



Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan

An Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and Tree Protection Plan (TPP) derived from the Arboricultural Implication Assessment (AIA).

British Museum
Great Russell Street,
London WC1B 3DG

Ref No: 231005

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Date instructed:	August 2023
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Documents referenced:	Tree Survey and Tree Constraints Plan Ref. 231005 Arboricultural Implication Assessment Ref. 231005
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ATTACHMENTS

Tree Protection Plan – Ref. 231005

1: Introduction

1.1 Aspects dealt with within this Method Statement:

The Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) is a methodology for the implementation of any aspect of development that has the potential to result in loss of or damage to a tree identified as suitable to be retained.

The AMS takes into consideration construction operations undertaken in the vicinity of the trees. It will deal with such issues as site access, intensity of construction activity, space needed for works, location of temporary storage of materials and location of service runs.

This AMS includes with it a Tree Protection Plan (TPP). The TPP outlines trees to be retained, removed, preliminary location of barriers and type of barrier to be installed. This method statement contains a timetable indicating when and how specific works adjacent to trees should be carried out.

1.2 Aspects not dealt with within this Method Statement

Please also refer to Appendix 2.

This report does not deal with issues relating to Subsidence or Heave either as a result of retention or removal of trees. It does not consider the water demands of the trees present to enable decisions as to foundation type and depth. It is considered that such considerations are best dealt with in a different report having liaised with the structural engineer. This can be provided on request.

2. Background Information

2.1 Names and Contact numbers of Parties concerned

Contact Name	Company/ Organisation	Role	Contact details
William Horton	Capital Planning & Programme Management The British Museum	Project Manager	whorton@britishmuseum.org 07872 858308
TBC	WRIGHT & WRIGHT ARCHITECTS	Architect	020 7428 9393
TBC	TBC	Contractor	TBC
Oliver Booth	Writtle Forest Consultancy Ltd	Arboricultural Consultant	o.booth@writtleforest.co.uk 01277 355970
TBC	London Borough of Camden	Local Authority Tree Officer	0207 974 4444

2.2 Availability of this Method Statement

The Site Manager and appointed Contractor will each hold a copy of the document, including the Tree Protection Plan. Copies of this document will be made available for contractors visiting site.

3: Supervision and Monitoring

3.1 Monitoring and Supervision

Arboricultural supervisory works and monitoring visits must be confirmed by formal correspondence circulated to all relevant parties, including the council. These records of site visits will provide proof of compliance.

3.2 Site Management

All tree protection measures detailed in this document must be fully understood by all the parties involved in the development. Clarification or modifications to the consented details must be recorded and circulated to all parties in writing. These documents should then form the basis of any supervision arrangements between the Arboricultural Consultant and the proposer, as agreed with the Local Planning Authority where applicable.

It is the Site Manager's responsibility to ensure that the requirements set out within the Arboricultural Method Statement are known and understood by all site personnel. Copies of pertinent documents should be kept on site at all times. The site manager will brief all personnel who may have an impact on any trees and relay specific tree protection requirements.

This methodology should be a part of all site induction procedures and written into appropriate site management documents. The following pertinent points should be explained to all personnel who could have an impact on trees;

1. The specification of the Protective Barriers around retained trees.
2. The requirement for Protective Barriers to be sufficiently robust to prevent incursion by construction activity.
3. Why it is essential that the Protective Barriers remain throughout the works.
4. The importance of the 'exclusion zones' around retained trees.
5. The potential damage caused to trees and new tree planting by compaction of soils and the requirement for ground protection.

4: Schedule of Tree Work

4.1 Tree works to be carried out prior to proposed works

Tree Number	Species	Works required
T2	London Plane	Minor crown lift to 5m to accommodate delivery vehicles
T8	London Plane	1) Climbing inspection advised to fully inform tree works specification. 2) To cut back over hanging laterals to east by approx. 3- 4m back to suitable growth points, and/or initiate high pollard at a height of approx. 12m. (Dependent upon climbing inspection).
T10	Sycamore	Cut back by 2m to facilitate crane movements in the area. Note: This is a third-party tree, liaison and permission required from owner if access and climbing of tree required to carry out pruning.
T11	Cherry	Cut back by 2m to facilitate crane movements in the area. Note: This is a third-party tree, liaison and permission required from owner if access and climbing of tree required to carry out pruning.
T23	Field Maple	Reduce crown to the north and the west by up to 1.5m to suitable growth points. Note: This is a third-party tree, liaison and permission required from owner before carry out pruning.
T24	Field Maple	Reduce crown to the north-west by up to 1.5m to suitable growth points. Note: This is a third-party tree, liaison and permission required from owner before carry out pruning.

5: Sequence of Events

Sequence	Brief outline of events	Arboricultural input required
1	Climbing Inspection of T8 London Plane	Yes to ascertain condition of tree to finalise work specification.
2	Carry out tree work as detailed in section 4.1 above.	Yes – Site visit to check that tree works have been completed satisfactorily.
3	Install stem protection as shown on the Tree Protection Plan (TPP).	Yes - Site visit to check adequacy and location of stem protection.
4	Installation of Protective fencing, signage and clear working area for crane operations.	Yes to ascertain viability of working area and protection to the trees
5	Demolition of existing buildings (including Portacabins)	None
6	Creation of Storage areas as required in relation to Electric sub station	None
7	Installation of Electric sub -station and construction of the proposed buildings.	None
8	Trench installation	Yes to supervise and monitor works to ensure minimal disruption and damage to any discoverable roots.
9	Re-inspection of retained trees.	Yes - Site visit to carry out the inspection of retained tree within one month of the completion of works.

6. Installation of Stem Protection

The trees requiring the installation of Stem Protection prior to commencement of the works are shown as of the TPP. The Stem Protection will remain in-situ throughout the main construction and only removed on completion of the proposed works.

6.1 Arboricultural Consultant Role

1. Review trees, post tree works to check that the works have been completed satisfactorily.
2. Review Stem Protection to ensure they are installed satisfactorily.

7. Creation of Storage Area

On the east side of the build, once the portacabins are removed, an area to the south can be established for storage of materials as required. It will be necessary to ensure that the base of this area is as of existing hard stand.

The establishment of this area must be out of the drip line of tree canopies T23 and T24.

8. Crane Movements

Movement of materials as of demolition and construction relating to the SWEC building will be assisted with a crane hoist. This will be erected within an area away from all trees, however, the lifting and movement operations may potential affect trees.

It will be necessary to mark out areas where the crane may operate to lift and deposit items adjacent to T2 and T8, T10 and T11. These are shown on the TPP.

A banksman will be required for all lifting operations and should be briefed as of the importance to be mindful of tree canopies.

9. Arboricultural Supervision of Trenches

Works that may affect tree roots are associated with movement of existing services and installation of new services. From historic investigation as to rooting activity in the area six areas are highlighted where roots maybe encountered during excavations. These areas are highlighted within the TPP.

9.1 Use of Hand tools and Hand held machinery only

It will generally be necessary to use hand held tools when excavating to ensure minimal damage to tree roots. This will include the use of hand operated concrete breakers. Only the concrete that needs to be excavated to enable the excavation of the investigation will be removed. The remaining hard stand will function as ground protection in the course of the excavation. Concrete will be broken up and then removed with hand tools.

Most roots will utilise the area between the soils and the concrete, as the temperature gradients between the strata will lead to elevated water resource. Digging will commence with hand tools. Where roots are encountered then an Airspade will be used to expose the root.

Care will be taken by the operative to ensure that the outer surface of the root tissue is not damaged by the airspade. It will be the decision of the Consulting Arboriculturist as to whether to progress works with a mini digger, if it is deemed that no roots will be encountered in the dig consequent to the initial excavation by hand.

All back fill of excavation must be carried out by hand around areas where there are protected roots.

9.2 Methodology for excavating around and protecting roots

1. The initial investigative excavations within the areas as identified are to be carried under Arboricultural Supervision using hand tools and air-spade only.
2. Excavation is to be of minimal dimensions and depth. Significant Roots (>25mm Ø) encountered are to be retained, protected and worked around. Smaller roots(<25mm Ø) are to be pruned back using a sharp tool such as secateurs leaving as small a wound as possible, only if required to facilitate excavation. Pruning cuts will be preferentially made at growth points.
3. Details of any roots (>25mm dia.) or significant root mass are to be logged to inform future management of the surrounding trees.
4. Exposed retained roots will be wrapped in hessian with hydro gel crystals and inert compost material to prevent drying out and desiccation.
5. Excavation to be carefully backfilled with the removed material and lightly compacted. Areas around roots must not be compacted with any machinery.

10: General Site Conditions and Tree Protection Measures

Storage of Materials

Designated areas for storage of materials and site office will be decided by the Site Manager before any works can commence. It is advisable to consult with the Arboriculturist if the storage areas or site office.

Discharge of Contaminants

No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health, such as oil, bitumen or cement will be discharged within the RPA of any of the trees to be retained. It is advised that the disposal of all waste materials is carried out in an appropriately sustainable fashion.

Contingency Plans

Should there be any contamination of soils either within or adjacent to the RPA these should be dealt with as quickly as possible with a proprietary emergency clean up kit. The situation should then be assessed as to whether it is appropriate to remove soils. An Arboriculturist should be consulted before a decision is made. The protection barriers erected should be able to be removed relatively easily to access the area in event of an emergency.

Access to the area of proposed works

Main access to the site is understood to be from the south via West Road. It is considered that these would be the only access point into the site for the purposes of carrying out the development as proposed. If there are any other proposed access points into the site, this should be agreed prior to use with the Arboriculturist.

Cranes and Lifting Equipment

All lifting equipment, including cranes if utilised, should be so positioned that they operate without contact with the retained trees. Care must be taken so that the arc of the boom fitted to the lifting equipment is sufficiently clear of the retained trees.

Boundaries/ Scope of the Site

The appointed Arboricultural Supervisor must be consulted if the boundaries of the site are extended or if excavations/ storage/ construction related to this development is to be carried out on other parts of the wider area, outside of the development site as indicated on the Tree Protection Plan.

Appendix 1: Limitations of Arboricultural Method Statement

Limitations of the Report

Please also refer to sections 1.2 and 1.3 at the beginning of this report.

- The report is based on information provided by third parties and the specifications and recommendations is dependent upon information provided therein.
- This report does not consider the possible implications to any present or future built structures other than those considered within the report.

Findings of the Survey and the Report

- Validity, accuracy and findings of the report will directly relate to the accuracy of information provided at the time of the tree survey.

Timing of the Survey and the Report

- The considerations/ findings in this method statement are valid for one year.
- Such considerations/ findings will become invalid if any building works are undertaken, soil levels are altered or tree work undertaken outside of the scope of works as detailed and presented at the time of compiling this report.
- If there are any alterations to either the property or soil levels, or if tree works are carried out, it is recommended that a new tree report is undertaken.

Trees in relation to other Properties:

- This report/survey only considers the trees in relation to the site as identified.
- It does not comment on possible effects of trees on neighbouring properties, including in relation to subsidence or heave, or with regard to possible hazards presented by trees surveyed.
- Neighbouring owners of trees that are identified as posing a possible risk to the property/site in question should seek their own advice as to possible effects of the recommendations given within this report.
- Damage to, or possibility of damage to, any other structure that is not referred to within the report is not considered unless otherwise specified. This includes both neighbouring structures and any other structure on the property.

Trees in Relation to Subsidence, Heave and Direct damage

- This report does not deal with issues relating to subsidence or heave in relation to any built structures and surrounding vegetation whether the structure or vegetation falls within the boundaries as considered or lies beyond the boundaries.
- The report does not consider issues relating to subsidence or heave in relation to any proposed built structures or future vegetation whether within the boundaries as considered or beyond the boundaries
- It is prudent to consider the effects of heave on any property if trees are removed.
- Similarly, the issue of direct damage (when the roots of a tree have physical contact with a structure) is not considered within this report.

Trees subject to statutory controls:

- If the trees are covered by a Tree Preservation Order or are located in a conservation area it will be necessary to consult the local authority before any pruning works, other than certain exemptions, can be carried out.
- The works specified above are necessary for reasonable management and should be acceptable to the local authority. However, tree owners should appreciate that the local authority may take an alternative point of view and have the option to refuse consent.

Trees are subject to changes outside man's control:

- Trees are living organisms subject to changes outside man's control. Trees and environment alter with the seasons it is as well to inspect trees whilst in full leaf and when out of leaf.
- If there are any harsh or unexpected weather conditions, or heavy storms it is also prudent to inspect trees.
- Changes to ground water conditions will affect the root growth of a tree. Such changes are not always the result of man's influence and other factors may be involved.

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