



Arboricultural Survey Report

115-119 Camden High Street,
Camden Town

July 2019

Arboricultural Survey Report

115-119 Camden High Street, Camden Town

26/07/2019

Jones Lang Lasalle

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London

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Document Control:

Project no.	Project
8479	115-119 Camden High Street, Camden Town

Ver/rev	Written By:	Checked by:	Authorised by:	Date
Rev 0	Peter Davies	Richard Schofield	Richard Schofield	26 July 2019

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Contents

1.	Introduction.....	1
2.	Site Visit and Survey Methodology	3
3.	Site Details and Survey Findings	7
4.	Recommendation.....	9

Appendices

Appendix A – Tree Constraints Plan

Appendix B – Tree Survey Schedule

Appendix C – Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessments

Appendix D – Photographs

1. Introduction

Introduction

- 1.1 Phlorum Ltd has been instructed by Jones Lang Lasalle to provide an initial arboricultural survey of 115-119 Camden High Street. The survey is to be undertaken in accordance with BS5837: 2012 '*Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations*'.

Survey Objectives

- 1.2 This survey has been undertaken with the following objectives:
- 🌿 To record a schedule of significant trees (dimensions and locations) situated at the prospective development site.
 - 🌿 To assess the quality and value of the existing tree stock in terms of arboricultural, landscape, historical/conservation, or public amenity value.
 - 🌿 To provide information relating to planning constraints that may restrict works to trees at the site.
 - 🌿 To provide an assessment of the material constraints posed by the existing tree stock on potential future developments at the site.
 - 🌿 To aid the design process, ensuring prospective developments integrate appropriately with the existing tree stock, to maximise the potential of the proposed development site.

Scope of this Report

- 1.3 This report is concerned with all significant trees and arboricultural features located within the site boundary. Additionally, trees located around the curtilage of the site have also been surveyed when they are considered likely to have the potential to impact on the development (in relation to root and crown protection or foundation design).

Contents of Report

- 1.4 This report includes the following:
- 🌿 A summary of the existing tree stock and notable arboricultural features.
 - 🌿 Tree Constraints Plan in accordance with BS5837: 2012.
 - 🌿 Tree Survey Schedule containing the relevant measurements and information for each tree or tree group as required in BS5837: 2012.

Documents and Information Provided

1.5 The following documents were used to aid the preparation of this report:

-  Ordnance Survey site plan.

2. Site Visit and Survey Methodology

Site Visit

- 2.1 A site visit was carried out on 16th July 2019. The weather conditions at the time were clear and dry. The visibility was adequate for visual tree inspection from ground level.

Tree Survey Information

- 2.2 The following information was recorded in the Tree Survey Schedule for each individual tree (average dimensions are recorded for groups):

- 🌿 The Tree reference number. (T=tree, G=group, W=woodland block). Tree numbers suffixed with PA on the Tree Constraints Plan indicate the trees location was not included on the topographical survey provided so the tree's position is approximate.
- 🌿 Species (common and scientific name).
- 🌿 Overall tree height (m).
- 🌿 Stem diameter (mm) per stem or average diameter for multi-stemmed trees with six or more stems.
- 🌿 Branch spread (m) measured to the four cardinal points.
- 🌿 Existing height (m) above ground level of lowest significant branch and direction of growth (for individual trees only).
- 🌿 Existing height (m) above ground level of canopy.
- 🌿 Age class (young, semi mature, early mature, mature, over mature or veteran).
- 🌿 Physiological condition (good, fair, poor).
- 🌿 Structural condition (good, fair, poor).
- 🌿 Comments (general description of tree(s) including any notable features).
- 🌿 Preliminary management recommendations (prescriptions for tree management processes based on the current land use and not related to the prospective development).
- 🌿 Tree categorisation (see below).
- 🌿 Root protection area (m²).
- 🌿 Root protection radius (m).

Tree Categorisation

- 2.3 The condition and value of each tree was evaluated based on the current land use. Each tree or tree group has been awarded either category A, B, C or U and a sub category of either 1, 2, or 3 or a combination of the sub categories.
- 2.4 Tree categorisation summary:
- 🌳 A – Trees of good condition and high arboricultural, landscape or conservation value. Must have a potential life span in excess of forty years.
 - 🌳 B – Trees of moderate condition, with minor defects or sub-optimal form but are still of modest arboricultural, landscape or conservation value. Must have a potential life span in excess of twenty years.
 - 🌳 C – Unremarkable trees of poor condition or form with limited arboricultural, landscape or conservation value, or trees with a stem diameter under 150mm. Must have a potential life span in excess of ten years.
 - 🌳 U – Trees of such impaired condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for more than ten years. These trees do not need to be removed if they are not dangerous and do not conflict with the proposed development but should not be considered a constraint to development.
- 2.5 Tree sub categorisation summary:
- 🌳 1 – Trees have mainly arboricultural value, e.g. trees of good condition, form and vitality or rare tree species.
 - 🌳 2 – Trees have mainly landscape value, e.g. trees of landscape prominence, that serve to screen unsightly views or that are required for privacy. Also, trees present in groups that attain higher collective rating that they would as individuals.
 - 🌳 3 – Trees with mainly cultural value including conservation, e.g. commemorative trees, trees of historical significance or veteran trees.
- 2.6 Each tree can only be categorised as A, B, or C but may comply with more than one sub category. A cascade chart further explaining how tree categorisation is decided is included in Appendix C.

Root Protection Areas

- 2.7 A root protection area represents the minimum amount of root growth required to support a tree. It is a standardised calculation based on the stem diameter(s) measured at 1.5m and is not necessarily representative of the actual or total rooting area. The formulas used to calculate root protection areas are shown below:

Table 1: Root protection area formulas

For single stemmed trees

$$\text{Root protection area (m}^2\text{)} = \frac{(\text{stem diameter (mm)} \times 12)^2 \times \pi}{1000}$$

For trees with two to five stems, a combined stem diameter is calculated as follows:

$$\sqrt{(\text{stem diameter 1})^2 + (\text{stem diameter 2})^2 \dots + (\text{stem diameter 5})^2}$$

For trees with more than five stems, the combined stem diameter is calculated as follows:

$$\sqrt{(\text{mean stem diameter})^2 \times \text{number of stems}}$$

- 2.8 The root protection areas are plotted onto the Tree Constraints Plan in Appendix A and recorded in the Tree Survey Schedule in Appendix B. These are represented as a circle on the plan (unless significant rooting constraints are present), and are colour coded depending on the category the tree has been awarded. Where existing site conditions/features are present that are deemed likely to have affected the root morphology, the root protection areas have represented as a polygon of equivalent area.
- 2.9 The proposed layout should avoid level changes or the placement of new buildings and areas of hard surfacing within the root protection areas of retained trees. In certain situations, engineered solutions are available to allow construction within the root protection areas however further input from an arboriculturalist should be sought regarding their site-specific viability before these methods are relied upon.
- 2.10 The disturbance of a tree's root system can result in crown dieback and even death of the tree. Roots are used to support the tree structurally as well as the absorption of moisture and nutrients from the soil. They also act as storage and transport for water and nutrients.
- 2.11 Direct damage such as root severance can lead to ill health, as can compaction of the soil by construction traffic, heavy plant and storage of materials. Changing the nature of the surface above the growing medium, (i.e. from porous to non-porous), can alter the resources available to the tree, which in turn can lead to its decline.
- 2.12 The majority of root growth is usually found within the top 600mm of soil. As such, even shallow disturbance within root protection areas can potentially have a significant impact on the trees.

- 2.13 The root protection areas must be left free from excavation and disturbance and protected from compaction or contamination during any proposed works. Any construction works within a root protection area required for the proposed layout must be justifiable within the arboricultural impact assessment.

Limitations of Survey

- 2.14 The survey methodology was restricted to a visual tree assessment from ground level. No tree climbing, or ground investigation was carried out for this report. Where existing site constraints are present such as ivy-covered trees, a very dense under-storey, or where trees are located on third party land to which access was not granted, tree dimensions were estimated by eye as accurately as possible.
- 2.15 This survey represents a preliminary overview of the condition and value trees at the site. It is not a detailed assessment of any individual tree and although preliminary management recommendations are included, this report will not be sufficient to be used as a detailed condition and safety survey.
- 2.16 The information and measurements in this report are representative of the date of the site visit. The tree survey data will need to be updated to reflect tree growth and changes in the condition of trees after prolonged periods.
- 2.17 No topographical survey with measured tree positions was provided to produce this report. The tree positions on the Tree Constraints Plan in Appendix A were approximately plotted during the site visit but must not be scaled from for detailed design purposes.

3. Site Details and Survey Findings

Site Location

- 3.1 The site is situated on the western side of Camden High Street, approximately half way between Camden Lock Market and Mornington Crescent Underground Station, more broadly north east of the Regent's Park, London. It has a central national grid reference of TQ 28991 83675. The surrounding land use is comprised commercial and residential properties in all directions. The location of the site within its environs is shown in figure 1.



Figure 1: Location of Site and Environs (Map data 2019 Google)

Site Layout

- 3.2 The site is a commercial unit situated on the corner of Camden High Street and Delancey Street. Three street trees are situated along the site's southern boundary on Delancey Street.
- 3.3 Measurements and further information for each tree can be viewed in the Tree Survey Schedule in Appendix B.

Tree Categorisation Summary

3.4 A total of three trees were surveyed and recorded in the Tree Survey Schedule.

Table 2: Tree Categorisation Summary

Categorisation	Individual Tree
A	-
B	1
C	2
U	-
Total	3

Statutory Tree Protection

- 3.5 The London Borough of Camden's Council Planning Department was contacted by e-mail to establish restrictions to tree works at the site. It was reported on 18th July 2019 that no tree preservation order (TPO) protects the trees on this site however; the site is located within the Camden Town Conservation Area.
- 3.6 However, any persons proposing to undertake tree works should still check the status of the trees with the local authority, and gain the necessary consent before the works are undertaken. Financial penalties and/or criminal proceedings can result if tree works are carried out on a protected tree without consent. The entirety of the tree is protected, both above and below ground.

4. Recommendation

Arboricultural Input to Planning Application

- 4.1 To comply with BS5837: 2012, an arboricultural impact assessment should be produced when the proposed layout has been fixed. The arboricultural impact assessment should include a schedule of trees to be retained or removed as well as access facilitation pruning required to enable the construction works. It should also evaluate the likely effects of the construction works on retained trees including post development pressures and provide recommendations on mitigation measures to be implemented.
- 4.2 It is recommended that input is sought from the project arboriculturalist into the proposed layout before it is fixed. This will help ensure the proposed layout integrates well with the retained tree stock and will allow potential areas of conflict that may not be identified by non-arboricultural professionals to be rectified whilst the layout is being developed.
- 4.3 The arboricultural impact assessment should be accompanied by an arboricultural method statement and a dimensioned Tree Protection Plan to show how retained trees will be protected during the construction period.

Arboricultural Consideration for Proposed Layout

- 4.4 As The proposed layout should take into account the following considerations related to trees:
 - 🌿 The proposed layout should seek to retain higher quality trees, particularly those that cannot easily be replaced. Where tree removal is necessary to facilitate the wider regeneration benefits associated with development, a tree replacement strategy could be implemented to mitigate tree loss. A net loss in tree cover within a development site will not be looked on favourably when determining a planning application.
 - 🌿 The proposed layout should take into account the root protection areas of retained trees. These should be left free of construction activities including hard landscaping unless the project arboriculturalist confirms engineered solutions or sympathetic construction methodology will be a viable option to mitigate the encroachment.
 - 🌿 The proposed layout should take into account the shade cast by trees. Over-shading of gardens and buildings (notably habitable rooms) can result in future pressures to prune or remove additional trees post development and will be a material consideration for the local authority when determining a planning application.

- The proposed layout should also take into account other common potential nuisances resulting from trees including nuisance caused by leaf/fruit drop or honeydew drip (particularly onto footpaths, parking areas or roof guttering) and an over-bearing presence of large trees.
 - Allowance should be made for future canopy growth of both existing and newly planted trees. Trees growing in areas of limited space may require regular future pruning works. The suitability of different species for regular crown reductions, the effect on their amenity value and the cost of future tree works (as well as who would be responsible for undertaking the works) should be considered.
- 4.5 The final design should show service locations and their routing. These are often not specified for outline planning applications, however their position has the potential to have a significant impact on retained trees and therefore should be noted in the detailed arboricultural method statement that accompanies a full planning application. New utilities should be located outside of the trees root protection areas where they are underground and outside of the anticipated area of mature crown spread where above ground. Sympathetic methodology to enable the installation of services within root protection areas (in certain instances) is available, however there will always be a potential arboricultural impact and arboricultural advice must be sought regarding the suitability of these methods before they are relied upon. If it is achievable the root protection areas should always be avoided.
- 4.6 If further tree planting occurs within the development site, consideration should be given to species selection (in relation to form and potential size) and planting locations to ensure their successful integration into the new development. Recommendations for mitigation tree planting may be included in the arboricultural impact assessment, or a more thorough landscaping strategy may be provided by a landscape designer/architect.



Appendices

Appendix A
Tree Constraints Plan

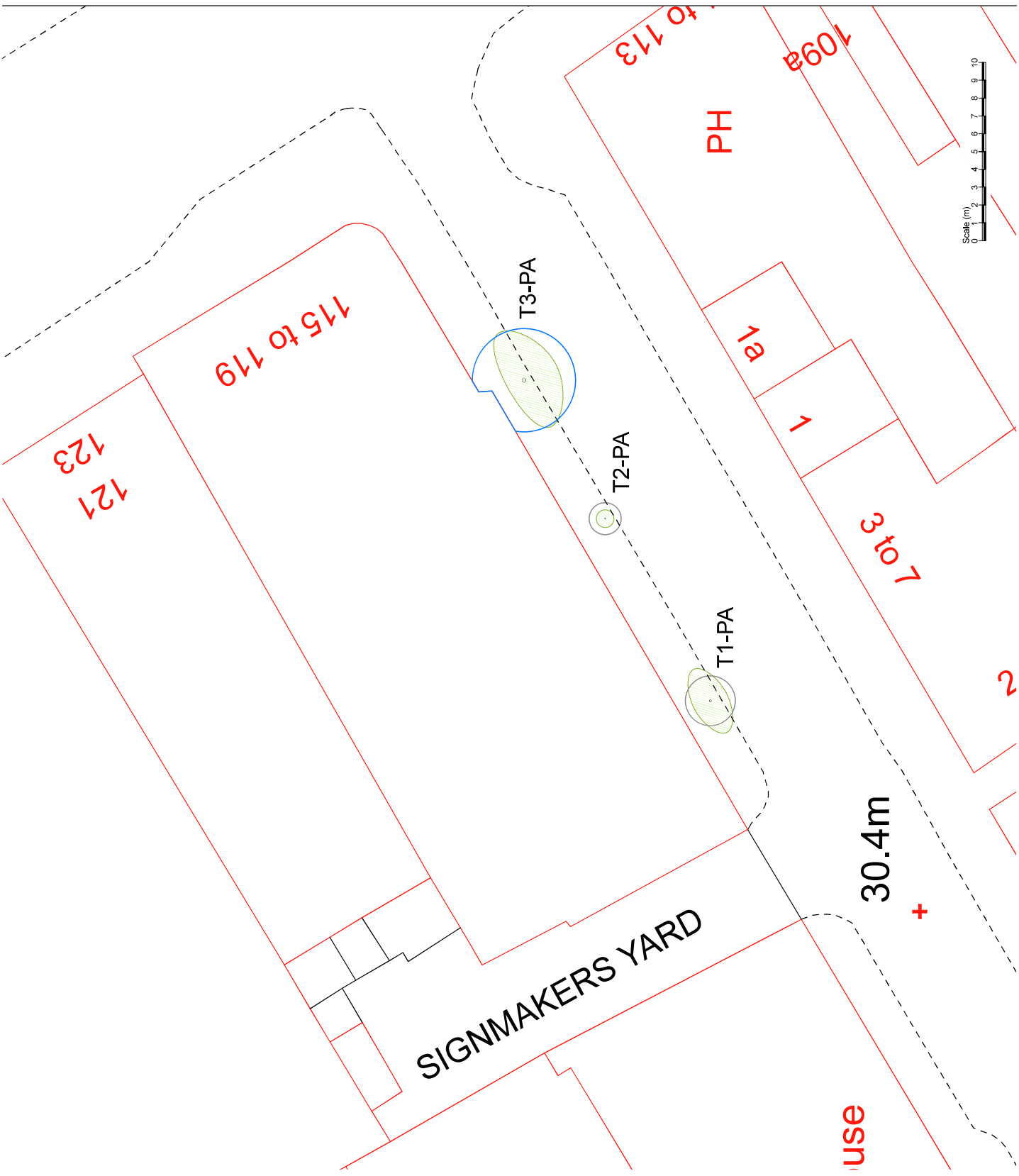
- Key:**
-  Root protection area for category A* tree
 -  Root protection area for category B** tree
 -  Root protection area for category C* tree
 -  Root protection area for category U* tree
 -  Tree canopy

* Tree categorised in accordance with BS 5837:2012 "Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations".

Appendix 2. (Tree Survey Schedule) contained within the arboricultural report ref. 5284/19-01 contains further information for each tree.

This drawing should be viewed in colour.

Tree numbers suffixed with PA indicate the tree position is approximate.



Drawing no: 5284/19/A	Rev: -	Sheet number: 1 of 1
Site:		
115-119 Camden High Street Camden Town London NW1 7J5		
Drawing title: Tree Constraints Plan		
Date drawn: 24/07/2019		
Scale: 1:200 at A3		
Drawn by: LR	Checked by: PD	



Appendix B
Tree Survey Schedule

Tree Survey Schedule

Site: 115–119 Camden High Street
 Survey date: 16th July 2019
 Surveyor: Lewis Rumsey



Tree ref.	Species	Height (m)	Stem diameter (mm)	Branch spread (m)	Crown clearance (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Comments	Preliminary management recommendations	Category grading	Root Protection Area (m ²)	Root Protection Radius (m)
T1	Bird cherry (Prunus padus)	5	120	N: 1	Crown:	Semi mature	Good	Good	In planting pit. Crown lifted over road. Crown reduced away from building.	No action required at time of survey.	C1+2	6.5	1.4
				E: 2	2 average								
				S: 2	Branch:								
				W: 1	2.5 average								
T2	Norway maple (Acer platanoides)	6	75	N: 0.5	Crown:	Semi mature	Good	Good	In planting pit. Crown lifted over road. Crown reduced to form upright column. Minor wound on stem at base.	No action required at time of survey.	C1+2	2.5	0.9
				E: 0.5	2 average								
				S: 0.5	Branch:								
				W: 0.5	2 average								
T3	Swedish whitebeam (Sorbus x intermedia)	7	230	N: 1	Crown:	Early mature	Good	Good	In planting pit. Crown lifted over road. Crown reduced away from building. Some basal growth. Twin stem at 2m with tight union. Damage to bark on stem.	Remove basal growth.	B1+2	23.9 amended on Tree Constraints Plan	2.8 amended on Tree Constraints Plan
				E: 3	3 average								
				S: 2	Branch:								
				W: 3	4 west								

Appendix C

Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment



Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)	Identification on plan		
Trees unsuitable for retention				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of their current land use for longer than 10 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 the 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	Red		
	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).	Green
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 remedial 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.	Blue
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 150mm.	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.	Grey

Appendix D

Photographs

Photographs

Photograph 1:
Tree T1



Photograph 2:
Tree T2



Photograph 3:
Tree T3





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