

**Wentworth Castle Gardens
Park Drive
Barnsley**

Arboricultural Method Statement
For the proposed visitor reception kiosk

**Prepared at the Request of
Sarah Dennett
The National Trust**

**On
25 February 2019**

**By
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Treescapescap Consultancy Ltd.

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SUMMARY

Treescaping Consultancy Ltd. have been instructed by Sarah Dennett, senior building surveyor with the National Trust to prepare an arboricultural method statement for the proposed construction of a new visitor kiosk at Wentworth Castle Gardens.

The purpose of this method statement is to implement the proposals whilst limiting potential disturbance to retained trees to an acceptable level.

The key operations that should take account of trees, in chronological order are listed below.

- a. Remove Tree 22
- b. Erect temporary tree protection barriers around the trees to be retained.
- c. Construct the visitor kiosk and install the associated services.
- d. Remove temporary tree protection barriers.

Section 3 is the arboricultural method statement.

If the consented development is carried out in accordance with this method statement then disturbance to the retained trees will be maintained at an acceptably low level.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Instruction

Treescapescapes Consultancy Ltd. have been instructed by Sarah Dennett, senior building surveyor with the National Trust to prepare an arboricultural method statement to support a planning application to install a customer kiosk.

1.2 Qualifications and Experience

I have based this report on my initial site visit, the information provided by the National Trust and my report dated 13 December 2018.

1.3 Documents and Provided Information

Sarah Dennett provided a topographic survey of the existing site layout and a plan showing the proposals as Autocad compatible files. I have not checked the accuracy of these plans or the locations of the trees plotted on them.

I met with the Sarah Dennett on 20 November 2018 to discuss the location of the kiosk.

1.4 Development Proposals

The customer kiosk is proposed on the edge of the existing car park. This is a small, light structure approximately 5.5m square.

1.5 Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is to provide a method statement that demonstrates how the kiosk will be constructed without having an adverse impact on the existing trees being retained.

1.6 Relevant Industry Standards and Codes of Practice

The main arboricultural industry standards and codes of best practice relevant to the planning and execution of this project are:

- BS 5837 (2012) – Trees in relation to construction – Recommendations;
- BS 3998 (2010) – Tree Work – Recommendations; and
- National Joint Utilities Guidelines, Volume 4 – NJUG Guidelines For The Planning, Installation And Maintenance Of Utility Apparatus In Proximity To Trees (Issue 2) (www.njug.org.uk)

2 SITE VISIT AND OBSERVATIONS

2.1 Site Visits

I visited the site on 20 November 2018 to carry out the initial pre-development tree survey. I met with Sarah Dennett on that visit.

2.2 Site Description

The site is located at Ordnance Survey grid reference SE 3207 0330 to the south of Lowe Lane, which runs in a southwest to northeast direction at this point.

The site is accessed from Lowe Lane along a drive that runs in a southerly direction towards the Northern College buildings and car park.

The trees considered in this report are in the vicinity of the proposed kiosk on the western edge of the existing unsurfaced car park.

3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 General Precautions

The following general precautions should ensure the health and longevity of retained trees. They should be enforced during the construction phase within the RPAs of retained trees and under their canopies.

- All work will be carried out in accordance with a current risk assessment.
- All proprietary materials will be installed in accordance with their manufacturer's instructions and a current risk assessment.
- All equipment and tools will be used in accordance with their manufacturer's instructions and a current risk assessment.
- No storage of materials or fuel.
- No bonfires within 10m of the outer edge of the crown or RPA of a tree.
- No refuelling of mechanical equipment.
- No mixing of cement.
- No washing of cement mixers.
- No raising the soil level without the agreement of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).
- Only operate or park vehicles and plant if the soil is suitably protected, as recommended by Treescapes Consultancy Ltd. and agreed by the LPA.
- The guidance contained within the National Joint Utilities Group Volume 4 (Guidelines For The Planning, Installation And Maintenance Of Utility Apparatus In Proximity To Trees (Issue 2, 2007); <http://www.njug.org.uk/>) will be followed when installing underground services within the rooting areas of retained trees. To minimise potential damage to tree roots excavations will be carried out by a pneumatic excavation lance.
- No materials will be dumped or stored within the RPA of a tree or under its canopy, whether in a skip or directly on the ground, unless the ground is suitably protected against contamination and compaction.

3.2 Phasing of work

The works will be phased as follows.

- a. Remove Tree 22.
- b. Erect temporary tree protection barriers at the positions shown in Appendix 2.
- c. Construct the kiosk and install the associated services.
- d. Remove temporary tree protection barriers.

3.3 Trees to be felled

Tree 22 has a bark wound in the upper stem with associated decay. The tree probably has limited future prospects relative to most of the other trees in this area of the grounds. Removal of this tree will not be detrimental to the overall tree cover.

3.4 Temporary Tree Protection Barriers

Temporary tree protection barriers will be erected in the locations shown on the tree protection plan included as Appendix 2. These will remain in place for the duration of the construction phase and will not be removed or moved without the permission of the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

There are a number of fencing standards available for tree protection where development is proposed. The standard used depends on the extent of development, the level of access required and the size of vehicles that will be operating. Very robust, braced 2m high fencing as described in BS5837: 2012 is necessary for sites with lots of activity with large vehicles.

Trafficking will be restricted the existing road network and the existing car park. There is ample storage space and manoeuvring opportunities within the existing car park.

When there are pressures of space on development sites there sometimes can be difficulties with trafficking and storage in the RPAs of trees to be retained. However, there is adequate space in the existing car park which will limit pressure to use protected areas. For this reason I do not believe the fencing specified in BS5837: 2012 will be necessary. Instead, the following fencing standard is proposed.

- 75-100mm diameter, by 1.8m long, wooden posts firmly inserted 300mm into the ground 2m apart;
- the posts should be spanned by 30mm x 100mm x 2m wooden rails between their tops and bottoms; and
- 1.5m high chestnut paling should be attached to both the top and bottom rails at 300-500mm intervals.

Alternatively, Herras fencing that is braced with poles driven into the ground could be used.

3.5 Construct the kiosk and install the associated services

The kiosk will be outside the RPAs and crown spreads of retained trees and can therefore be constructed without any special consideration to the trees.

The services to the kiosk will be routed outside the RPAs of retained trees. Hand digging will not therefore be necessary.

3.6 Remove the Temporary Tree Protection Barriers

The temporary tree protection barriers will be removed following completion of the works.

4 LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Protected Trees

If these trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), located in a conservation area or protected by planning conditions, it will be necessary to obtain permission from the Local Planning Authority (LPA) before any work, other than certain exempted operations, can be carried out to them. The work specified in this report is necessary for their reasonable management and should be acceptable to the LPA but tree owners should appreciate that they may take an alternative point of view and have the option to refuse to grant consent.

I understand that planning permission allows the minimum amount of work to protected trees required to implement the consented development without requiring further consent under tree protection legislation.

4.2 Wildlife Conservation Legislation

The nests of most birds are legally protected while they are in use. Bats are also legally protected and their roosts are protected whether or not they are in use. Tree surgeons should be aware of their duties under the legislation enacted to protect wildlife and carry out their site assessment and work accordingly. If bats are suspected Natural England should be consulted.

The Forestry Commission and others produced a leaflet called: *Woodland Management for Bats* (2005) which contains some useful advice and is free to download from: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-6K3CXY>

On page 14 this publication states:

'The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 makes it an offence to disturb, damage or destroy bats or their roosts (even if bats are not present in the roost at the time of any incident). The Act applies in both England and Wales, and requires consultations with the appropriate Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation [Natural England] before carrying out activities which might harm or disturb bats or their roosts (even if unoccupied).'

'The Act is amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 in England and Wales. This adds 'reckless' to the offence of damaging or destroying a place a bat uses for shelter or rest, or disturbing a bat while using a roost. Under EU Regulations damaging or destroying a breeding site or resting place is an absolute offence, regardless of whether the act of doing so may be considered reckless or deliberate.'

Appendix 1

The Experience and Qualifications of Ian Kennedy

1. Qualifications

Ian graduated from the Scottish Agricultural College in August 1995 with a Higher National Diploma in Horticulture (HND) with Distinction.

In 1998 Ian graduated from the University of Aberdeen with aBSc (Hons) Upper second class in Forestry with Arboriculture and Amenity Forestry.

He passed the LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection examination in (2006).

In 2009 his application to become a professional member of the Arboricultural Association was assessed to fulfil all the necessary requirements and he became a professional member of the Association that year.

In 2011 he passed the final examination of the Institute of Chartered Foresters and become a member of that institute in January 2012.

2. Practical experience

Presently Ian is working in private practice as an independent arboricultural and woodland management consultant undertaking tree conditions surveys, pre-development tree surveys to the BS5837:2012 standard, mortgage reports and woodland management planning works. Clients range from home owners and farmers to architects, building companies, local authorities, schools and larger development companies.

Prior to private practice Ian held a number of positions in local government. Firstly he was the arboriculturalist within a planning office in Essex. Ian gained considerable experience regarding trees in relation to development, in particular BS 5837.

Development work formed the core of his duties and applications ranged from small back garden developments to major schemes such as the redevelopment of Ministry of Defence land for private residential development. Ian also undertook all functions associated with Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs), including the making of new TPOs, assessing suitability of applications to work on protected trees and trees in conservation areas.

Ian went on to managed a 500 hectare woodland estate for a local authority in South Yorkshire that included a mix of urban and rural woodlands. This included preparation and implementation of detailed management plans for multiply use woodlands. He undertook all aspects of silvicultural management from marking to

contract tendering and monitoring. He also managed the access, conservation, landscape and archaeological requirements of the estate.

Ian was directly involved in the estate achieving Forest Stewardship Council certification in 2003 and personally ensured continued certification.

Ian has worked extensively with Forestry Commission to obtain the necessary licences for management works and ensured the estate benefited fully from the full range of grants available.

Latterly at the same authority Ian went on to manage the trees and woodlands unit, having overall responsibility for management of the authority's tree and woodland stock and associated staff, together with delivery of other tree related services such as those associated with the Town and Country Planning Acts.

3. Continuing professional development

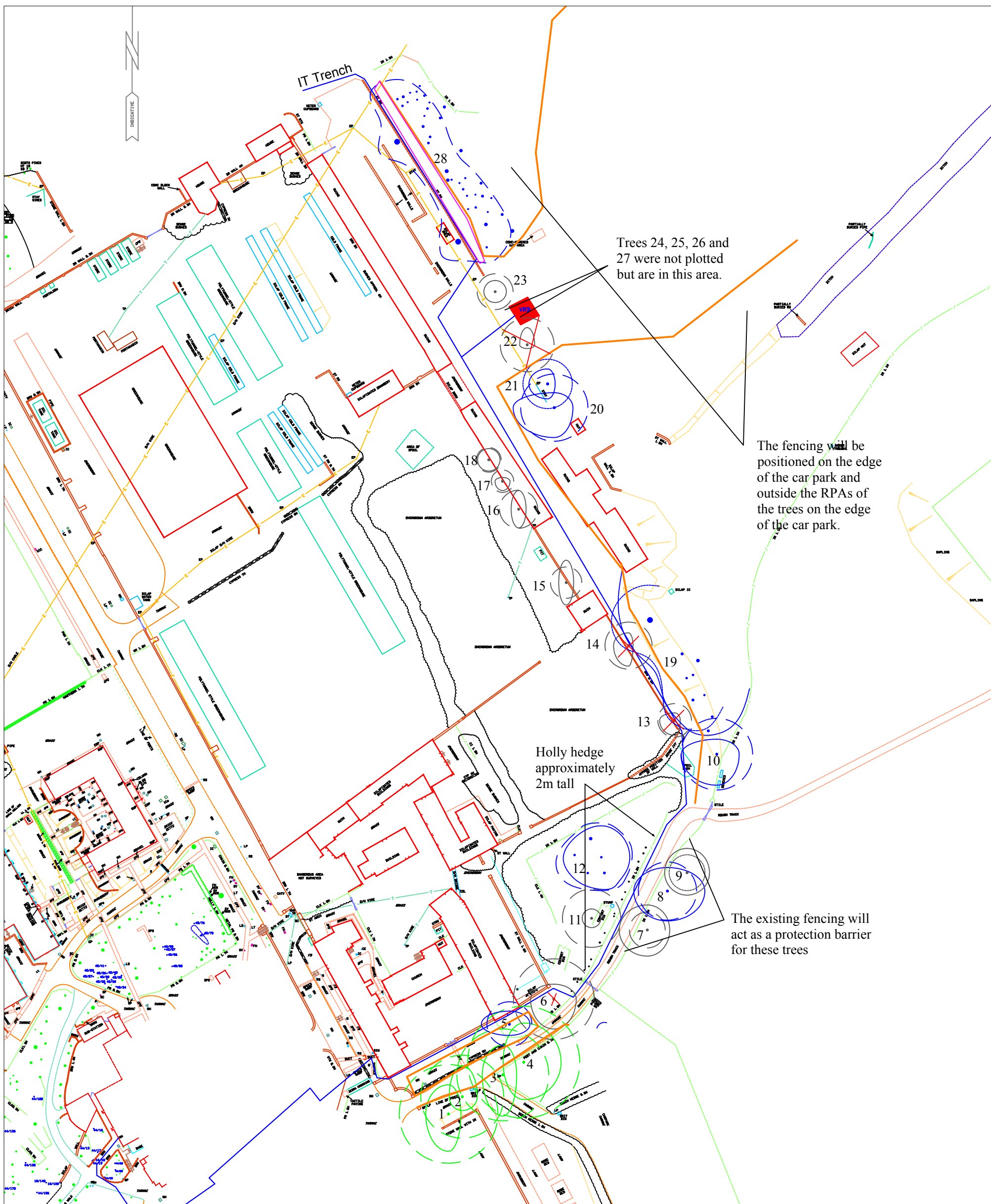
Ian regularly attends meetings, seminars and training events hosted by The Arboricultural Association, Institute of Chartered Foresters, Royal Forestry Society and Forestry Commission and benefits from the respective journals, briefings and newsletters available to members of the first three of the organisations listed.

4. Relevant experience

Ian Kennedy has spent 19 years working with trees, including as the arboricultural advisor to planning officers for a Local Planning Authority and manager of a trees and woodlands unit for another local authority with overall responsibility for trees, including in relation to the Town and Country Planning Acts.

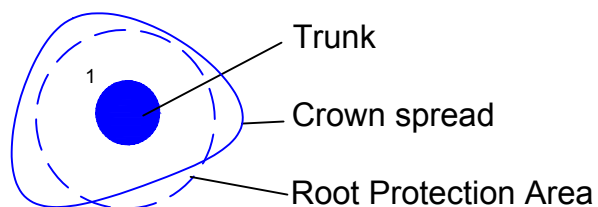
Appendix 2

Tree Protection Plan

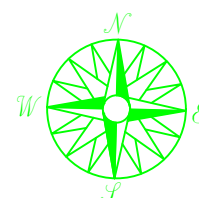
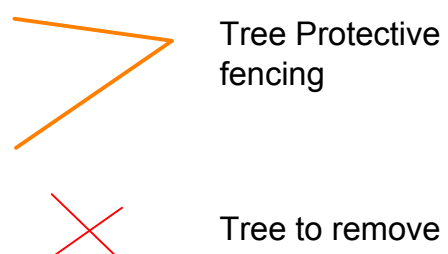


Tree protection plan showing the proposed site layout

The location of a tree and its respective number



Green - Retention category A
Blue - Retention Category B
Grey - Retention Category C
Red - Retention Category U



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