



Doyle &  
O'Troithigh  
Landscape  
Architecture

Invasive Plants Review  
Rathcoole Residential

D&  
O'T

Project Ref 18-008  
Client Stanley Residential  
Date 27/03/2023

# Site Inspection Report

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<b>Project</b>	Rathcoole Park Residential Development
<b>Location</b>	Stoney Hill Road, Rathcoole, Co Dublin
<b>Main Contractor</b>	Stanley Residential
<b>Date</b>	27-01-2023
<b>Time of Inspection</b>	5pm
<b>Inspected by</b>	Mike O'Connor, Doyle & O'Troithigh Landscape Arch. Ltd.
<b>Weather Condition</b>	Dry

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## **Reason of Inspection**

Assess the presence or otherwise of invasive plant Species

## **General Issues**

See reason of inspection above.

## **Drawing Reference**

Landscape contract drawings  
(Doyle & O'Troithigh Landscape arch. Ltd.)

## **Attendance**

Mr. Mike O'Connor, (Doyle & O'Troithigh Landscape Arch. Ltd)

## **Contractor Action**

Stanley Residential to action as necessary

## **Distribution**

Design Team Members

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**Mike O'Connor**  
Landscape Manager



## Introduction

In March '23, doyle + o'troithigh landscape architecture were commissioned by Stanley Residential to carry out an Invasive Plants Survey of lands at Stoney Hill Road, Rathcoole, Co Dublin.

Fig.1 below shows the proposed residential development for these lands which is accessed from Stoney Hill Road, it is bounded to the south by open pasture land and mature hedgerows, to the west by a mature hedgerow and Stoney Hill Road, to the north by an existing residential property, and to the east by existing residential properties and open pasture land and mature hedgerows.

Fig.1 Proposed Residential Development for Lands at Stoney Hill Road. Rathcoole



Fig. 1

The site review was carried out by Michael O'Connor, Landscape Manager with doyle + o'troithigh landscape architecture on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

## Report Findings

In accordance with the project brief, the site was assessed to view the potential for invasive plant species as outlined in the Invasive Species Ireland website as supported by the Department of Arts Heritage and Gaeltacht which are 'Japanese Knotweed, Bohemian Knotweed, Giant Knotweed, Giant Rhubarb, Himalayan Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, Hottentot Fig and Rhododendron'.



The separate areas of vegetation are identified in Fig. 2 as follows:



Fig. 2

**ZONE A** – This area comprises a mixture of hard standing, imported compacted stone and gravel, subsoil mounds, isolated scrubland vegetation, rough grass, and construction rubble and debris. A number of office cabins and services remain in this area.

There are isolated groupings of Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) with several self-seeded Willow (*Salix spp*) and Hawthorn (*Crateagus monogyna*) saplings present in this area.

There are common horticultural weeds present such as, but not limited to, Cleavers (*Galium aparine*), Cow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), Daisy (*Bellis perennis*), Cat's Ear (*Hypochoeris radicata*), Dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*), Sealfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*), Plantain (*Plantago spp*), Dock (*Rumex spp*), Silverweed (*Potentilla anserine*), Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), and Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*).

(See Fig A, B, C, D, E & F)



Fig A



Fig B





Fig C



Fig D



Fig E



Fig F

**ZONE B** – This area comprises of open pasture land with existing mature hedgerow field boundaries. The vegetation is comprised of agricultural grass sward and hedgerow trees with the main species being Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Hawthorn (*Crateagus monogyna*) and Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).

There are sections of Ivy (*Hedera helix*), within the hedgerows, with bramble / briar present throughout the area.



There are common horticultural weeds present such as, but not limited to, Cleavers (*Galium aparine*), Creeping Buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), Fools Parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*), Cow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), Dock (*Rumex spp*), Silverweed (*Potentilla anserine*), Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*).

(See Fig G, H & I)



Fig G



Fig H





Fig I

**ZONE C** – These areas comprise existing mature hedgerow field boundaries. The vegetation is comprised of hedgerow trees with the main species being Elder (*Sambucus nigra*), Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) and Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).

There are sections of Ivy (*Hedera helix*), within the hedgerows, with bramble / briar present throughout the area.

There are common horticultural weeds present such as, but not limited to, Cleavers (*Galium aparine*), Creeping Buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), Fools Parsley (*Aethusa cynapium*), Cow Parsley (*Anthriscus sylvestris*), Dock (*Rumex spp*), Silverweed (*Potentilla anserine*), Common Nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and Spear Thistle (*Cirsium vulgare*).

(See Fig J, K & L)



Fig J



FIG K





Fig L

## **Conclusion**

Following a detailed review on site, it is confirmed that as of the date of the inspection the invasive species (as listed above) are not present on the said lands at Rathcoole.

## **Control Measures for Common Horticultural Weeds**

### **Glyphosate**

Where there are many plants, try applying a tough weed killer containing glyphosate (e.g. Scotts Roundup Tree Stump & Root Killer, Scotts Tumbleweed, Bayer Tough Root Kill, Bayer Garden Super Strength, Doff Maxi Strength Glyphosate Weed Killer or Westland Resolva Xtra Tough Concentrate). Ideally, spray the young foliage in May. Plants should be re-treated in August or September, if necessary. Alternatively, cut back flowering plants and then spray any young foliage that re-grows in August and September. Mature plants are likely to need more than one treatment to kill them. Remember that glyphosate damages any plants it touches, so cover up ornamental plants with polythene or cardboard boxes before spraying.

## **Summary**

This report refers to an Invasive Plant Species Survey carried out at the said lands on Stoney Hill Road, Rathcoole. The report concentrates on the invasive plant species list as outlined in the Invasive Species Ireland website as supported by the Department of Arts Heritage and Gaeltacht which are 'Japanese Knotweed, Bohemian Knotweed, Giant Knotweed, Giant Rhubarb, Himalayan Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, Hottentot Fig and Rhododendron'. The survey reported that none of the above species were present on site.



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