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My reference: JC/R/704
J Clark
Highams Court
Layhams Road
Keston
BR2 6AR

Re: 5 Hitherwood Close, Waterloooville PO7 8SA . D6381.

I have completed my examination of the root samples taken from the above property. The analyses were carried out 'blind' with no background information on the vegetation of the property.

The results are as follows:

TrialPit/ BoreHole	Root diameters (mm)	Probable age of roots	Living or dead*	Tree from which root originates
TP1/BH1 @ 4.0m	1@ 0.5mm, 1@ 0.2mm	1 year	Living	<i>Quercus</i> or a shrub

* Determined from the presence of starch and cytoplasmic contents in the cortex, phloem and ray cells using differential interference contrast optics. Roots left in the ground may sometimes remain alive for up to two years after a tree/shrub/climber has been cut down. However water demand ceases from the time the plant was cut down.

Notes

Quercus (oak) is classified as high in terms of water demand and is considered to be a tree of high risk to buildings.

Young roots with rather atypical anatomy. If not *Quercus* then an ornamental shrub-most likely a member of the Caprifoliaceae. Cortex with stone cells, fibres, tannins, single and cluster crystals. Wide rays. Large single vessels. Simple perforation plates. Variable pitting.

Yours sincerely

Professor J.G. Duckett