

ARBORICULTURAL SURVEY
to BS 5837:2005
at
Gypsy Lane Nursery
Park Street
Wombwell
Barnsley
S73 0AS

Client:

Andrew Bailey, Barnsley

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1.1 A report is needed at the above location to give detailed, independent, arboricultural advice on the trees present, in the particular context of potential development.

1.2 Terms of Reference

- 1.2.1 I am instructed by Andrew Bailey to visit the site and prepare my findings in a report.
1.2.2 For this purpose I have been supplied with a topographical survey.

1.3 Scope of the Report

- 1.3.1 This report is compiled in accordance with *BS 5837:2005 Trees in relation to construction*. The specific design of any proposed development is not generally taken into account at this stage.
1.3.2 Preliminary recommendations are given with a view to safety and the long-term management of a sustainable tree cover.
1.3.3 All trees within the site boundary with a stem diameter above 75mm are included.
1.3.4 Where applicable smaller trees and significant shrub masses are included.
1.3.5 Where applicable trees outside the site boundary, but close enough to be affected by development, are included.

1.4 Survey details

- 1.4.1 The survey took place during the month of February 2007.
1.4.2 Inspection was made at ground level. Further investigation, such as climbed inspections or decay detection surveys, may be recommended where appropriate.
1.4.3 Measurements were obtained using clinometers, specialist tapes or electronic distometers. Where this was not possible measurements were estimated.
1.4.4 No digging or drilling was carried out on this occasion.

2. Site Description

2.1 Land Use

- 2.1.1 The site is currently an unused area containing an ex-council nursery school which is now redundant.

2.2 Topography

- 2.2.1 The site is approximately level from east to west and slopes gently upwards from the north to the south.

2.3 Treescape

- 2.3.1 The trees on this site have a significant impact on the local treescape.
- 2.3.2 Surrounding the site is a residential area containing occasional garden trees.

2.4 Amenity Value

- 2.4.1 The trees on site collectively provide a reasonable amenity to the surrounding area. Occasional specimens have a high amenity value.

2.5 Age Class Mix

- 2.5.1 The trees surveyed ranged in age from young to early-mature. However the trees were predominantly early-mature.

2.6 Species Diversity

- 2.6.1 Species surveyed include Sycamore, Birch, Ash, Cherry, Whitebeam, Leylandii and Rowan. The predominant species were Sycamore and Ash. Other species being occasional, or even single, specimens.

3. Explanation of tree descriptions

3.1 Measurements

- 3.1.1 *HEIGHT* of the tree is measured from the stem base. Where the ground has a significant slope the higher ground is selected.
- 3.1.2 *CROWN HEIGHT* is an indication of the average height at which the main crown begins
- 3.1.3 *STEM DIAMETER* is measured at 1.5 metres above (higher) ground level. Where the tree is multi-stemmed at this point; the diameter is measured close to ground level, just above the root buttress.
- 3.1.4 *CROWN SPREAD* is measured from the centre of the stem base to the tips of the branches in all four cardinal points.

3.2 Evaluations

- 3.2.1 *AGE CLASS* of the tree is described as young, semi-mature, early-mature, mature, or over-mature.
- 3.2.2 *PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION* is classed as good, fair, poor, or dead. This is an indication of the health of the tree and takes into account vigour, presence of disease and dieback.
- 3.2.3 *STRUCTURAL CONDITION* is classed as good, fair or poor. This is an indication of the structural integrity of the tree and takes into account significant wounds, decay and quality of branch junctions.
- 3.2.4 *LIFE EXPECTANCY* is classed as; less than 10 years (<10), 10-20 years, 20-40 years, or more than 40 years (40+). This is an indication of the number of years before removal of the tree is likely to be required.

3.3 Retention Categories

- 3.3.1 *RETENTION CATEGORY* values for the trees are as follows:
- 3.3.2 *A (marked green on the plan) = retention most desirable*
These trees are of high quality and value with a good life expectancy. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

- Ai) Particularly good examples; perhaps rare or unusual species, or forming an essential part of arboricultural features e.g. avenues;

- Aii) Groups of trees having a significant landscape impact or with excellent screening properties, or those softening the effect of existing structures;
- Aiii) those having significant conservation or historical value e.g. veteran trees.

3.3.3 *B (marked in blue on the plan) = retention desirable*

These trees are of moderate quality and value with a significant life expectancy. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

- Bi) Trees that might be included in the high category but because of their numbers or slightly impaired condition, are downgraded in favour of the better individuals;
- Bii) Groups of trees forming distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals;
- Biii) Trees with clearly identifiable conservation or other cultural benefits.

3.3.4 *C (marked in grey on the plan) = trees which could be retained*

These trees are of low quality and value, and are in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established. They may be further sub-divided as follows:

- Ci) Trees not qualifying in higher categories;
- Cii) Groups of trees which do not form a distinct landscape feature;
- Ciii) Trees with very limited conservation or other cultural benefits.

3.3.5 *R (marked in red on the plan) = trees for removal*

These trees are in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years. This may be due to any of the following:

- i) Failure is likely due to serious, irredeemable, structural defects;
- ii) Removal of other category R trees will render them exposed and unstable;
- iii) They are in serious, overall decline or are dead;
- iv) They are of low quality and suppressing adjacent trees of better quality;
- v) Diseases are present which may affect the health of adjacent trees.

These trees should be removed or treated in such a way as to make them safe where they have high ecological value, such as in a woodland setting.

4. Status of the Trees

- 4.1 A check was made on 22nd January 2007 with Barnsley Council.

We are informed that there is a Tree Preservation Order in force on this site.

Before any work is organised, all the necessary steps to get the permission of the Local Planning Authority should be taken.

No work should be done to any trees until this permission has been granted.

- 4.2 Due to the large potential penalties for illegally carrying out work to protected trees, JCA recommend that a further check is carried out prior to any works being undertaken. We are able to arrange this and to organise and supervise professional contractors.

5. Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

- 5.1 Full details of all individual trees surveyed are recorded in the tables at Appendix 1. Please refer also to the attached plan at Appendix 5 and section 3 above, for a full explanation of the tables and plan.

6. Discussion

- 6.1 In total 25 items of vegetation were surveyed.
- 6.2 Those trees which overhang public footpaths and public highways, as described in Appendix 1, shall require future maintenance in order to maintain clearance heights for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. These heights should be 5.6m above a road and 2.5m above a footpath, as dictated by The Highways Act.
- 6.3 The majority of trees fall into retention categories B and C. In order to get a general overview I have divided the trees into the following groups for the purpose of this discussion:
 - 6.3.1 Those with specific defects which render them unsafe, as described in Appendix 1. Such should be removed as soon as is reasonably practicable. These include T4 and T11.
 - 6.3.2 Those which should be removed in order to benefit adjacent trees or to prevent them becoming dangerous trees. Their removal is of a lower priority and includes T6, T9, T20 and T24.
 - 6.3.3 Those deemed to be attractive healthy specimens in harmony with their environment and as such fall into retention category A. These trees should be retained wherever possible and protected from damage. These include T12 and T14.
- 6.4 Some works are recommended for reasons of public safety and to ensure the long term health of the trees. These include T2, T5, T7, T8, T10, T12, T13, T15 and T17, and the work is detailed in Appendix 1.
- 6.5 We understand that permission has been granted for the removal four trees within the site, these trees are T22, T23, T24 and T25. Upon the removal of these trees the remaining land space could be well utilised as a development which can be greatly enhanced by the remaining trees on site. The sympathetic landscaping and replanting scheme which may take place would benefit the site and also harmonise with the surrounding area.
- 6.6 A suggestion has been made for a widening of the present footpath into a driveway, care must be given not to infringe upon the root protection areas. Trees should also be protected from any works vehicles or machinery used in a development. A detailed Method Statement can be obtained from JCA outlining any information required.

- 6.7 All development work carried out in close proximity to trees should be done so in a manner sympathetic to their needs. Otherwise the condition of the trees may deteriorate in the months and years following the development, leading to a loss of amenity and potentially hazardous trees.
- 6.8 A detailed Method Statement should be obtained from a qualified arboricultural consultant and strictly adhered to.

7. Conclusion

- 7.1 The trees surveyed were generally found to be in good condition.
- 7.2 Some trees have been recommended for removal. These are discussed in Section 6 and detailed in Appendix 1.
- 7.3 Some works were recommended for reasons of public safety and to ensure the long term health of the trees. These are summarised in Section 6 and detailed in Appendix 1.
- 7.4 Advice has been given for the protection of trees during the development phase.
- 7.5 I recommend JCA provide a comprehensive Method Statement in order to ensure the continued health of trees throughout the proposed development. We are also able to provide planting schemes, organise and supervise tree works, and if necessary undertake climbed inspections and decay detection analysis.

Appendix 1 – Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

1

Ref No	Age & Species & Latin name	Height (m)	Crown Height (m)	Stem diameter (cm)	Crown Spread			Observations	Recommendations	Physio-logical condition & Structural condition	Amenity value	Life expectancy (yrs)	Retention category
					W	N	E						
T1	Semi Mature Leylandii X <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	7	0	Est 18	2	2	2	Crown overhanging the boundary. Single stemmed and vertical with a well balanced crown. Tree growing too close to neighbour's garden and garage. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD GOOD	L O W	20-40	C
T2	Early-mature Lime <i>Tilia sp</i>	11	2	32	4	4	2	Crown overhanging the road. Single stemmed and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Crown lift to clear road	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B
T3	Early-mature Lime <i>Tilia sp</i>	11	2	32	4	3	3	Single stemmed and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B
T4	Early-mature Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	9	3	25	3	3	3	Multi-stemmed at 2.5m and vertical with a well balanced crown. Tree with bark removed at base and fungal growth on stem. No evidence of previous pruning.	Remove	POOR POOR	M O D	<10	R
T5	Early-mature Lime <i>Tilia sp</i>	11	2	34	3	4	4	Crown overhanging the road. Twin-stemmed at 4m and vertical with a well balanced crown. Included bark at stem junction. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Crown lift to clear road	GOOD FAIR	H I G H	20-40	C
T6	Semi Mature Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	10	4	50 @ base	2	3	3	Crown overhanging the road. Twin-stemmed at base with a slight lean and a slightly one sided crown. Tree growing from fence line.	Remove	POOR POOR	L O W	<10	R
T7	Early-mature Cherry <i>Prunus sp</i>	9	3	40	6	6	3	Crown overhanging the road. Single stemmed and vertical with a slightly one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Remedial prune to balance crown and clear road	GOOD FAIR	H I G H	40+	C
T8	Early-mature Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	15	4	30	6	5	2	Single stemmed and vertical with a one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Remedial prune to balance crown	FAIR FAIR	M O D	40+	C
T9	Young Cherry <i>Prunus sp</i>	3	0.5	10	1	1	1	Crown overhanging the footpath. Single stemmed and vertical with a slightly one sided crown. Tree growing from base of fence line.	Remove	POOR POOR	L O W	<10	R
T10	Early-mature Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	15	4	28	5	5	3	Crown overhanging the road. Twin-stemmed at 4m and vertical with a slightly one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Remedial prune to balance crown and clear road	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B

Appendix 1 – Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

2

Ref No	Age & Species & Latin name	Height (m)	Crown Height (m)	Stem diameter (cm)	Crown Spread N W E S			Observations	Recommendations	Physiological condition & Structural condition	Amenity value	Life expectancy (yrs)	Retention category
T11	Early-mature Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	5	3	29	3	4	6	Crown overhanging the road. Single stemmed and vertical with a slightly one sided crown. Tree has fungal growth on stem.	Remove	POOR POOR	M O D	<10	R
T12	Early-mature Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	16	5	28	6	5	3	Single stemmed and vertical with a slightly one sided crown and deadwood. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Remedial prune to balance crown and remove deadwood	GOOD FAIR	H I G H	40+	A
T13	Early-mature Lime <i>Tilia sp</i>	14	2.5	26	3	3	4	Crown overhanging the road. Single stemmed and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Crown lift to clear road	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B
T14	Early-mature Lime <i>Tilia sp</i>	16	3	32	4	4	4	Single stemmed and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	A
T15	Early-mature Lime <i>Tilia sp</i>	12	2	30	4	3	4	Crown overhanging the road. Single stemmed with a slight lean and a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Crown lift to clear road	GOOD FAIR	H I G H	40+	B
T16	Early-mature Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	15	7	30	4	6	6	Single stemmed with a slight lean and a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD FAIR	M O D	40+	B
T17	Early-mature Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	16	4	45	3	6	6	Single stemmed and vertical with a slightly one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	Remedial prune to balance tree	GOOD FAIR	M O D	40+	B
T18	Early-mature Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	15	3	35	5	5	3	Crown overhanging the boundary towards neighbour's gutters. Single stemmed with a slight lean and a slightly one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD FAIR	M O D	40+	C
T19	Early-mature Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	14	5	30	4	4	1	Single stemmed with a slight lean and a slightly one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD FAIR	M O D	40+	C
T20	Early-mature Cherry <i>Prunus sp</i>	12	1.5	40	4	7	6	Multi-stemmed at 2m with a significant lean and a one sided crown. No evidence of previous pruning.	Remove	POOR POOR	M O D	<10	R

Appendix 1 – Tree Descriptions and Recommendations

3

Ref No	Age & Species & Latin name	Height (m)	Crown Height (m)	Stem diameter (cm)	Crown Spread N W E S	Observations	Recommendations	Physio-logical condition & Structural condition	Amenity value	Life expectancy (yrs)	Retention category
G21	Young Sycamore & Rowan <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> & <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	To 8	0	To 15	See Plan	Single stemmed and vertical with a well balanced crown. Group of trees of low value.	No action required	POOR POOR	L O W	20-40	C
T22	Early-mature Whitebeam <i>Sorbus sp</i>	10	3	45	5 4 4 3	Multi-stemmed at 3m and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B
T23	Early-mature Whitebeam <i>Sorbus sp</i>	10	4	48	4 4 3 4	Multi-stemmed at 5m and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B
T24	Early-mature Cherry <i>Prunus sp</i>	9	3	30	5 3 7 2	Single stemmed with a significant lean and a one sided crown. Tree of poor form.	Remove	POOR POOR	M O D	<10	R
T25	Early-mature Whitebeam <i>Sorbus sp</i>	11	4	50	3 3 4 4	Multi-stemmed at 3m and vertical with a well balanced crown. No evidence of previous pruning and no major visible defects.	No action required	GOOD GOOD	H I G H	40+	B

Appendix 2: Glossary of Terms & Abbreviations

Arboriculture	The cultivation of trees in order to produce individual specimens of the greatest ornament, for shelter or any primary purpose other than the production of timber.
Canker	Disease damaged area of a tree, usually caused by fungus or bacteria.
Co-dominant Stem	A stem which has grown in direct competition to the main stem and which has formed a substantial size influencing the appearance of the tree.
Crown Lift	The removal of the lowest branches, usually to a given height. It allows more residual light and greater clearance underneath for vehicles etc.
Crown reduce	The reduction of a tree's height or spread while preserving its natural shape.
Crown thin	The removal of some of the density of a tree's crown, usually 5-25% allowing more light through its canopy and reducing wind resistance.
Deadwood	Either dead branches, or a procedure involving the removal of dead, dying and diseased branches.
Dieback	Where branches are beginning to show signs of death usually at the tips in the crown.
Epicormic shoots	Small branches that grow in uncharacteristic clusters around the base or the stem of a tree, usually as a result of bad pruning or some other stress factor.
Formative pruning	The trimming of a tree to remove weaknesses and irregularities which may lead to problems. The formative pruning operation is aimed at reducing the potential for future weaknesses or problems within the tree's crown.
Included bark	Where the bark on two adjoining branches or stems is growing tight together, forming a joint with limited physical strength.
Pollarding	A method of tree management in which the main trunk of the tree is cut at about 4m, and the resulting branches are then cropped on a regular basis.
Remedial pruning	The removal of old stubs, deadwood, epicormic growth, rubbing or crossing branches and other unwanted items from the tree's crown. Sometimes referred to as crown cleaning.
Topping	Topping is a form of pruning that removes terminal growth leaving a 'stub' cut end. Topping causes serious health problems to a tree.

Appendix 3: The Author's Qualifications

Principal Consultant and Managing Director

Jonathan Cocking *FRES PDipArb(RFS) FARborA CBiol MIBiol*. Jonathan is a Registered Consultant and Fellow of the Arboricultural Association and sits on its Professional Committee. He has 25 years experience in the arboricultural profession and served for eight years as Senior Arboriculturist with a large local authority before establishing JCA in 1997. He has since developed JCA's portfolio of services and its extensive client base. Jonathan is an expert witness with much experience of litigation work.

Consulting Arboriculturists

Toby Thwaites *BSc (Hons) HND (Arboriculture)*. Toby joined JCA in 1998 after graduating in Ecology at the University of Huddersfield. He has recently completed a HND in Arboriculture at the University of Lancashire.

James Royston *BSc (Hons) Forestry, ND (Arboriculture) Dip.Arb.* James joined JCA Ltd in 2004 with over nine years experience in the arboricultural and forestry industries. His previous experience includes working for the Forestry Commission and work in the private contracting sector.

Ivan Button *NCH (Arboriculture) BSc (Hons) PGCE*. Ivan joined JCA in 2005 after nine years having managed his own landscaping and tree surgery business. He has studied at the Universities of Leeds, Lincoln and Wales and is currently working towards a degree in arboriculture at the University of Lancashire.

Andrew Bagshaw *HND*. Andrew joined JCA in 2005 having gained several years experience in tree surgery and landscaping. He is trained in aerial rescue and is JCA's principal first aid person. He is currently working towards a degree in arboriculture at the University of Lancashire.

Adam Winson *BSc (Hons) E Con, ND (Arboriculture)*. Prior to working at JCA Adam has worked as a tree surgeon for eight years for a range of private companies and Sydney City Council. Adam achieved a national award for best Dissertation on the subject of Urban Greenspace Management at Sheffield Hallam University.

Robert Godwin *BA (Hons) Landscape Planning, ISA Certified Arborist*. Robert has recently joined JCA having spent several years as an arboricultural consultant particularly in relation to subsidence. He also has considerable experience in landscape and garden design.

Graham King *Dip Arb (RFS) FARborA MRAC*. Graham covers the Midlands for JCA. He ran his own arboricultural business from 1980 before gaining his Diploma in 1992 and is a Fellow of the Arboricultural Association.

Arboricultural Technician

Victoria Black. Victoria has been with JCA for over 5 years building her knowledge of the arboricultural business. She is currently working towards a degree in arboriculture at the University of Lancashire.

Administrative Staff

Andrew C Parker, GM, BA (Hons), PGCE, Practice Manager
Catherine Cocking, Accounts Manager
Deborah Petterson, Administrative Officer
Yasmin Hussain, Administrative Assistant
Alec Fielden, CAD Technician

Appendix 4: General Guidelines

- A4.1 All work must be to BS 3998:1989 - *'Recommendations for tree work'*.
- A4.2 Staff carrying out the work must be qualified, experienced and ideally be Arboricultural Association approved contractors, and should be covered by adequate public liability insurance.
- A4.3 This report is based upon a visual inspection. The consultant shall not be responsible for events which happen after this time due to factors which were not apparent at the time, and the acceptance of this report constitutes an agreement with the guidelines and the terms listed in this report.
- A4.4 Any defects seen by a contractor or the employer that were not apparent to the consultant must be brought to the consultant's attention immediately.
- A4.5 No liability can be accepted by the consultant in respect of the trees unless the recommendations of this report are carried out under his supervision and within his timescale.
- A4.6 It is advisable to have trees inspected by an arboricultural consultant regularly. In this instance it is recommended that these inspections are made every year.



Appendix 5: Site Plan

TITLE: SITE OFF GYPSY LANE
WOMBWELL

SCALE : 1:200 PAPER SIZE : A3

BRITISH STANDARD 5837:2005: 4.3.1
RETENTION CATEGORIES

Detailed definitions of these categories are at Section 3 of our
report. N.B. These categories do not necessarily represent or
correspond to recommendations for action made in this report.

	CATEGORY A: 'RETENTION MOST DESIRABLE'
	CATEGORY B: 'RETENTION DESIRABLE'
	CATEGORY C: 'TREE WHICH COULD BE RETAINED'
	CATEGORY R: 'TREE FOR REMOVAL'
	ROOT PROTECTION AREA

- CENTRE OF TREE/SHRUB
- CENTRE OF TREE/SHRUB
TO BE REMOVED

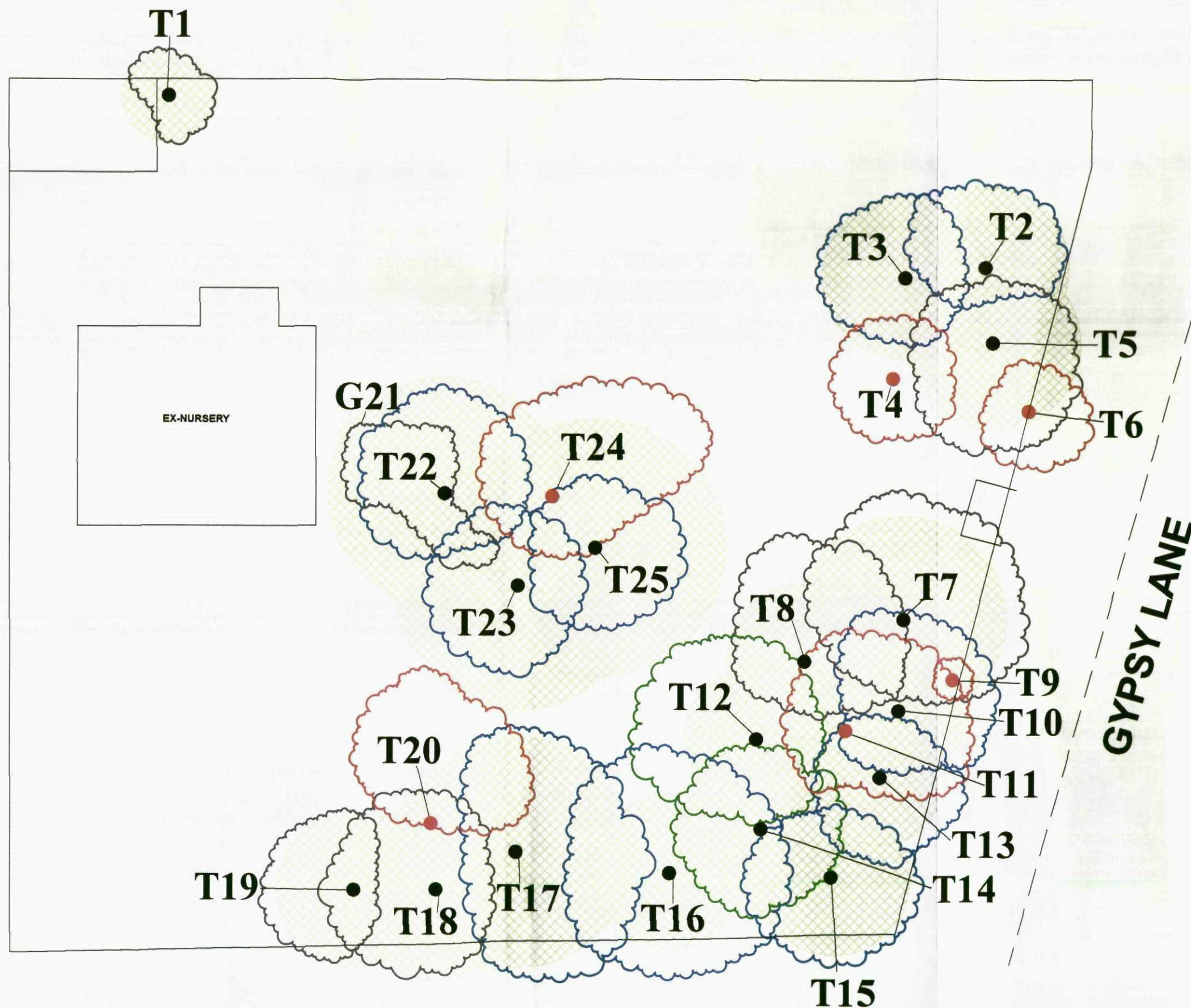
JCA LTD

Arboricultural & Forestry Consultants



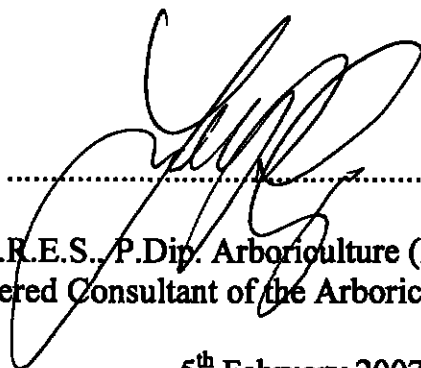
THE ROOT PROTECTION AREA (RPA) IS THE MINIMUM AREA AROUND
A TREE WHICH SHOULD BE LEFT UNDISTURBED, IN ORDER TO AVOID
DAMAGE TO THE ROOTS OR THE ROOTING ENVIRONMENT.

IF WORK NEEDS TO CARRIED OUT WITHIN THE RPA THEN SPECIALIST
SURFACES OR SPECIALIST CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES MUST BE
CONSIDERED. CARE MUST ALSO BE TAKEN TO AVOID GROUND
COMPACTION WITHIN THE RPA AND THE STORAGE OF MATERIALS
IS NOT PERMITTED. ANY EXCAVATIONS WHICH ARE REQUIRED
WITHIN THE RPA MUST ONLY BE CARRIED OUT BY HAND.



I hope that this report provides all the necessary information, but should any further advice be needed please do not hesitate to contact the author.

Signed



Jonathan P Cocking. F.R.E.S., P.Dip. Arboriculture (RFS), F Arbor A, C.Biol, M.I.Biol.,
Registered Consultant of the Arboricultural Association.

5th February 2007

For and on behalf of *JCA Ltd*

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