

## ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT REPORT FOR:

39a Priory Terrace London NW6 4DG

## **INSTRUCTING PARTY:**

Private Client c/o SHH Architects 1 Vencourt Place Hammersmith W6 9NU

## **REPORT PREPARED BY**

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Ref: SHH/39APT/AIA/01

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## **DOCUMENT HISTORY**

Revision	Status	Comments	Date
Rev 0	DRAFT For Internal Review		
		(Client / Design Team)	
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#### 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The existing site is a lower ground floor flat with rear garden containing a number of trees potentially constraining development. The proposal includes an extension into the rear garden and lowering of the existing patio.
- 1.2 There are 6 trees on the property and adjoining land outside of the application boundary that are within close proximity to the development and need to be assessed. These are all judged as being of moderate and low-guality.
- 1.3 The report has assessed the impacts of the development proposals and concludes there would be at most a low impact on the resource: a small portion of trees will be removed or pruned to facilitate construction. Those removed have more collective than individual specimen value, such that their loss could be mitigated with new planting, bringing its own benefits to a relatively unmanaged resource. Similarly, though pruning here is to serve development, if undertaken to best practice, the scale envisaged should not be altogether untoward in an occupied site.
- 1.4 Whilst the default position is that structures be located outside the Root Protection Area\* (RPA) of trees to be retained, there are some modest encroachments that could not be avoided in the design of the scheme. The report has demonstrated that the tree(s) can remain viable and that the area lost to encroachment can be compensated for elsewhere, contiguous with the RPA; the report also proposes a series of mitigation measures to improve the soil environment that is used by the tree for growth. Net impacts are assessed therefore as being low.
- 1.5 Notwithstanding the above assurances, the report sets out a series of recommendations prior and during construction that will ensure impacts to trees are minimised. These are detailed in sections 6.3 and 8 of this report.
- 1.6 In conclusion, the proposal, through following the above recommendations, will have no, or very limited, impact on the existing trees and is acceptable.

\* British Standards Institute: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction BS 5837: 2012 HMSO, London

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Terms of Reference
  - 2.1.1 SHH Architects instructed Landmark Trees (LT) to prepare this Arboricultural Impact Assessment report has been prepared by on behalf of their client, to support a full planning application submitted to the London Borough of Camden ('LBC').
  - 2.1.2 The application relates to construction of a rear extension to the flat and creation of a new lower garden terrace.
  - 2.1.3 This report will assess the impact on trees and their constraints, identified in our survey. Although the proposals were known at the time of the survey, Landmark Trees endeavour to survey each site blind, working from a topographical survey, wherever possible, with the constraints plan informing their evolution. The purpose of the report is to provide guidance on how trees and other vegetation can be integrated into construction and development design schemes. The overall aim is to ensure the protection of amenity by trees which are appropriate for retention.
  - 2.1.4 Trees are a material consideration for a Local Planning Authority when determining planning applications, whether or not they are afforded the statutory protection of a Tree Preservation Order or Conservation Area. British Standard BS 5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction sets out the principles and procedures to be applied to achieve a harmonious and sustainable relationship between trees and new developments. The Standard recommends a sequence of activities (see Fig.1 overleaf) that starts in the initial feasibility and design phase (RIBA Stage 2 'Concept Design') with a survey to qualify and quantify the trees on site and establish the arboricultural constraints to development (aboveand below-ground) to inform the design in an iterative process, and continues with an assessment of the arboricultural impacts of the final design and measures to mitigate such impacts should they be negative. Detailed technical specifications for mitigation and protection measures are devised in the design phase that follows (RIBA Stage 3-4 'Developed and Technical design'), and the sequence ends with the Implementation and Aftercare phase (RIBA Stages 5-7) with the implementation of those measures once planning permission is granted, guided by Arboricultural Method Statements (RIBA Stage 4-5, 'Technical Design and Construction) and professional guidance where appropriate.
  - 2.1.5 This report is produced to support the Design Team to the Scheme Design Approvals stage in the process chart overleaf.

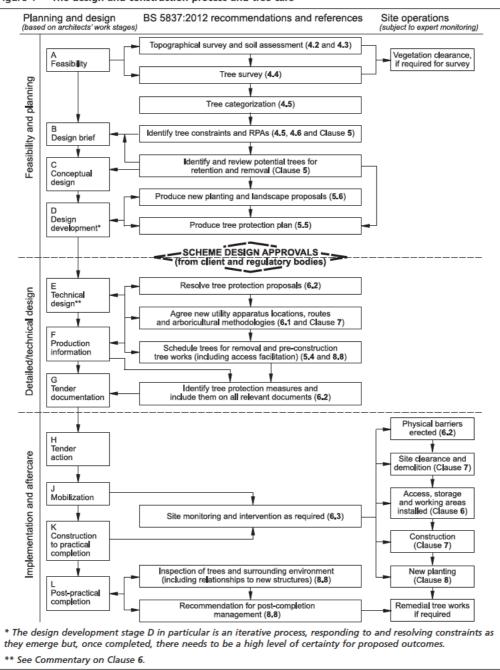


Figure 1 The design and construction process and tree care

#### 2.2 Drawings Supplied

2.2.1	The drawings supplied by the client and relied upon by Landmark Trees in the formulation of
	our survey plans are:
	Existing site survey: 37613_01-02_PE_RevA
	Proposals: (919)020_PL01 Proposed Floor Plan

## 2.3 Scope & Limitations of Survey

- 2.3.1 As Landmark Trees' (LT) arboricultural consultant, Ross Gamblin surveyed the trees on site on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2021, recording relevant qualitative data in order to assess both their suitability for retention and their constraints upon the site, in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations [BS5837:2012].
- 2.3.2 Our survey of the trees, the soils and any other factors, is of a preliminary nature. The trees were SURVEYED on the basis of the Visual Tree Assessment method expounded by Mattheck and Breloer (The Body Language of Trees, DoE booklet Research for Amenity Trees No. 4, 1994). LT have not taken any samples for analysis and the trees were not climbed but inspected from ground level.
- 2.3.3 The results of the tree survey, including material constraints arising from existing trees that merit retention, should be used (along with any other relevant baseline data) to inform feasibility studies and design options. For this reason, the tree survey should be completed and made available to designers prior to and/or independently of any specific proposals for development. Tree surveys undertaken after a detailed design has been prepared can identify significant conflicts: in such cases, the nature of and need for the proposed development should be set against the quality and values of affected trees. The extent to which the design can be modified to accommodate those trees meriting retention should be carefully considered. Where proposed development is subject to planning control, a tree survey should be regarded as an important part of the evidence base underpinning the design and access statement
- 2.3.3 A tree survey is generally considered invalid in planning terms after 2 years, but changes in tree condition may occur at any time, particularly after acute (e.g. storm events) or prolonged (e.g. drought) environmental stresses or injuries (e.g. root severance). Routine surveys at different times of the year and within two three years of each other (subject to the incidence of the above stresses) are recommended for the health and safety management of trees remote from highways or busy access routes. Annual surveys are recommended for the latter.
  2.3.4 The survey does not cover the arrangements that may be required in connection with the laying or removal of underground services.

## 2.4 Survey Data & Report Layout

2.4.1	Detailed records of individual trees are given in the survey schedule in Appendix 1.
	Recommendations for tree works that comprise the minimum requirements to facilitate
	development and which form part of the planning application are provided at Appendix 2.
2.4.2	A site plan identifying the surveyed trees, based on the Instructing Party's drawings /
	topographical survey is provided in Part 3 of this report. This plan also serves as the Tree
	Constraints Plan with the theoretical Recommended Protection Areas (RPA's), tree canopies
	and shade constraints, (from BS5837: 2012) overlain onto it. These constraints are then
	overlain in turn onto the Instructing Party's proposals to create a second Arboricultural Impact
	Assessment Plan in Part 3. Physical measures required to protect trees during construction
	are then added to this plan to create an Outline Tree Protection Plan. General observations,
	discussion, conclusions and recommendations follow, below.

#### 3.0 SITE CHARACTERISTICS

#### 3.1 Property Description & Planning Context



Photograph 1: Aerial view of application site (Source: Google Earth)

- 3.1.1 This property occupies the lower ground floor level of 39 Priory Terrace, a four-storey terraced residential building.
- 3.1.2 The site is relatively level throughout.
- 3.1.3 We are not aware of the existence of any Tree Preservation Orders\*, but understand the site stands within the Priory Road Conservation Area, which will affect the subject trees: it is a criminal offence to prune, damage or fell such trees without permission from the local authority.
- 3.1.4 Relevant local planning policies comprise Policies G1 and G7 of the London Plan 2021 and Policies A3, D1 and D2 of the Camden Local Plan (adopted 3rd July 2017).

\* If the client is aware of such, we ask that they confirm these details with us. A purchaser of a site will be informed of the existence of any TPO's during the conveyancing process; an existing owner of a site must be served with a copy of any TPO's made during their ownership. Landmark Trees can investigate the matter further on instruction from the client, but this is beyond our normal scope of instruction as it can take c. 28 days to fully discover this information (which is beyond our standard turnaround and will substantially delay the issue of the instructed report). Some LPA's maintain registers online and / or offer a more rapid telephone or email response. These services though are not wholly reliable and we have had experience of receiving incorrect advice.

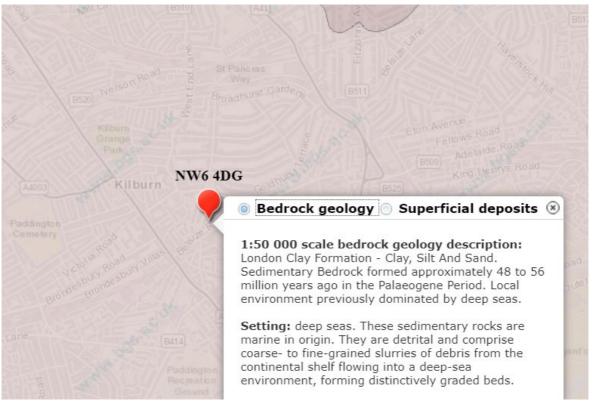


Figure 2: Extract from the BGS Geology of Britain Viewer

3.2.1 In terms of the British Geological Survey, the site overlies the London Clay Formation (see indicated location on Fig.1 plan extract above). The associated soils are generally, highly shrinkable clay; e.g. slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay. Such highly plastic soils are prone to movement: subsidence and heave. The actual distribution of the soil series are not as clearly defined on the ground as on plan and there may be anomalies in the actual composition of clay, silt and sand content.
3.2.2 Clay soils are prone to compaction during development with damage to soil structure potentially having a serious impact on tree health. The design of foundations near problematic tree species will also need to take into consideration subsidence risk. Further advice from the

relevant experts on the specific soil properties can be sought as necessary.

## 3.3 Subject Trees

3.3.1	Of the 6 surveyed trees, 2 are category* B (Moderate Quality), 2 are category B/C (Moderate
	/ Low Quality) and 2 are category C (Low Quality); none are category A (High Quality) or U
	(Poor Quality).
3.3.2	The tree species found on the site comprise common lime, sycamore, common ash, Holm
	oak and false acacia.
3.3.3	In terms of age demographics there are 4 semi-mature specimens present with 1 young tree
	and 1 mature tree also present.

\*page 9 of: British Standards Institute: Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction BS 5837: 2012 HMSO, London

3.3.4 Full details of the surveyed trees can be found in Appendix 1 of this report.



Photograph 2: Existing rear elevation with T1 visible to right



Photograph 3: T1, T2 and T3

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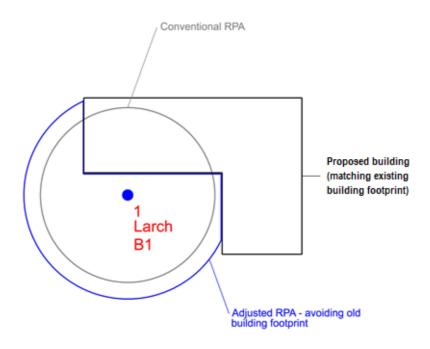
Photograph 4: Low quality ash T4

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#### 4.0 DEVELOPMENT CONSTRAINTS

## 4.1 Primary Constraints

- 4.1.1 BS5837: 2012 gives Recommended Protection Areas (RPA's) for any given tree size. The individual RPA's are calculated in the Tree Schedule in Appendix 1 to this report, or rather the notional radius of that RPA, based on a circular protection zone. The prescribed radius is 12-x stem diameter at 1.5m above ground level, except where composite formulae are used in the case of multi-stemmed trees.
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- 4.1.2 Circular RPA's are appropriate for individual specimen trees grown freely, but where there is ground disturbance, the morphology of the RPA can be modified to an alternative polygon, as shown in the diagram below (Figure 2). Alternatively, one need principally remember that RPA's are area-based and not linear notional rather than fixed entities.

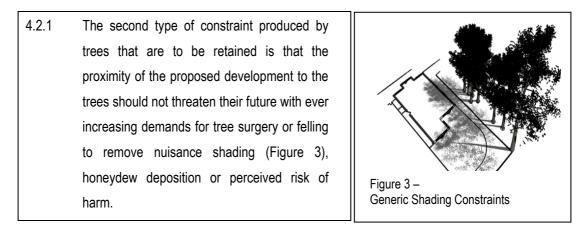


#### Figure 2 – Generic BS 5837 RPA Adjustments

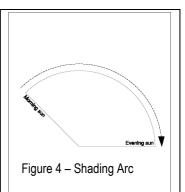
4.1.3 In BS5837, paragraph 4.6.2 states that RPA's should reflect the morphology and disposition of the roots; where pre-existing site conditions or other factors indicate that rooting has occurred asymmetrically, a polygon of equivalent area should be produced. Modifications to the shape of the RPA should reflect a soundly based arboricultural assessment of likely root distribution. This can be done as a desktop / theoretical exercise but is not altogether (scientifically) reliable and may also invite disagreement / differences of opinion as to that distribution.

- 4.1.4 LT prefer where possible and practical to raise the issue of modification but suspend judgment until such time as more reliable site investigations have been undertaken (Tree Radar scans and / or trial pits). Of course, the justification for these investigations will deped upon whether trees are (or are likely to be once modified) subject to impacts and also upon their quality / condition: it is generally not worth commissioning a radar study to locate the roots of a poor- or low-quality tree. On other occasions, there may not be the opportunity to commission investigations, either because the access is restricted by ownership / tenancy or the report's turnaround simply does not allow it, and they may need to follow on or be conditioned. In this instance, site investigations have shown less dense rooting from T1 and T2 beneath the existing patio than in the lawn area but trial pit findings showed there were still significant roots extending beneath the patio. Accordingly, no modifications have been made.
- 4.1.5 The quality of trees will also be a consideration: U Category trees are discounted from the planning process in view of their limited useful life expectancy. Again, Category-C trees would not normally constrain development individually, unless they provide some external screening function.
- 4.1.6 At paragraph 5.1.1. BS5837: 2012 notes that "Care should be exercised over misplaced tree preservation; attempts to retain too many or unsuitable trees on a site are liable to result in excessive pressure on the trees during demolition or construction work, or post-completion demands on their removal."
- 4.1.8 In theory, only moderate quality trees and above are significant material constraints on development. However, low quality trees comprise a constraint in aggregate, in terms of any collective loss / removal, where replacement planting is generally considered appropriate.
  4.1.9 In this instance, the moderate quality trees have the potential to significantly constrain development of the site. It should though be noted that site investigations have identified areas where development would have no significant impact upon these trees.

#### 4.2 Secondary Constraints



4.2.2 The shading constraints are crudely determined from BS5837 by drawing an arc from northwest to east of the stem base at a distance equal to the height of the tree, as shown in the diagram opposite. Shade is less of a constraint on nonresidential developments, particularly where rooms are only ever temporarily occupied.



4.2.3 This arc (see Figure 4) represents the effects that a tree will have on layout through shade, based on shadow patterns of 1x tree height for a period May to Sept inclusive 10.00-18.00 hrs daily.

4.2.4 Assuming that they will be retained, the orientation of the on- and off-site trees means they have the potential to provide a variety of secondary constraints, including shading, organic deposition and the potential need to maintain crown clearance in the future. The significance of these constraints will vary depending on the location and proximity to the proposed redevelopment which is considered below (in Sections 5 & 6). As specified by BS5837, this section (4) of the report considers only the site as it is, not in the light of pending proposals.

Note: Sections 5 & 6 below will now assess the impacts of the proposals upon constraints identified in Section 4 above. Table 1 in Section 5 presents the impacts in tabular form (drawing upon survey data presented in Appendices 1 & 2). Impacts are presented in terms of whole tree removal and the effect on the landscape or partial encroachment (% of RPA) and its effect on individual tree health. Section 6 discusses the table data, elaborating upon the impacts' significance and mitigation.

5.0

## Table 1: Arboricultural Impact Assessment

(Impacts assessed prior to mitigation and rated with reference to Matheny & Clark (1998))

Hide irrelevant Show All Trees

Ref: SHH\_39APT\_AIA

B.S. Cat.	Tree No.	Species	Impact	Tree / RPA Affected	Age	Growth Vitality	Species Tolerance	Impact on Tree Rating	Impact on Site Rating	Mitigation
B/C	1	Lime, Common	Lower Garden Terrace Construction within RPA	6.1 m <sup>2</sup> 9.34 %	Semi-mature	Normal	Good	Low	Low	Hand dig top 750mm of foundation line thro' RPA
B/C	2	Lime, Common	Lower Garden Terrace Construction within RPA	1.1 m <sup>2</sup> 1.68 %	Semi-mature	Normal	Good	Low	Low	Hand dig top 750mm of foundation line thro' RPA
С	4	Ash, Common	Felled to Facilitate Development	m² N/A %	Semi-mature	Normal	N/A	N/A	Low	New planting <i>/</i> landscaping
С	5	Oak, Holm	Felled to Facilitate Development	m² N/A %	Young	Normal	N/A	N/A	Low	New planting <i>/</i> landscaping

#### 6.0 ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS

#### 6.1 Rating of Primary Impacts

- 6.1.1 The principal impacts in the current proposals are the removal of the low quality T4 and T5. In terms of resource management, these comprise a relatively small portion of the whole. Those removed generally have more collective than individual specimen value such that their loss could be mitigated with new planting, bringing its own benefits of enrichment and diversification to a relatively unmanaged and subsisting resource. The immediate reduction in canopy cover through felling is therefore is rated as a low impact unlikely to harm either the resource or the wider conservation area.
- 6.1.2 Further impacts to retained trees comprise the encroachments of the RPAs of T1 and T2 by the lower garden terrace by approximately 9% and 2% respectively. This level of encroachment is assessed in gross terms as being likely to be of low / very low impact to the trees in question but in practice is likely to be very low / negligible. The root radar investigations provided in Appendix 4 show that the trees are preferentially rooting beneath the lawn compared to the patio and so the proposed encroachment is inherently of lesser significance than indicated on plan. Furthermore, the previous pruning history of the trees means any root disturbance will be of much lesser physiological impact than if they were trees with larger crowns. The trial pit findings provided in Appendix 5 would confirm this assessment: only 1 significant root will be affected, the 45mm diameter root growing along the length of Trial Pit 2.
- 6.1.3 Given the well-established tolerance of common lime to such root disturbance, in our view, the tree(s) are of a species, age and condition sufficient to remain viable in the circumstances, given that the area lost to encroachment can be compensated for elsewhere, contiguous with the RPA, and provided the series of mitigation measures outlined below are followed to both reduce the immediate impact of working methods and also improve the soil environment that is used by the tree for growth. Supervision and monitoring of such measures will also be essential. Subject to these provisos the net impacts are assessed as being low. Further trial pits can of course be provided should further Camden require further confirmation of our assessment.

6.1.4 There is no set RPA encroachment that is immediately permissible. However, at para 5.3.a of BS5837, the project arboriculturist is charged with demonstrating that the tree(s) will remain viable in the instance of RPA encroachment. Whilst there is little research on RPA encroachment itself, there have been various commonly cited studies of root severance (see overleaf). Whilst the RPA is not coextensive with the wider root system, one can make some correlations after Thomas (2014): in average (sic) conditions, a straight line tangential with a tree's canopy would transect 15% of the root system, for another mid-way to the trunk that figure would be 30%. In the current cases, the impacts would be below the lower of these two parameters as can be seen in Plan 2 in the Appendix or where more irregular in profile, can be gleaned from the percentage RPA encroachments in Table 1. There is no precise correlation between % RPA and root impairment or loss. However, in our experience, most RPA tend to exceed the free-grown canopy spread a little (c. x 1.2 -1.5), suggesting by reference to both Thomas and Fig. 5a - 5c overleaf, RPA encroachments marginally understate the percentage root loss. The informal 20% RPA threshold may equate to c. 30% root loss, and 10% RPA encroachment to c. 20% root loss. The assumptions made here are relatively crude and apply more to open grown trees but are nonetheless illustrative.

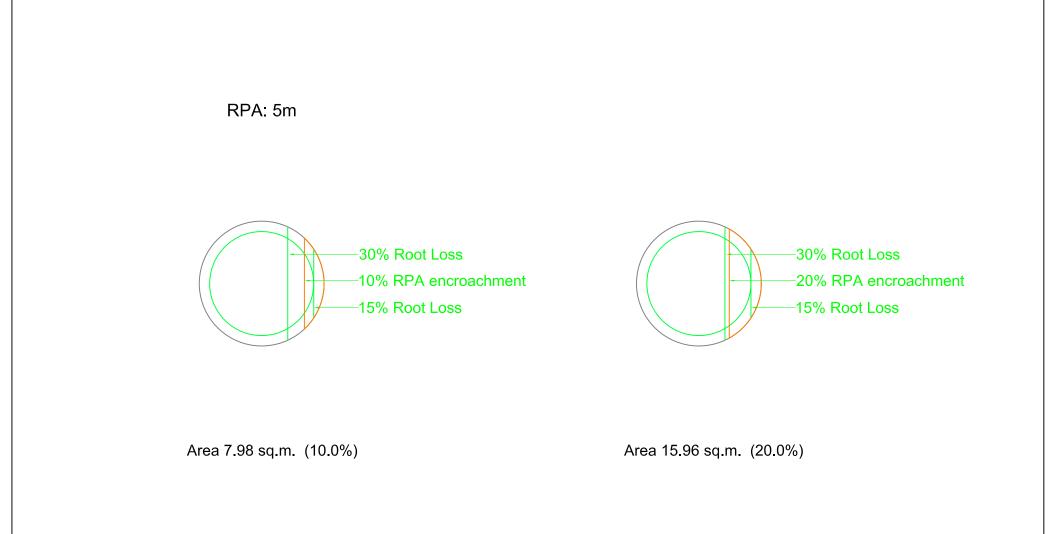
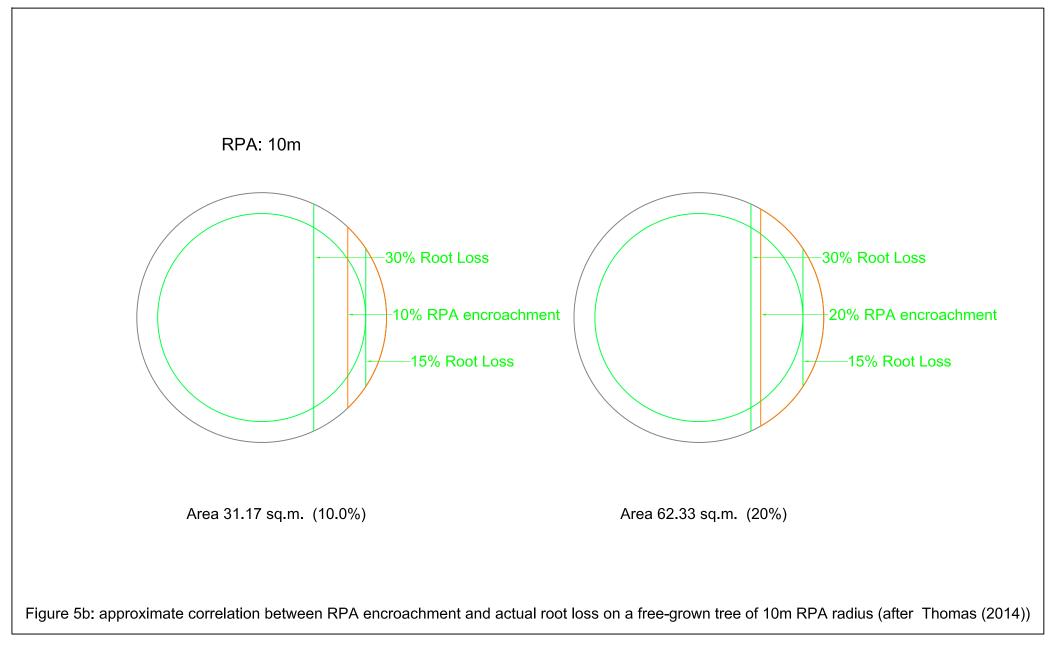
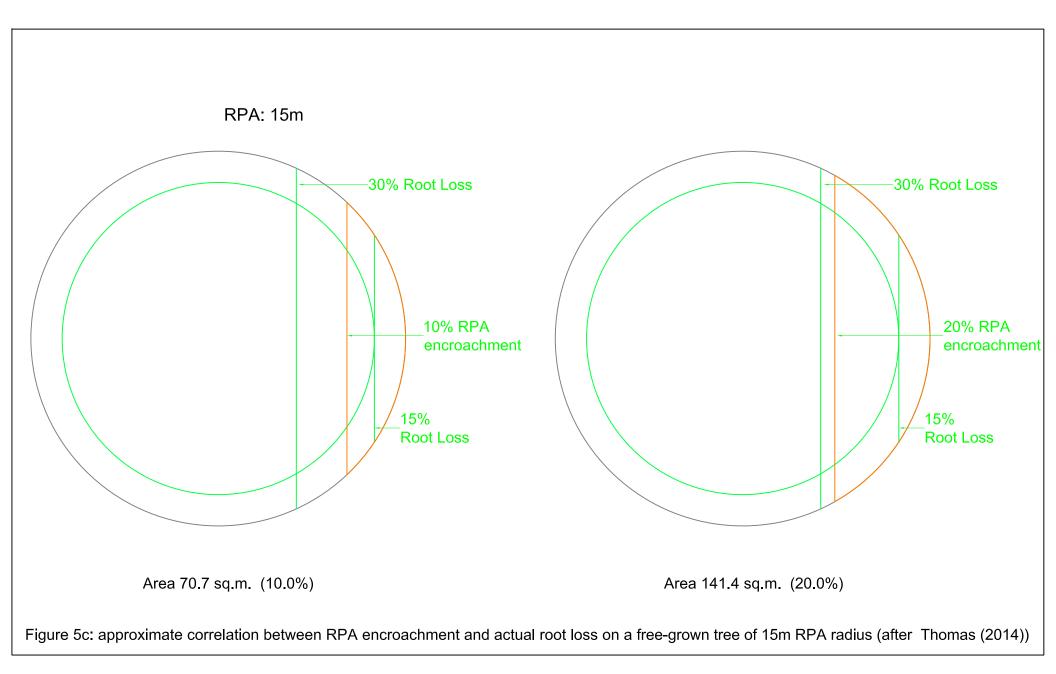


Figure 5a: approximate correlation between RPA encroachment and actual root loss on a free-grown tree of 5m RPA radius (after Thomas (2014))





- 6.1.5 Published references suggest healthy trees tolerating up to 30-50% root severance in general (Coder, Helliwell and Watson in CEH 2006). "In practice 50% of roots can sometimes be removed with little problem, provided there are vigorous roots elsewhere. Inevitably, this degree of root loss will temporarily slow canopy growth and even lead to some dieback" (Thomas 2014). Clearly, it is not the purpose of this report to sanction impacts to test a tree's physiological tolerance, where the guidance recommends the avoidance of impact / RPA encroachment as the default position. However, it has not proved possible at the design stage to avoid such encroachment altogether, and in that regard, the project arboriculturalist has determined that the retained trees can remain viable in the scheme before planning.
- 6.1.6 The trees in question are shown in Table 1 above to be healthy specimens of species with a good resistance to development impacts, and of an age quite capable of tolerating these limited impacts. Nor do the site characteristics suggest specific soil anomalies (e.g. heavy clay) having a bearing on such considerations, provided appropriate measures (e.g. ground protection) are taken.
- 6.1.7 As per BS5837 recommendations (at 5.3.a), the above assessment demonstrates that the tree(s) can remain viable and as per the equivalent hatching in Plan 2 of the Appendices that the area(s) lost to encroachment can be compensated for elsewhere. The guide also recommends (at 5.3.b) the arboriculturist propose a series of mitigation measures (to improve the soil environment that is used by the tree for growth). These are provided at 6.3 below.

## 6.2 Rating of Secondary Impacts

6.2.1 There will always be marginal secondary impacts of honeydew / litter deposition and partial shade on this site, regardless of development. Whilst the proposals do entail building closer to the existing tree stock to the rear of the site, these trees are already managed under a cyclical pruning regime and thus the status quo is unlikely to change with further development, which is the salient point for planning to consider. Thus, the secondary impacts of development are minimal.

#### 6.3 Mitigation of Impacts

- 6.3.1 The replanting scheme will offer considerable enhancement and replaces mainly young/semimature trees. Replacement trees will have the advantage of being specifically selected for the proposed site, healthy and fit-for-purpose. Naturally regenerated trees and saplings tend to be of pioneer / opportunist species (ash and sycamore) which can cause problems for infrastructure, springing up in unsuitable locations. Design can provide for a diverse range of native and ornamental species that will compliment rather than conflict with the proposals, so providing a more sustainable long-term resource for the future. A selection of tree species and cultivars for open and constricted sites is provided in Appendix 3.
- 6.3.2 RPA encroachments are shown in Plan 2 compensated for elsewhere on contiguous land. Soft ground within the unaffected parts of the RPAs of T1 and T2 will be treated with a 75mm layer of mulch to be maintained in place throughout the duration of construction activities.
- 6.3.3 The path of foundations through RPAs will be manually excavated to 750mm depth under arboricultural supervision; any roots encountered within the trenches / pits will be cleanly pruned back to an appropriate junction with a sharp pruning saw or secateurs back to a junction. Roots larger than 25mm diameter may only be cut in consultation with an arboriculturalist.
  6.3.4 Nuiseppe deposition can be further mitigated with routine maintenance light pruning (
- 6.3.4 Nuisance deposition can be further mitigated with routine maintenance, light pruning / deadwooding and the fitting of filtration traps on guttering (see Figure 5 below).
- 6.3.5 The shading impacts can be mitigated by building design, with the provision of dual aspect windows and choice of room layout. Some minor crown reduction may be necessary, but not such as to impose a burden of frequent, repetitive management.

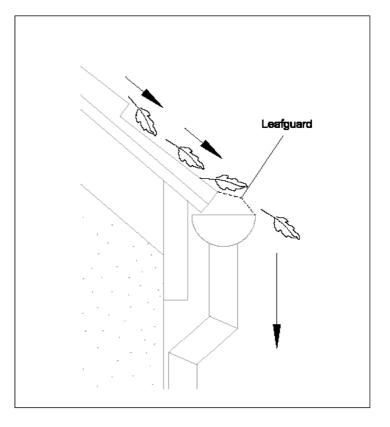


Figure 5: Filtration traps, as shown above, could be fitted on the gutters which can easily be maintained at 2-3m above ground.

## 7.0 CONCLUSION

- 7.1 The potential impacts of development are all relatively low in terms of both quality of trees removed and also RPA encroachments of trees retained. In the latter case, the report has demonstrated as per BS5837 paragraph 5.3.1 (a) that the tree(s) can remain viable and that the area lost to encroachment can be compensated for elsewhere, contiguous with its RPA; the report also proposes as per paragraph 5.3.1 (b) a series of mitigation measures to improve the soil environment that is used by the tree for growth.
- 7.2 The full potential of the impacts can thus be largely mitigated through design and precautionary measures. These measures can be elaborated in Method Statements in the discharge of planning conditions.
- 7.3 The species affected are generally tolerant of root disturbance / crown reduction and the retained trees are generally in good health and capable of sustaining these reduced impacts.
- 7.4 The trees that are recommended for felling are of little individual significance, such that their loss will not affect the visual character of the area.
- 7.5 Therefore, the proposals will not have any significant impact on either the retained trees or wider landscape thereby complying with Policies G1 and G7 of the London Plan 2021 and Policies A3, D1 and D2 of the Camden Local Plan (adopted 3rd July 2017). Thus, with suitable mitigation and supervision the scheme is recommended to planning.

## 8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

### 8.1 Specific Recommendations

8.1.1	Recommendations for works required to facilitate development are found in Appendix 2 and
	a selection of columnar tree species cultivars for constricted sites provided in Appendix 3. Any
	tree removals recommended within this report should only be carried out with local authority
	consent.
8.1.2	Excavation and construction impacts within the RPA's of trees identified in Table 1 above, will
	need to be controlled by method statements specifying mitigation methods suggested in para
	6.3 above and by consultant supervision as necessary. These method statements can be
	provided as part of the discharge of conditions.
8.1.3	Replace felled trees with native ornamental nursery stock under current best practice; i.e.
	conforming to and planted in accordance with the following:

- BS8545: 2014 Code of Practice for Trees from Nursery to Landscape
- BS 3936-1: 1992 Nursery stock. Specification for trees and shrubs; and
- BS 5236:1975 Cultivation and Planting of Trees in the Advanced Nursery Stock Category.
- All replacement stock should be planted and maintained as detailed in BS 4428:1989 (Section 7): Recommendations for General Landscape Operations.

- 8.2 General Recommendations for Sites Being Developed with Trees / Outline Arboricultural Method Statement
  - 8.2.1 Any trees which are in close proximity to the proposed development should be protected with a Tree Protection Barrier (TPB). Protective barrier fencing should be installed immediately following the completion of the tree works, remaining in situ for the entire duration of the development unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Council. It should be appropriate for the intensity and proximity of the development, usually comprising steel, mesh panels 2.4m in height ('Heras') and should be mounted on a scaffolding frame (shown in Fig 2 of BS5837:2012). The position of the TPB can be shown on plan as part of the discharge of conditions, once the layout is agreed with the planning authority. The TPB should be erected prior to commencement of works, remain in its original form on-site for the duration of works and be removed only upon full completion of works.
  - 8.2.2 A TPB may no longer be required during soft landscaping work but a full arboricultural assessment must be performed prior to the undertaking of any excavations within the RPA of a tree. This will inform a decision about the requirement of protection measures. It is important that all TPBs have permanent, weatherproof notices denying access to the RPA.
  - 8.2.3 The use of heavy plant machinery for building demolition, removal of imported materials and grading of surfaces should take place in one operation. The necessary machinery should be located above the existing grade level and work away from any retained trees. This will ensure that any spoil is removed from the RPAs. It is vital that the original soil level is not lowered as this is likely to cause damage to the shallow root systems.
  - 8.2.4 Any pruning works must be in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Tree work [BS3998].
  - 8.2.5 Where sections of hard surfacing are proposed in close proximity to trees, it is recommended that "No-Dig" surfacing be employed in accordance with BS5837:2012 and 'The Principles of Arboricultural Practice: Note 1, Driveways Close to Trees, AAIS 1996 [APN1]'.
  - 8.2.6 If the RPA of a tree is encroached by underground service routes then BS5837:2012 and NJUG VOLUME 4 provisions should be employed. If it is deemed necessary, further arboricultural advice must be sought.
  - 8.2.7 Numerous site activities are potentially damaging to trees e.g. parking, material storage, the use of plant machinery and all other sources of soil compaction. In operating plant, particular care is required to ensure that the operational arcs of excavation and lifting machinery, including their loads, do not physically damage trees when in use.

8.2.8	To en	able the successful integration of the proposal with the retained trees, the following
	points	will need to be taken into account:
	1)	Plan of underground services.
	2)	Schedule of tree protection measures, including the management of harmful
		substances.
	3)	Method statements for constructional variations regarding tree proximity (e.g.
		foundations, surfacing and scaffolding).
	4)	Site logistics plan to include storage, plant parking/stationing and materials
		handling.
	5)	Tree works: felling, required pruning and new planting. All works must be carried
		out by a competent arborist in accordance with BS3998.
	6)	Site supervision: the Site Agent must be nominated to be responsible for all day-
		to-day arboricultural matters on site. This person must:
		<ul> <li>be present on site for the majority of the time;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>have the authority to stop work causing, or may cause harm to any tree;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>ensure all site operatives are aware of their responsibilities to the trees on</li> </ul>
		site and the consequences of a failure to observe these responsibilities;
		arrange with the retained arboricultural consultant an initial pre-start
		briefing to inspect tree protection measures and agree a schedule of monitoring
		thereof on an initial monthly basis to be reviewed over the duration of works.
		<ul> <li>give advance notice (ideally 2 weeks) to retained arboricultural consultant</li> </ul>
		to arrange for supervision of any excavation (especially for services and
		foundations) within RPA
		make immediate contact with the local authority and/or a retained
		arboricultural consultant in the event of any tree related problems occurring.
8.2.9	These	points can be resolved and approved through consultation with the planning authority
	via the	eir Arboricultural Officer.
8.2.10	The s	equence of works should be as follows:
	i)	initial tree works: felling, stump grinding and pruning for working clearances;
	ii)	installation of TPB for demolition & construction;
	iii)	installation of underground services;
	iv)	installation of ground protection;
	v)	main construction;
	vi)	removal of TPB;
	vii)	soft landscaping.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report: 39a Priory Terrace, London NW6 4DG Instructing party: Private Client c/o SHH Architects, 1 Vencourt Place, Hammersmith W6 9NU Prepared by: David Gardner & Adam Hollis of Landmark Trees, Holden House, 4th Floor, 57 Rathbone Place, London W1T 4JU

#### 9.0 COMPLIANCE: Trees and the Planning System

- 9.1 Under the UK planning system, local authorities have a statutory duty to consider the protection and planting of trees when granting planning permission for proposed development. The potential effect of development on trees, whether statutorily protected (e.g. by a tree preservation order or by their inclusion within a conservation area) or not, is a material consideration that is taken into account in dealing with planning applications. Where trees are statutorily protected, it is important to contact the local planning authority and follow the appropriate procedures before undertaking any works that might affect the protected trees.
- 9.2 The nature and level of detail of information required to enable a local planning authority to properly consider the implications and effects of development proposals varies between stages and in relation to what is proposed. Table B.1 provides advice to both developers and local authorities on an appropriate amount of information. The term "minimum detail" is intended to reflect information that local authorities are expected to seek, whilst the term "additional information" identifies further details that might reasonably be sought, especially where any construction is proposed within the RPA.
- 9.3 This report delivers information appropriate to a full planning application and to these specific proposals as per BS5837 Table B.1 below, providing both minimum details and further additional material in the form of general tree protection recommendations and constructional variation.

Stage of process	Minimum detail	Additional information
Pre-application	Tree survey	Tree retention/removal plan (draft)
Planning application	Tree survey (in the absence of pre-application discussions)	Existing and proposed finished levels
	Tree retention/removal plan (finalized)	Tree protection plan
	Retained trees and RPAs shown on proposed layout	Arboricultural method statement – heads of terms
	Strategic hard and soft landscape design, including species and location of new tree planting	Details for all special engineering within the RPA and other relevant construction details
	Arboricultural impact assessment	
Reserved matters/ planning conditions	Alignment of utility apparatus (including drainage), where outside the RPA or	Arboricultural site monitoring schedule
	where installed using a trenchless method	Tree and landscape management plan
	Dimensioned tree protection plan	Post-construction remedial works
	Arboricultural method statement – detailed	Landscape maintenance schedule
	Schedule of works to retained trees, e.g. access facilitation pruning	
	Detailed hard and soft landscape design	

Table B.1 Delivery of tree-related information into the planning system

Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report: 39a Priory Terrace, London NW6 4DG Instructing party: Private Client c/o SHH Architects, 1 Vencourt Place, Hammersmith W6 9NU Prepared by: David Gardner & Adam Hollis of Landmark Trees, Holden House, 4th Floor, 57 Rathbone Place, London W1T 4JU

## 10.0 REFERENCES

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-	Mattheck C. & Breloer H. 1994. Research for Amenity Trees No.2: The Body Language of Trees, HMSO, London.
-	Thomas P, 2000 & 2014. Trees: Their Natural History, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
•	Trowbridge J & Bassuk N (2004) Trees in the Urban Landscape: Site Assessment, Design, and Installation; J
	Wiley & Sons inc. NJ USA



#### Caveats

This report is primarily an arboricultural report. Whilst comments relating to matters involving built structures or soil data may appear, any opinion thus expressed should be viewed as qualified, and confirmation from an appropriately qualified professional sought. Such points are usually clearly identified within the body of the report. It is not a full safety survey or subsidence risk assessment survey. These services can be provided but a further fee would be payable. Where matters of tree condition with a safety implication are noted during a survey they will of course appear in the report.

A tree survey is generally considered invalid in planning terms after 2 years, but changes in tree condition may occur at any time, particularly after acute (e.g. storm events) or prolonged (e.g. drought) environmental stresses or injuries (e.g. root severance). Routine surveys at different times of the year and within two - three years of each other (subject to the incidence of the above stresses) are recommended for the health and safety management of trees remote from highways or busy access routes. Annual surveys are recommended for the latter.

Tree works recommendations are found in the Appendices to this report. It is assumed, unless otherwise stated ("ASAP" or "Option to") that all husbandry recommendations will be carried out within 6 months of the report's first issue. Clearly, works required to facilitate development will not be required if the application is shelved or refused. However, necessary husbandry work should not be shelved with the application and should be brought to the attention of the person responsible, by the applicant, if different. Under the Occupiers Liability Act of 1957, the owner (or his agent) of a tree is charged with the due care of protecting persons and property from foreseeable damage and injury.' He is responsible for damage and/or nuisance arising from all parts of the tree, including roots and branches, regardless of the property on which they occur. He also has a duty under The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 to provide a safe place of work, during construction. Tree works should only be carried out with local authority consent, where applicable.

Inherent in a tree survey is assessment of the risk associated with trees close to people and their property. Most human activities involve a degree of risk, such risks being commonly accepted if the associated benefits are perceived to be commensurate.

Risks associated with trees tend to increase with the age of the trees concerned, but so do many of the benefits. It will be appreciated, and deemed to be accepted by the client, that the formulation of recommendations for all management of trees will be guided by the cost-benefit analysis (in terms of amenity), of tree work that would remove all risk of tree related damage.

Prior to the commencement of any tree works, an ecological assessment of specific trees may be required to ascertain whether protected species (e.g. bats, badgers and invertebrates etc.) may be affected.



# **PART 2 – APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX 1**

## TREE SCHEDULE

Botanical Tree Names Acacia, False (Robinia) Ash, Common Lime, Common

: Robinia pseudoacacia : Fraxinus excelsior : Tilia x europea Oak, Holm Sycamore : Quercus ilex : Acer pseudoplatanus

## Notes for Guidance:

- 1. Height describes the approximate height of the tree measured in metres from ground level.
- 2. The Crown Spread refers to the crown radius in meters from the stem centre and is expressed as an average of NSEW aspect if symmetrical.
- 3. Ground Clearance is the height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level.
- 4. Stem Diameter (Dm) is the diameter of the stem measured in millimetres at 1.5m from ground level for single stemmed trees. BS 5837:2012 formula (Section 4.6) used to calculate diameter of multi-stemmed trees. Stem Diameter may be estimated where access is restricted and denoted by '#'.
- 5. Protection Multiplier is 12 and is the number used to calculate the tree's protection radius and area
- 6. Protection Radius is a radial distance measured from the trunk centre.
- 7. Growth Vitality Normal growth, Moderate (below normal), Poor (sparse/weak), Dead (dead or dying tree).
- 8. Structural Condition Good (no or only minor defects), Fair (remediable defects), Poor Major defects present.
- Landscape Contribution High (prominent landscape feature), Medium (visible in landscape), Low (secluded/among other trees).
- 10. B.S. Cat refers to (British Standard 5837:2012 section 4.5) and refers to tree/group quality and value;
  'A' High, 'B' Moderate, 'C' Low, 'U' Unsuitable for retention. The following colouring has been used on the site plans:
  - High Quality (A) (Green),
  - Moderate Quality (B) (Blue),
  - Low Quality (C) (Grey),
  - Unsuitable for Retention (U) (Red)
- 11. Sub Cat refers to the retention criteria values where 1 is Arboricultural, 2 is Landscape and 3 is Cultural including Conservational, Historic and Commemorative.
- 12. Useful Life is the tree's estimated remaining contribution in years.

one. Juan nory remace	Site:	39a Priory Terrace
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Date: 02/06/21

Landmark Trees

## Appendix 1

Landmark Trees Ltd

020 7851 4544

Ref:

## Surveyor(s): Ross Gamblin

## BS5837 Tree Constraints Survey Schedule

SHH\_39APT\_AIA

Tree No.	English Name	Height	Crown Spread	Ground Clearance	Stem Diamete	Age Class	Protection Radius	Growth Vitality	Structural Condition	B.S. Cat	Sub Cat	Useful Life	Comments
1	Lime, Common	10	3433	5.5	380	Semi- mature	4.6	Normal	Fair	B/C	1	>40	Pollarded Poor crown form due to historical pruning
2	Lime, Common	10	2322	5.5	380	Semi- mature	4.6	Normal	Fair	B/C	1	>40	Pollarded Poor crown form due to historical pruning
3	Sycamore	11	3333	5.5	450	Semi- mature	5.4	Normal	Fair	В	2	>40	Remote survey only (RS) Off site, Climber in crown
4	Ash, Common	11	3333	2.5	240	Semi- mature	2.9	Normal	Good	С	1	10+	A well formed tree but growing against boundary wall. Limited future potential
5	Oak, Holm	4	1111	1.5	148	Young	1.8	Normal	Good	С	2	>40	
6	False Acacia	13	6674	7.0	674	Mature	8.1	Normal	Good	В	1	>40	Co-dominant stems Historically crown reduced

## **APPENDIX 2**

## RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT (See Table 1)

Notes for Guidance:	
RP       Pre-emptive root pruning of foundation encroachments under arboricultural supervision.         CB       - Cut Back to boundary/clear from structure.         CL#       - Crown Lift to given height in meters.         CT#%       - Crown Thinning by identified %.         CCL       - Crown Clean (remove deadwood/crossing and hazardous branches and stubs)*.         CR#%       - Crown Reduce by given maximum % (of outermost branch & twig length)         DWD       - Remove deadwood.         Fell       - Fell to ground level.         Flnv       - Further Investigation (generally with decay detection equipment).         Pol       - Pollard or re-pollard.         Mon       - Check / monitor progress of defect(s) at next consultant inspection which should be <18 months in frequented areas and <3 years in areas of more occasional use. Where clients retain their own ground staff, we recommend an annual in- house inspection and where practical, in the aftermath of extreme weather events.	

\*Not generally specified following BS3998:2010

Site: 39a Priory Terrace Date: 02/06/21					A	oppendix 2	Surveyor(s):Ross GamblinRef:SHH_39APT_AIA					
Landmark Trees  Recommended Tree Works To Facilitate Development  Hide irrelevan Show All Tree												
Tree No.	English Name	B.S. Cat	Height	Ground Clearance	Crown Spread	Recommended Works	Comments/ Reasons					
4	Ash, Common	С	11	2.5	3333	Fell	A well formed tree but growing against boundary wall. Limited future potential To facilitate development					
5	Oak, Holm	С	4	1.5	1111	Fell	To facilitate development					

#### APPENDIX 3: TREE SELECTION FOR URBAN LOCATIONS

Common Name	Species	(Columnar Form for discrete usage)
Hawthorn	Crataegus monogyna	Stricta
Cockspur	Crataegus prunifolia	Splendens
Cherry	Prunus x hillieri	Spire
Bird cherry	Prunus padus	Albertii
Rowan / Mountain ash	Sorbus aucuparia	Cardinal Royal
Swedish whitebeam	Sorbus intermedia	Brouwers
B. whitebeam	Sorbus x thuringiaca	Fastigiata

#### Table A4.1: Small Ornamental Tree Species

#### Table A4.2: Medium Specimen Tree Species

Common Name	Species	(Columnar Form for discrete usage)		
Chinese red bark birch	Betula albosinensis	Fascination		
Mongolian lime	Tilia mongolica			
Hornbeam	Carpinus betulus	Fastigiata Frans Fountaine		
Turkish hazel	Corylus colurna			
Maidenhair tree	Gingko biloba			
Pride of India	Koelreuteria paniculata	Fastigiata		
European larch	Larix decidua	Sheerwater Seedling		
Tulip tree	Liriodendron tulipfera	Fastigiata		

#### Table A4.3: Larger Specimen Tree Species

Common Name	Species	(Columnar Form for discrete usage)
English oak	Quercus robur	f. Koster
American elm	Ulmus americana Princeton	
Cedar of Lebanon	Cedrus libani	

#### **APPENDIX 4**

#### **ROOT RADAR FINDINGS**

### ARBGRAERATION TREE HEALTHCARE SPECIALISTS

Arboraeration Ltd

# Tree Root Radar Investigation REPORT

39a Priory Terrace, London (21st May 2021)

Site survey and report undertaken by David Abbott, for and on behalf of Arboraeration Ltd

39a Priory Terrace Tree Radar™ investigation report



#### 1) Background

Site Address: 39a Priory Terrace, Hampstead, NW6 4DG

Arboraeration were instructed to undertake a tree root survey utilizing Ground Penetrating Radar and associated software to identify the location, depth, and size of tree roots from two trees that trees that are growing adjacent to the property.

The topographical survey of the site as well as existing tree dimensions were provided to us by the client as well as the areas requested to be scanned.

The purpose of the investigation was to determine whether the trees are rooting into two areas that are proposed for redevelopment.

#### 2) Introduction to the Tree Radar Unit

The Tree Radar Unit is a tool specifically designed for use in the arboriculture industry for locating tree roots and plotting their location, size, and depth. The data collection is undertaken using a 900 MHz (megahertz) radar antenna and associated data logger, coupled with a tablet computer that acts both as i) instant display and ii) data recording and conversion device.

Depending on the requirements of the survey and the access requirements of the site, the survey will either be undertaken using i) perimeter scans, ii) line scans or iii) a combination of both. Perimeter scanning involves scanning a circle around a fixed point from the stem of the tree that increase in size, by 60cm per scan. Linear scans are fixed lines that are run perpendicular to the direction of the anticipated root growth to attempt to intersect the root at 90° for the most accurate readings.

Once the onsite scanning is complete the required files are uploaded into the analysis software for interpretation and conversion into useful data to inform management decisions.



#### 3) Method Statement

Two areas were scanned as per the sketch plan below. The First area scanned was laid to lawn with average soil and moisture content. The second area was paving.

#### 4) Site Data and TRU Settings

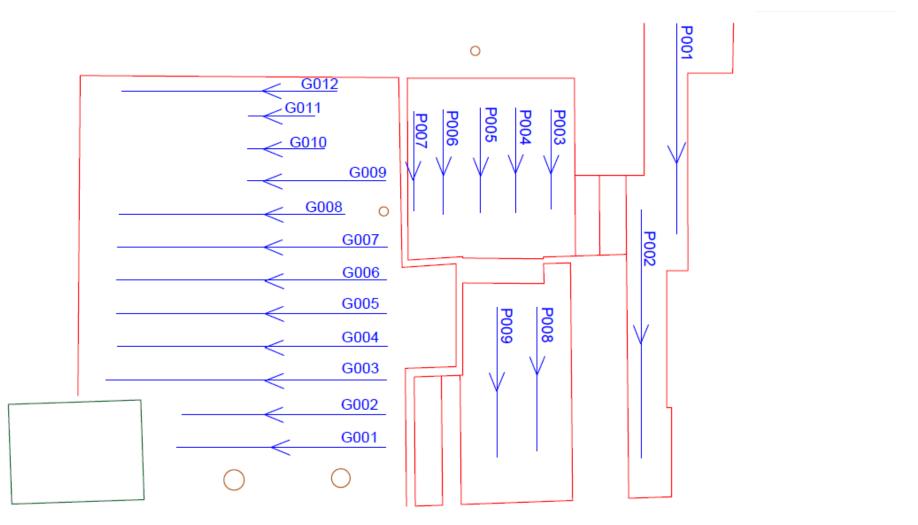
TRU Settings/Data	Value		
Soil Composition	Concrete		
Dielectric Permittivity	7.0		
Recording Depth	110cm		
Analysis Zone 1	0cm – 35cm		
Analysis Zone 2	35cm - 65cm		
Analysis Zone 3	65cm – 110cm		

TRU Settings/Data	Value		
Soil Composition	Average soil		
Dielectric Permittivity	13.0		
Recording Depth	80cm		
Analysis Zone 1	0cm – 25cm		
Analysis Zone 2	25cm - 55cm		
Analysis Zone 3	55cm – 80cm		



#### 5) Sketch of Scan Lines

i) Sketch of Scan Lines G1-12 and P1-9





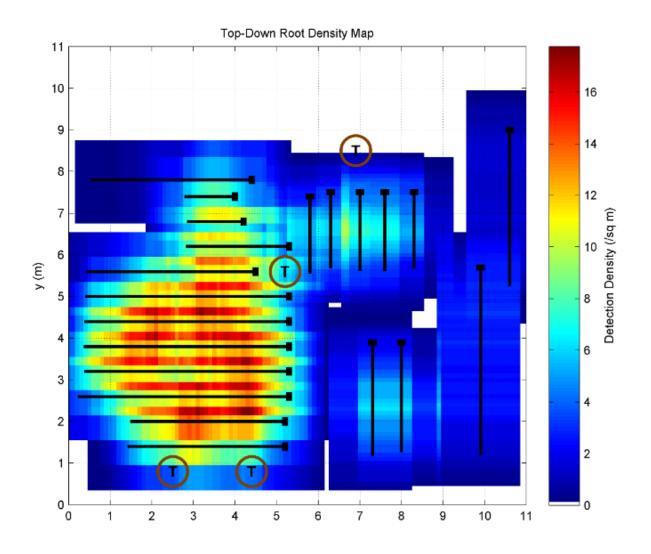
#### 6) Graphic Results

Below are a series of graphics illustrating the following information:

- a) Top Down Root Density Map
- b) Top Down Root Detection Map
- c) Root Morphology Map
- d) Trench View Map

### ARBORAERATION TREE HEALTHCARE SPECIALISTS

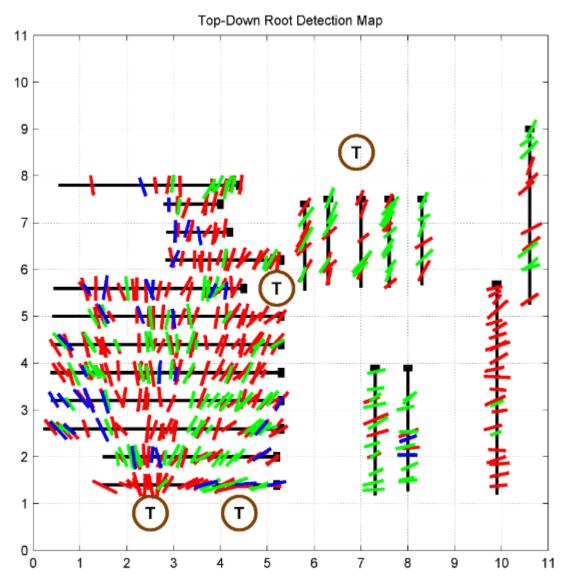
#### a) Top Down Root Density Map



The Top Down Root Density Map details areas of the scan that show the most root detections across the whole scan area. Areas of higher density (16 detections per M<sup>2</sup>) appear in red, with areas of lower root density (0-2 detections per M<sup>2</sup>) appearing in blue. Detections refer to individual root detections and do not relate to root size or amount of root biomass, therefore it is typically expected to see higher densities further away from the tree.

## ARBGRAERATION

#### b) Top Down Root Detection Map



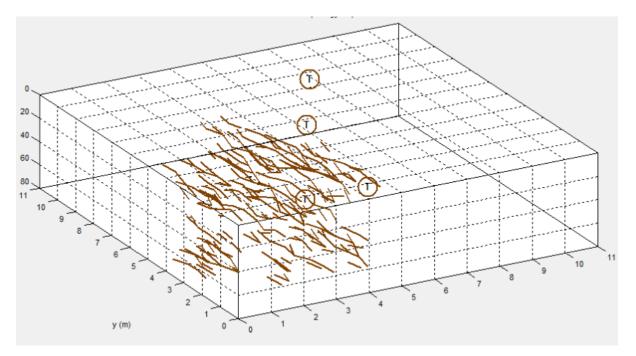
The Top Down Root Detection Map plots the number and location of detected roots within each scan line. Each confirmed detection is marked with a line that dictates the estimated direction of the root relative to the other root markers. The number of detections across all scan lines shows a high density of roots across the whole area. There are a total of 598 detections across the whole site, averaging 8.36 root detections per linear meter.

The Root detections are colour coded by depth, Red 0-25cm Depth, Green 25-55cm Depth, Blue 55 and deeper.

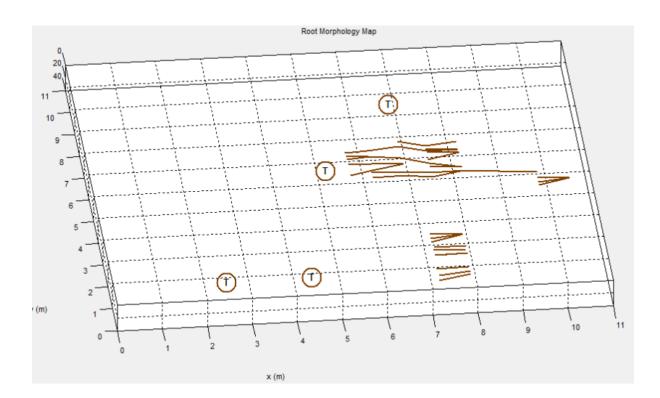


#### c) Root Morphology Map

i)Root Morphology Map of Scan Lines G1-12



ii)Root Morphology Map of Scan Lines P1 -9



## ARBGRAERATION

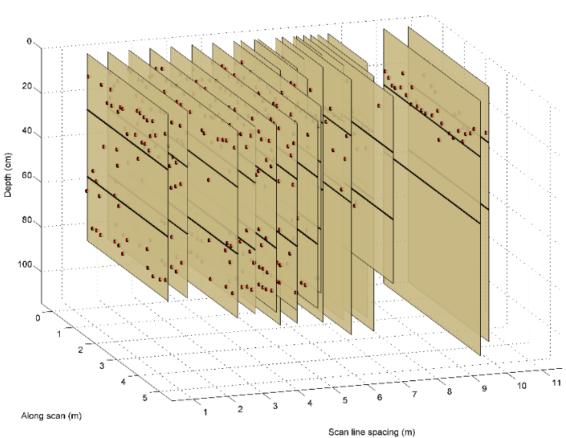
The Root Morphology Map is a computer-generated map of the tree's rooting system based on the detection points as detailed above. The software links the data points found on the scan lines with each other relative to the tree's location.

The plan is useful in enabling planners and architects the ability to visualise the tree's root network within the site and plan around it.

It should be noted however that the plan is based on a computer algorithm that links points based on their relative distance and location to other trees and detections. It is not a guarantee of the actual path of the roots traveling between the scan lines.

The Root Morphology map can be viewed in a 3D format and if required a 3D DXF file can be sent alongside this report

#### d) Trench View



The Trench View graphics depict a virtual "slice" through the soil along the length of the scan line. The points where the roots are detected are marked with a red dot. The horizontal black lines show the analysis zones that have been created to offer insight into the depths of soil that the trees are mostly rooting.



#### 7) Data Summary

#### i) Scan Lines G1-12

		Root Count					
		Analysis Zone	Analysis Zone				
	Analysis Zone 1	2	3				
				Total Root	Length of	Root Detections Per	Scan Depth
File Name/Number	0-25cm	25-55cm	55-80cm	Count	Scan	Μ	(CM)
G-1	21	7	15	43	3.8	11.32	80
G-2	15	15	16	46	3.7	12.43	80
G-3	21	12	13	46	5.1	9.02	80
G-4	23	12	29	64	4.9	13.06	80
G-5	26	12	26	64	4.9	13.06	80
G-6	28	13	21	62	4.9	12.65	80
G-7	24	6	14	44	4.9	8.98	80
G-8	19	5	14	38	4.1	9.27	80
G-9	16	3	10	29	2.5	11.60	80
G-10	7	1	8	16	1.4	11.43	80
G-11	5	3	6	14	1.2	11.67	80
G-12	9	7	1	17	3.9	4.36	80
Totals	44.30%	19.80%	35.80%	483		10.74	



#### ii) Scan Lines P1-P9

		Root Count					
		Analysis Zone	Analysis Zone				
	Analysis Zone 1	2	3				
				Total Root	Length of	Root Detections Per	Scan Depth
File Name/Number	0-25cm	25-55cm	55-80cm	Count	Scan	Μ	(CM)
P-1	12	0	0	12	3.8	3.16	110
P-2	23	0	0	23	4.5	5.11	110
P-3	6	0	0	6	1.8	3.33	110
P-4	15	0	0	15	1.9	7.89	110
P-5	12	3	0	15	1.9	7.89	110
P-6	8	0	0	8	1.8	4.44	110
P-7	9	0	0	9	1.9	4.74	110
P-8	8	5	0	13	2.6	5.00	110
P-9	11	3	0	14	2.7	5.19	110
Total	90.40%	6.90%	0%	115		5.20	



#### 8) Report Summary

- Scanning was achieved to a depth of 80cm and 110cm with fair clarity throughout both scanned areas.
- On both scanned areas most of the rooting is found in the top 25cm's; 44% of the rooting in the Lawn area and 90% of the rooting in the paved area.
- There are a number of smaller shrubs and bushes surrounding the paved area that we would attribute some of this rooting to. Manual excavation and root identification would be required to confirm this however.
- There are 2 smaller trees located on the property, adjacent to scan lines G8 and P5, it Is also expected that some of the smaller roots are attributed to these trees.
- The paving extends to a depth of around 15cm below ground level.

#### **APPENDIX 5**

#### TRIAL PIT FINDINGS



## **Root Excavation Report**

39a Priory terrace

<u>London</u>

## NW64DG

Undertaken by

James Abbott

Arboraeration 8<sup>th</sup> June 2021



#### **Introduction**

Site Address: 39a Priory Terrace, London, NW64DG

Arboraeration were instructed to excavate trial pits at the above property by Adam Hollis of Landmark Trees following a Tree Survey and Tree Root Radar Survey of the site.

#### Reason for trial pits

Trial pits were excavated on the property to establish the extent of rooting in relation to proposed construction, location was determined using a Tree Root Radar Survey. Trial pits were excavated using an air spade and manual digging tools.



#### Trial Pit Results – numbered and located as per plans supplied

Trial Pit 2	2.2m Long x 0.4m Wide x 0.55m Deep
	1x 65mm root
	1x 45mm root
	1x 40 mm root
	Small amount of fibrous rooting
	Significant amount of small fibrous rooting,
Trial pit 4	0.9m Long x 0.4m wide x 0.5m Deep
	No significant rooting
	Fibrous rooting appears to be from shrubs.

#### Further Information.

After consultation with Adam Hollis of Landmark Trees, we decided to focus excavations on TP2 & 4

TP2: 65mm root is within 300mm of the boundary wall at its furthest extent

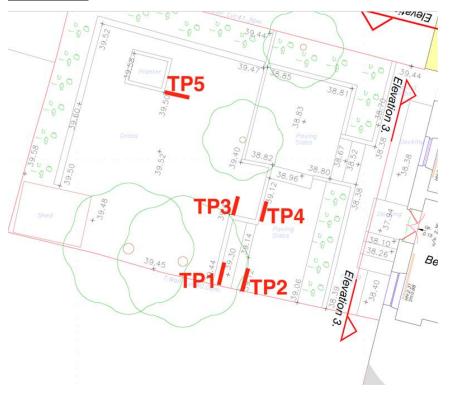
45mm root runs along the trench, with a small offshoot heading towards the building.

Much of the fibrous rooting in TP4 appears to be from the shrubs planted close by.

Trial Pits were reinstated after work was completed.



#### Site overview



#### <u>Trial Pit 2</u>









Trial Pit 4



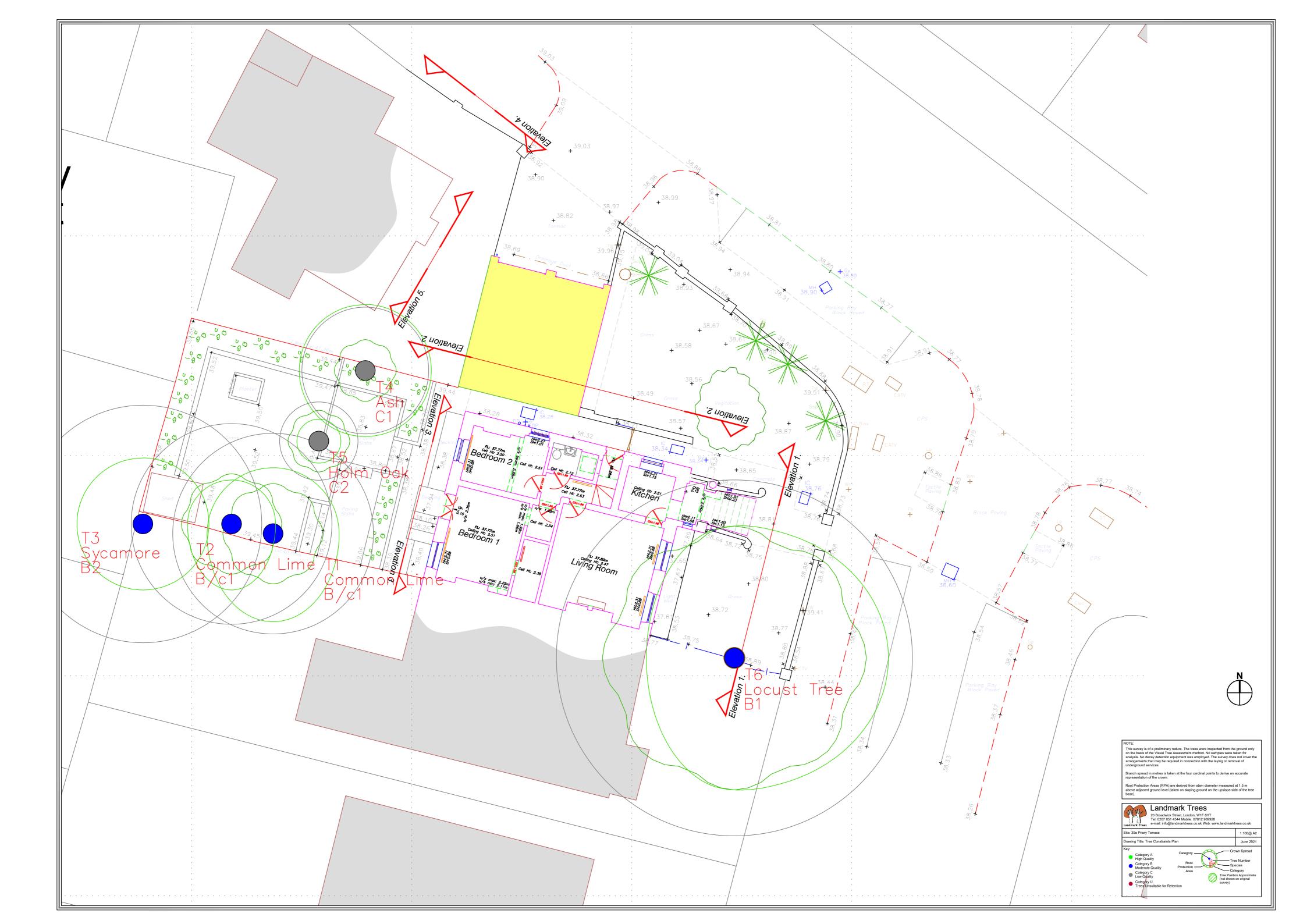
ArborAeration Ltd- Co Ref 11403707



## PART 3 – PLANS

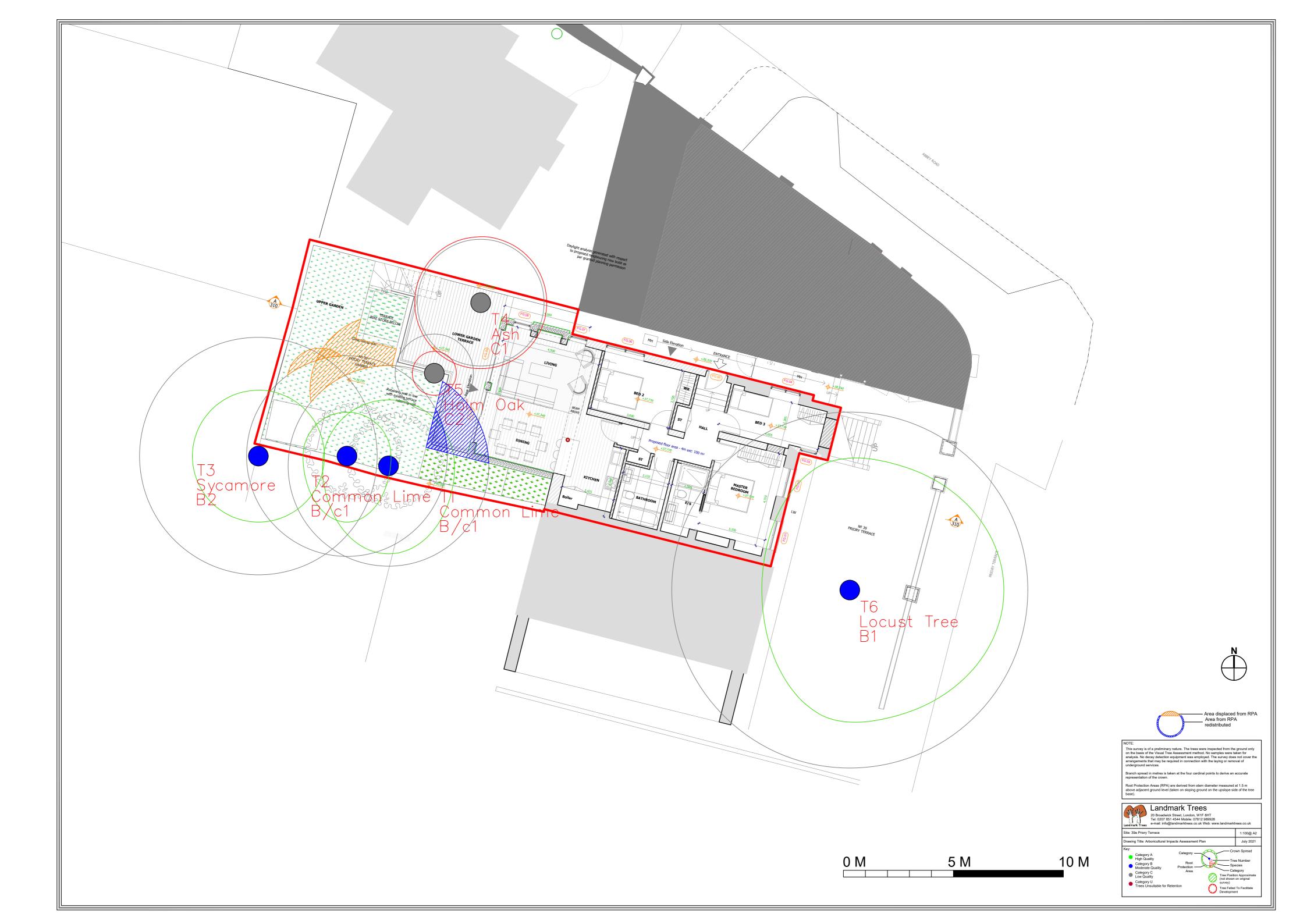
PLAN 1

#### TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN



#### ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PLAN (S)

i. Lower Ground Floor



#### **OUTLINE TREE PROTECTION PLAN**

