

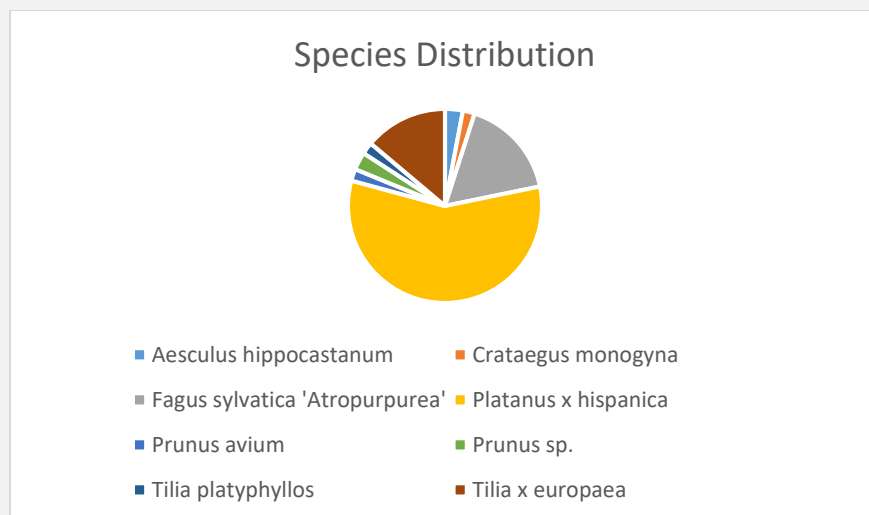
IVEAGH GARDENS

Inventory and assessment were carried out in January and February 2022 by Ludovic Beaumont, Dublin City Tree officer.

A total of 57 trees were inspected.

I Species Distribution

Species	Quantity	Percentage
<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	1	2
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	1	2
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Atropurpurea'	9	17
<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>	34	58
<i>Prunus avium</i>	1	2
<i>Prunus sp.</i>	2	3
<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	1	2
<i>Tilia x europaea</i>	8	14



It is recommended that future planting maintains some of the element of this species distribution. However it is recommended that *Prunus* (cherry Trees), *Tillia* (Lime trees) and *Aesculus* (Horse chestnut) are replaced by species more adapted to the location. The new species could include *Gleditsia triacanthos*, *Betula sp.*, *Ginkgo biloba*, *Celtis australis*, etc.

II Ages Distribution

Young: Within first third of life span.

Middle Aged: Within second third of lifespan.

Mature: Within final third of lifespan.

Age	Quantity	percentages
Young	1	2
Middle Aged	3	5
Mature	53	93

The estate has an ageing population reflecting that the majority of the trees were planted in the 1930s. During the assessment, 4 tree planting locations were identified and as removed trees are replaced, it is likely that the percentage of young trees will increase.

III Conditions

Good: Normal Vitality. No Major Defects.

Fair: Reduced Vitality/Some Defects.

Poor: Low Vitality/Extensive Defects.

Condition	Quantity	Percentage
Good	40	70
Fair	11	19
Poor	6	11

Despite its ageing tree population, 70% of the tree population in Iveagh Garden is in good condition which is a very good result and means that with proper care, the amount of trees to be removed in the near future is likely to be low. A total of six trees were deemed to be in poor condition but only three trees will be removed as it is hoped that crown reduction will allow the retention of the three other poor condition trees.

IV Recommended Tree Care Programme

All works to be carried out after nesting season 2022.

Due to their condition and structural defects, three trees will have to be removed and replaced

64	IVEAGH GARDENS	<i>Prunus avium</i> (Wild Cherry tree). Visible cracks appearing at compression fork due to included bark. This type of narrow fork has included bark which continued radial growth results in pressure which tends to push the limbs of the fork apart and lead to catastrophic failure.
38	IVEAGH GARDENS	<i>Platanus x hispanica</i> (London plane). Large cavity due to previous large branch failure and located at the base of the main fork. Large amount of decay in the cavity undermines the stability of the other main limbs. Numerous other smaller cavities due to branch failures in the upper canopy.
103	IVEAGH GARDENS	<i>Tilia x europaea</i> (Common Lime tree). Tree in very poor condition. Large cavity and decay where one of the main limbs failed. Set of <i>Ganoderma austral</i> located at the base of the tree. This is a white rot decay fungi and, when extensive, the decay can result in failure of the stem plate or rootplate and the tree will fell.



Tilia x europaea (Common Lime Tree) with large cavity due to branch failure at 103 Iveagh Gardens.



Ganoderma: Decay Fungi growing at the base of Lime tree at 103 Iveagh Gardens.



Prunus avium (Wild Cherry tree) at 64 Iveagh Gardens. Compression fork with included bark. Two cracks in limbs. Large limb failure to be expected at fork.



Prunus avium (Wild Cherry tree) at 64 Iveagh Gardens



Platanus X hispanica (London planes) at 38 Iveagh Gardens. Large cavity with decay located at fork where a previous large branch failed.



Platanus X hispanica at 38 Iveagh Gardens

As part of the tree care programme, it is proposed to carry a crown reduction of all the London planes which will consist mostly in a reduction in height by 200cm and lateral crown by 100 cm.

The other trees will benefit from light pruning.

It is proposed to plant a new Purple beech (*Fagus sylvatica purpurea*) on the small open space located between 108 and 109.

It is proposed to remove the stump at number 92 and plant suitable tree.

The tree stump of the recently felled horsechestnut at the entrance will be removed in three years as we have to wait for the roots to decay and then plant suitable tree.

The large stump at number 48 will be removed in 4 years as we have to wait for the roots to decay and then plant suitable tree.

Summary

In summary Iveagh Gardens benefit from a mostly mature tree population, essentially planted in the 1930s. While most of the trees are in good/fair condition, three trees have to be removed. It is likely that there will be a limited amount of trees removal in the future, as the lime trees are not thriving. This could be the occasion to introduce new tree species in the area while respecting the unique landscape and architecture.

It is recommended that a new assessment is carried out in winter 2025/2026.

Ludovic Beaumont

Dublin City Tree Officer