



# Walker's

**PROFESSIONAL ARBORISTS  
CONSULTANCY**

320110656P

**Alan Walker**

*N.C.H. (Arb) R.H.S*

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Mr D. Norris  
41, Dilworth Lane, Longridge

10/9/2011

## *Hazard Report*

Dear Mr Norris

Please find enclosed one hard copy of the hazard tree report as requested.

A. Walker

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**Hazard Survey - Mr D. Norris 41, Dilworth Lane, Longridge.**

### **Introduction**

This report describes the inspection and hazard assessment of six trees situated along the boundary fence parallel to

The results of the author's inspection of both the site and the tree are presented. A QTRA assessment of the hazard posed by the tree is made, the findings of the inspection are interpreted, and a recommendation of action to pursue is made.

### **Terms of Reference**

- 1.0 This report was commissioned by Mr D. Norris
- 2.0 Instructions were received on the 25/08/11.
- 3.0 The instructions requested a QTRA report on the condition of the trees to the North East side of the property.

The instructions ask for

- An assessment of the tree's characteristics and physiology
- An assessment of the condition of the tree
- An analysis of the hazard presented by the tree and failure potential of the tree
- Recommendations for the management of the tree

### **Surveyor**

The tree was inspected by A Walker, qualified with an Nch(Arb) , I also have 30 years arboriculture experience with a wide range of roles within the industry.

### **Caveats and Limitations**

- All details and information in this report are based on the condition of the trees and surrounding area on the date of this report. Some report factors (tree vigour) may not always be clear due to timings of the report.
- This report is based on the findings from a tree inspection carried out from the ground. No aerial inspection was carried out, unless otherwise specified.
- Changes to the soil condition, soil level, tree surroundings and any local building works may invalidate the report
- The report may only be viable for a period of time after it has been commissioned.
- No soil/root samples have been taken for laboratory analysis.
- Rooting structures were not inspected below ground.

- We have no information as to the structural integrity of either the main structure or the drainage system.
- If you, or your advisors, have at your disposal any information to suggest that the property has/is suffering any structural defect, we would ask that you release the information to us. This report may become invalid if relevant information is withheld. All relevant data is presented within this report together with any recommendations for further analysis, as appropriate.
- The report is based on the inspection and the material available at the time of inspection. No past architect's drawings, planning applications, planning consents and conditions, or drainage plans were made available. It is possible that the contents of such documents may directly affect the findings and recommendations of this report.

## Details

### Tree 1. Horse Chestnut

#### 1. Crown

- Leaves - West side of the crown showing signs of Phytophthora , wilting, early leaf fall
- Buds – n/a
- Deadwood – Large amount of deadwood present in the west side of the canopy up to 1.50m
- Weak or Crossing Branches – Canopy has some crossing branches. Considered to pose slight risk
- Unbalanced Crown -- Slight due to position of neighbouring tree
- Dense Crown – Visibly dense crown to the east side of the crown.

#### 2. Stem

- Leaning Tree – Slight southward lean
- Single stem
- Pruning Cuts – Two present on lower main stem
- Stem Formations – No visible swellings, depressions, cracks, ribs or bulges are visible
- Cavities – None visible
- Fungi – Black weeping fungal spots present in the east side of the crown.

#### 3. Root Areas

- Change of surface material – No evidence to show recent change
- Change of water table – No major development in close proximity of tree, suggesting the water table has not changed in recent years
- Change in soil level – N/A
- Trench digging – This report is not aware of any visible trenches dug.
- Fungi – Not visible at this time

#### 4. Surroundings

- Surrounding hazards – Structures situated to the west of the tree. Main Footpath and road are also close to the tree

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## **Discussion**

The tree has been subjected to a QTRA detailed tree inspection. Hazard assessment has been implemented and has recognised potential parts for failure.

Tree has a large widespread crown with major limb extension. Closer inspection has determined the cause for concern in the form of weeping black fungal spores visible on the main branches in one area.

Trees canopy is holding major limb structures over a public road and footpath.

The large limb structures have been the basis of QTRA hazard analysis used in this report. The tree hazard rating is below the, (1; 72,000) what is considered as 'acceptable risk by the HSE',

## **Recommendations**

The following recommendations should be carried out within 6 months from the date of this report.

Taking into considerations that the tree is mature, situated close to building, main road, footpath.

This particular fungus will, eventually envelope the whole tree in time resulting in the trees death.

Therefor taking all these facts into considerations I would strongly recommend that the tree should be removed.

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**Tree 2.**

**Sycamore. *Acer.pseudoplatanus*.**

**1. Crown.**

- Leaves – average size and condition
- Buds – n/a
- Deadwood- small amount of deadwood visible in the upper crown (25mm)
- Weak or crossing branches – no visible signs could be seen from ground level
- Unbalanced crown – west side of crown suppressed due to the close proximity of T1
- Dense crown – east side only
- Weak branch formation Non visible

**2. Stem**

- Leaning tree – slight eastward lean
- Co- dominant stems –co dominant main stem (x2) with v shape union at approximately 4m.
- Bark wounds – no visible barks wounds present.
- Pruning cuts – four present on lower stem
- Stem formation – no visible swellings, depressions, cracks, ribs or bulges are visible.
- Cavities – non visible at the present time.
- Fungi – non visible.

**3. Root Areas**

- Compacted soils – areas of compacted soils around road edgings and road. (north side)
- Change of surface material – no evidence to show recent change
- Change of water table – no major development in close proximity of tree, suggesting the water table has not changed in recent years.
- Change in soil levels – n/a.
- Trench digging – no visible evidence could be seen at the present time.
- Fungi – non visible.

**4. Surroundings.**

- Climbing plants – Ivy has been removed from the lower stem leaving the upper crown foliage to die back.
- Surrounding hazards – Structures situated to the north of the tree fence and main road.

## Discussion.

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Tree 2. has been subject to a QTRA detailed tree inspection. Hazard assessment has been implemented with no major hazards present.

Once tree 1 is removed the full extent of the crown will be revealed showing the unbalanced crown of the tree

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**Tree 3. Sycamore. *Acer psuedoplatanus***

**1. Crown.**

- Leaves – average size and condition.
- Buds – n/a
- Deadwood – small amount present in the crown.
- Weak or crossing branches – non visible.
- Unbalanced crown – slight due to position of neighbouring trees.
- Dense crown – visibly dense crown
- Weak branch formation – no visible signs.

**2. Stem**

- Leaning tree – n/v
- Co- dominant stems – n/a
- Bark wounds – n/v
- Pruning cuts – crown raised to clear lamp and telephone wires
- Stem formation – no visible swellings, depressions, cracks, ribs or bulges visible
- Cavities – small cavity could be seen at approximately four metres from ground level
- Fungi – non visible

**3. Root areas**

- Compacted soil – area of compaction to the north due to the presents of main road
- Changes of surface material – no evidence to show recent change
- Change of water table – no major development in close proximity of the tree, suggesting the water table has not changed in recent years
- Change in soil levels. n/a
- Trench digging – not aware of any visible trench dug
- Fungi – non visible at this time

**4. Surroundings**

- Climbing plants – Ivy, removed from the base of the tree leaving the remaing dead growth visible in the upper crown
- Surrounding hazards – Structures situated to the north of the tree, fence and road.

**Discussion**

Tree has been subject to a QTRA detailed tree inspection. No hazard implications recognised at this present time

**Tree 4. Ash, Fraxinus excelsior**

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**1. Crown**

- Leaves – Average size and condition
- Buds – n/a
- Deadwood – small amount of deadwood present in the upper crown
- Weak or crossing branches – no visible signs could be seen
- Unbalanced crown slight due to neighbouring tree
- Dense crown – typical Ash, open crown with good leaf ratio
- Weak branch formation – possible weak formation in the lower crown

**2. Stem**

- Leaning tree – slight lean towards the east due to neighbouring tree
- Co dominant – co dominant main stem (x2) with v shape union at approximately four metres
- Bark wounds – n/v
- Pruning cuts – no pruning cuts visible
- Stem formation – no visible swellings, depressions, cracks, ribs, or bulges are visible
- Cavities – n/v
- Fungi – n/v

**3. Root area**

- Compacted soils – areas of compacted soils around the fence and road side
- Change of surface material – no evidence to show recent change
- Change of water table – no major development in close proximity of the tree, suggesting the water table has not changed in recent years
- Change in soil levels – n/a
- Trench digging – n/v
- Fungi – non visible at this time

**4. Surroundings**

- Climbing plants – decaying Ivy still present in the upper stem
- Surrounding hazards – structure situated to the south of the tree. Fence and road to the north

**Discussion**

No potential hazard has been recognised at this moment in time.

Potential work is recognised in the form of crown raising to give clearance to high sided vehicles ( north side) and ground clearance to the south side.

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**T5. Sycamore. *Acer pseudoplatanus***

**1. Crown**

- Leaves – Average size and condition
- Buds – n/a
- Deadwood - n/v
- Weak or crossing branches – n/v
- Unbalanced crown – small but even crown
- Dense crown – visibly dense crown
- Weak branch formation – n/v

**2. Stem.**

- Leaning tree - n/v
- Co dominant stems – n/v
- Bark wounds – n/v
- Pruning cuts – n/v
- Stem formation – no visible swellings, depressions, cracks, ribs, or bulges are visible
- Cavities – n/v
- Fungi – non visible at this time

**3. Root areas**

- Compacted soils – areas of compaction to the north of the tree due to the presence of the main road
- Change of surface material – no evidence to show recent change
- Change of water table – no major development in close proximity to the tree, suggesting no change to the water table
- Change in soil levels – n/a
- Trench digging – no visible signs of any trench digging at this time
- Fungi – non visible at this time

**4. Surroundings**

- Climbing plants - n/a
- Surrounding hazards – structures to the north in the form of fence and road

**Discussion.** Tree four has been subject to a QTRA detailed tree inspection. Hazard assessment

Has been implemented and has recognised no potential hazard

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T6. Lime *Tilia europaea*

**1. Crown**

- Leaves – average size and condition
- Buds – n/a
- Deadwood - small amount of deadwood could be seen in the upper crown
- Weak or crossing branches – canopy has some crossing branches considered to pose slight risk
- Unbalanced crown – n/v
- Dense crown - visibly dense crown
- Weak branch formation – possible weak formation in mid crown

**2. Stem**

- Leaning tree -- thirty five degree lean to the east
- Co dominant stem. n/a
- Bark wounds – n/a
- Pruning cuts – n/a
- Stem formation – no visible swellings, depressions, cracks, rib or bulges visible
- Cavities – small cavity could be seen on the main trunk at a height of approximately
- Four metres with the callusing of the old wound almost complete
- Fungi -- none visible at this time

**3. Root areas**

- Compacted soil -- areas of compaction around the fence line and road
- Changes of surface material – no evidence to show recent change
- Change of water table – no major development in close proximity of the tree suggesting the water table has not been changed in recent years
- Change in soil levels – n/a
- Trench digging -- this report is not aware of any visible trenches dug
- Fungi – none visible

**4. Surroundings**

- Climbing plants -- n/a
- Surrounding hazards -- fence and road to the north of the tree

**Discussion** – Tree 6 has been subject to a QTRA detailed tree inspection. Hazard assessment has been implemented and has recognised potential parts of failure in time due to the angle of the main trunk

## Recommendations

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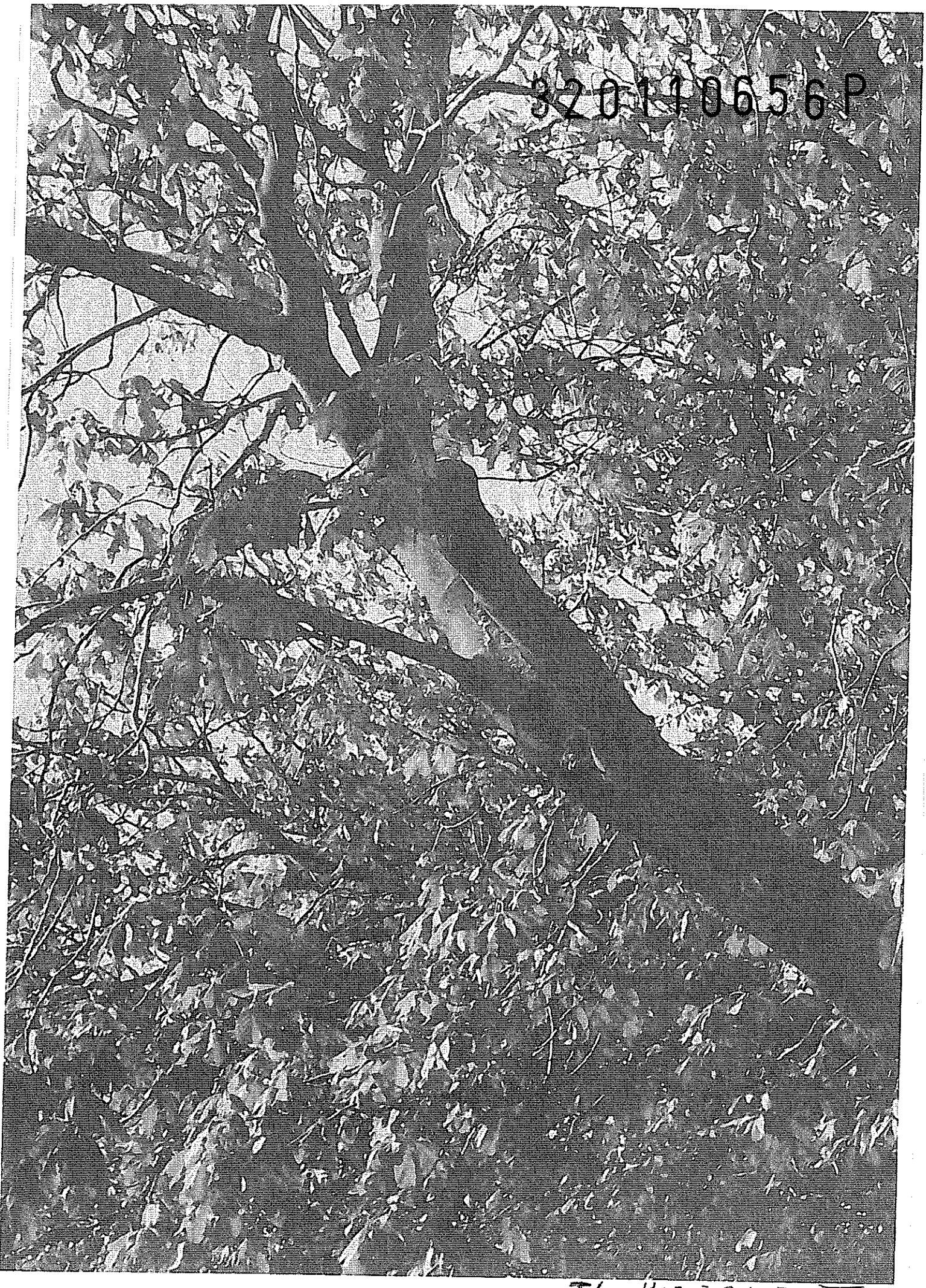
The following recommendations should be carried within 12months from the date of this report.

- T1. H/Chestnut, section fell to ground level due to the presence of Phytophthora.
- T2. Sycamore, Suppressed tree, unbalanced crown poor specimen. Replace if applicable
- T4, Crown raise and deadwood
- T6 crown raise and crown clean and monitor the angle of the main stem

| Tree No. & Species                                     | H      | Cir   | Branch Spread        | H C.C | Age | P.C | Condition                   | Recommendations                                              | ERC          | Cat Grade | RPA Radius | RPA M |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|----------------------|-------|-----|-----|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------|
| <b>T1. H/Chestnut</b><br><b>Aesculus hippocastanum</b> | 16.60m | 3.2m  | EW.23m<br>NS.15m     | 5.5m  | M   | P   | Suffering from Phytophthora | Section fell to ground level                                 | Less than 10 |           |            |       |
| <b>T2. Sycamore</b><br><b>Acer psuedoplatanus</b>      | 13.83m | 1.68m | EW.7.8m<br>NS.8.28m  | 4.6m  | EM  | P   | Suppressed tree             | Section fell to ground level                                 | 40           |           |            |       |
| <b>T3. Sycamore</b><br><b>Acer psuedoplatanus</b>      | 12.2m  | 1.5m  | EW.14.6m<br>NS.9.2m  | 6m    | EM  | M   | Moderate condition          | No work                                                      | 40           |           |            |       |
| <b>T4. Ash</b><br><b>Fraxinus excelsior</b>            | 15.6m  | 2.3m  | EW. 21.6<br>NS.12.8m | 5.5m  | M   | M   | Moderate condition          | Crown raise and crown clean                                  | 40           |           |            |       |
| <b>T5. Sycamore</b><br><b>Acer psuedoplatanus</b>      | 11.7m  | 1.3m  | EW.13.5m<br>NS.7.8m  | 4.11m | EM  | M   | Moderate condition          | No work                                                      | 40           |           |            |       |
| <b>T6. Lime</b><br><b>Tilia europaea</b>               | 13.5m  | 1.9m  | EW.13.9m<br>NS. 11m  | 4.2m  | M   | M   | Moderate condition          | Crown raise crown clean and monitor the angle of lean (stem) | 40           |           |            |       |
|                                                        |        |       |                      |       |     |     |                             |                                                              |              |           |            |       |
|                                                        |        |       |                      |       |     |     |                             |                                                              |              |           |            |       |
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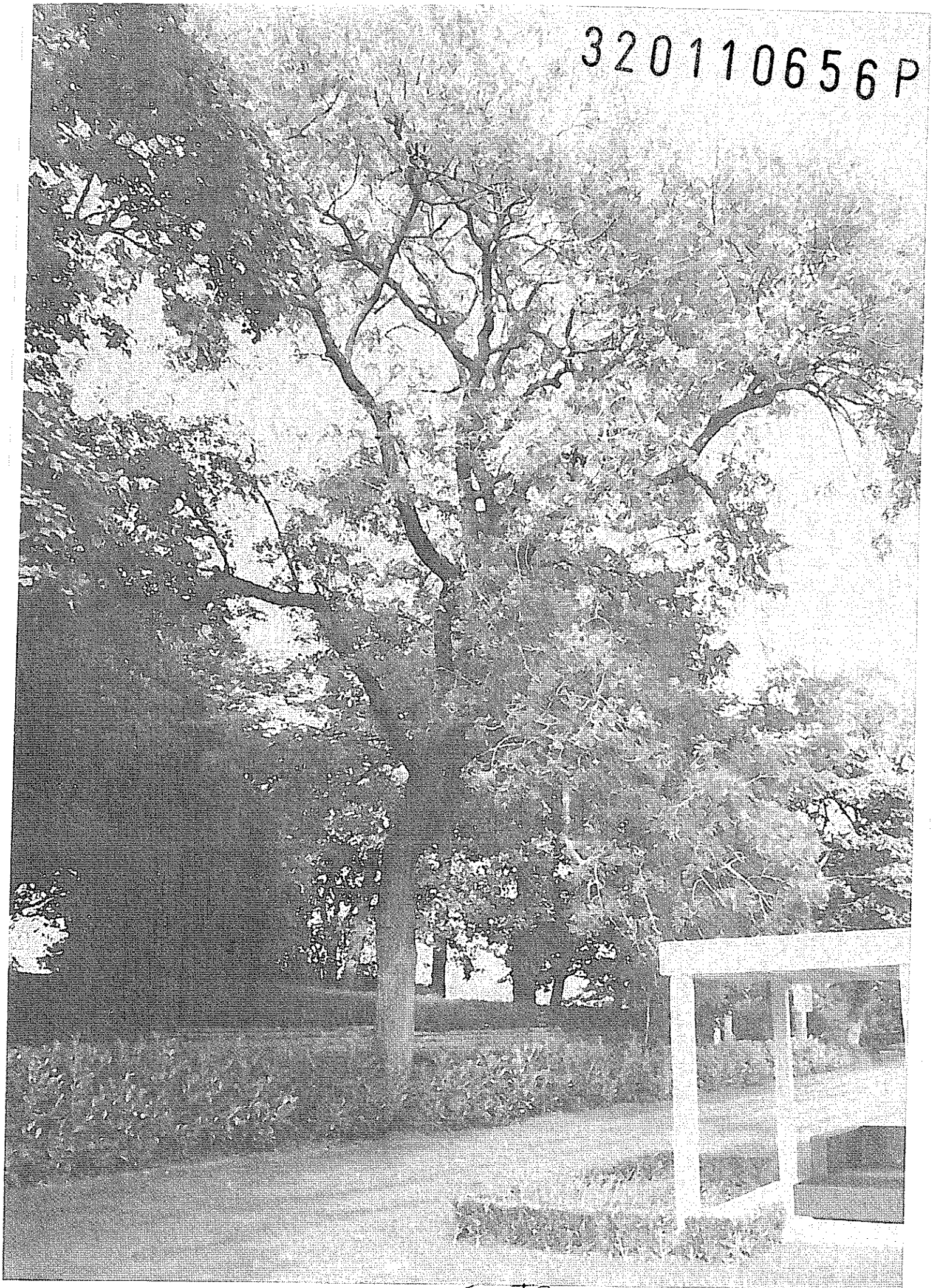
T1 HORSE CHESTNUT

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T.2. Sycamore

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← T3 Sycamore T4 Ash

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TS Sycamore

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T6 Line