



## ALLARBORICULTURE

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# ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND METHOD STATEMENT

BS5837:2012

On behalf of:  
ACH Architects 37  
Compayne  
Gardens, London  
NW6 3DD

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(Hons)

Report  
Reference:  
AAAIA37CO

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## 1.0 Instruction

All Arboriculture has been instructed by ACH Architects to undertake a tree survey in accordance with BS5837:2012 *Trees In relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*, and to produce an Arboricultural Impact Assessment, Arboricultural Method Statement and Tree Protection Plan. The instruction was received on the 22nd July 2024. The tree survey was carried out on the 31st July 2024.

## 2.0 Statement of purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide local planning authorities with sufficient arboricultural information to consider the effect of the proposed development on nearby trees, and to demonstrate that trees have been carefully considered throughout the development process. The report includes an arboricultural method statement that describes how work will be undertaken to provide adequate protection of retained trees.

## 3.0 Associated documents and drawings

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents and drawings:

1. Proposed site plan
2. British Standards Institute - BS5837:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*
3. Tree Protection Plan – AATPP37CO

## 4.0 Site description

The site is in the urban area of London and is a ground floor flat. The proposal is the erection of a rear extension and the installation of a garden room. The site falls under the jurisdiction of Camden Council and a search on their website shows the site is within a conservation area but it was unclear if there are any trees present subject to a Tree Preservation Order.

## 5.0 Vegetation description

The vegetation consists of 4 category B trees and 7 category C trees. Some tree protection measures and working methodology (in accordance with BS 5837:2012) will ensure they are not detrimentally affected during construction.

## 6.0 Arboricultural impact assessment

Table 1: Summary of impacts	
Tree removal	T9, T10, T11
Facilitation pruning	T8
Demolition within RPA	None
New surfacing within RPA	T8
New structures within RPA	T1, T2, T5, T8

**Building construction in relation to tree roots:** The removal of T9, T10 and T11 is required for the implementation of the proposed.

The rear extension is within the RPA of T8. The rear extension will be installed onto a concrete slab onto the existing ground. All works within and close to the RPA of T8 will be carried out by hand and under arboricultural supervision.

The proposed garden room is within the RPA's of T1, T2 and T5. The garden room will be installed onto a concrete slab onto the existing ground level under arboricultural supervision.

The utility trench as shown on the Tree Protection Plan will run close to the boundary wall. The trench will be carefully hand dug to a depth of 1m and width of 30cm. All works will be carried out under strict Arboricultural Supervision and any exposed roots will be wrapped in Hessian to prevent dessication.

**Building construction in relation to tree crowns:** T8 has low branches that overhang the existing and are very close to the roof of the dwelling. The low branches are also potentially vulnerable to damage during construction. To reduce the risk of accidental damage, the lateral branches on the vulnerable side of the crown will be crown lifted to 5m by tip reducing low, hanging branches. The health and appearance of the trees will not be affected.

**Tree root and canopy protection:** The RPA (Root protection area) of the retained tree should be protected during the development phase with heras fencing to ensure heavy machinery is not operated, or materials stored within the rooting area. This can be detrimental to the trees, causing soil compaction and root die back. The protection of the RPA and canopy spread is detailed in the Arboricultural Method Statement below.

**Special surfacing:** For any new surfacing such as pathways or paving within the RPA's of retained trees, the existing ground will be graded up to form a no dig surface utilising a 3D load spreader, a no-fines aggregate and a porous wearing course. All works close to and within the RPAs will need to be carried out strictly by hand.

**Materials delivery, storage and handling:** Materials should not be handled or stored within the RPAs of retained trees; the load exerted can result in soil compaction and leachate from spills can be toxic to trees.

**Surface drains, soakaways and services:** It is important that services, surface drains and soakaways avoid the RPAs of retained trees as roots can be damaged during trench excavations. The location of services should therefore be agreed with the local planning authority prior to the development phase commencing.

## 7.0 Arboricultural Method Statement

**Implementation and phasing of the proposed development:** Prior to any building work commencing on site, a meeting will be held with the arboricultural consultant and site manager present. During the meeting details regarding the location of heras fencing and ground protection will be discussed and a time to reconvene in order to assess the heras fencing and ground protection will be agreed. The schedule of events during the development phase will be as follows:

Heras fencing will be installed as indicated in plan AATPP37CO.

During the development phase, the arboricultural consultant will be notified and asked to supervise any excavating within the RPA of retained trees.

**Tree protection barriers:** Protective fencing will be installed prior to the commencement of any development activity and will be retained in the positions shown on the tree protection plan (AATPP37CO). The fencing will be to the BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations' (section 6.2) i.e. preformed galvanised steel mesh panels ('Heras' or similar) facings on a driven braced scaffold pole framework. It will be retained at the locations shown until construction is completed. It may be moved or removed only with notice to and consent from the local planning authority.

**Ground protection:** Temporary ground protection to be installed within RPA's of T1, T2, T5 and T8 should be capable of supporting pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane.

**Storage and handling of materials:** This site has sufficient space for materials to be stored and handled.

**Contractors parking:** There is sufficient space on Compayne Gardens for parking.

**Welfare facilities:** Toilets and hand washing facilities shall be made available within the property.

**Surface drains, soakaways and services:** The method of installation for services to the garden room will accord with the recommendations in the NJUG Publication: Volume 4: Issue 2: 16/11/2007: Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility apparatus in proximity to trees. Trenches will be dug by hand and any roots over 2.5cm in diameter will be retained undamaged. Smaller roots may be cut back to the proximal face with a clean, sharp pair of secateurs. The trench backfill around the roots shall be a granular material that can be compacted to the point where it can bear the new surfacing without subsiding but without abrasion of tree roots and without raising the soil bulk density to the point where root growth cannot take place. Should it be necessary, this operation will be overseen by the project arboriculturist.

**Supervision:** The project arboriculturalist will attend the site to inspect the heras fencing and ground protection and ensure that it has been laid out as prescribed in the method statement and meets the requirements of BS5837:12. Any excavations close to or within the RPA of retained trees will be overseen by the project arboriculturalist. It is the responsibility of the site manager to inform the arboricultural consultant when inspections are required for example, when heras fencing and ground protection is ready to be inspected.

**Tree works:** T8 will be crown lifted to 6m by tip reducing low, hanging branches on the vulnerable side of the trees. The health and appearance of the tree will not be affected. All tree work shall be carried out in accordance with BS 3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations by suitably qualified personnel.

**Tree planting:** It is respectfully suggested that if additional tree planting is required then this should be secured through an appropriately worded planning condition.

## Sequencing of Works

1. Carry out tree work operations. All tree works are to be carried out by a competent and experienced arborist to current British Standards.
2. Installation of tree protective fencing and ground protection as shown on the TPP.
3. Arboricultural Consultant to check Tree Protection at this stage.
4. Main construction phase
5. Remove tree protection when all construction activity has ended.
6. Carry out landscaping works and soil de-compaction and amelioration.
7. Completion

## Contacts

### **Architect and Agent:**

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### **Arboricultural Consultant:**

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APPENDIX 1 - Tree Schedule Schedule



Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (cm)	Crown spread (m)		Crown height above ground (m)	Life stage	General observations	BS 5837 cat	Root protection area (m)
1	Cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i>	16	68	6	5	3	Early Mature	Lean to the North. Off site tree.	B	8.1
				4	5					
2	Cedar <i>Cedrus deodara</i>	18	54	5	4	3	Early Mature	Lean to the North. Off site tree.	B	6.4
				5	5					
3	Robinia <i>Robinia psuedoacacia</i>	16	33	3	4	2	Early Mature	Lean to the South.	B	3.9
				3	3					
4	Elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	5	31	2	2	1	Early Mature	Low quality.	C	3.7
				2	2					
5	Mulberry <i>Morus alba</i>	12	34	3	3	2	Early Mature	Co dominant.	C	4.0
				3	3					
6	Amelanchier <i>Amelanchier x lamarckii</i>	5	20	2	2	1	Early Mature	In decline.	C	2.4
				2	2					

Tree No	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (cm)	Crown spread (m)		Crown height above ground (m)	Life stage	General observations	BS 5837 cat	Root protection area (m)
7	Apple <i>Malus domestica</i>	4	14	1	1	1	Early Mature	No significant defects.	C	1.6
				1	1					
8	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	12	32	5	4	2	Early Mature	Twin stemmed.	C	5.6
			34	4	4					
9	Apple <i>Malus domestica</i>	3	24	2	2	1	Early Mature	Suppressed.	C	2.8
				2	2					
10	Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	5	11	1	1	1	Early Mature	No significant defects.	C	1.3
				1	1					
11	Apple <i>Malus domestica</i>	5	31	3	3	1	Early Mature	Previously reduced.	C	3.7
				2	2					

## APPENDIX 1 - Tree Schedule Schedule

### Survey Key

#### Diameter (mm)

Stem diameter in millimetres measured at 1.5m above ground level. Where the stem is divided below 1.5m, measurement is taken as directed by BS:5837 Annex

#### C. RPA - Root Protection Area

RPA circle radius is determined from Annex D of BS:5837. R- Radius

#### A – Area

#### Branch Spread (m)

Radial crown spread in metres, measured for each of the four cardinal points of the compass from the centre of the trunk. Low branches

N E  
W S

Height above ground in metres of the lowest branch and use of the 4 cardinal points of the compass.

#### Age class

(NP) Newly planted – a tree within 3 years after planting

(Y) Young – a tree within its first one third of life expectancy

(EM) Early Mature – a tree within its second third of life expectancy

(M) Mature – a tree in its final one third of life expectancy

(OM) Over Mature – a tree having reached its maximum life span and is declining in health and size due to old age

(V) Veteran – a tree in the second or mature stage of its life and has important wildlife and habitat features including; hollowing or associated decay fungi, holes, wounds and large dead branches.

(A) Ancient – a tree in the ancient or third and final stage of their life that is of interest biologically, aesthetically or culturally because of its age, size and condition

#### Physiological Condition

GOOD – a tree in a healthy condition with no significant problems

FAIR – a tree generally in good health with some problems that can be remediated POOR – a tree in poor health with significant problems that can't be remediated DEAD – a tree without sufficient live material to sustain life

#### Structural Condition

An assessment of the structural/safe condition of the tree categorised into:

GOOD – a tree in a safe condition with no significant defects

FAIR – a tree in a safe condition at present but with defects or with significant defects that can be remediated POOR – a tree with significant defects that can't be remediated.

EC - Estimated remaining contribution in years (based on the species and its current condition)

<10 Up to 10 years

10+ 10 years or more

20+ 20 years or more

40+ 40 years or more

Category (Tree quality assessment)

Category U – Tree in poor condition that cannot realistically be retained for longer

than 10 years Category A – Trees of high quality

Category B – Trees of moderate quality Category

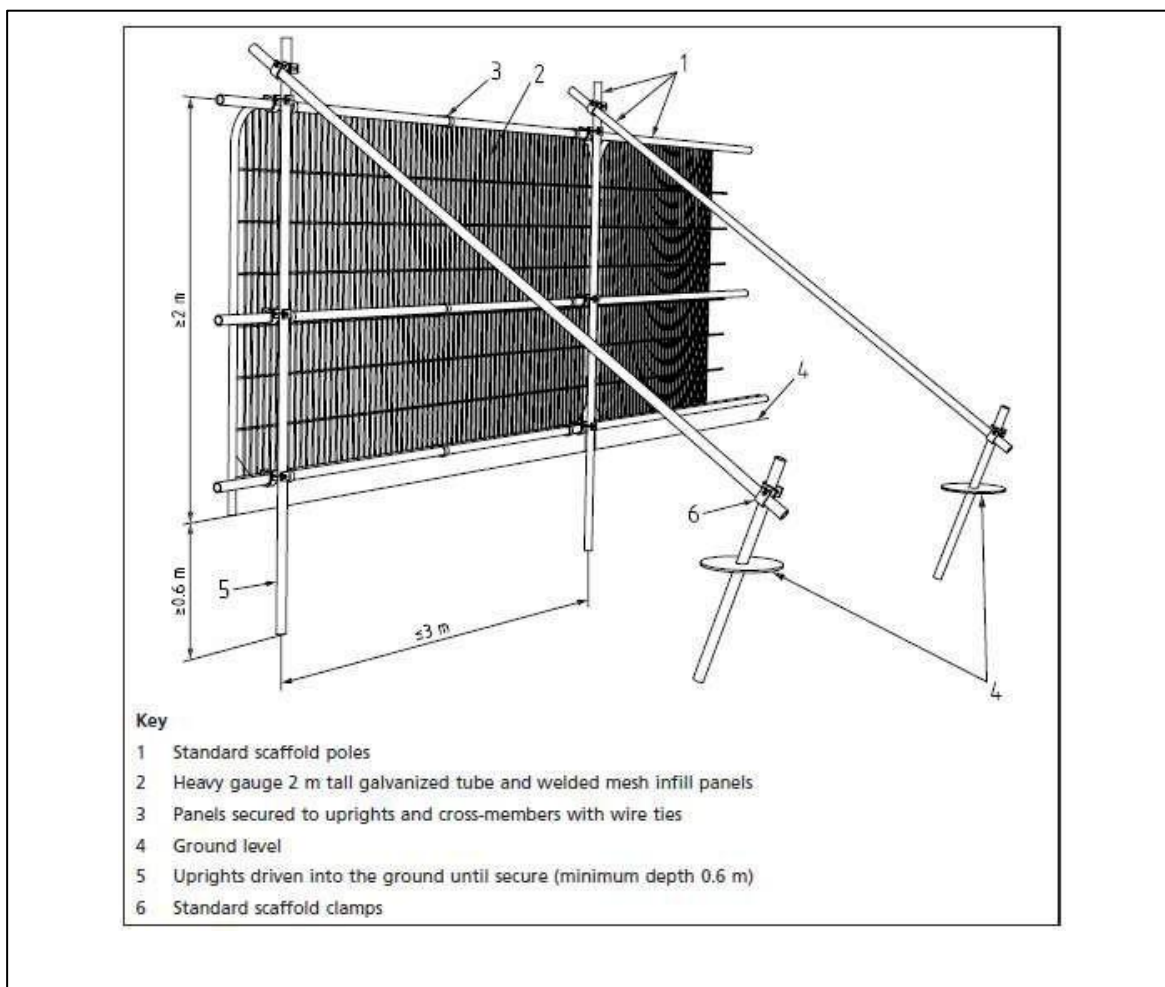
C – Trees of low quality

## APPENDIX 2 – Protective Fencing

Protective fencing should be erected before any construction commences on site. It should also be in position to protect important trees prior to demolition.

Protective fencing should stay in position until all construction activity has finished.

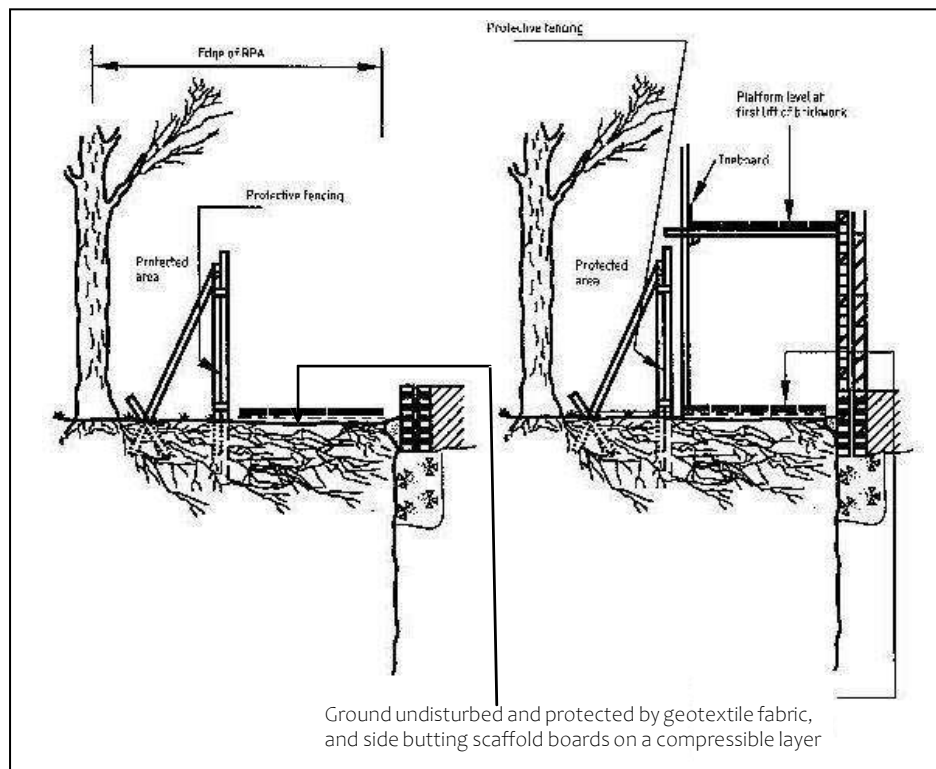
‘Fencing should be established at the minimum distance set out in British Standard 5837:2012 ‘Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations’. Excavations should not encroach into the fence position and it is appropriate to keep at least 0.5m between the fence and any changes in level.



## APPENDIX 2 – Ground Protection

Where ground protection measures are necessary, they can be provided by laying a geotextile mat onto the existing ground level and adding to this compressible materials, such as bark mulch or sharp sand to form a safe, level surface. Onto this surface is laid scaffold boards which become the working surface for the duration of the construction phase.

Where scaffolding is proposed above the area requiring protection the footway can be suspended above ground level using the upright scaffold poles onto which horizontal supports can be attached and then boards used to form the footway surface. A geotextile mat should be laid on the ground beneath to prevent contamination from materials dropped through the footway.

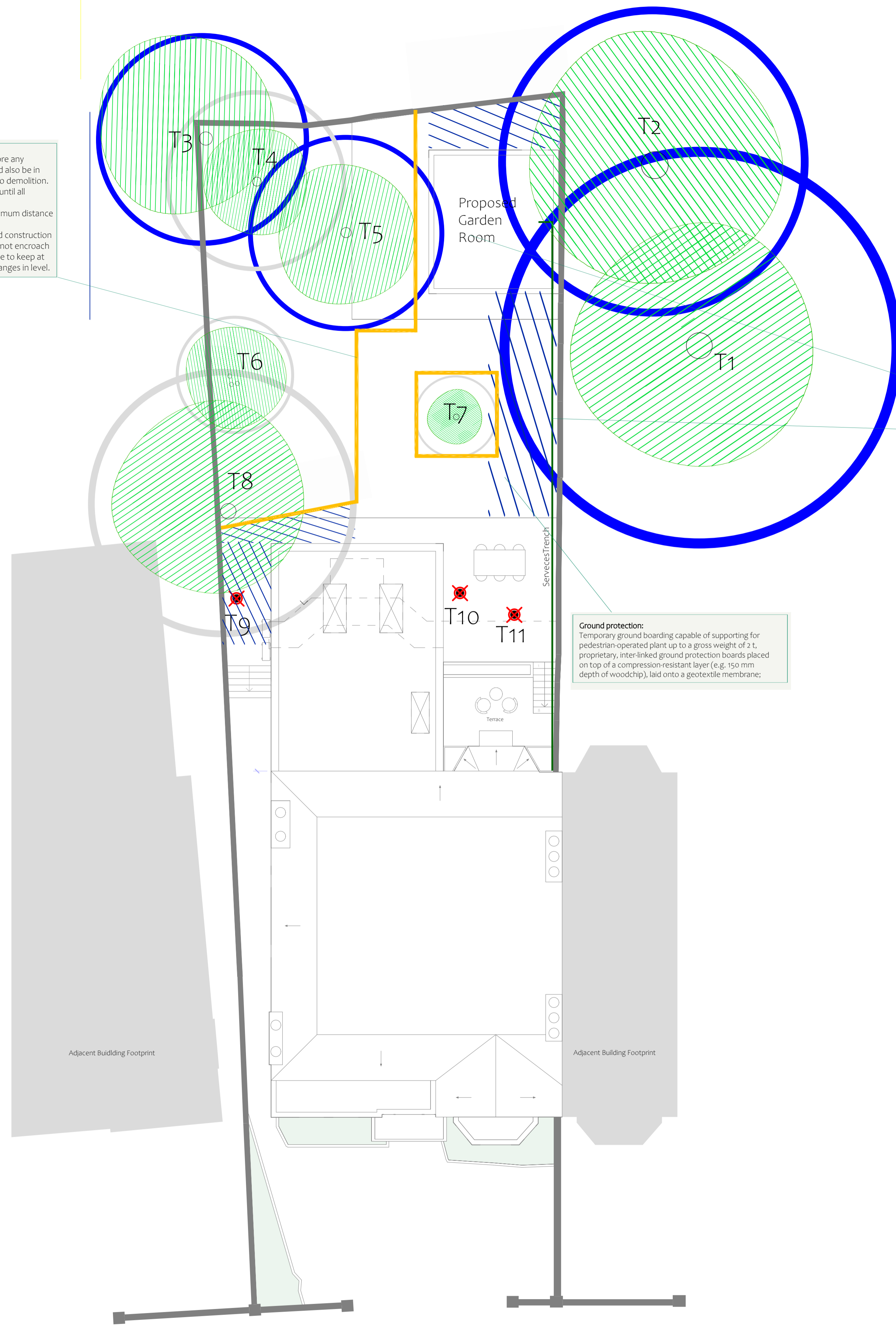




**Protective fencing:** Protective fencing should be erected before any construction commences on site. It should also be in position to protect important trees prior to demolition. Protective fencing should stay in position until all construction activity has finished.  
 \*Fencing should be established at the minimum distance set out in British Standard 5837:2012  
 \*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations\*. Excavations should not encroach into the fence position and it is appropriate to keep at least 0.5m between the fence and any changes in level.

**Arboricultural supervision:** Excavations within and close to RPA's for the proposed garden room and services will be carried out strictly by hand under Arboricultural Supervision.

**Ground protection:** Temporary ground boarding capable of supporting for pedestrian-operated plant up to a gross weight of 2 t, proprietary, inter-linked ground protection boards placed on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 150 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;



	RPA for Cat A* tree
	RPA for Cat B* tree
	RPA for Cat C* tree
	RPA for Cat U* tree
	Tree Canopy
	Tree Removal
	Heras Fencing
	Ground Protection
	Proposed Services

All Arboriculture 23 Southernhay Avenue Bristol BS8 4TJ 		
Client:	ACH Architects	
Consultant:	Kristian Chesterman	
Site:	37 Compayne Gardens, London NW6 3DD	
Title:	Tree Protection Plan	
Scale at A1:	Date:	Document Ref.
1:100	20/08/2024	AATP37CO