

Mr. Tree

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Report on damage caused by tree

Following my site visit at the weekend, I can confirm that the magnolia grandiflora growing next to the flint wall from the remains of the old building appears to be causing a great deal of damage.

I understand that the drains were repaired recently and the repair work identified the cause as root ingress. The concrete slab close to the magnolia is lifting in a pattern consistent with root development.

Given that roots were identified during the repair work, and the localised lifting of the concrete close to the base of the tree, I consider it most likely that the tree poses a threat to the drains and other utilities which run parallel. The close proximity of the main trunk to the flint wall would, in my opinion, be a potential threat as the tree continues to grow. Depending on the foundations of the inhabited part of the structure it is possible that that part of the structure could become compromised by further root development.

The tree is of some visual amenity, but the potential damage to the services and adjacent building would suggest that some action is required. I would suggest the removal of the main trunk, and leave the smaller sections then maintain the remaining canopy regularly to reduce the likelihood of any further damage.

This action would help preserve the character of the area without complete removal of the tree.

There is little point making good the damage caused so far, without first removing the cause.

Shane Jones
Mr Tree