

Elm Tree Surgery & Landscaping Services Ltd.



To: Adrian Davern, OPW.

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Ref: Tree survey of trees located at rear of Sarsfield House, Francis St. Limerick.

Parkland green space at rear of Sarsfield House, and Hunt Café and Museum,

Rutland St. Limerick City (Due to this report being carried out on the 19th February 2020 a visual inspection will be carried out prior to commencement to clarify that no additional works to the trees at this location need to be carried out)

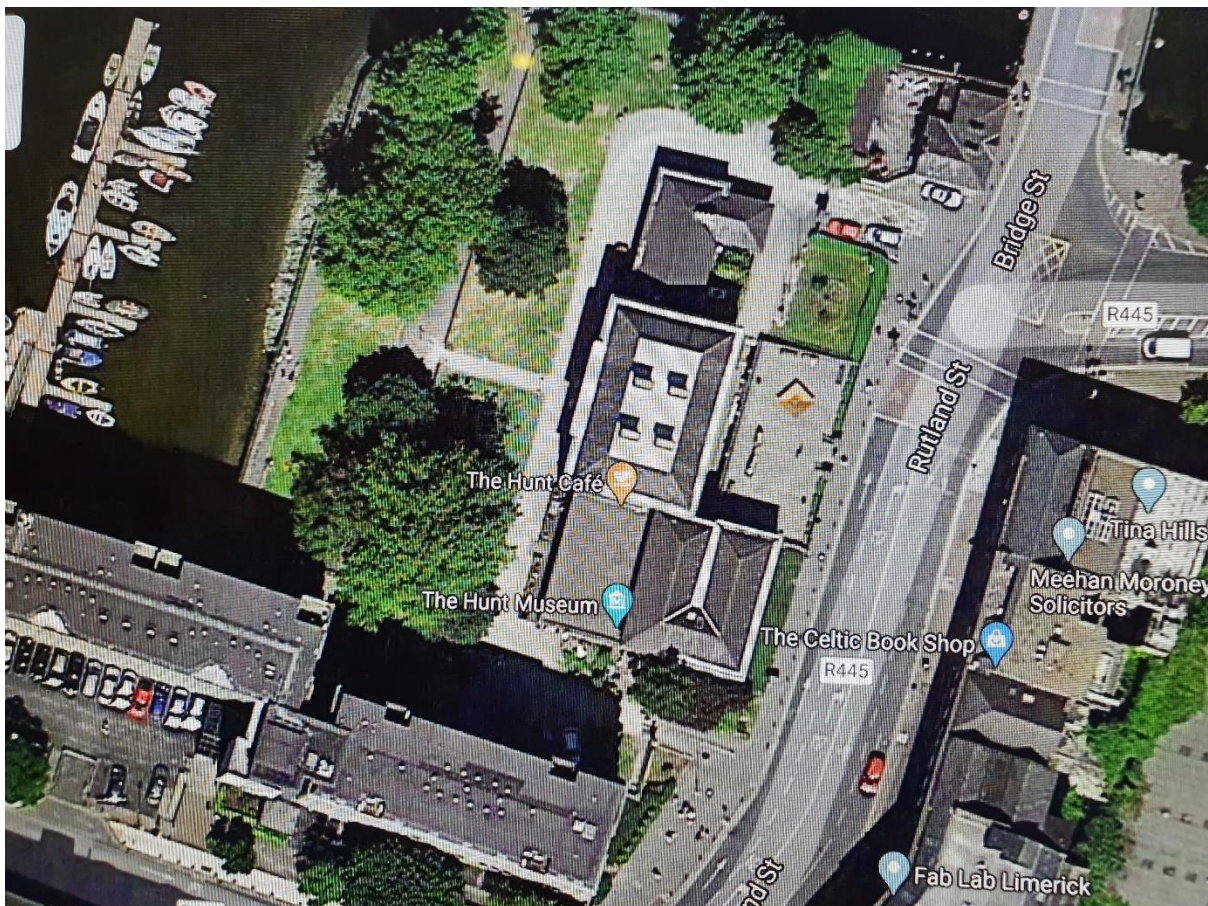


Photo 1. Aerial view of Parkland / Open green space at rear of Sarsfield House (Revenue) lower left of picture frame and The Hunt Café / Museum centre of frame.

Location and methodology.

The trees surveyed in this report are located growing adjacent the quayside on parkland / open green space at rear of Sarsfield House (Revenue) Francis St. and The Hunt Café / Museum, Rutland St, Limerick City. **Note: This parkland incorporates Sarsfield House over-flow carpark traffic, visitors and pedestrians to Hunt Museum and Café** The canal bank flanks the northern and western bank of the park and enters the River Shannon at Arthur's Quay. The parkland hosting the trees in this survey and the surrounding streets are liable to regular seasonal tidal flooding. Despite appearances, the parkland and trees are exposed to high winds and gusts.

The parkland is divided by a high metal rail with pedestrian gated access. For convenience to site managers, trees located in the eastern parkland, those nearest the Hunt Café/ Museum and Limerick Adventures – Nev Sail were surveyed first and numbered 1-8. The four trees located in the parkland adjacent the Quay side waters edge were surveyed and numbered 9-12. Trees were inspected and surveyed from the ground only. All parts of the tree structure were surveyed and a recommendation as to their immediate or future management made.

Tree Report with photos.

Tree 1. Acer.

Tree located nearest the Limerick Adventures / Nev Sail cabins. Height c17mtrs. Crown width 6mtrs. DBH 0.5mtrs. Tree has a clean straight trunk / bole. It forks into a twin stem tree formation at c2.50mtrs above ground level. The crown leans away from the shadow of the large London Plane tree structure adjacent. The crown of this Acer is in poor condition with evidence of damage likely from poor topping in the past. The aerial crown contains numerous decayed sections, several hanging storm damaged and decayed branches which present as immediate hazards to park users.

Recommendation(s): Retain tree trunk, carry out a crown removal and reduce aerial crown to healthy wood to create a pollard tree.

Photo 1. Below. Tree 1 - Acer located on the left of frame nearest the cabins and Tree 2- London Plane located on the right of picture frame.



Tree 2 – London Plane. Photo 1 above.

A large over-mature tree located on the parkland green opposite the Hunt Café and in close proximity to the gated pedestrian access and footpath junction and path network. The tree pictured above on the right of the picture frame is approx. 26mtrs in height and the crown of this tree spreads c20mtrs in width. Approx. DBH 1.62mtrs. This large tree crown structure largely overhangs the two parklands, dividing security fence, security pole with lighting and camera infrastructure and pedestrian footpath networks. The tree forks into a twin stem tree at approx. 2.25mtrs above ground level. The lesser of the two stems contains a noticeable cavity slightly above and close to the fork union formation. The large crown contains several hanging boughs and loose debris as a result of seasonal wind blow and storm damage.

Recommendation:

Carry out a 45-55% crown reduction of the tree crown to alleviate aerial crown weight and risk of wind blow and storm damage. ***The cavity described above requires further aerial investigation for soundness and this may be carried out during the tree crown reduction operation. After investigation a decision may be made as to progress and remove the tree structure and stump on health and safety grounds.**

Notes:

Tree 3 – Chestnut. This large tree is located close to the middle of the eastern park near the dividing metal fence and a security service light pole. The tree has a distinct fork formation at c2 mtrs. The tree has an infection and displays on the two main scaffold boughs which exhibit excessive crust formations which girdle and compromise tree soundness and tree structure stability.

Recommendation: Remove tree on health and safety grounds and tree care.



Photo 2. Above – Chestnut tree.

Tree 4. Lime tree

A young / semi mature tree planted in the last ten years. This tree is 6mtrs tall and in good condition and requires routine discreet formative pruning only.

Tree 5 – Lime tree. (see photo 3 below)

Located at the north western corner of the green and nearest the canal foot bridge structure. This tree is approx. 20mtrs height, with a crown spread of 12mtrs and a DBH of approx. 1.30mtrs. The tree forks at 2mtrs above ground level. The tree base and upper crown contains typical Lime sprout and thicket growth and debris. The crown contains some dieback and brittleness at upper crown extremities.

Recommendation: In the interests of tree care and health and safety, carry out a crown reduction of 45% to rejuvenate crown, alleviate crown weight and reduce risk of wind blow.



Photo 3 above. Trees 4 and 5. Near foot bridge.

Tree 6 – Lime tree. (See photo 4 below)

This large tree is located on the narrow green along the north of the park close to the entrance driveway, the Sweeney Sculpture feature, security camera pole and the canal bank infrastructure. The tree contains an old tag 0085.

Recommendations: As per tree 5. In the interests of tree care and health and safety, carry out a crown reduction of 45% to rejuvenate crown, alleviate crown weight, tree stability and reduce risk of wind blow.



Photo 4 above. Lime tree.

Tree 7. Lime tree.

Located on the narrow shrub bed close to the main gated entrance. This tree was unfortunately planted in a shrub / flower bed and this bed is unfit for a parkland tree. If left in situ, this tree will continue to grow and impact on the adjoining masonry structures and it will either likely fail from instability and present as a risk to health and safety.

Recommendation: Remove tree and stump grind.

***Tree 8. Birch tree.**

Located within the enclosed garden and the southern gable of the Hunt Museum / Café Kitchen garden close to the pedestrian gated entrance.

Recommendation: This tall twin stem tree requires a crown reduction of 25%-30%, discreet crown pruning to alleviate crown weight, balance the tree and reduce risk of wind blow.

That concludes the tree report for this eastern park – rear of Sarsfield House, Hunt Museum and Café.

Summary Safe Work Plan.

Tree Surgery Operations

Elm to liaise and schedule time frame with Sarsfield House site manager.

Elm to submit Site Specific Safe Work Plan, Method statement, Pedestrian and traffic and pedestrian, visitor management plan.

Elm to mobilise and demobilise necessary tree surgery plant and equipment.

Elm to carry out tree surgery operation of existing trees 1-7 described above and associated stump grinding.

Reinstatement

Elm to excavate depleted soil and remove and refresh beds with new soil.

Elm to replant bed with appropriate choice of low- medium growth parkland trees to replace those removed. scheme.

Tidy and clean work areas.

- **Tree surgery works €27,000.00**
- **Stump grind and root removal €3,000.00**
- **Topsoil removal and new topsoil imported €2,500.00**
- **Planting of new trees incorporating weed barrier €1,800.00**
- ***Tree 2 – London Plane upon further investigation a decision to remove this tree on safety grounds additional pc sum for €5,000.00. Elm to liaise with site manager on site.**

Total €39,300.00

Vat Accounted for by Main Contractor

Note: This parkland incorporates Sarsfield House over-flow carpark traffic, visitors and pedestrians to Hunt Museum and Café shall be managed and marshalled with a safety cordon and accompanied by a footpath closure and or diverting pedestrians safely to use the alternative foot path network. The tree surgery operations should be carried out asap to negate any future risks to staff and the public.

All tree surgery and tree pruning are carried out to European Tree Pruning Standards & British Standards

