22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015

Ref:ha/aiams1/6glenmorerd

Your Ref:

Mr P Minns Architect 6 St Marks Crescent London NW1 7TS

Dear Mr Minns

# Tree Protection and Management in relation to Construction at: 6 Glenmore Road, London NW3

Further to my site visit, please find attached, my arboricultural report and method statement as requested to assist with the planning application.

I hope that this is clear and helpful but if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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Hal Appleyard Dip. Arb. (RFS), F.Arbor.A, MICFor. *Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant* 



Registered Consultant

enc.

cc Client





#### Arboricultural Assessment and Protection Method Statement

Site: 6 Glenmore Road, NW3

Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015

Prepared by: H. Appleyard Dip.Arb (RFS), F.Arbor. A, MICFor

Ref: ha/aiams1/6glenmorerd

#### Appendices:

- 1. Tree Survey Schedule (BS5837:2012)
- 2. Tree Protection Plan TPP1\_GR
- 3. Recommended ground protection
- 4. Trial root assessment process
- 5. Example of site monitoring record

#### 1.0 Introduction and Scope

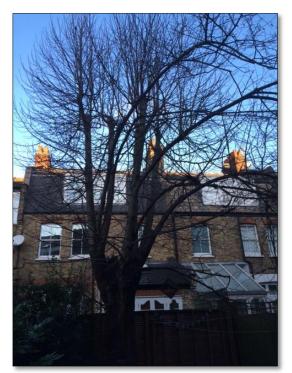
- 1.1 A planning application for the construction of a basement extension has been submitted to the Local Planning Authority, who have requested further information in relation to tree protection.
- 1.2 The proposed construction is to be undertaken in the vicinity of a mature Lime tree within a conservation area. The implications upon the trees and the methods for tree protection and preservation during groundwork and construction are set out in this report and which includes a requisite a tree protection plan.
- 1.3 I have been appointed on behalf of the site owners as a competent and qualified arboricultural consultant to provide this report and to supervise any works that may have the potential to affect the protected and retained trees.
- 1.4 I have inspected the relevant tree on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The details are provided accordance with the guidance set out in BS 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction- Recommendations' (the BS) and an extract from that guidance is appended herewith.



### 2.0 The Site and Trees

2.1 The site comprises a four-storey town house (within a terrace of similar buildings) including a basement level at the front of the house. The rear garden is enclosed and supports one mature Lime tree. The existing garden is broadly hard-standing of concrete. The site is adjoined by the rear gardens of similar properties. The rear garden is accessible only via the house.

Fig. 1 The Lime tree in the rear garden



2.2 The BS details of the trees are provided within the tree survey schedule at **Appendix 1** and their corresponding positions are shown on the tree protection plan at included at **Appendix 2**.

- 2.3 The Lime tree has been pruned to reduce the over-hanging branches to neighbouring properties to the tree's west and pruned to reduce its height several times in the past. The tree was pollarded many years ago and the canopy comprises re-grown stems and branches. As a result of the pruning, which has occurred in the last 2-3 years, the tree is rather one-sided but nevertheless provided effective screening between the rear elevations of the neighbouring properties.
- 2.4 I note that the tree has a wound within the main trunk on its northern side and although this is not significant to the tree's structural condition, the decay within will continue to develop. In the current setting, (a modest back garden area), I do not expect the tree to become very large, rather I expect its canopy to be regularly



pruned to ensure adequate sunlight is afforded to the rear garden of No 6 and that over-hanging branches are treated in a neighbourly manner (prevented from encroaching unreasonably over the land of others, by pruning). Owing to the likely size containment of the tree, the weakness it bears in the trunk is unlikely to be a point at which the trunk breaks owing to high stress caused by wind forces upon a high and dense canopy. For normal tree/garden maintenance, I have set out some proposed tree management in Table 1 below.

Fig. 2 Wound with internal decay, on north side of tree trunk



2.5 With reference to the literature<sup>1,2</sup>, Lime trees are shown to be tolerant to some root loss and disturbance as a consequence of construction. This tree is growing typically vigorously, which suggests a root system in normal functioning condition.

1. Matheny. N, Clark. J. R, 1998. 'Trees and development; A technical guide to the preservation of trees during land development'. ISA

2. Costello, L.R, Jones. K. S, 2003. '*Reducing infrastructure damage by roots: A compendium of strategies.*' ISA Western Chapter.

3. Roberts. J, Jackson. N, Smith. M, 2006. '*Tree roots in the built environment*.' TSO DCLG 4. Lindsey, P. Bassuk, N. 1991 '*Specifying soil volumes to meet the water needs of mature urban street trees and trees in containers*'. Journal of Arboriculture vol. 17 No 6.



### Proposed Construction and associated works

- 2.6 The proposal involves the extension of the existing basement and the reconstruction of a single-storey rear projection. All the excavations for the new basement extension will need to be conducted manually, owing to the low amount of space available for machinery.
- 2.7 The extent of the excavations will encroach within the BS root protection area of the retained Lime tree but by approximately 6% of the whole. This is well below the 20% threshold commonly considered to be acceptable.
- 2.8 I recommend that an initial manual digging exercise is undertaken from the 'top, down' in order to expose any roots and to prune them back cleanly and professionally, to prevent causing any undue root damage. In addition, I recommend that during construction, the rooting area of the rear garden (not to be excavated) to be protected by effective ground protection, for the duration of the construction until landscaping.
- 2.9 The proposals include levelling the rear garden patio area. This will involve removing the existing concrete covering and backfilling with a MOT Type 3 or similar porous material, to form a base for the patio. This will be retained around the tree's base by a pre-cast concrete void former set into a lean-mix concrete at existing ground level. This will avoid the requirement for foundations to be created near to the tree and the risk of root damage.

Tree Works (Spec.)	Tree Nos	Visual Landscape Impact of Works*	Planting space (Y/N)	Comments
Crown lift to 2.5m (Sp4) Crown reduce by 2-3m (Sp1) Root assessment and treatment (Sp8)	1	None	Y	General tree management suitable to maintain a tree of this species in the setting
Total		None	Soft landscaping	Refer to landscape submissions

### Table 1 Proposed Tree Works

\*This is a preliminary visual appraisal based upon the opinion of the author having inspected the trees in the context of their current surroundings. – None (no change or beneficial impact) Negligible or indiscernible difference to treed landscape; Low – Noticeable but mitigated by retention of other



landscape trees and features; Medium – Obvious but temporary alteration to the treed landscape; High – Obvious and permanent alteration to the landscape.

Visual receptors include the public or community at large, residents, visitors or other groups of viewers together with the visual amenity of potentially affected people.

Submission of this document, which includes Table 1 Recommended Tree Works and specifications, to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for the <u>proposed discharge of planning conditions</u>, is to be treated as a formal notification of tree pruning/felling (Section 211 Notice), where the above-listed trees fall within a conservation area. The statutory six week consultation period will be deemed to commence upon registration of this document by the LPA.

#### Specifications for recommended tree works:

#### General

All work is to conform to BS 3998:2010 'Tree work – Recommendations' and with current arboricultural best practice. Tree works are to be undertaken by a professional and specialist arboricultural contractor, who carries the appropriate experience and insurance cover, equipment and PPE. All works and processes are to comply with all relevant Planning Wildlife, Environmental, Conservation and Health and Safety legislation.

Sp1. Crown reduction will include reducing the height and spread of a tree's canopy (branching structure) whilst retaining the tree's natural tree form (species determined). The amount of reduction is described in linear metres e.g. 2m (from 6m to 4m radial spread) or 3m (from 15m to 12m tree height). Crown reduction work will be undertaken for a specific purpose, which may include containing tree growth in a given location or reducing wind purchase and stress.

Sp2. Part reduction includes pruning back from structures or boundaries and which is normally applied to no more than two sides of a tree's canopy. The amount of pruning is specified in metres. The result form will be even and provide a framework for re-growth in an even form. The extent of pruning will not impinge upon tree condition and seek to preserve so far as possible, the natural outline of the tree, which is species determined. All pruning cuts are to be made to a suitable growing point (secondary shoot) and no inter-nodal cuts are to occur.

Sp2.1 Any branch shortening work, (including as part of crown reduction work) will be conducted by pruning back to a suitable growing point, e.g. a shoot or smaller branch, which can continue to support branch growth.

Sp3. Crown Cleaning involves the removal of all dead wood small and large diameter, stubs and broken branches. Some small, densely arranged shoots (including epicormic shoots) will be thinned out or removed as recommended.

Sp4. Crown lifting includes the removal of the lowest lateral branches and shoots, (which would not result in irrevocable tree injury), to a specific height above ground level measured in metres.



Sp5. Crown thinning involves the removal of sub-lateral (secondary) branches to appropriate branch/shoot unions, removal of dead and damaged (crossing branches) with a view to reducing the crown density by a specified %, normally no higher than 30%.

Sp6. Felling involves the careful removal of a tree to ground level (or other specified height), either in sections or in one unit (straight felling). The method of felling will be suited to the constraints of the site and judged by the competent operator undertaking the task. Removing the stump may be part of the requirements and this will be carried out using a mechanical stump grinder where accessible.

Sp7. Pollarding means the removal of all stems and branches to a given point above ground level. Re-pollarding means removal of all re-growth to but not beyond the point of previous pollarding.

SP8. Root pruning is to be carried out or supervised by a competent person (arboricultural contractor). Only sharp and specific pruning tools will be used for the root pruning exercise. No roots are to be pruned if it is considered that their loss (or shortening) will adversely impact upon tree condition or anchorage, immediately or in the future. Any exposed roots will be covered with a material to prevent desiccation. All exposed cut root surfaces will be made as small as possible. If possible roots will be pruned back to side shoot.

Tree Ident.	Landscape Contribution	Implications/Impact	Mitigation measures	Impact Assessment**
T1	М	Construction within 6% of BS RPA	<ol> <li>Undertake supervised root assessment and treatment</li> <li>Carry out professional tree management</li> <li>Install ground protection prior to commencement</li> <li>Install granular backfill as patio base</li> </ol>	Neutral

#### Table 2 Summary of Implications of Construction on Trees\*

\* Main trees selected for comment included above. Refer to previous notes on other trees.

\*\* Negative – adverse impact upon trees and landscape; Neutral – no material impact (negative or positive); Positive – improvement (potential) to tree quality and landscape



## 3.0 Recommended Construction Precautions (trees)

- 3.1 In order to afford protection from general construction processes associated with the construction of the new basement extension and rear patio area, it will be prudent to maintain the existing concrete covering the rear garden and roots from the tree, which will be growing underneath. This concrete will act as effective ground protection during the construction work. The position of the ground protection is shown upon the tree protection plan at **Appendix 2**.
- 3.2 As a precaution, a 'trunk box' could be erected around tree stem to prevent the potential for mechanical impacts from material storage for example.
- 3.3 In order to be able to treat the rooting spread carefully, I recommend that a trial trench be manually dug from the 'top down'. I have shown the position of the trial trench upon Appendix 2 and I have set out a process for this below and in Appendix 4.

### Preliminary trial root treatment work

- i) First mark out the area to be manually excavated with marker spray paint
- ii) Using hand tools remove the existing surfaces e.g. paving, turf
- iii) Using the hand tools and compressed air (Air Spade) if necessary, remove the soil from the trial trench to a depth of min. 800mm. The width of the pit should be sufficient to for one person work in safely. The length of the pit is shown upon the plan. All roots over 20mm diameter should be retained for inspection.
- iv) Place the spoil beyond the RPA of the tree in question or remove from site.
- Arboricultural supervisor will inspect the roots/soil and advise upon the root pruning process. Any root pruning will carried out using sharp and specialised pruning tools (not spades or mattocks). Roots will be pruned back to a suitable position and cuts will be made to expose the lowest amount of wood tissue possible. Pruning cuts will not result in tears, splits or stripping of the bark.
- vi) The tree in question is to be monitored for condition and any changes are to be noted and acted upon where appropriate.

# NOTE: THE APPOINTED ARBORICULTURAL SUPERVISOR IS TO BE CONSULTED BEFORE ANY WORK, EITHER SCHEDULED OR UNSCHEDULED, IS UNDERTAKEN WITHIN THE EXCLUSION ZONE OR ROOT PROTECTION AREAS OF ANY RETAINED TREE. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY LEAD TO ENFORCEMENT ACTION.

3.4 In order to ensure that the tree protection measures are implemented effectively, a site monitoring exercise will be undertaken to confirm:



- i) The efficacy and accuracy of the ground and tree protection
- ii) The root assessment process

An example of a site record (tree protection) is provided at **Appendix 5**. In this case, the form will be used as confirmation that all practical precautions have been undertaken in accordance with this method statement.

- 3.5 A copy of this method statement is to be retained on site for the duration of the build process together with a scaled, colour copy of the Tree Protection Plan.
- 3.6 Key times for site supervision include:
  - 1. Completion of agreed/necessary tree works
  - 2. Erection of tree protection fencing
  - 3. Installation of ground protection
  - 4. Works within RPAs of retained trees
  - 5. Landscaping
- 3.7 Effective site monitoring will be undertaken from the outset of the project and at agreed intervals thereafter. The frequency of monitoring may well decrease following the proper installation of all tree protection measures. Below is a recommended programme of arboricultural supervision. (This programme may alter dependent upon site circumstances or by agreement.)

Stage	Action	Arboricultural Supervisor (AS) (Required – Y/N)	Notes
1	Pre-commencement meeting*	Y	Site Agent(SA) and groundwork contractor to attend
2	Tree works	Y	Following completion of tree works
3	Installation of tree and ground protection	Y	PRIOR to ground works
4	Manual dig exercise and root treatment	Y	SA to advise AS prior to commencement
5	Construction phase	Y	AS to undertake tree protection monitoring at appropriate intervals
6	Remove tree and ground protection	Ν	SA to advise AS prior to landscaping
7	Create retaining structures around T1 and backfill with inert, granular material	Y	SA to advise AS prior to commencement
8	Planting/landscaping	Y	Brief landscape company & sign off

#### Table 3 Preliminary site supervision schedule



Contact List (to be completed **PRIOR** to commencement)

Interested Party	Name	Company/LPA	Contact Number(s)	Comment
Site Agent				ТВА
Main				
Contractor				ТВА
Arb.			000 0607 1014	Arb. Consultant
Supervisor	Hal Appleyard	ACS Consulting	020 8687 1214	Arb. Consultant
LPA Tree	Mr J		000 7074 4040	
Officer	Remmington	L B Camden	020 7974 4816	
Architects	Mr P Minns	Architect	07957 555 488	

TBA – to be advised

\*Pre-commencement means i) before any works including tree felling or pruning and ii) before any ground works or demolition commences and upon completion of the initial installation of the tree protection, including ground protection.

### 4.0 **Precautions during Landscape Work**

- 4.1 The following steps (both general and site specific), are advisable in relation to implementing any landscape works, which may have the potential to affect retained and or protected trees:
- 1. Advise arboricultural supervisor of intended time frame of landscape work in advance of commencement.
- 2. Re-locate existing tree protection fencing/ground protection to enable landscape work to proceed.
- 3. With bio-degradable spray paint or site pins with plastic tape, mark out the position of the relevant tree root protection areas (RPA) as per the tree protection plan.
- 4. Within the RPAs, avoid use only manually-operated tools.
- 5. Spread the backfill manually on top of a geotextile membrane material and firm into the correct level. Only the use of wheel barrows and hand tools is acceptable for this operation.
- 6. Any planting pits are to be excavated manually within the RPAs of any retained trees (e.g. T1).
- 7. A record of the landscape working method is to be made and provided to the Council for their file.
- 9. Hard landscaping features will be constructed under supervision within the RPA of retained trees and will avoid, where possible, the re-grading of soil.



#### 5.0 General site care (trees)

- 5.1 No fires will be lit on site.
- 5.2 No access will be permitted to within the fenced or otherwise protected areas (unless for site accommodation or Authorised agreement) at any stage during construction.
- 5.3 No materials, equipment or debris will be stored within the fenced areas unless agreed with the arboricultural supervisor.
- 5.4 Areas for mixing are to be located beyond RPAs of trees and contained to prevent leaching into the soil.
- 5.5 A copy of this report and the Tree Protection Plan is to remain on site at all times.

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Please note that all relevant planning approvals and approval to planning conditions must first have been issued by the relevant planning authority in order for this report to become effective. We strongly advise that you consult your planning advisors <u>before implementing any recommendations</u> set out in this report.

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Hal Appleyard Date: 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2015

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T	el: 02	0 8687 1214														CONSULTING
S	Site: 6	Glenmore Road, NW	3													Surveyor:H. Appleyard
C	Date: 1	14th January 2015														Ref:ts1/6glenmorerd
	Tree No.	English Name	Height		Ground Clearance	Age Class		Protection Multiplier	Protection Radius		Structural Condition	Landscape Contribution				Observations
	T1	Lime, Common	9	5 2 6	2/N3	Mature	450	12	5.4	Normal	Good	Medium	С	1,2	20-40	Part reduced in past (poor form); pollarded and pruned back
				3												Cavities with decay(minor)

#### Notes:

ACS Consulting (London)

- 1. Height describes the approximate height of the tree in meters from ground level.
- 2. The Crown Spread refers to the crown radius in meters from the stem centre and is shown above on each of the four compass points (i.e. N, E, S, W) clockwise.
- 3. Ground Clearance is the height in meters of crown clearance above adjacent ground level together with the height and direction of the lowest branch
- 4. Stem Diameter is the diameter of the stem measured in millimetres at 1.5m from ground level. The diameter may be estimated (e), where access is restricted. An average (a) may be taken for tree groups. A full inspection is always recommended.
- Protection Multiplier is 12 for single-stemmed trees; for multi-stemmed a cross-sectional area is calculated to derive the DBH, which in turn is multiplied by 12.

- 6. Protection Radius is a radial distance measured from the trunk centre and is used to calculate the BS RPA.
- 7. Growth Vitality Normal growth, Moderate (below normal), Poor (sparse/weak), Dead (dead or dying tree).
- 8. Structural Condition Good (no or only minor defects), Fair (remediable defects), Poor Major defects present or suspected.
- 9. Landscape Contribution High (prominent landscape feature), Medium (visible in landscape), Low (secluded/among other trees).
- 10. B.S. Cat. refers to British Standard 5837:2012 Table 1 category and refers to tree/group quality and value; 'A' - High, 'B' - Moderate, 'C' - Low, 'U' - Remove or very poor quality.
- 11. Sub Cat refers to the retention criteria values where 1 is Arboricultural, 2 is Landscape and 3 is Cultural including Conservation/ecological, historic and commemorative.
- 12. Useful Life is the tree's estimated remaining effective contribution in years.



Page 1



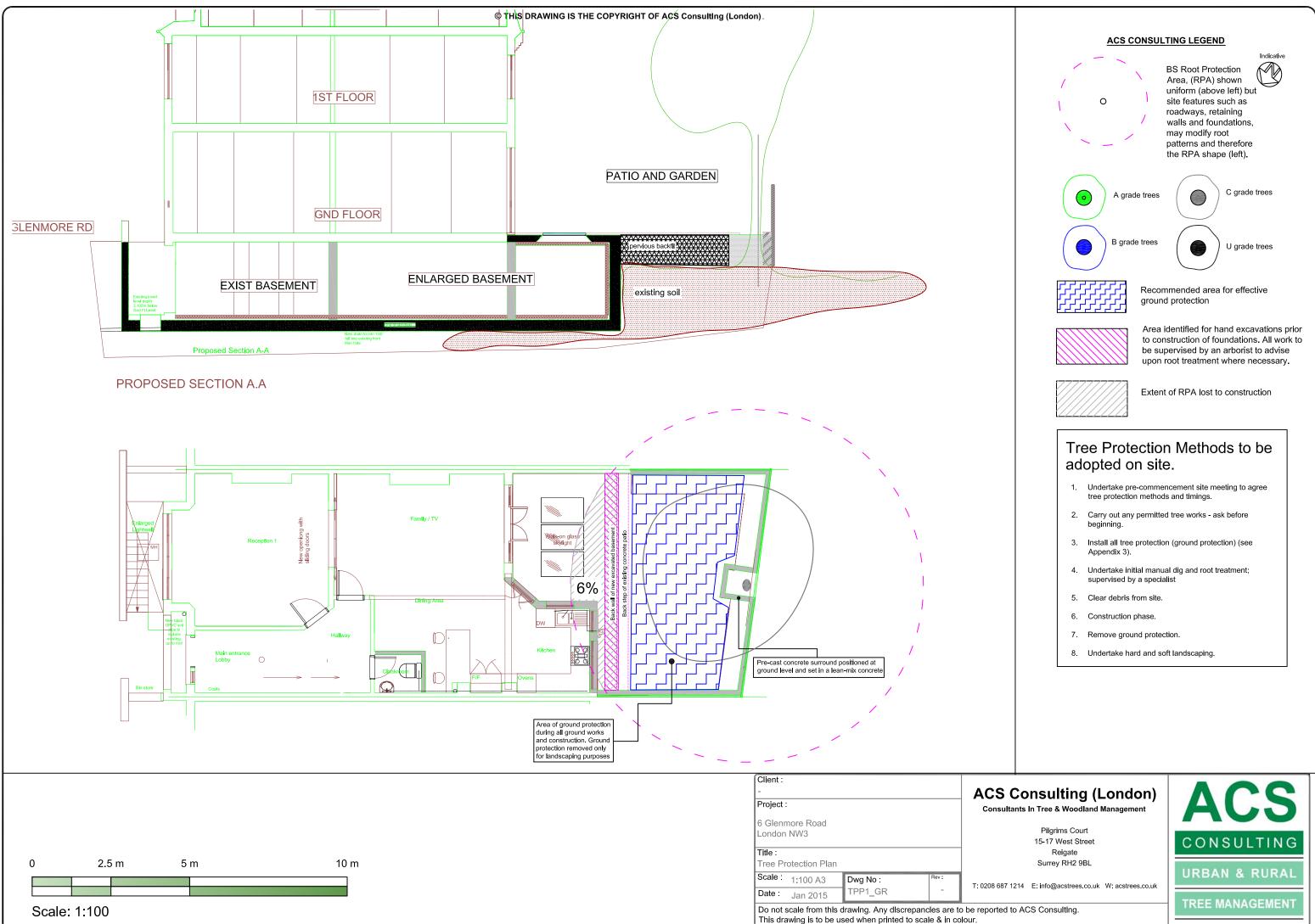
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Table 1Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)							
Trees unsuitable for retention	(see Note)							
Category U	<ul> <li>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)</li> </ul>							
Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically								
be retained as living trees in	<ul> <li>Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline</li> </ul>							
the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	<ul> <li>Trees infected with pathogens of sig quality trees suppressing adjacent trees</li> </ul>	nificance to the health and/or safety of other ees of better quality	trees nearby, or very low					
	NOTE Category U trees can have existing see <b>4.5.7</b> .	g or potential conservation value which it mig	ght be desirable to preserve;					
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation					
Trees to be considered for rete	ention							
Category A	Trees that are particularly good	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular	Trees, groups or woodlands	See Table 2				
Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	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)	visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)					
Category B	Trees that might be included in	Trees present in numbers, usually growing	Trees with material	See Table 2				
rees of moderate quality vith an estimated remaining fe expectancy of at least 0 years 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		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	conservation or other cultural value					
Category C	Unremarkable trees of very limited	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but	Trees with no material	See Table 2				
<b>Trees of low quality</b> with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm	merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	conservation or other cultural value					

BS 5837:2012





#### Fig. 1 Ground protection – hoarding over sharp sand and wood chip



Installing heavy-duty OSB boarding over a depth (min. 50mm) of sharp sand and/or wood chip between the tree protection fencing and the foundation line of new development is effective in protecting roots, which grow in the soil beyond the position of the fencing.

#### Example of Tree Protection Box Frame

Designed to provide immediate protection from impacts and damage to the trunk and root crown.





Specification:

Uprights x 4, min. 100 X 100 treated wood Batons top, middle and base min. 25mm x 75mm 45° angled batons to and base for rigidity 25mm x 75mm Fix 12mm OSB sheeting to framework Affix 'Tree Protection' signage.



## Brief for Hand-excavated tree root investigation trial pits

- 1. Obtain any necessary licences/authorisation for excavation works from the appropriate agency or land owner.
- 2. Undertake Health and Safety risk assessments **<u>before</u>** proceeding.
- Obtain details (plan) of exact dimensions and location of proposed trial pits, access details and existing surface types. Trial holes to be no less than 750mm deep unless otherwise agreed.
- 4. Subject to written agreement, arrange access and commence works
- 5. Carefully lift existing surfaces and place stones, paving or flagstones, where possible in a retrievable location. Where turf or grass is the surface cut the turf for the entire trial pit area and store in a retrievable location for re-instatement when appropriate.

(Note: where it is necessary to remove concrete or other very hard surfaces, the use of light mechanical or hydraulic hand machinery would normally be acceptable. Provisions for making good of <u>all hard and soft surfaces</u> will be required and agreed <u>prior to commencement</u>).

- 6. With the use of hand tools, dig out the soil to expose roots to the agreed depth. Roots in excess of **20mm** are to be retained.
- 7. Use hand brush (or compressed air) or similar to clear soil away from encountered roots before proceeding to use spades or forks to remove further soil. Hand excavations must limit so far as reasonably practicable, damage to the root bark or root wood.
- 8. Exposed roots are to be wrapped for identification with material. To prevent desiccation (drying out) of all roots, the sides of the trial pit should be covered with a damp material e.g. hessian or similar. No roots are to be left exposed for more than four hours. All exposed trial pits must be covered overnight.



Fig. 1 Examples of Root exposure and root identification





- All spoil is to be placed upon boards, paving or sheeting in an agreed 9. location, ready for backfilling when appropriate.
- Exposed trial pits are to be fenced off and covered for safety reasons. All site 10. users are to be made aware of their precise location.
- 11. Following root exposure - obtain expert advice on any root treatments (e.g. pruning).

		Site Supervision Consulting
Site: nspected By:	1 Hyde Park, London H .Appleyard	
Client:	RPC	Date of Inspection: 15/02/2007
Site Agent:	Shaun Clark	Time of Inspection: 3:30pm
Tree Protec	ctive Fencing	
-	in correct location	
Comments/Act No action at this	s time	
Agreed Cor	nstruction Exclusion Zone	
No debris withir	n construction exclusion zone	
Comments/Act	ion	Effective fencing in position
No action at this		
Amendment	s to Documentation Requi	red
No amendment	s required	
Comments/Act	tion	
Building works o	outside scope of Method Statem	ent
Remedial W	orks	23.4.2007
	—	Fencing with signs
General Com		