	Radial crown spread	Crown break	Crown clearance	Age class	Physio -logy	Structure	Comments	Category
1	London plane	21m	705mm	N 6.25m E 9.5m S 7.5m W 8.75m	5m	3m	Semi-mature	Average	Moderate	No evidence of rooting activity beneath adjacent paving slabs or nearby tarmac. Wounds on trunk up to 250mm diameter showing full or nearly full occlusion consistent with crown lifting; pruning wounds throughout crown up to 100mm diameter consistent with crown reduction and showing little to moderate woundwood growth; small amounts of epicormic only at previous pruning sites; overall size, colour and density of foliage is as expected. Highly visible in short range views to the E and long range views to the W along Montague Place; essential component of London plane avenue.	B (2)
2	London plane	21m	500mm	N 7.5m E 3.75m S 7.25m W 4.5m	3.5m	4m	Young	Below average	Indifferent	No evidence of rooting activity beyond planting area. Wounds on trunk and in lower crown up to 150mm diameter and showing limited to full occlusion consistent with heavy crown lifting; lowest limb facing S 200mm diameter shows nearly complete loss of foliage with sporadically retained leaves and fruit. Highly asymmetric crown due to suppression by neighbouring London planes. Screened in most views by these neighbouring trees but still a significant component of the London plane avenue.	C (2)
3	London plane	21m	930mm	N 7.75m E 11.25m S 6m W 7.5m	4.5m	3m	Semi-mature	Average	Moderate	No evidence of rooting activity beyond planting area. Large historic wound at crown break consistent with crown lifting 200mm diameter showing full occlusion; pruning wounds throughout lower crown to 100mm diameter consistent with crown reduction and crown lifting and generally showing moderate woundwood growth; little epicormic growth throughout crown; overall leaf size, density and colour are as expected. Highly visible in short range views to the E along Montague Place and from the secondary entrance of the British Museum; essential component of the London plane avenue.	B (2)
4	London plane	17m	725mm	N 9.5m E 7.25m S 9m W 9.75m	4.5m	3m	Semi-mature	Average	Indifferent	No evidence of rooting activity beyond planting area; some large girdling roots up to 120mm diameter; many small exposed surface roots from 2mm diameter to 200mm diameter. Some pruning wounds on trunk up to 150mm diameter showing woundwood growth of 50mm diameter and evidence of decay but no cavity formation. Pruning wounds throughout crown consistent with crown reduction generally 50mm or smaller with one large historic pruning wound to SW, 120mm diameter with moderate epicormic growth; leaf size, colour and density throughout crown is as expected. Highly visible in short range views to the W along Montague Place and from the secondary entrance of the British Museum; essential component of London plane area.	B (2)

No.	Species	Height	Trunk diameter	Radial crown spread	Crown break	Crown clearance	Age class	Physiology	Structure	Comments	Category
5	London plane	19m	660mm	N 9.75m E 12.75m S 7m W 5.75m	4.5m	3m	Semi-mature	Average	Moderate	Minor lifting of paving slabs to the E up to 1m in height and up to 6m from the trunk consistent with rooting activity; similar lifting of paving slabs up to 2m to the W; no other evidence of rooting activity beyond planting area; some exposed surface roots up to 200mm diameter and showing minor mechanical damage. Historic tear-out wound facing S mid canopy 120mm diameter and showing expected epicormic growth; pruning wounds throughout lower crown consistent with historic crown lifting up to 120mm diameter and showing little to moderate woundwood growth; asymmetric crown due to suppression by London plane t4; leaf size, colour and density throughout crown as expected. Highly visible in short range views to the E along Montague Place and junction unknown; essential component of London plane avenue.	B (2)
6	Sycamore	5.5m	125mm	N 2m E 2.5m S 2.5m W 1m	2.5m	2.5m	Young	Average	Indifferent	Small ornamental specimen. No evidence of rooting activity beyond planting area. Prominent graft. Pruning wounds consistent with crown lifting and formative pruning showing limited to full occlusion. Inessential component of London plane avenue.	C (12)

## **Root Protection Areas (RPAs)**

Root Protection Areas have been calculated in accordance with paragraph 4.6.1 of the British Standard 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations', BS 5837:2012. This is the minimum area which should be left undisturbed around each retained tree. RPAs are portrayed initially as a circle of a fixed radius from the centre of the trunk; but where there appear to be restrictions to root growth the circle is modified to reflect more accurately the likely distribution of roots.

<b><i>Tree No.</i></b>	<b><i>Species</i></b>	<b><i>RPA</i></b>	<b><i>RPA Radius</i></b>
1	London plane	224.8m <sup>2</sup>	8.5m
2	London plane	113.1m <sup>2</sup>	6.0m
3	London plane	391.3m <sup>2</sup>	11.2m
4	London plane	237.8m <sup>2</sup>	8.7m
5	London plane	197.1m <sup>2</sup>	7.9m
6	London plane	7.1m <sup>2</sup>	1.5m