SJ Stephens Associates
ARBORICULTURAL, LANDSCAPE & MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS

Savernake Barn
Stokke Common
Great Bedwyn
Marlborough
Wiltshire SN8 3LL
Tel: 01672 871 862
www.sjstephens.co.uk
e: info@sjstephens.co.uk

Arboricultural Method Statement

- Tree Survey
- Tree Protection Plan
- Arboricultural Method Statement

For:-

Extension and Refurbishment

At:-

33 Camden Mews
London
NW1 9BY

On behalf of:-

Samuel and Hamel
26 St Helens Road
Hastings
TN34 2LQ

Prepared by:

Simon Stephens MA Oxon, Dip Arb(RFS), MArborA, C Env. MICFor
Email: simon@sjstephens.co.uk

Survey Date: 4th October 2024
Report Date: 14th October 2024
Project no: 2360

CONTENTS

1 BACKGROUND
2 SURVEY DETAILS AND SCOPE
3 SURVEY LIMITATIONS
4 LEGAL PROTECTION OF TREES
5 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT
6 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACXT ASSESSMENT
7 REFERENCES

Appendices
A Tree Protection Plan: drawing no: 2360-01
B Tree Schedule
C BS 5837:2012 - Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction, Table 1
D Site photos

1 BACKGROUND

1.1 Planning Permission (ref: 2023/2656/P) has been granted for erection of a two storey rear extension, subject to a number of planning conditions. This Arboricultural Method Statement is intended to satisfy planning condition number 6, relating to tree protection.

1.2 Trees were surveyed, with findings shown in the Tree Schedule in Appendix B and plotted on the Tree Protection Plan in Appendix A. This also shows tree protection measures, which are specified in the Arboricultural Method Statement in section 5 below.

1.3 The tree survey was undertaken, and this report has been prepared, by Simon Stephens MA Oxon, Dip Arb (RFS), MArborA, C Env, MICFor a Registered Consultant with the Arboricultural Association, with over 20 years relevant experience.

1.4 This survey and report have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of BS 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations.

1.5 Documentation supplied:

- Samuel and Hamel, Proposed Site Plan: drawing no 2 005 01 revN

2 SURVEY DETAILS AND SCOPE

2.1 The site survey included trees and shrubs, within influencing distance of the proposed development, with a stem diameter over 75mm at 1.5m height, as shown located on the Tree Protection Plan, included as Appendix A.

2.2 Tree inspection took place from ground level with the use of binoculars, sounding hammer and metal probe using the Visual Tree Assessment method (Mattheck & Breloer 1994). The presence and condition of bark and stem wounds, cavities, decay, fungal fruiting bodies and any structural defects that could increase the risk of structural failure were noted.

2.3 Tree diameters were measured using a girthing tape and tree heights were measured using a hypsometer. Where use of a tape was restricted by site factors, diameters were estimated, with the diameter recorded in the tree schedule as eg "est 300".

2.4 At the time of the survey, the weather was fine with no restrictions to visibility. Broadleaf trees were in leaf.

2.5 Tree details are shown on the Tree Protection Plan included as Appendix A. Tree locations have been taken from the topographical survey provided. Where not included on the topographical survey, they have been determined by measuring distances from features shown on the plan, using a laser measuring device. The following information was recorded for each tree, and is shown in the Tree Schedule included as Appendix B:

- **Number:** an identity number for each tree, prefixed with a "T", which cross references locations shown on the plan with the schedule in Appendix B. Where a number of trees are located close together and are similar in character and management requirements, they have been treated as a Group under a single number, prefixed with a "G".
- **Species**: common name.
- **Tree height**: approximate height in metres.
- **Stem diameter**: diameter in millimetres, taken at 1.5m above ground. Where there are a number of stems, stem diameters are recorded in the condition column.
- **Branch spread**: approximate spread in metres to N,S,E and W of the trunk. The approximate branch spread is drawn on the plan.
- **Canopy clearance**: approximate height of the canopy above ground. Where a significant, low lateral branch is present, its height and direction of growth is included in the Condition column.
- **Age class**: Young, Semi-mature, Early mature, Mature, Over-mature, Veteran.
- **Condition**: features that affect the safe useful life expectancy and amenity of the tree, including the presence of decay or any physical defect.
- **Management Recommendations**: recommendations to ensure the health and safety of the tree, within the future development.
- **Estimated Remaining Contribution**: <10 years, 5-15 years, 10-20 years, 15-30 years, 20-40 years, >40 years.
- **Category grading**: tree classification taken from BS 5837:2012, Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction (see Appendix C for details), as follows:
    - Category U: Unsuitable for retention, trees with less than 10 years life expectancy, normally recommended for removal (Red)
    - Category A: high quality trees, able to make a substantial contribution for at least 40 years, normally retained unless there is

an over-riding reason for removal and appropriate mitigation. (Green)
    - Category B: moderate quality trees, able to make a significant contribution for at least 20 years, normally retained. (Blue)
    - Category B/C: an intermediate category between categories B and C (not specifically described in BS5837). Trees, which should be retained wherever possible, providing retention does not unreasonably constrain the layout. (Blue)
    - Category C: low quality, in adequate condition to remain for at least 10 years, or young trees <150mm stem diameter. Trees which can be removed to allow the desired layout or new planting. (Grey)

  For category A, B and C trees, a subcategory has been allocated, providing information on the reasons for selection of a specific category, as follows:
    - Subcategory 1: mainly arboricultural values.
    - Subcategory 2: mainly landscape values.
    - Subcategory 3: mainly cultural values, including conservation.
- Trees have been classified irrespective of the possible proximity to future construction. The BS 5837 category is colour coded, as indicated above, on the plan included as Appendix A.
- **Protection Distance:** the protection distance in metres required to provide the Root Protection Area recommended in BS 5837, assuming a circular area centred on the tree.
- **Root Protection Area (RPA):** the area in m^2, as recommended in BS 5837, to provide sufficient rooting area to ensure tree survival and which, in most situations, should be fenced off to prevent root damage from construction activities.

3 SURVEY LIMITATIONS

3.1 No internal decay devices, or other invasive tools to assess tree condition, were used.

3.2 No soil excavation or root inspection was carried out.

3.3 This survey has not considered the effect that trees or vegetation may have on the structural integrity of future building through subsidence or heave.

3.4 The tree survey has been undertaken for planning purposes. Although any obvious structural defects have been noted, a Tree Hazard Assessment has not been carried out. Mature trees close to highly populated areas or public highways should normally be checked for safety annually, by a suitably qualified person.

4 LEGAL PROTECTION OF TREES

4.1 Since the site is covered by a Conservation Area, six weeks notification must be given to the Local Planning Authority of any intended tree surgery works, to allow them the option of placing a Tree Preservation Order.

5 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

5.1 Site Overview

5.1.1 Planning permission has been granted for the erection of a two storey rear extension. The proposed site plan is included, along with tree details, on the Tree Protection Plan attached as Appendix A.

5.1.2 The only tree/shrub within influencing distance of the works is a mature lilac, T1, in the adjacent garden. This is growing 1m above the ground level at 33 Camden Mews. The ground is retained by a concrete retaining wall.

5.1.3 As seen in the photos in Appendix D, the new rear wall to the extension will be constructed inside the boundary retaining wall which will be left undisturbed.

5.2 Tree Work

5.2.1 No tree work is proposed.

5.3 Root Protection Areas

5.3.1 Root Protection Areas are shown for all trees in the tree schedule included as Appendix B. They are also shown for all retained trees, as circular areas centred on the trunk, on the Tree Protection Plan included as Appendix A. Where there are physical obstructions to root growth the Root Protection Area should be shown as an equivalent area that is more likely to reflect actual root growth. The Root Protection Area shows the area around a tree in which all construction activity must normally be excluded, unless appropriate protection measures are implemented.

5.3.2 For tree number T1, the Root Protection Area has been shown as a polygon of equivalent area, to more closely reflect the likely actual root spread.

5.4 Tree Protection Fencing

5.4.1 Since no access into the adjacent garden where T1 is growing is planned, not Tree Protection Fencing is required.

5.5 General measures

5.5.1 No construction activity whatsoever, including routing of underground services, storage of materials or on-site parking, must be allowed within Root Protection Areas, other than that specifically described above.

5.5.2 No mixing or storage of cement, concrete, oil, fuel, bitumen or other chemicals must be permitted within 10m of the trunk of any retained trees, nor in any position where the slope of the ground could lead to contamination of the Root Protection Area.

5.5.3 Fires must not be lit in a position where their flames could extend to within 10m of foliage, branches or trunk.

5.5.4 Landscape works carried out within Root Protection Areas must be undertaken with great care so as not to damage shallow roots. Rotovators or other heavy mechanical cultivation must not be used within the Root Protection Areas.

5.5.5 If any tree shown for retention is removed, uprooted or destroyed, another tree must be planted in the same location, at a size and species to be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

5.5.6 A copy of this report and the Tree Protection Plan must be kept on site and must be fully understood by the Site Agent.

6 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 The only tree/shrub present is a lilac (T1) of little significance growing in the adjacent garden.

6.2 There is a 1m retaining wall along the boundary which is remaining undisturbed. No root growth from the lilac is expected beneath the foundations of the retaining wall and into the site.

6.3 No construction access into the garden is required.

6.4 There is not expected to be any arboricultural impact caused by this development.

7 REFERENCES

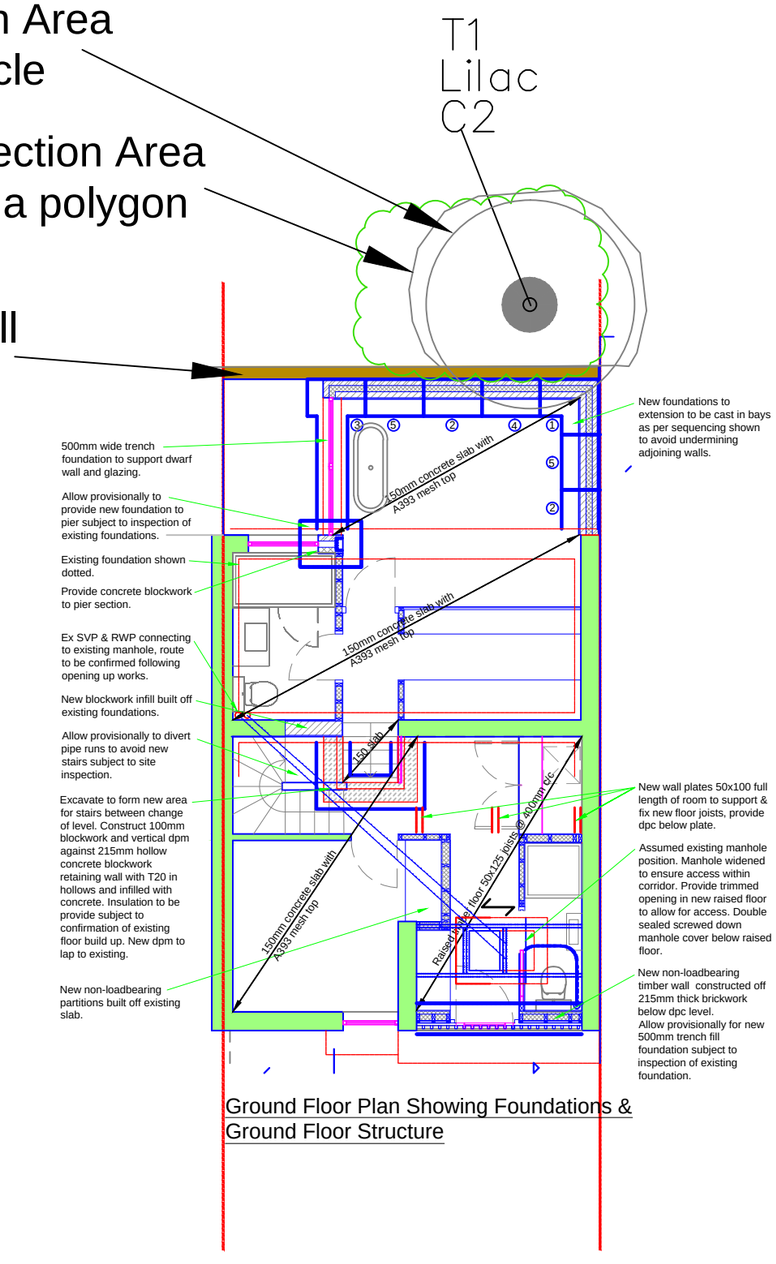
- *BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations.*
- *BS3998:2010 Tree Work. Recommendations.*

APPENDIX A

Root Protection Area shown as a circle

Root Protection Area shown as a polygon

Original retaining wall remaining in situ



Ground Floor Plan Showing Foundations & Ground Floor Structure

Key

- Category U
- Category A
- Category B
- Category C
- Crown spread: retained trees
- Trees For Removal
- Root Protection Area

BS 5837: TREE CATEGORY GUIDE

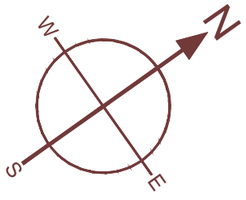
Category U: Unsuitable for retention, trees with less than 10 years life expectancy.

Category A: high quality trees, able to make a substantial contribution for at least 40 years, normally retained unless there is an over-riding reason for removal and appropriate mitigation.

Category B: moderate quality trees, able to make a significant contribution for at least 20 years, normally retained.

Category B/C: an intermediate category between categories B and C (not specifically described in BS5837). Trees, which should be retained wherever possible, providing retention does not significantly constrain the layout.

Category C: low quality, in adequate condition to remain for at least 10 years, or young trees <150mm stem diameter. Trees which can be removed to allow the desired layout or new planting.



Scale

0 5m 10m

SJ Stephens Associates
Savernake Barn, Stokke Common
Great Bedwyn
Marlborough
Wiltshire SN8 3LL
01672 871862
www.sjstephens.co.uk

JOB TITLE
33 CAMDEN MEWS

DRAWING TITLE
TREE PROTECTION PLAN

DRAWING NUMBER	REV
2360–01	

REVISIONS

SCALE	DATE	DRAWN BY
1:100 at A3	OCT 24	sjss

Tree/ Group No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diam. at 1.5m (mm)	Branch Spread (m)				Canopy Cleara -nce (m)	Age Class	Observations	Management Recommendations	Estimated Remaining Contribution (years)	BS 5837 Category Grading	Protect -ion Distnce (m)	Root Protect. Area (m2)
				N	S	E	W								
T1	Lilac	3.5	140	1	1	1	3	0.3	Mature	Twin stem from base - both approx 100mm. Growing 1.5m from concrete retaining wall - which is retaining approx 1m soil difference ie. tree is growing at 1m higher level than the site ground level. Both stems leaning. Only moderate vigour.		10-20	C2	1.7	9

BS 5837:2012, Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	• Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) • Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline • Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality *NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see **4.5.7**.*			See Table 2
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	**2 Mainly landscape qualities**	**3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation**	
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category A **Trees of high quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	See Table 2
Category B **Trees of moderate quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2
Category C **Trees of low quality** with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	See Table 2

Appendix Di)

Fence above retaining wall along boundary

Stems of lilac, growing approx. 1m back from retaining wall in adjacent garden

Appendix Dii)

View from rear of 33 Camden Mews