Arboricultural assessment & method statement

27 Lansdowne Road, Notting Hill, London

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Site location and report purpose

Report purpose

This arboricultural assessment report provides sufficient information for the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to consider the effect of the proposed development on local character from a tree perspective. It is fully compliant with the BS 5837 advice relating to the planning application stage of the process and it meets national standard planning application validation requirements.

More specifically, the development proposal is for the re-modelling of the existing dwelling and creation of a basement at 27 Lansdowne Road, Notting Hill, London.

This report includes:

- **A Tree protection plan** illustrating tree locations, categories, the location of the proposed development, and the proposed tree protection measures.
- **An Arboricultural assessment** (section 1 of the report) providing an analysis of the tree issues to assist the LPA in assessing the impact on local character.
- **An Arboricultural method statement** (section 2 of the report) describing how retained trees will be protected and managed during the development activity.
- **Appendices** (Appendix 1 – Local plan policy, background administrative information, and data collection; Appendix 2 – Tree schedule and explanatory notes; and, Appendix 3 – QR Codes for SGNs).
- **A companion document** to supplement the main report titled *Manual for managing trees on development sites (Version 2.1)*, which provides explanations of how retained trees will be managed on site in the form of Site Guidance Notes (SGNs) covering the relevant issues.
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1.1 Table 1: Summary of trees affected and protected by the proposal

From my review of the constraints and the proposed layout, my assessment of the impact on trees, both during and after development, and those that need protection using special precautions, is summarised in Table 1:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>British Standard 5837 Category</th>
<th>A (High quality)</th>
<th>B (Moderate quality)</th>
<th>C (Low quality)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remove</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>H3 (part), T8, T9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prune</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect using special precautions</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>T1, T2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post development considerations</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note on types of protection: All retained trees will be protected during development by using fencing and ground protection, and only those requiring special precautions to limit the impact of encroachment are listed in Table 1.

Note on RPA adjustment: Special precautions are only necessary where encroachment into RPAs occurs. If the extent of RPAs can be adjusted within the guidance set out in BS 5837, this is explained in more detail in 1.2 below.

1.2 Discussion of specific tree issues

RPA adjustment for T1, T2, T4, T5, T6, and T7: BS 5837 (4.6.2 & 4.6.3) makes provision for adjusting the initial circular RPA if justified by pre-existing site conditions or other factors. On this site, I have assessed that this can be reasonably applied to these trees, and appropriate adjustments are illustrated on the tree protection plan. More specifically, I explain the reasoning as follows:

- The RPAs of T1 and T2 have been reduced due to the regular pollard pruning regime producing a crown size that is unlikely to be proportionate to their stem diameter. For these C category trees, there is also minor encroachment into their notional circular RPAs. However, they are low-quality trees and the limited encroachment is unlikely to further compromise their retention. Furthermore, the encroachment is on the outer extent of the RPAs and relatively small compared to the area that will be left undisturbed. For this reason, my view is that these trees will be able to tolerate this level of disturbance and the proposal falls within the BS 5837 guidance. In summary, if the guidance set out in SGN 7 Excavating in RPAs is observed, I believe that the proposed works can be implemented without any significant adverse impact on the trees, and therefore local character.

- The RPAs of T4, T5, and T6 have been adjusted in consideration of the pollarded nature of T4 and T5, and the immaturity of T6 in relation to the surrounding built form. The RPAs are shown as stopping at the site boundary wall and adjacent building.

- The RPA of T7 has been adjusted to reflect the likely root constraints from the existing garage, hardstanding, and brick-built store at the rear of the house. There has been no adjustment to the north despite the location of the site boundary wall, due to its very close proximity and the...
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likelihood that roots of this particular species will have grown into the relatively porous hard landscape pavement beyond.

The existing garage, hardstanding, and brick-built store at the rear of the house will be removed prior to construction. They will need to be demolished and removed, taking care not to overly disturb any roots that may have grown adjacent to their foundations. In summary, if the guidance set out in SGN 8 Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs is observed, I believe that the proposed works can be implemented without any long-term detrimental impact on tree health, and therefore local character.

1.3 The impact of tree removals on local character

Removal of T8 and T9: These trees are well within the site and are not prominent as skyline features from any public viewpoints. They are low-quality trees with very little potential to contribute to local character because of the backdrop of large trees to be retained and their loss will have no detrimental impact on tree health or local character.

1.5 Post development considerations

My assessment is that there will be no adverse impact on retained trees once the development is completed and occupied.

1.6 Compliance with local plan policy

This proposal complies with the relevant local plan policies: CL 6 Small-scale Alterations and Additions and CR 6 Trees and landscape (Appendix A1.1) because it will not result in the damage or loss of trees of townscape or amenity value.

1.7 Summary of impact on local character

This proposal will result in the loss of two trees that are low category because of their small size. Their loss will have no detrimental impact on the present character of the area. All the significant boundary tree cover will remain intact and no high-category trees will need to be removed.

The matter of adverse impacts on retained trees due to post-development pressures to fell or prune has been considered and I concluded that no further trees will be affected. The construction activity and proposed changes may affect further trees if appropriate protective measures are not taken. However, if adequate precautions to protect the retained trees are specified and implemented through the arboricultural method statement included in this report, the development proposal will have no impact on the contribution of trees to local character.

For these reasons, I conclude that the proposed development would not cause an unacceptable or adverse impact on the long-term vitality of the retained trees, and therefore the character and appearance of the area. Furthermore, it fully aligns with the broad guidance set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and specifically complies with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea local plan policies CL6 and CR6 as reproduced in Appendix A1.1.
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2.1 Site Guidance Notes (SGNs)

This section of the report identifies which trees on this site will be protected and managed, and by what means. This site-specific summary is supplemented by more detailed explanations and descriptions of specific operations set out in the accompanying *Manual for managing trees on development sites*. That document is a compilation of 12 individual SGNs addressing the following tree protection and management issues that regularly arise in the construction phase of development:

- **SGN 1 Monitoring tree protection** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn01?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 2 Fencing protected trees** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn02?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 3 Ground protection** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn03?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 4 Pollution control** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn04?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 5 Site cranes & piling rigs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn05?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 6 Height restrictions** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn06?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 7 Excavating in RPAs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn07?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 8 Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn08?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 9 Installing/upgrading surfacing in RPAs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn09?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 10 Installing structures in RPAs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn10?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 11 Installing services in RPAs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn11?stage=Stage))
- **SGN 12 Landscaping in RPAs** ([link](https://www.barrelltreecare.co.uk/resources/technical-guidance/sgn12?stage=Stage))

**NOTE:** Each individual SGN can be downloaded by using the links above and the QR Code links in Appendix 3.

2.2 Identification of areas to be protected

The tree protection plan shows the areas where protective measures are necessary. The fencing location is shown by the heavy black dashed lines, with the construction exclusion zone behind as the lighter black diagonal hatch. New temporary ground protection is shown by a blue fill.

2.3 Arboricultural supervision

An arboricultural consultant will be appointed to advise on the tree management for the site and to attend:

- a pre-commencement meeting before any work starts;
- regular supervision visits to oversee the agreed tree protection, as agreed at the pre-commencement meeting; and
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- further supervision visits, as necessary, to oversee any unexpected works that could affect trees.

The detail of how the arboricultural supervision will be carried out is explained in SGN 1 *Monitoring tree protection* in the accompanying Manual.

2.4 Table 2: Summary of the site operations requiring arboricultural input

For this site, arboricultural input will be needed for the following operations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brief operation summary</th>
<th>Trees affected</th>
<th>Location of detailed explanations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-commencement meeting: Meeting on site with all parties to agree protective measures, as described in SGN 1. Will be carried out before any significant site works begin.</td>
<td>All trees</td>
<td>SGN 1 Monitoring tree protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tree felling and pruning: Contractor will carry out agreed works as described in Appendix 2. Will be completed before any significant site works begin.</td>
<td>Fell H3(part), T8, T9</td>
<td>Appendix 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installing fencing and ground protection: Agreed tree protection measures will be installed and checked, as described in SGN 2 and SGN 3. Will be completed before any significant site works begin.</td>
<td>Fencing and ground protection for T1, T2, H3, T7, T10</td>
<td>Tree protection plan, SGN 2 Fencing protected trees, and SGN 3 Ground protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pollution control near retained trees: Any pollution control measures identified during risk assessment will be installed as described in SGN 4. Will be completed before any potential pollutants arrive on site.</td>
<td>All trees</td>
<td>SGN 4 Pollution control</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation of site cranes and piling rigs: Provision will be made to prevent site cranes and piling rigs damaging trees, as described in SGN 5.</td>
<td>All trees</td>
<td>SGN 5 Site cranes &amp; piling rigs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular arboricultural supervision: Provision will be made to carry out and record agreed arboricultural supervision, as described in SGN 1.</td>
<td>All trees</td>
<td>SGN 1 Monitoring tree protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excavating in RPAs: These operations will be carried out as described in SGN 7.</td>
<td>T1, T2</td>
<td>SGN 7 Excavating in RPAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs: These operations will be carried out as described in SGN 8.</td>
<td>T7, T10</td>
<td>SGN 8 Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscaping in RPAs: These operations will be carried out with care, as described in SGN 12.</td>
<td>All trees</td>
<td>SGN 12 Landscaping in RPAs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Removing tree protection: Protection can only be removed when there is no risk of damage to retained trees, as described in SGN 1.</td>
<td>All trees</td>
<td>SGN 1 Monitoring tree protection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The operations summarised in this table, and supplemented by the more detailed explanations set out in the SGNs and the rest of this document, form the arboricultural method statement for this site. The Site Manager will ensure that its details and any agreed amendments are known and understood by all site personnel. Copies of the agreed documents will be available on site.
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All personnel who could have an impact on trees will be briefed on the specific tree protection requirements as part of the site induction procedures. This requirement will be written into the site management documentation.

If unanticipated issues arise on site not referenced in the above explanations, further guidance on how to manage them can be found in the accompanying Manual.

2.5 Construction method statement (heads of terms summary)

A construction method statement is a description of how operations that may affect trees will be carried out to minimise any adverse impact on them. The details of how the site will be managed are construction and contractual matters that can only be finalised once the post-consent detailed planning begins. For that reason, at this stage in the planning process, as explained in clause 5.5.6 of BS 5837, it is normally sufficient to list a heads of terms summary of the issues requiring more detailed consideration once consent is issued. On this site, those issues are likely to include:

1. Preparation of a written site management protocol for dealing with tree issues, to be incorporated into formal site management procedures, and to specifically include induction training for all operatives related to tree protection.
2. The order of work on site, including demolition, site clearance, the installation of protective measures, the phasing of successive work locations, the removal of existing structures/surfacing, the installation of new structures/surfacing, the removal of tree protection, and any necessary reinstatement.
3. Erection and maintenance of tree protection measures.
4. Who will be responsible for protecting the trees on site.
5. Detailed proposals for inspecting and supervising the tree protection.
6. How accidents and emergencies involving trees will be managed, including accidental damage to roots and their treatment.
7. Details of facilitation pruning and access into site. What size vehicles will be used under canopies and will large machinery be lifted over trees.
8. The parking arrangements for workers and visitors.
9. A schedule of emergency contact numbers relating to trees.
10. Areas for loading and unloading of materials and storage of materials and plant.
11. Where site facilities will be located and when will they be installed.
12. How machinery and equipment (such as excavators, cranes and their loads, concrete pumps and piling rigs) will enter, move on, work on, and leave the site.
13. Pollution control to specifically consider chemical storage and wheel washing facilities in relation to trees.
15. Details of earthworks, grading and mounding and removal of spoil, including any planned lowering or raising of ground levels.
16. Precise services locations, including the method of excavation when near trees.
17. Crane location and zones of movement.
18. Details of upgrading/removing/replacing existing surfacing and areas where this will happen, including detailed and precise cross-sections where no-dig surfacing is to be installed.
19. How and when any temporary surfacing will be laid and removed.
20. Finished excavation lines for basement works and the method of installing retention, e.g. sheet piling.
21. How post-construction impacts through compaction to soil near trees will be ameliorated.
Appendix 1: Local plan policies, background administrative information, and data collection

A1.1 Local plan policies

Policy CL 6 Small-scale Alterations and Additions:

34.3.58 Trees make a much valued contribution to the character of the borough, and bring biodiversity and public health benefits. Works to, and in the vicinity of, trees, need to be planned and executed with very close attention to detail. All applications for basements likely to affect trees either on-site or nearby must be accompanied by a full tree survey and tree protection proposal for the construction phase. Local Plan policy CR6 Trees and Landscape will also apply.

Policy CR 6 Trees and landscape:

The Council will require the protection of existing trees and the provision of new trees that compliment existing or create new, high quality green areas which deliver amenity and biodiversity benefits.

To deliver this the Council will:

a. resist the loss of trees unless:
   i. the tree is dead, dying or dangerous;
   ii. the tree is causing significant damage to adjacent structures;
   iii. the tree has little or no amenity value;
   iv. felling is for reasons of good arboricultural practise.

b. resist development which results in the damage or loss of trees of townscape or amenity value;

c. require where practicable an appropriate replacement for any tree that is felled;

d. require that trees are adequately protected throughout the course of development;

e. require new trees to be suitable species for the location and to be compatible with the surrounding landscape and townscape

f. require landscape design to:
   i. be fit for purpose and function;
   ii. be of a high quality and compatible with the surrounding landscape, and townscape character;

   iii. clearly defined as public or private space;

   iv. optimise the benefit to wildlife habitat;

   g. serve Tree Preservation Orders or attach planning conditions to protect trees of townscape or amenity value that are threatened by development.
Appendix 1: Local plan policies, background administrative information, and data collection

A1.1 Table 3: Background administrative information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background administrative information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report date &amp; reference</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tree protection plan reference</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instructing client</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Instructions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Provided documents</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Report author and credentials</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Report limitations** | • We have not checked if there is any statutory protection on the trees because this can delay the production of the report. If any tree works are proposed before a planning consent is given, then the possible existence of any statutory protection must be checked with the LPA.  
• This report does not consider ecological or archaeological issues, or any other matter beyond the assessment of the trees. |
| **Technical references** | In preparing the analysis in this report, we considered the guidance and advice in the following technical references:  
## Appendix 1: Local plan policies, background administrative information, and data collection

### A1.2 Table 4: Data collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data collection</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date of site visit</td>
<td>19th October 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People present during site visit</td>
<td>Alex Needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weather &amp; visibility</td>
<td>Clear, still, and dry, with good visibility</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Limitations to observations | • The inspection of the trees for the purposes of assessing their condition and work requirements was made on the basis that they will be annually inspected in the future to identify any changes in condition and review the original recommendations. For these reasons, the tree assessment advice only remains valid for one year from the date that the trees were last inspected.  
  • All observations were of a preliminary nature and did not involve any climbing or detailed investigation beyond what was visible from accessible points at ground level.  
  • Observations of trees outside the site boundaries are confined to what was visible from within the site.  
  • All dimensions were estimated unless otherwise indicated. |
| Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), Conservation Areas, and tree categorisation | TPOs cannot always be reliably interpreted from the documentation to identify which trees are protected, especially as time passes and site conditions change from when they were originally made. It is common for TPO plans to be inaccurate and schedules often become out of date as trees die or are removed. Frequently, trees deteriorate and, although they may be technically protected by the TPO, are in such poor condition or causing such unreasonable inconvenience that their suitability for retention becomes questionable. In a planning context, if poor trees are assessed as unsuitable for retention, then it would be inappropriate to show them as a material constraint in development planning. For these reasons, although TPOs do need to be considered, they do not form the primary basis for tree categorisation. Poor quality trees assessed as not worthy of retention will be shown as such, irrespective of whether they are protected or not. Similarly, good quality trees that are not protected will still be shown as material constraints. The same rationale will be applied to Conservation Areas. |
| Tree location and numbering | Each tree, hedge, and group, was inspected, and the numbering scheme is indicated on the tree protection plan. Where important trees were found on site that were not included on the provided plan, their approximate positions and canopy extents are indicated on the plan. |
| Recording of tree data     | For each identified tree, hedge, and group, the information collected was recorded on the tree schedule in Appendix 2 and the tree protection plan. |
| Compliance of data collection with BS 5837 | The data collection is fully compliant with the advice in subsection 4.4.2 of BS 5837. When collecting this information, specific consideration was given to any low branches that may influence future use, age class, physiological condition, structural condition, and remaining contribution. Where appropriate, crown spreads were also noted where they differed from those shown on the provided land survey. |
| Calculation of RPAs        | Following the recommendations in Table D1 of BS 5837, the diameter of each tree was rounded up to the next 2.5cm increment, with the radius of a nominal circle and the resultant RPA taken directly from that table. This information is listed for each tree in the tree schedule in Appendix 2. |
## Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

**NOTE:** Colour annotation is **A & B** trees with green background; **C & U** trees with blue background; trees to be removed in red text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tree No</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Height (m)</th>
<th>Diameter (cm) @ 1.5m</th>
<th>Maturity</th>
<th>Low Branches</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Tree Works</th>
<th>RPA radius (m)</th>
<th>RPA area (m²)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T1</td>
<td>Lime</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>50*</td>
<td>Mature</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Pollarded</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T2</td>
<td>Lime</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>40*</td>
<td>Mature</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Pollarded</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H3</td>
<td>Privet</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12.5*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Fell for development (part)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4</td>
<td>Lime</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>50*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Pollarded</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5</td>
<td>Sycamore</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>50*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Pollarded</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T6</td>
<td>Lime</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T7</td>
<td>Tree of heaven</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>53*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Twin stemmed, some areas of</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>dieback in the crown, previous pruning</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>evident</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T8</td>
<td>Plum</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Fell for development</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T9</td>
<td>Apple</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>12.5*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Fell for development</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T10</td>
<td>London plane</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>100*</td>
<td>Maturing</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>452</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

Explanatory Notes

- **Abbreviations:**
  T: Tree  
  H: Hedge

- **Botanical tree names:**
  Apple: *Malus sp*  
  Lime: *Tilia sp*  
  London plane: *Platanus x hispanica*  
  Plum: *Prunus sp*  
  Privet: *Ligustrum vulgare*  
  Sycamore: *Acer pseudoplatanus*  
  Tree of heaven: *Ailanthus altissima*

- **BS 5837 (2012) compliance:** All data has been collected based on the recommendations set out in subsection 4.4 of BS 5837.

- **Tree inspections and site limitations:** Each tree was subjected to a quick visual check level of inspection. Where there is restricted access to the base of a tree, its attributes are assessed from the nearest point of access. Climbing inspections are not carried out during this level of inspection and, if heavy ivy is present, tree condition is assessed from what can be seen from the ground. A separate note is recorded if further investigation may be required to clarify its status.

- **Crown spreads:** Crown spread dimensions are not listed in the tree schedule because they are illustrated on the land survey base to all the plans in this document. Where crown spreads of significant trees on site are found to deviate from those shown on the provided land survey, we have noted it in the text of the report and annotated it on our plans.

- **Dimensions:** All dimensions are estimated unless otherwise indicated with an asterisk (*) after the figure.

- **Species:** Species identification is based on visual observations. Where there is some doubt over tree identity, sp is noted after the genus name to indicate that the species cannot be reliably identified at the time of the survey. Where there is more than one species in a group, only the most frequent are noted and not all the species present may be listed.

- **Height:** Height is estimated to provide a broad indication of the size of the tree.

- **Trunk diameter:** Trunk diameter is estimated or measured (with a diameter tape), at the discretion of the consultant, and recorded in 2.5cm increments as advised in BS 5837 Table D1. Estimates may be made where access is restricted, direct measurement is prevented because of ivy on the trunk, or the tree is assessed as low quality. The point of measurement and the adjustments for stem variations are as advised in Figure C1 of BS 5837.

- **Maturity:** In planning context, maturity provides a simplistic indication of a tree’s ability to cope with change and its potential for further growth. For the purposes of this report, young indicates a potential to significantly increase in size and a high ability to cope with change, maturing indicates some potential to increase in size and a medium ability to cope with change, and mature indicates little potential to increase in size and limited ability to cope with change.

- **Low branches:** Any low branches that would not be feasible for removal during normal management and should be considered as a design constraint are noted here and explained in the notes.

- **Category:** Our assessment automatically considered tree physiological/structural condition (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5h), and so these are not listed separately in the schedule. Additionally, the category accounts for the remaining contribution (BS 5837, 4.4.2.5i) as greater than 40 years for A trees, greater than 20 years for B trees, at least 10 years for C trees and less than 10 years for U trees, so this is also not listed separately in the schedule. Category A, B and C trees are automatically listed as sub-category 1 unless otherwise stated.

- **Notes:** Only relevant features relating to physiological or structural condition and low branches that may help clarify the categorisation are recorded. If there are no notes, then the presumption should be that no relevant features were observed.
Appendix 2: Tree schedule and explanatory notes

- **Tree works**: The recommended tree works are based on the quick visual check level of inspection and only intended to address significant hazards identified during that inspection. The following points should also be considered before carrying out any works:
  
  1. **Reporting during work operations**: In the context of the preliminary nature of the tree inspection, any defects that may affect tree safety discovered by the contractor when carrying out the work recommendations should be reported to the supervising officer. Modification to the schedule of works may be required because of these reports. The contractor should be specifically instructed on this point.
  
  2. **Implementation of works**: All tree works should be carried out to BS 3998 *Recommendations for Tree Work* as modified by more recent research. It is advisable to select a contractor from the local authority list and preferably one approved by the Arboricultural Association. Their Register of Contractors is available free from The Malthouse, Stroud Green, Standish, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire GL10 3DL; phone 01242 522152; website [www.trees.org.uk](http://www.trees.org.uk).
  
  3. **Statutory wildlife obligations**: The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 provides statutory protection to birds, bats and other species that inhabit trees. All tree work operations are covered by these provisions and advice from an ecologist must be obtained before undertaking any works that might constitute an offence.
  
  4. **Stumps**: Stumps to be removed within the RPAs of retained trees should be ground out with a stump grinder to minimise any disturbance unless otherwise authorised by the supervising officer.

- **Future tree safety inspections**: Due to the time that may elapse between the original survey and the start of development, all trees should be re-inspected as part of the standard risk management process before any works start on site. Our assessment of the trees was carried out on the basis that a re-inspection would be carried out within a year of the assessment visit and our advice on tree condition must be reviewed annually from the date of that visit.
### Appendix 3: QR Codes for SGNs (Scan with reader to download)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SGN 1 Monitoring tree protection</th>
<th>SGN 2 Fencing protected trees</th>
<th>SGN 3 Ground protection</th>
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<td>SGN 5 Site cranes &amp; piling rigs</td>
<td>SGN 6 Height restrictions</td>
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<td>SGN 7 Excavating in RPAs</td>
<td>SGN 8 Removing surfacing and structures in RPAs</td>
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<td>SGN 12 Landscaping in RPAs</td>
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