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Arboriculture and Forestry: Research and Consultancy

Tree Survey regarding proposed garden building at 17 Crossfield Road NW3 4NT



Photo 1: Ash and Sycamore trees in garden of 17 Crossfield Road NW3, Poplar trees behind in gardens of 2 and 4 Strathray Gardens

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Introduction

I have been asked by Lorcan Clarke to provide a Tree Survey to BS5837 to inform a Planning Application concerning the erection of a single storey garden building at 17 Crossfield Road NW3 4NT. I have surveyed the trees in the garden of 17 Crossfield Road and the relevant trees in the neighbouring gardens. The survey results are below.

The trees around the rear garden of 17 Crossfield Road NW

Statistics normally recorded for BS 5837 are shown in Table 1, below.

Tree No.	Specific and common name	Height m approx	dbh cm	RPA radius m	Crown N m approx	Crown E m approx	Crown S m approx	Crown W m approx	Retention category
T.1	<i>Fraxinus excelsor</i> Ash	19	37	4.5	3	3	3	3	A
T.2	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> Sycamore	15	34	4.1	3	3	4	4	A
T.3	<i>Sambucus nigra</i> Elder	4	15	1.8	2	1	0	1	B
T.4	<i>Populus spp.</i> Poplar	16	60≈	7.2	3	3	3	3.5	B
T.5	<i>Populus spp.</i> Poplar	18	80≈	9.6	5	7	4	8	B
T.6	<i>Populus spp.</i> Poplar	16	45≈	5.4	4	4	4	5.5	B
T.7	<i>Populus spp.</i> Poplar	16	50≈	6.0	3	5	3	5	B
T.8	<i>Populus spp.</i> Poplar	16	60≈	7.2	3	6	5	6	B

Table 1: Tree data relevant to proposal at 17 Crossfield Road NW3

Notes:

dbh refers to 'diameter at breast height' ie 1.5m from ground; ≈ indicates estimated value

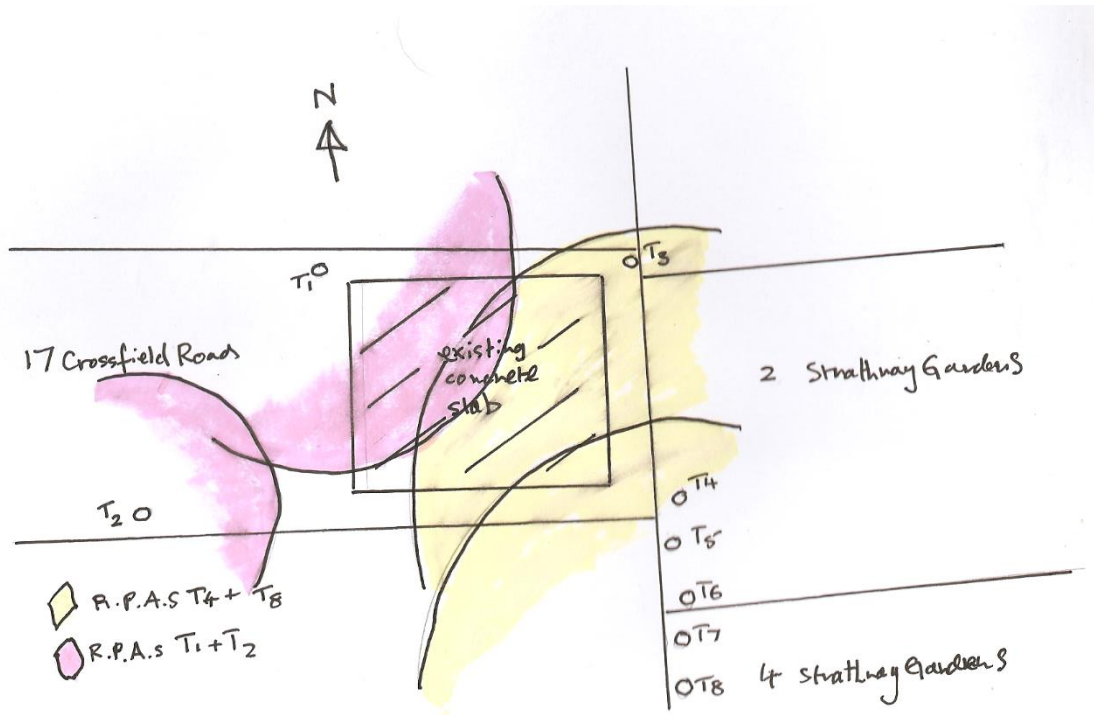
RPA is 'Root Protection Area' as defined by BS5837, the area of a circle of radius (say 4.5m) centred on tree stem

Retention Category is defined by BS5837: Category A trees are of high quality with an expected remaining life of at least 40 years, Category B trees are of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years

CA and **TPO** refer to legislative protection: Conservation Area or Tree Preservation Order

Of the relevant trees whose data is recorded above, T.1, T.2 and T.3 are in the rear garden of 17 Crossfield Road and T.4-T.8 are in the rear gardens of 2 and 4 Strathray Gardens.

All the trees are protected as they are within the **Belsize Park Conservation Area**.



Sketch 1: Layout of rear gardens of 17 Crossfield Road, 2 and 4 Strathay Gardens, showing tree positions and selected RPA arcs

The trees and the building proposal

I understand that it is proposed to assemble a pre-constructed garden building on the existing concrete slab in the rear garden. It is apparent from Sketch 1, above, that the existing concrete slab in the rear garden is occupying some of the Root Protection Areas of several of the trees surrounding the rear garden. The building will slightly over-reach the slab in all directions, and therefore supplementary foundations will be required beyond the existing slab. In conversation with the proprietor of YourExtraSpace, the suppliers of the proposed building, I gather that compliance with BS5837 is well understood by that company, and that pad, minipile or sleeper foundations may be accommodated in the design to best suit the continued health of the surrounding trees.

Conclusion

The trees surveyed appear in good condition when viewed in February. Photographs from the summer of 2021 indicate full crowns of healthy leaves. In order to conform completely with BS5837(2012) further documentation may be required, but the happy co-existence of the concrete slab in the

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garden of 17 Crossfield Road, the existing garden building in 18a Crossfield Road (see Photo 2, below), and the trees referred to in this survey indicates that the proposed development may well take place without any harm to the trees.



Photo 2: Garden of 17 Crossfield Road, showing T.4-T.8 in rear, garden building in 18a Crossfield Road to right

If any further information is required please call or email as shown below.