



Root Investigation Report

1 Dunollie Road, London NW5 2XN

A report to Francis Birch Architect

Date: 21st May 2020

Report No: WAS 148 /2020

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Report Verification

This study has been undertaken in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations".

Disclaimer

The contents of this report are the responsibility of Wassells Arboricultural Services Ltd. It should be noted that, whilst every effort is made to meet the client's brief, no site investigation can ensure complete assessment or prediction of the natural environment.

Wassells Arboricultural Services Ltd accepts no responsibility or liability for any use that is made of this document other than by the client for the purposes for which it was originally commissioned and prepared.

Validity of Data

The findings of this investigation are valid for a period of 12 months from the date of survey. If works have not commenced by this date, an updated site visit should be carried out by a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturist to assess any changes to the trees and groups on site and to inform a review of the conclusions and recommendations made.

It should be noted that trees are dynamic living organisms that are subject to natural changes as they age or are influenced by changes in their environment. As such following any significant meteorological event or changes in the growing environment of the trees they should be re-assessed by a suitably qualified and experienced arboriculturist.

Introduction and Scope of Report

This document has been produced to assess the impact on a Silver Birch tree from proposed development at side of 1 Dunollie Road.

The scope of this report follows the recommendations and guidance described within **BS 5837: 2012 *Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations*** which sets out the principles and procedures to be applied to achieve a harmonious and sustainable relationship between trees and structures.

Abbreviations:

RPA = root protection area

CEZ = construction exclusion zone

CWA = construction working area (including materials storage)

AMS = arboricultural method statement

AS = Arboricultural supervision

TPO = Tree Preservation Order

CA = Conservation Area

Root Investigation Assessment

Camden Council requested a root survey at the above site, following an application for development that may impact a Silver Birch tree growing in an adjoining garden – **reference Pre-development Arboricultural Survey and Report – WAS131/2019 dated 10th October 2019**

The development involves a basement and lightwell that is within the RPA of Silver Birch T1.

Two trial pits were dug on the line of the proposed lightwell in order to ascertain the level of rooting within the excavation area – **see plan and photos in addendum 1**

The trial pits were dug on 12th May and it was found that the London Clay was close to the surface in this area at around 400mm below existing levels with made up ground above. There was only minor fibrous rooting, mostly, in the made up ground above the London Clay with only one lateral root from the Silver Birch of around 40mm in diameter, found in trial pit 1.

The level of rooting was insignificant and there shall be no impact on the Silver Birch root zone from the proposed excavation of the basement and lightwell. It is likely that the majority of rooting for this tree is within the rear garden that it is growing in.

Recommendation

1. No impact on Silver Birch T1, correctly sever any roots of 25mm and above that may be encountered by hand digging the first 500mm of the lightwell/basement wall
2. Install root barrier such as Re-Root 1000 to the outside edge of the lightwell/ basement

References

1. BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations
2. Barrell Tree Consultancy – BS5837 – Advanced Tree Assessment for Planning
3. BS3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations
4. NJUG Volume 4 Issue2 2007 – Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees.
5. NHBC Standards – Section 4.2 Building Near Trees
6. British Geological Survey – London & the Thames Valley
7. Principles of Tree Hazard Assessment – Lonsdale 2001
8. Diagnosis of Ill Health in Trees – Stouts & Winter 2004
9. Tree Roots in the Built Environment: Chapter 9 – Roberts, Jackson & Smith 2006
10. The Body Language of Trees – Mattheck 2015
11. Wassells – WAS/131-2019

Declaration

This Root investigation report has been written and checked by Richard Wassell of Wassells Arboricultural Services Ltd. and is provided without prejudice as an objective and professional assessment of the trees described.

Signed: *R.J. Wassell* Date: *21.05. MMXX*

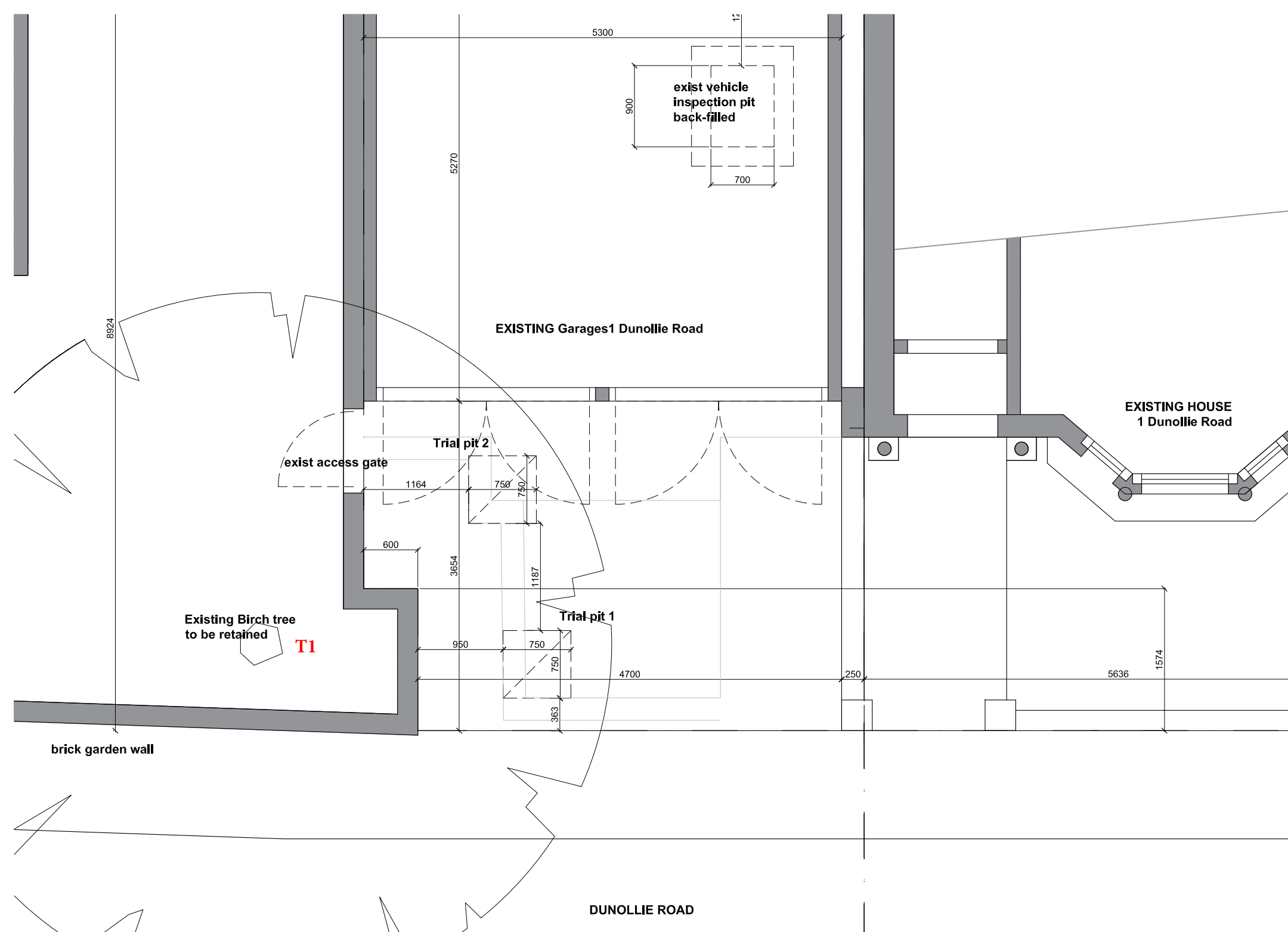
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Addendum 1 – Site Plans & Photographs





TRIAL PIT 1



TRIAL PIT 2

