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Arboricultural and Planning Integration Report: 20 Kemplay Road, London, NW3 1SY

26th September 2016

Ref: GHA/DS/14460:16

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Arboricultural Report

Location: 20 Kemplay Road, London, NW3 1SY
Ref: GHA/DS/14460:16
Client: Chris Dyson Architects
Date: 26th September 2016
Report Prepared by: Glen Harding Tech Cert (Arbor.A)
Date of Inspection: 24th September 2016

Please note that abbreviations introduced in [Square brackets] may be used throughout the report.

Instructions

Issued by – Chris Dyson Architects

TERMS OF REFERENCE – GHA Trees were instructed to survey the subject trees within and adjacent to 20 Kemplay Road, London, NW3 1SY, in order to assess their general condition and to provide a planning integration statement for the indicative proposed development that safeguards the long term well being of the retained trees in a sustainable manner.

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Executive Summary

The proposal for the site is to renovate the existing house and undertake some alterations to the internal layout. The work will also involve extending the existing basement further into the rear garden as well as some new hard landscaping. The retained trees require protection in accordance with industry best practice and BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations, in order to ensure their longevity.

Documents Supplied

Chris Dyson Architects supplied the following documents:

1. Existing layout plans
2. Proposed layout plans
3. Existing elevation plans
4. Proposed elevation plans

Scope of Survey

- 1.1 The survey is concerned with the arboricultural aspects of the site only.
- 1.2 The planning status of the trees was not investigated in detail.
- 1.3 A qualified Arboriculturist undertook the report and site visit and the contents of this report are based on this. Whilst reference may be made to built structure or soils, these are only opinions and confirmation should be obtained from a qualified expert as required.
- 1.4 Trees in third party properties were surveyed from within the subject property, therefore a detailed assessment was not possible and some (if not all) measurements were estimated.
- 1.5 No discussions took place between the surveyor and any other party.
- 1.6 The trees were inspected on the basis of the Visual Tree Assessment method expounded by Mattheck and Breleor (The body language of tree, DoE booklet Research for Amenity Trees No. 4, 1994)
- 1.7 The survey was undertaken in accord with British Standard 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations
- 1.8 Pruning works will be required to be in accord with British Standard 3998 – 2010 (Tree Work - Recommendations).
- 1.9 Underground services near to trees will need to be installed in accord with the guidance given in BS5837 together with the National Joint Utilities Group Booklet 4: 2007 Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility services in proximity to trees (NJUG4).
- 1.10 Where hard surfacing may be required in close proximity to trees, BS5837: 2012, and the principles of Arboricultural Practice Note 12: Through the Trees to Development (AAIS) 2007 (APN12) with regards to “no dig” surfacing will be employed.
- 1.11 Reference is made to the National House Building Council Standards, 2003, chapter 4.2: Building near trees (NHBC).

- 1.12 The client's attention is drawn to the responsibilities under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).

Survey Method

- 2.1 The survey was conducted from ground level with the aid of binoculars.
- 2.2 No tissue samples were taken nor was any internal investigation of the subject trees undertaken.
- 2.3 No soil samples were taken.
- 2.4 The height of each subject tree was estimated using a clinometer.
- 2.5 The stem diameters were measured in line with the requirements set out in BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations
- 2.6 The crown spreads were measured with an electronic distometer. Where the crown radius was notably different in any direction this has been noted on the Plan (appendix A), or in the tree table (Appendix B).
- 2.7 The Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree is included in the tree table, both as an area, and as the radius of a circle.
- 2.8 The crown clearance was measured in metres. Where it is significantly lower in one direction, this is noted within the tree table at appendix B.
- 2.9 All of the trees that were inspected during the site visit are detailed on the plan at Appendix A. Please note that the attached plans are for indicative purposes only, and that the trees are plotted at approximate positions. The trees on this plan are categorised and shown in the following format: COLOUR CODING AND RATING OF TREES:

Category A – Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. Colour = light green crown outline on plan.

Category B – Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. Colour = mid blue crown outline on plan.

Category C – Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm. Colour = uncoloured crown outline on plan.

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. Colour = red crown outline on plan.

The crowns of those trees that are proposed for removal, or trees where the crown spread is deemed insignificant in relation to the proposed development

are not always shown on the appended plan; however their stem locations are marked for reference.

All references to tree rating are made in accordance with BS 5837: 2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations’, Table 1

The Site

- 3.1 The site is located on Kemplay Road, a residential through road located in the Camden area of North London.

The Subject Trees

- 4.1 The details of the subject trees are set out in the Schedule at Appendix B.
- 4.2 Of the four individual trees surveyed, one has been assessed as BS 5837 category B, with the remaining two trees being assessed as BS 5837 category C.

The Proposal

- 5.1 The proposal for the site is to renovate the existing house and undertake some alterations to the internal layout.
- 5.2 The work will also involve extending the existing basement further into the rear garden as well as some new hard landscaping.
- 5.3 The proposed location of the above structures can be seen on the appended plan.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

TREE REMOVAL / RETENTION:

- 6.1 The proposed site layout and all of its associated structures allows for the healthy retention of all of the trees on the site itself, and within nearby adjacent sites; therefore the arboricultural landscape character of the site will be retained.

TREE PRUNING TO ACCOMMODATE THE PROPOSAL OR ACCESS TO THE SITE

- 6.2 The implementation of the proposal does not lead to the requirement to prune any of the retained trees, or shrubs. It may however be desirable to look at some pruning of T1 and T2 in the near future, as both trees overhang large portions of the garden.

ASSESSMENT OF RETAINED TREES ROOT PROTECTION AREAS

- 6.3 Section 4.6.3 of BS 5837: 2012 states that the Root Protection Area (RPA) of each tree should be assessed by an arboriculturalist considering the likely morphology and disposition of the roots, when known to be influenced by past or existing site conditions.
- 6.4 The proposed new building(s) are situated outside of the RPA's of all of the trees proposed for retention, therefore these trees pose no below ground constraints on the new buildings or vice versa.
- 6.5 The hard landscaping improvements to the rear encroach into a small (less than 1%) area of the RPA of T1; this is deemed to be insignificant.

Post Development Pressure

FUTURE TREE AND STRUCTURE RELATIONSHIPS

- 7.1 The retained trees are at a satisfactory distance from the proposed new building, and highly unlikely to give rise to any inconvenience.
- 7.2 Some minor lateral pruning of the retained trees and shrubs may be required in the medium term, however any such work would not have a significant impact on the health or amenity value of these trees.
- 7.3 The BS3998: 2010 – Recommendations for Tree Work discusses and endorses various methods of pruning that can alleviate the minor inconveniences trees can cause, whilst retaining them in a healthy condition. Methods such as crown reductions (section 13.4) partial or whole, crown lifting (section 13.5) and crown thinning (section 13.6) can be used to both increase light to properties, as well as improve clearances from buildings. Trees in towns are often sited in close proximity to buildings; however residents concerns can be readily appeased with the implementation of regular, well-planned, sensitive pruning.
- 7.4 Regular inspections of the retained trees by a suitably qualified Arboriculturalist and subsequent remedial works will ensure that the trees are maintained in a suitable manner, to exist in harmony with the new structures and its occupants for many years to come.

Tree Protection Measures and Preliminary Method Statement for Development Works

8.1 TREE PRUNING / REMOVAL

Where any tree work is needed in the future, this work will be in accordance with British Standard 3998 – 2010 (Tree Work - Recommendations).

8.2 TREE PROTECTION BARRIERS

It is essential for the future health of the trees to be retained on site, that all development activity is undertaken outside the root protection zone of these trees, whenever this is practical. The position of the proposed protective fencing for the site is shown on the plan 'Appendix A' by a **pink** line. The position of the fence is to be marked out with biodegradable marker paint on site and agreed with appropriate representatives from the contractor. The fencing will be erected **prior** to any works in the vicinity of the trees and removed only when all development activity is complete. The protective fencing will be as (or similar and fit for purpose) that shown in BS 5837 (see Appendix C).

The Fence must be marked with a clear sign reading:

"Construction Exclusion Zone – No Access".

8.3 GROUND PROTECTION

An area of the rear garden will require ground protection to ensure that soil erosion or excessive compaction does not occur. The areas where this protection is required are outlined in **orange** hatching on the appended plan. This area will be covered with a permeable membrane, with 100mm layer of compressible woodchip overlaying it; an 18mm marine ply boards will then be secured on top of the woodchip to allow a 1.5tonne mini-digger to access the area without causing major compaction or soil erosion.

8.4 DELIVERY AND STORAGE OF BUILDING MATERIALS

Due to the limited on-site storage space, it may be necessary for bulk deliveries to be split into smaller deliveries. The use of a "just in time" delivery method can also be adopted to reduce the time materials are stored on site before use.

8.5 SITE HUTS, WELFARE FACILITIES AND STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS AND CHEMICALS

All site huts will be positioned outside of the retained trees RPA's.

8.6 MIXING OF CONCRETE

All mixing of cement / concrete must be undertaken outside of the RPA of all of the retained trees.

8.7 USE CRANES, RIGS AND BOOMS

Precautionary measures must be observed to avoid contact of any retained trees when manoeuvring cranes rigs or booms into position.

8.8 INCOMING SERVICES AND SOAKAWAYS

The existing drainage system has been assessed as suitable for re-use, and it is assumed that the electric and gas cabling is also satisfactory. Any new underground services near to trees will however need to be installed in accord

with the guidance given in BS5837 together with the National Joint Utilities Group Booklet 4: 2007 Guidelines for the planning, installation and maintenance of utility services in proximity to trees (NJUG4). When within the RPA of any retained tree, any new service trenches should be excavated using an airspade to avoid any damage to roots. Care must then be taken to ensure the new services are installed so as to avoid any roots present.

8.9 ON SITE SUPERVISION

A detailed supervision programme will be devised by the developer and retained Arboriculturalist, ensuring that Arboricultural supervision is present at the appropriate periods during construction.

8.10 OTHER TREE PROTECTION PRECAUTIONS

- No fires lit on site within 20 metres of any tree to be retained.
- No fuels, oils or substances which will be damaging to the tree shall be spilled or poured on site.
- No storage of any materials within the root protection zone.

8.11 DISMANTLING PROTECTIVE BARRIERS

Protective barriers must only be completely removed when all machinery, and equipment has left site. A minimum of seven days notice must be given to the local planning authority prior to dismantling works begin.

Conclusion

- 9.1 In conclusion, the principal arboricultural features within the site can be retained and adequately protected during development activities.
- 9.2 Subject to precautionary measures as detailed above, the proposal will not be injurious to trees to be retained.
- 9.3 There will be no appreciable post development pressure, and certainly none that would oblige the council to give consent to inappropriate tree works.

Recommendations

- 10.1 The site works should progress as follows to ensure the healthy retention of the trees.
- a. Tree works, in accordance with BS3998
 - b. Installation of all tree protection measures.
 - c. Construction.
 - d. Soft landscaping.

- 10.2 Site supervision – An individual e.g. the Site Agent, must be nominated to be responsible for all arboricultural matters on site. This person must:
- a. Be present on the site the majority of the time.
 - b. Be aware of the arboricultural responsibilities.
 - c. Have the authority to stop any work that is, or has the potential to cause harm to any tree.
 - d. Be responsible for ensuring that all site personnel are aware of their responsibilities towards trees on site and the consequences of the failure to observe those responsibilities.
 - e. Make immediate contact with the local authority and / or retained arboriculturalist in the event of any related tree problems occurring whether actual or potential.
- 10.3 It is recommended, that to ensure a commitment from all parties to the healthy retention of the trees, that details are passed by the architect or agent to any contractors working on site, so that the practical aspects of the above precautions are included in their method statements, and financial provision made for these.

26th September 2016

Signed:



Glen Harding
For and on behalf of GHA Trees

Appendix A

Appendix B

Tree Number	Tree Name (species)	Ht (m)	Calculated Stem Diameter (mm)	Number of Stems	Root Protection Area (Radius, m)	N (m)	E (m)	S (m)	W (m)	Age Class	Clearance (m)	Estimated life expectancy	BS Category	Comments / Recommendations
T1	Mimosa	8	140	1	1.68	3	3	3	3	M	2 (south)	10-20	C1	Off site tree - full inspection not possible. Low value tree.
T2	Smoke bush	6	220	3	2.64	3	3	3	3	M	4 (south)	10-20	C1	Off site tree - full inspection not possible. Low value tree.
T3	Cherry	6	240	1	2.88	3	3	3	3	M	3	10-20	C1	Off site tree - full inspection not possible. Low value tree.
T4	Sycamore	18	346	3	4.16	6	6	6	6	M	3	20-40	B1	Off site tree - full inspection not possible.

KEY :

Tree No: Tree number (T= individual tree, G= group of trees, W= woodland)

Crown = the leaf bearing part of the tree

Diameter: MS = Multi-stemmed

Age class: Young (Y), Middle aged (MA), Mature (M), Over mature (OM),
Veteran (V)

Height (Ht): Measured in metres +/- 1m

Appendix C

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier

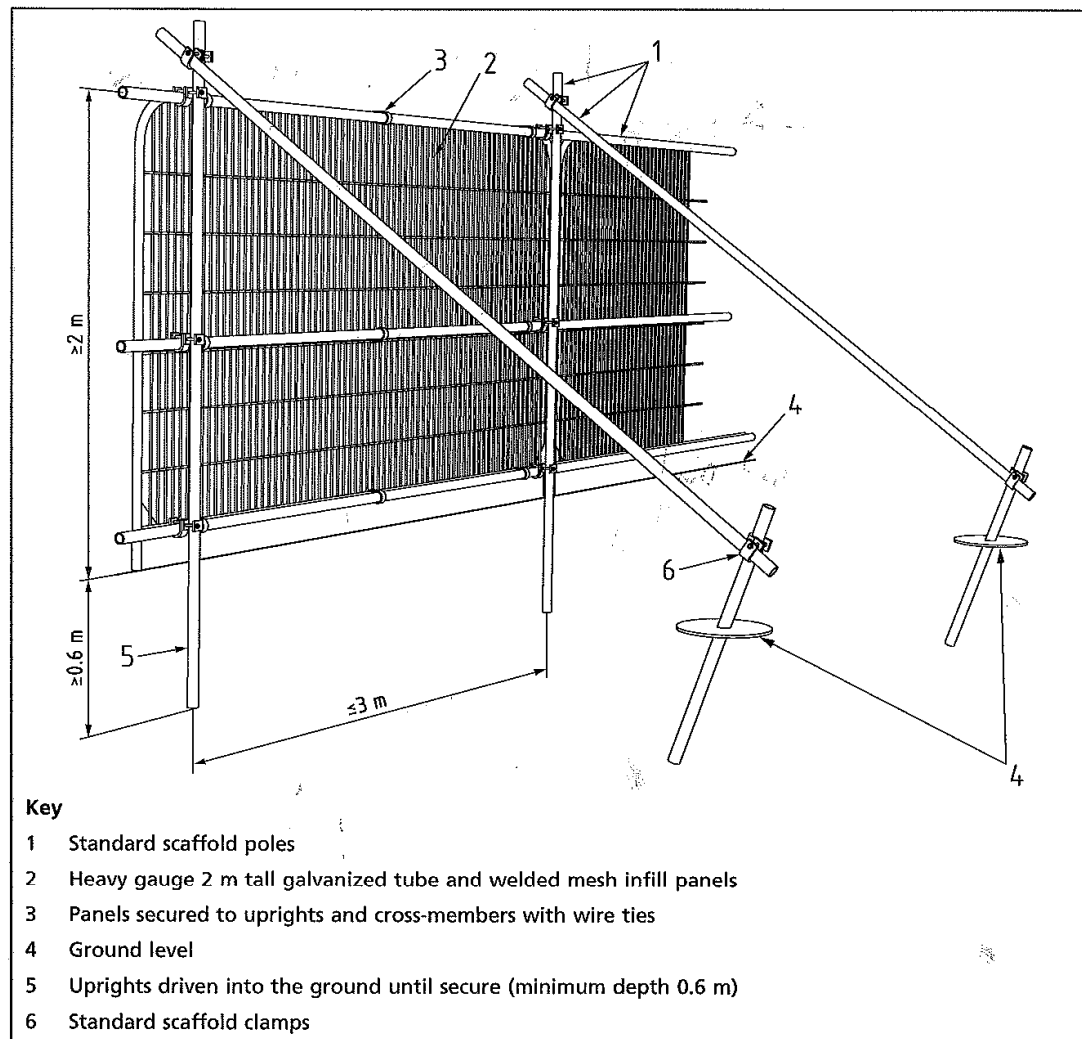
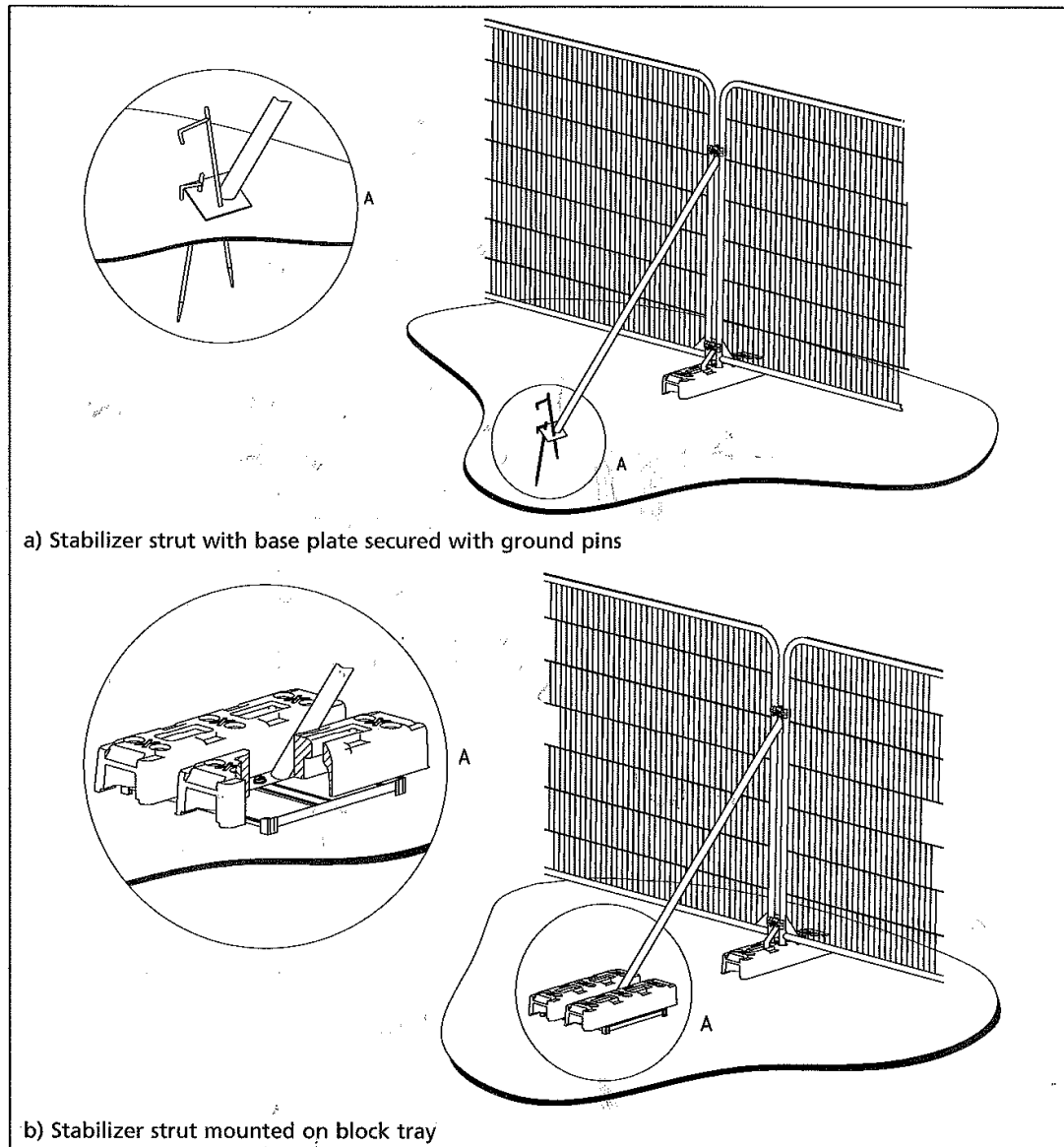


Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



Appendix D

Extract from British Standard 5837: 2005, Trees in relation to construction

Figure 3. Scaffolding within the Root Protection Area [RPA]

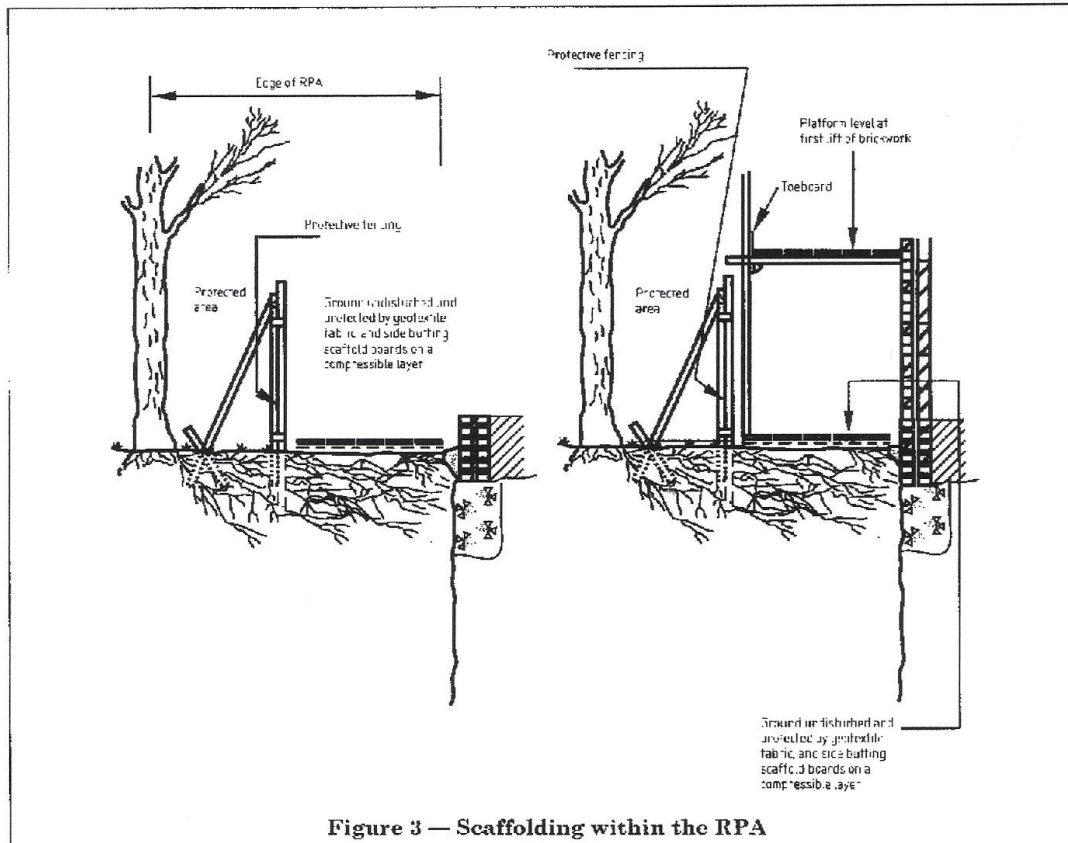


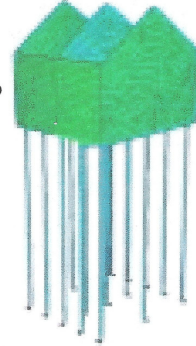
Figure 3 — Scaffolding within the RPA

Appendix E

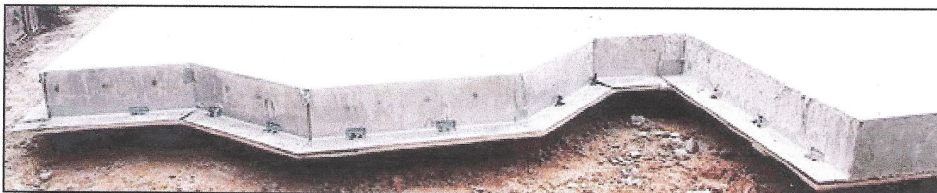
HouseDeck

Housedeck is a piled raft foundation system offering a range of solutions to suit a wide variety of ground conditions and house design requirements. It is available through the [Abbey Pynford PLC](#) company, based in Watford, Herts, UK.

It is a system which is very useful for building near **trees** due to its flexibility in pile placement and the fact that the traditional 'trench an fill' method of foundation is not required. It uses a system of small diameter (200-300mm) concrete columns (piles) driven deep into the ground which then support a 'cast concrete cap' which consists of the floor and ground bearing beams. This is reinforced with steel and can also incorporate a stainless steel lip to enable brick elevations to 'sit' to the side of the foundation and thus hide the concrete base.

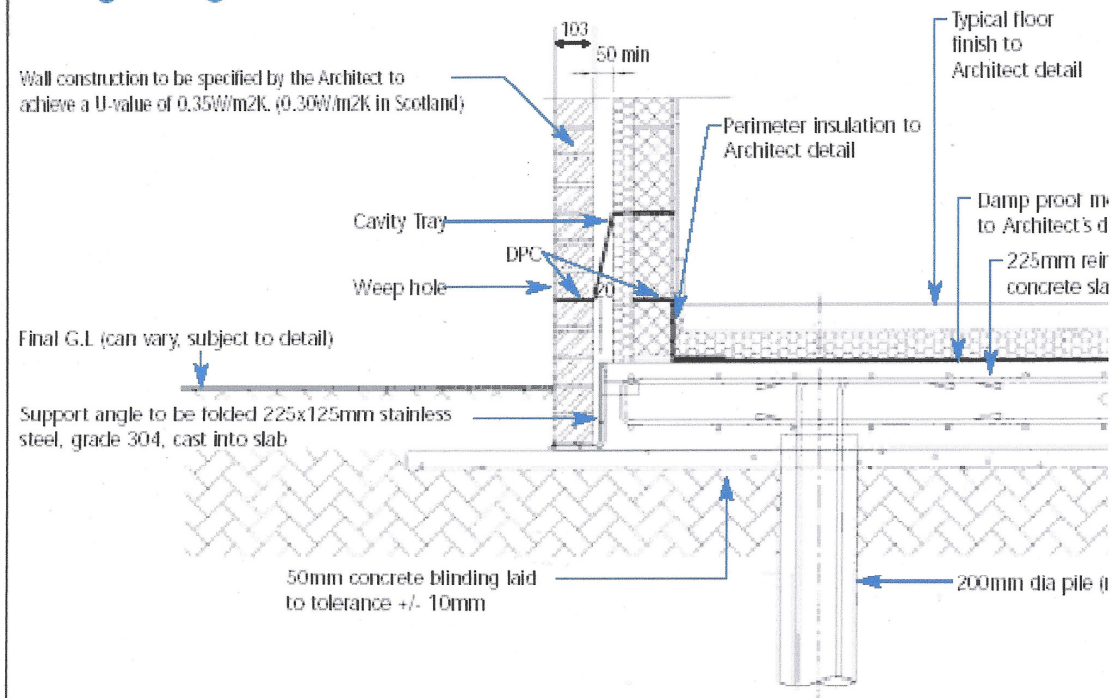


For use near trees the lack of a foundation trench is advantageous. A typical trench needs to be 1m + in depth and will usually need to be under all elevations. As most tree roots occupy the upper 600mm of soil, mass root severance will often occur. The base of the HouseDeck system sits on the ground surface and uses the piles for support so root severance will be less. Further safeguards can be employed to control excavation in difficult situations by using a method statement to minimise root damage. For example, carrying out initial exploratory excavation to a depth of 1m at those proposed piling positions which are particularly close to the trees. If large roots are encountered then the pile position can be changed slightly.




- A few of the benefits of using HouseDeck.
 - You avoid many problems associated with excavations, unstable ground, bad weather and ground water.
 - As there are no excavations there are no large items of plant required.
 - Housedeck piling rigs are small, maneuverable and designed to work in confined spaces.
 - Housedeck allows you to work closer to trees.

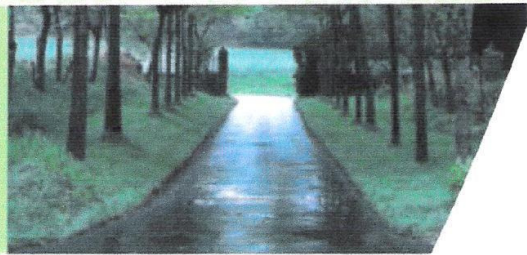
Enlarged Edge Detail - Sectional Elevation



Appendix F



CellWeb™



Tree Root Protection System



Geosynthetics

CellWeb™

Tree Root Protection System



The CellWeb™ TRP cellular confinement system protects tree roots from the damaging effects of compaction and desiccation, while creating a stable, load-bearing surface for vehicular traffic.

CellWeb™ offers an alternative to the traditional methods of constructing roadways and building foundations that involve excavation, which can result in tree root severance and soil compaction from the passage of vehicles. Such damage can severely influence tree health, and in extreme cases leads to death. CellWeb™ can be sensitively installed close to and under the canopies of trees without negative effects.

Trees are valuable landscape features and a vital environmental resource. Increasingly, contractors are being required to ensure the health and survival of trees during and beyond the construction period. Although this is enshrined in BS 5837: Trees in Relation to Construction: Recommendations (2005) and Tree Preservation Order legislation, it presents several issues when implementing construction projects near to trees:

- Root severance caused by excavation, leaving trees open to decay, less stable and with a diminished capacity to utilise soil water and nutrients.
- Destruction of soil structure and compaction due to the passage of heavy vehicles, restricting the flow of water and air to tree roots.
- Need for construction access, new roadways and hard surfaces that require engineering-standard load-bearing foundations that meet building regulations.
- Need for high-performance, cost-effective driveways and roadways in the vicinity of tree roots.



Potential loss of existing tree due to poor construction techniques.

The CellWeb™ system overcomes these issues and helps contractors to comply with tree health guidelines by creating a load-bearing base that is water-permeable, stable and durable.

With no need for excavation, the system is quick and easy to install, reducing construction time and saving costs and making it suitable for temporary and permanent solutions.



Glynebourne Wood.

Pedestrian path to recreational woodland built using a CellWeb™ foundation which was covered with DuoBlock and then filled with woodchip to create a porous surface.

Product features



CellWeb™ comprises an expandable cellular mattress that is then filled with a clean stone sub-base and above a Treetex T300 Geotextile.

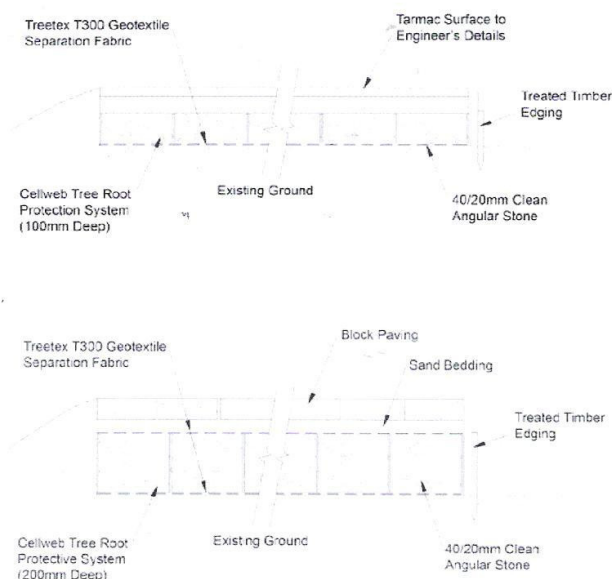
The honeycomb-like structure is made of robust high-density polyethylene (HDPE) that is simply stretched out and filled with clean angular material. Just like traditional roadways, the strength of the structure comes from the binding together of the infill, but with CellWeb™ this is achieved without compaction and without reduction in permeability.

Perforated cell walls allow the angular infill to bind with the contents of the adjacent cell, but with sufficient space for the movement of water and air to nearby tree roots. As the infill contains no fines and the geotextile layers prevent clogging from particles washing into the system, the structure remains permeable to water over time and protects the roots for the lifetime of the tree.

As well as being quick and easy to install, CellWeb™ also dramatically cuts down the depth of sub-base required, in most cases by as much as 50%, further reducing costs. CellWeb™ significantly reduces surface rutting, increasing the long term performance of the finished surface and ensuring that tree roots remain protected from vertical loads.

CellWeb can be used as a permanent solution or alternatively the system can be used in a temporary situation. In a temporary application the system can be used for the required period of time, then removed for use on another site or recycled, thereby adding to CellWeb's green credentials.

- No excavation – Soil structure remains undisturbed; risk of root damage minimised.
- Porous infill – Allows tree roots to conduct moisture and gas exchange.
- No compaction – No need to compact the infill to achieve a load-bearing structure.
- Lateral stability – Structure remains rigid to vertical loads.



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Wide
product
range

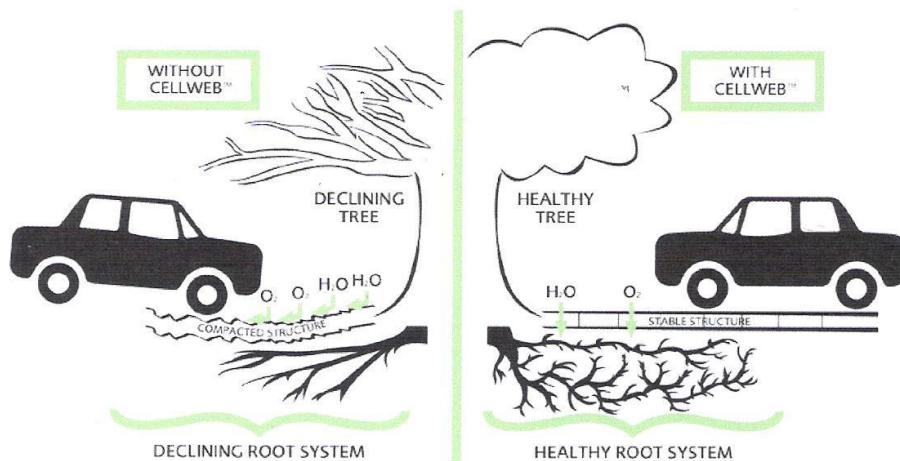
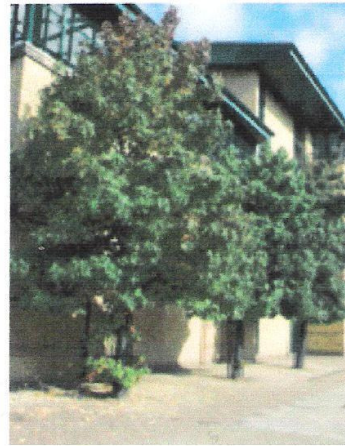
Large
stock
holding

Next day
delivery

Hydrological benefits

Water is a shrinking resource in the urban environment. As the extent of the built environment increases, more and more ground is being covered by impermeable hard surfaces that repel rainwater runoff, preventing it from reaching the roots of vegetation, and in particular trees. Rapid water runoff stretches the capacity of stormwater drains and frequently results in drainage management issues that are rarely resolved in favour of adjacent trees.

Using CellWeb™ mitigates these issues by promoting both the vertical and the lateral movement of water, whether the system is installed above or below ground. The 'pores' that are created by the spaces between the infill stones and the cell perforations even allow water to flow to adjacent tree roots that are effectively 'trapped' under areas of impermeable hard standing. CellWeb™ therefore helps to promote root growth and allows roots to continue to grow within areas of hard surfacing.



Design
service

Onsite
support



Geosynthetics



Design & installation

Final surfacing

The benefits of the CellWeb™ system to trees can only be maintained if a suitably porous final surface is selected. An ideal surfacing is the DuoBlocks grass reinforcement and gravel retention system, a visually attractive surface that has the advantage of being fully porous. Alternatives include block paviers, porous asphalts and loose or bonded gravel.

Call the Geosynthetics sales team on 01455 617 139 for more advice on surfacing options and other products and systems.

Advice and product selection

Geosynthetics Limited has been supplying the CellWeb™ system for many years and has acquired solid experience in its application. No two contracts are the same, and we understand the factors that need to be taken into account to specify the right CellWeb™ product.

We provide a FREE consultation, design and advisory service to find the solution that is most cost-effective and beneficial for your site. Our service includes product selection, CAD drawings and full instructions to help you from project conception to completion.

Call our sales office on 01455 617 139 for specification details and project-specific design assistance.

CellWeb™ in action:

Access road for the Lake District National Parks Authority.



Site before construction pictured above.



Installation of the CellWeb™ system.



Four years later.

Technical specification

Product Specifications

Properties	Standard Cell
Material	Virgin HDPE
Wall thickness	1.25mm
Seam welding	Ultrasonic to 100% of seam length
Cell depth	75, 100, 150, 200 and 300mm
Width of expanded panel	2.56m
Length of expanded panel	8.1m
Cell diameter (expanded)	259 x 224mm

Certified Quality

CellWeb™ is manufactured in accordance with the ISO 9001 Quality Management System in a comprehensive range of cell diameters and depths.



Geosynthetics Ltd



Geosynthetics

Geosynthetics Limited

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Email: sales@geosyn.co.uk

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