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Arboricultural Method Statement **(BS5837: 2012)**

Site

31 St Paul's Crescent
London
NW1 9TN

Client

Whymark & Moulton

Date of Report:

6th May 2020

Report Reference:

AMS/MF/062/20

Report Prepared by:

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report has been commissioned by Rob Osborne on behalf of Whymark & Moulton to provide an Arboricultural Method Statement for proposed boundary construction works at 31 St Paul's Crescent, London, NW1 9TN

1.2 This report provides the information required to implement tree protection measures for the wall re-construction works with principles that are approved and enforced by the local planning authority.

1.3 This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and Tree Protection Plan (TPP) provides the information required by the above condition to protect the trees. It should be noted that this is a site specific AMS produced solely for the physical protection of those trees and shrubs identified on the TPP within the report and is not relevant to any other site or situation.

1.4 This report and the opinions within it have been produced by Marcus Foster, a qualified Arboriculturist and Professional Member of the Arboricultural Association holding a National Diploma in Arboriculture, the Arboricultural Association's Technicians Certificate, Professional Tree Inspection Certificate (LANTRA) as well as a degree in History. Work experience within the industry includes work as a Contracts Manager for an Arboricultural Association Approved Company, a Local Authority Tree Preservation Officer and an independent Arboricultural Consultant with over 19 years experience. As an arboricultural consultant many of the projects undertaken are within the inner London Boroughs of Islington, Hackney, Westminster, Camden, Southwark and RBKC, making Marcus Foster familiar with the most recent requirements of development and constraints on urban trees.

1.5 No additional documentation has been referred to relating to the trees / shrubs or the site at this property for the compilation of this report.

1.6 The AMS must be made available to all contractors and operatives on the site during the construction process so that they fully understand the importance of the measures set out for tree protection.

2.0 Site & Development Overview

2.1 There are 3 x small trees / large shrubs (T1-T3) and general shrubs / herbaceous perennials (G1) located within the rear soft landscape area of the site which is subject to construction works for re-construction of a boundary wall. The trees and general vegetation affected can be summarised as follows:

- T1: *Cordyline australis* (semi to early mature)
- T2: *Cordyline australis* (semi to early mature)
- T3: *Acer palmatum* (semi to early mature)
- G4: Mixed species shrubs including *Phormium tenax* and herbaceous perennials (exact species and quantities undefined at present)

2.2 The site is protected by virtue of location within a Conservation Area as follows: *London Borough of Camden: Camden Square Conservation Area*

2.3 Status checks for Tree Preservation Order (TPO) protection have not been undertaken as such protection is not deemed relevant.

2.4 The proposed construction works as outlined within Whymark & Moulton Drawing Reference: 17/072-05 (Jan 20) are as follows:

- (i) Removal of existing brick retainer wall
- (ii) Ground works to enable foundation and backfill within rear of property
31 St Paul's Crescent
- (iii) Foundation and ground works
- (iv) Re-construction of brick retaining wall

2.5 The proposed works have the potential to impact upon these trees and shrubs / herbaceous perennials in the following ways as highlighted below with tree protection measures for these impacts highlighted in Section 5 of this report and drawing T001 - TPP

- Impact upon root plates from excavation works
- The use of machinery associated with the project where hard landscapes / wall features are affected
- Storage of materials and chemicals
- Site welfare / access

2.6 For protection of the trees, the document will give site specific tree protection measures. The methods are set out in a logical and coherent sequence for ease of understanding and implementation. The operations that are required in order to ensure comprehensive tree protection include:

- Pre-commencement arboricultural supervision visit - for ensuring full understanding of the arboricultural method statement for all relevant parties
- Toolbox talk to appointed contractor regarding tree protection measures including additional arboricultural supervision visit
- Ground works where within close / relevant proximity to trees T1 - T3 & G4 with appropriate measures highlighted as supervision visit No.1

2.7 Tree protection measures within *Section 4* are clearly specified within the TPP - T001. The TPP shows the retained trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials and precise location of proposed works.

2.8 This document and the associated TPP shall be endorsed by planning conditions, agreement or obligation as appropriate.

3.0 Sequence of Events

The following sequences are governed by operational constraints and are subject to change. The consulting arboriculturist must be noted of any changes to this schedule prior to implementation where trees / tree protection measures as exiting are likely to be affected.

Prior to commencement of construction site activities

- a) Identification of shrubs requiring the following remedial options as deemed relevant:
 - Identification of herbaceous perennials requiring removal for replacement
 - Identification of shrubs T1 & T2 requiring protective measures or transplanting or removal for replacement

Agreement of transplanting strategy and / or replacement planting proposal

- b) Tree protection measures installed as specified within TPP
- c) Consulting Arboriculturist to confirm site set up works implemented to correct specifications as outlined within TPP - Arboricultural Supervision Visit No. 1

Development Stage - General Construction Works

- d) Consulting Arboriculturist to give toolbox talk regarding all tree protection measures. - Arboricultural Supervision Visit No. 2
- e) Removal of existing trees and vegetation as deemed appropriate form supervision visit 1 with close adherence to Section 5 - AMS
- f) Demolition Works
- g) Ground works and general construction site activities
- h) Re-instatement of topsoil
- i) The local authority arboriculturist and / or consulting arboriculturist shall have free access to the site and forward any recommendations directly to the consulting arboriculturist

Completion Stage - Landscape Works

- j) All final landscape works associated with the scheme should closely adhere to guidelines within this AMS and be carried out to agreed specifications by appointed landscape contractor

4.0 Tree Protection & Replacement Methodology

4.1 Method of Tree & Shrub Protection / Removal / Transplanting

4.1.1 The proposed ground works shall require for existing trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials to be removed as identified within Arboricultural Supervision Visit No.1. However to ensure full protection of trees the following must be applied within the 'Precautionary Area' as highlighted within TPP:

- Method of removal of spoil during ground works to be stored as outlined within TPP - T001
- Close adherence to *Section 5 - General guidance for excavations and dealing with roots* for all works regardless of excavations outside of the RPA

4.2 Site Storage & Welfare Facilities

4.2.1 The storage of all chemicals, materials and debris / spoil shall be stored outside of the soft landscape area of the site where the trees are sited.

4.2.2 Site welfare must also be located outside of the soft landscape area; the designated area has not been specified and should be agreed at Arboricultural Supervision Visit No.1.

4.3 Installation of Tree Protection Fencing for retained trees

4.3.1 Tree protection fencing is specified to create Construction Exclusion Zones for retained tree T3. The fencing is specified as *Herras* fencing on mobile supports pegged in place with 100mm timber pegs to prevent mobilisation during works:



Herras fencing with mobile supports fixed in place

Fencing to be constructed as shown above and approved on Arboricultural Supervision Site Visit No1 to specifications within T001.

4.4 Protection of canopy from associated construction site activities

4.4.1 No tree protection measures are specified for protection of canopies due to the light nature of works. All works shall be occurring outside of the canopy footprints of the retained tree T3.

4.5 Ground Protection

4.5.1 No tree protection measures are specified for protection of the ground as the Construction Exclusion Zone provide full protection of the root plate for tree T3 for the excavation works.

4.5.2 Care shall be taken to avoid spillage of the Concrete Mix using protective membrane where necessary at the time of mixing. This will include mixing on a protected surface away from the site and any exposed roots as shown within T001 - TPP.

4.6 Landscape Works / Replacement Strategy

4.6.1 For undertaking the final landscape works the following must be applied:

- (i) Fresh loam based topsoil installed to original levels
- (i) All replacement plant species should be supplied in sizes as specified and agreed prior to commencement of ground works
- (iii) Where substitutes are required due to nursery stock / availability close matches should be made which suit site aspect
- (iv) Where trees are supplied suitable staking implemented as part of the scheme: conventional wooden stakes / ties
- (v) A weed suppressing bark mulch between 40-60mm thickness applied

5.0 General guidance for excavations and dealing with roots

5.1 Where trees T1 & T2 may be deemed appropriate for retention, the general guidance in relation to tree root and excavations must be adhered to. BS5837 (2012) makes provision for undertaking excavations in RPAs, and also of relevance to general excavations within close proximity of trees, the document explains that all excavation must be carried out carefully using spades, forks and trowels.

5.2 Tree Root Severance Guidance

5.2.1 Contractors must be aware of tree protection guidance in relation to tree roots which must be applied as follows:

- The severance of any tree roots encountered larger than 25mm in diameter MUST NOT occur without prior consultation with the Local Authority Tree Officer or appointed Arboricultural Consultant.
- The severance of any massing of fibrous tree roots MUST NOT occur without prior consultation with the Local Authority Tree Officer or appointed Arboricultural Consultant.
- If at any point it is deemed not possible to continue with excavations without having to damage very significant tree roots, the Local Authority Tree Officer and / or the appointed Arboricultural Consultant must be contacted.

5.3 Working in close proximity of tree roots

5.3.1 Where trees are deemed appropriate for transplanting (Cordyline trees T1 & T2) the following guidance is applicable for the fibrous roots which shall be encountered:

- Hand tools including spades, forks, trowels and pick axes used only for the excavations
- Hand dig at 300mm distance from main stems to depth of 500mm
- Release plants with hand tools and manual force
- Pot up within 50 or 100 litre pot as appropriate for size of rootball
- Water plant upon completion of transplanting
- If transplanted within growing season (March - October) maintain watering from timed irrigation system 2 x daily (3 minutes watering minimum / watering)
- Apply monthly soluble seaweed fertiliser at applied / recommended rates
- Re-plant and apply bark mulch finish (60mm layer)

6.0 Communication, Monitoring and Compliance

6.1 In ensuring that all tree protections and replacement specifications as highlighted within this AMS are closely adhered to at all times, it is important to set out, communication details for key individuals and tasks that require monitoring.

6.2 The key individuals appointed for advising and complying with tree protection specifications must adhere to the following at all times:

- Relevant parties / key individuals must be advised of any changes in personnel or contractor during the development process.
- Relevant parties / key individuals must be responsible for relaying information regarding tree protection within work force where deemed applicable / relevant

6.3 An Arboricultural Supervision Scheme is specified to ensure tree protection measures as outlined within this report are fully enforced; this scheme is set out below:

Arboricultural Site Supervision Site Visit 1

Approval of the following tree protection and landscape matters:

- Plant removal specification
- Construction methodology
- Approval of tree protection measures
- Site set up
- Working methodology

Written confirmation of findings within 5 days to Whymark & Moulton for approval

Arboricultural Site Supervision Site Visit 2

Once the tree protection measures have been checked and signed off, and before any other work starts on site, the Arboricultural Consultant will deliver a 'Toolbox Talk' to all operatives engaged in the ground works. The content of this will cover tree protection measures and the reason they are required, common causes of damage to trees during construction, reporting procedures on damaged tree protection measures and/or damage to ground around trees or physical damage to trees above or below ground.

Written confirmation of findings within 5 days to Whymark & Moulton for approval

6.4 The local authority / LB Camden tree officer shall have free access to the site and forward any concerns / recommendations directly to the consulting arboriculturist.

7.0 APPENDICES

Appendix A

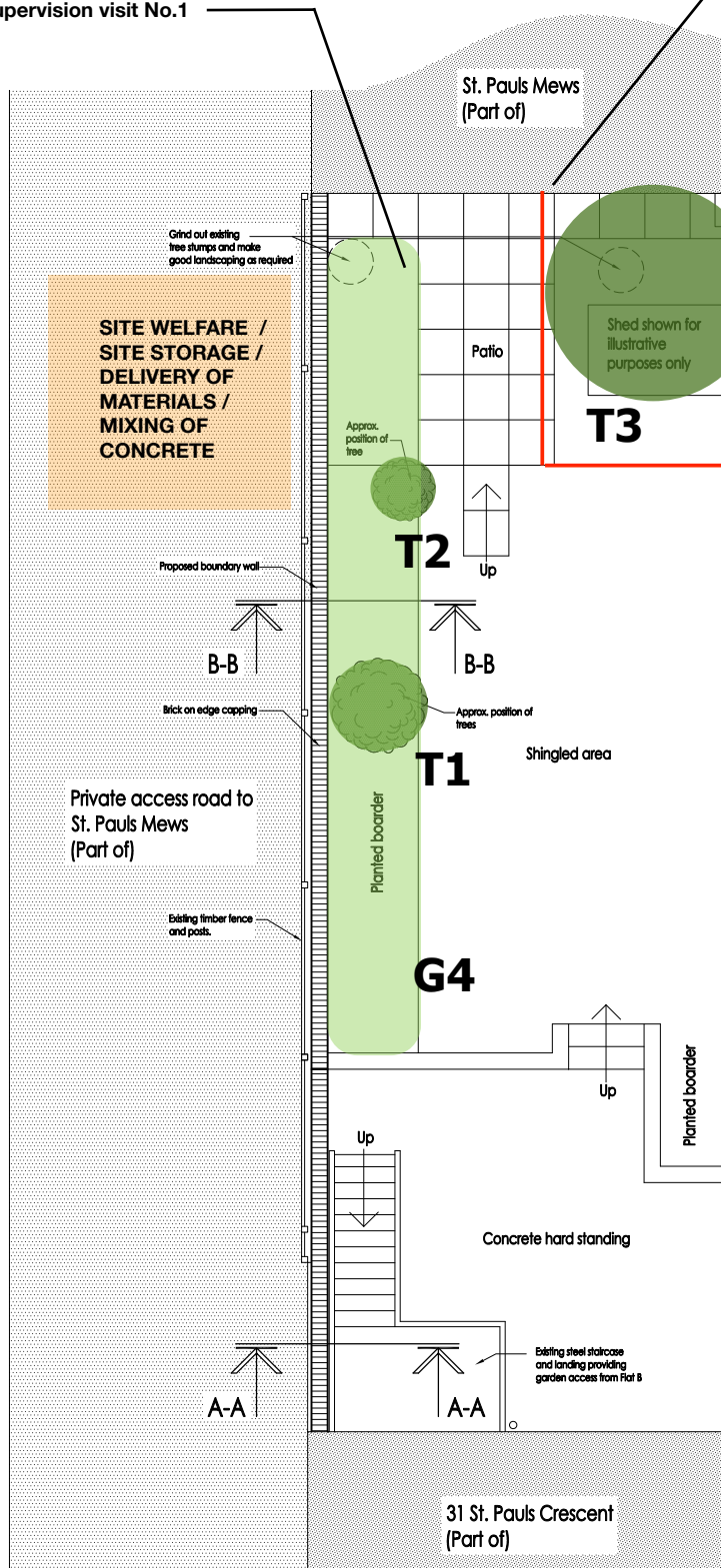
T001
Tree Protection Plan (TPP)

31 St Paul's Crescent
London
NW1 9TN

**LANDSCAPE RETENTION
& REPLACEMENT
STRATEGY for T1, T2 & G4**
Agreed as per
arboricultural site
supervision visit No.1

TREE PROTECTION FENCING

Tree protection fencing installed on line of canopy line for protection of tree T3



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

1. Pre-Commencement

- Identification of shrubs requiring the following remedial options as deemed relevant:
- Identification of herbaceous perennials requiring removal for replacement
- Identification of shrubs T1 & T2 requiring protective measures or transplanting or removal for replacement
- Agreement of transplanting strategy and / or replacement planting proposal
- Tree protection measures installed as specified within TPP
- Consulting Arboriculturist to confirm site set up works implemented to correct specifications as outlined within TPP
- Arboricultural Supervision Visit No. 1

2.Development Stage - General Construction Works

- Consulting Arboriculturist to give toolbox talk regarding all tree protection measures. - Arboricultural Supervision Visit No. 2
- Removal of existing trees and vegetation as deemed appropriate form supervision visit 1 with close adherence to Section 5 - AMS
- Demolition Works
- Ground works and general construction site activities
- Re-instatement of topsoil

3. Final Landscape Works


All final landscape works associated with the scheme should closely adhere to guidelines within this AMS and be carried out to agreed specifications by appointed landscape contractor

NOTE: The local authority arboriculturist and / or consulting arboriculturist shall have free access to the site and forward any recommendations directly to the consulting arboriculturist

SUPERVISIING ARBORICULTURIST:
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SUMMARY OF EXISTING TREES, SHRUBS & SOFT LANDSCAPES

T1: *Cordyline australis* (semi to early mature)
T2: *Cordyline australis* (semi to early mature)
T3: *Acer palmatum* (semi to early mature)
G4: Mixed species shrubs including *Phormium tenax* and herbaceous perennials (exact species and quantities undefined at present)

Rev.	Date		Checked
/		ISSUED FOR INFORMATION	MF
JOB TITLE 31 St Paul's Crescent, London, NW1 9TN			
DWG TITLE Tree Protection Plan			
SCALE	1:50 @ A3	DATE	May 20
JOB NO	AMS/MF/062/20	DWG NO.	T001
 <div style="text-align: right; padding-top: 20px;"> <p>T: 0781 2024070</p> <p>marcus@mfdesignconsultancy.com</p> <p>www.mfdesignconsultancy.com</p> </div>			
<h1>Marcus Foster</h1> <h2>TREE CONSULTANCY</h2>			

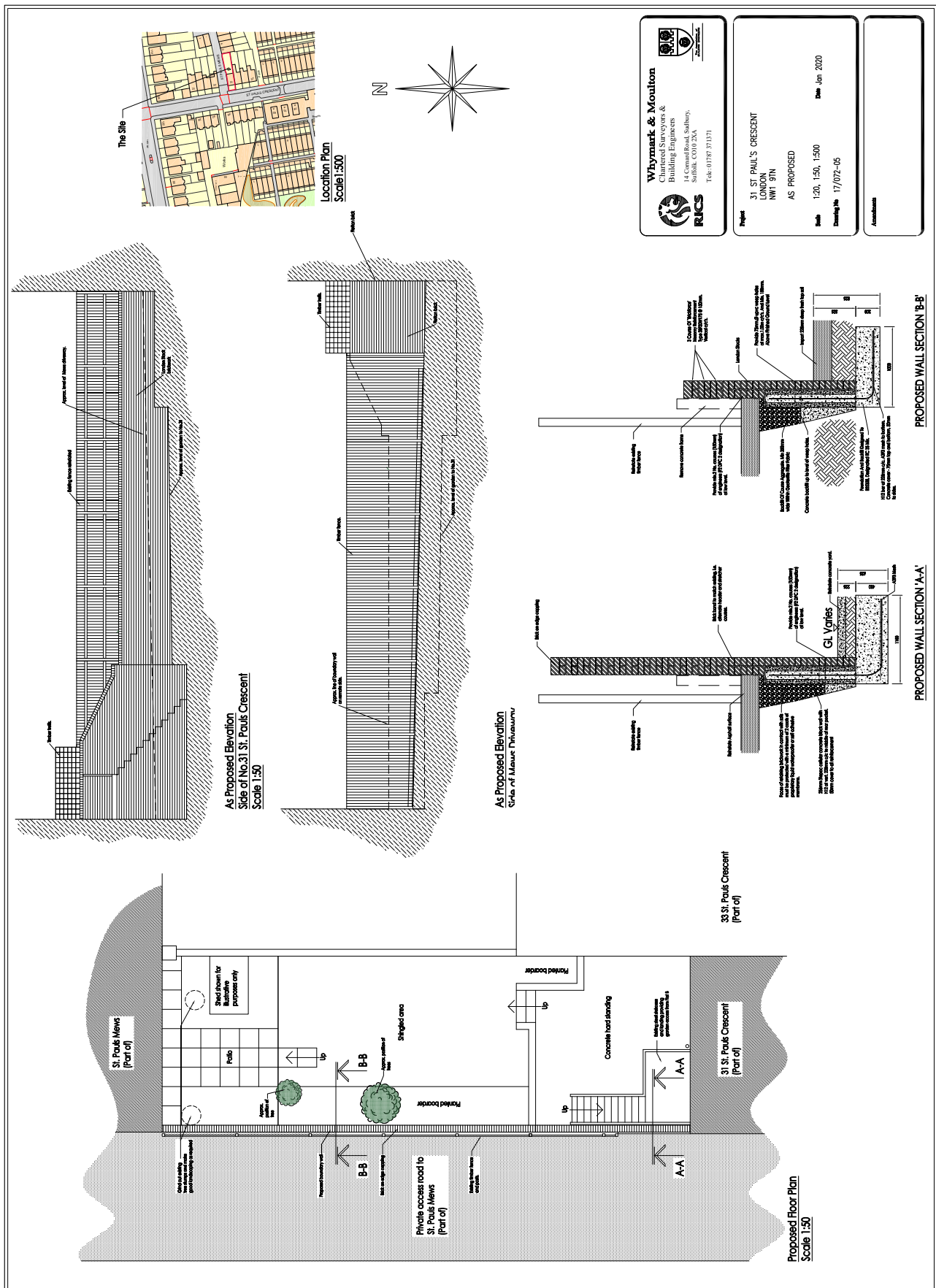
Appendix B: **Proposed Drawing Set**

31 St Paul's Crescent
London
NW1 9TN

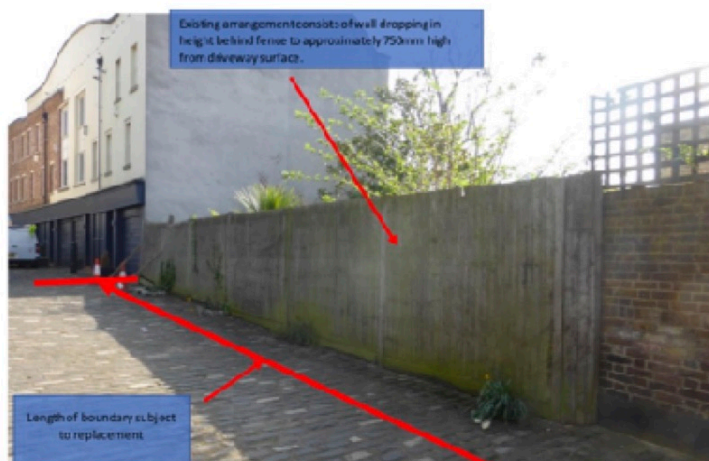
DRAWING REFERENCES

Whymark & Moulton

Drawing Reference: 17/072-05
Date: Jan 20



Appendix C: Site Photographs



31 St Paul's Crescent, London, NW1 9TN
Provided by Whymark & Moulton

Appendix D: References

1. BS5837: British Standard: Trees in relation to construction - Recommendations, British Standard (2012)
2. Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management, Lonsdale, D. (Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions, 1999)
3. The Body Language of Trees, Mattheck, C. and Breloer, H. (HMSO, 1994)
4. Trees in Britain, Philips, R. (Pan Books, 1978).
5. Diagnosis of Ill Health in Trees, Strouts, R. and Winter, (TSO, 1994)
6. NJUG Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees (Issue 2), (November 2007)

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