

Tree Survey & Method Statement

34 Sunnyhill, Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 2SB

Produced for:
Mr Philip Crowfoot
11 Woodgate Road
Burbage, Leicestershire, LE10 2UF

Issue Date: July 2023

Ref: TS&MS_34Sunnyhill_Burb/01

Chartered Arboricultural Consultancy & Advice

Mob: 07765 792719 Email: info@rjtreeservices.co.uk

www.rjtreeservices.co.uk

Company Number: 9484682

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Written instructions were received from Stuart Spiller (the agent) on behalf of Philip Crowfoot (the client) to appraise the ash tree at 34 Sunnyhill, Burbage (the site) in the context of a development.

1.2 Qualifications of the Surveyor & Indemnity

- 1.2.1 Richard Jones carried out the survey. He is the sole Director at RJ Tree Services Ltd. Richard is a Chartered Arboriculturist (MICFor) and Environmentalist (CEnv), and Fellow of the Arboricultural Association (F Arbor A). Richard is an Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) Registered Consultant. Richard holds the International Society of Arboriculture Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ), a Higher National Diploma (HND) in Arboriculture, a National Certificate (NC) in Horticulture and a City and Guilds Certificate in Amenity Horticulture.
- 1.2.2 RJ Tree Services Ltd holds professional indemnity and public liability insurance which is limited to £1m and £5m respectively. Please contact us should you require any more information relating to this matter.

2. Brief & Background

- 2.1 Planning permission (23/00327/FUL) has been granted by Hinckley and Bosworth Council for the demolition of the existing house and to construct a new one at the site. Conditions 6 and 7 state the following:

6. No development shall take place until an arboricultural method statement, which has been prepared by a suitably qualified arboriculturalist shall be submitted to, and approved in writing by, the Local Planning Authority. The arboricultural method statement should include details regarding how the scheme is constructed in a way that minimises any harm to protected tree. This statement shall include protective barriers to form a secure construction exclusion zone and root protection area in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012. Any tree roots or clumps of roots encountered with a diameter of 25cm or more shall be left un-severed. The development shall be implemented in accordance with the approved arboricultural method statement.

7. The approved works shall only be carried out in accordance with British Standards Recommendations for Tree work - BS 3998:2010.

- 2.2 The purpose of this survey is therefore:

- To provide a new objective assessment of the trees in direct proximity to the development area to the BS5837 (2012) 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-Recommendations'. The survey is based on current site conditions and is intended to inform method statement.
- To provide enough data to calculate tree Root Protection Areas.
- To produce a tree protection method statement and plan.

- 2.3 For completeness, we have included all the trees at the site.

3. Survey Data Collection Information

- 3.1 Richard Jones carried out a brief visual check of the tree/s on the 11 July 2023 in accordance with the guidelines in the BS5837 (2012) Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction-Recommendations. He was unaccompanied while carrying out the survey work. The trees are given a Retention Classification in line with the guidelines in the BS5837 (2012) Table 1 (see appendix 1). Shrubs and hedgerows are not classified but are recorded as landscape features as recommended in the BS5837.
- 3.2 The trees are described on the Tree Protection Plan as T1 and so on. The survey is based on a layout plan provided by the architect. The ash tree T001 has been overlaid onto the plan by the architect. Additional trees are not plotted to scale.
- 3.3 The survey was carried out from ground level. The survey is for planning purposes only and is not a detailed individual tree condition or risk assessment. Obvious defects or diseases are, however, highlighted where identified, and mitigating recommendations submitted where appropriate. In the case of groups of trees, only a very general assessment has been made and the recorded retention categories awarded are based on what is typical of the group. No digging or drilling was carried out. The weather conditions were sufficiently clear for carrying out tree surveys for planning purposes.
- 3.4 The survey was carried out from within the site. Sub-section C of Section 4.4.2.5 of BS5837 suggests that stem diameters may be estimated e.g. for off-site or otherwise inaccessible trees where accurate data cannot be recorded. The estimated diameters are clearly identified in the survey schedule. The ash tree growing outside the site has been viewed from inside the site only. No access was available to the neighbouring gardens.

4. Conditions & Limitations

- 4.1 Trees are dynamic organisms whose health and condition can be subject to changes. Thus, it is recommended that they should be assessed by a competent and qualified person on a regular basis. It is proposed that the trees discussed in this survey be assessed every two years or more often where stated and/or immediately following stormy/extreme weather conditions. This survey is valid for a maximum of two years.
- 4.2 While every effort has been made to identify defects within the trees inspected, no absolute guarantee can be given or is intended to the safety or otherwise of any tree or trees discussed in this survey or report. Extreme climatic conditions can on occasions cause damage to what appear to be healthy trees.

5. Legal Considerations

- 5.1 **Tree Preservation Orders & Conservation Areas:** We understand that the ash tree T001 is subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). A TPO is a legal order served by the local planning authority to protect trees when it is in the interests of amenity. You must obtain written permission from the local authority before working on protected trees. Unauthorised pruning, felling or damage to TPO trees is an offence and could result in prosecution, a criminal record and a substantial fine. We do not know if the other trees at the site are protected or if it is a conservation area. In that respect, we would recommend that you check directly with Hinckley and Bosworth Council the status of the trees before working on them.
- 5.2 **Trees and Wildlife:** Trees are hosts to nesting birds, many of which are protected by law. Investigations should be carried out by professionally trained operatives for signs of bats (all of which are protected by law) and nesting birds and advice sought from appropriate agencies such as Natural England, the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT) or the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) following any positive sightings. Tree works should be planned carefully to avoid disturbing nesting birds and roosting bats. The disturbance of protected species is an offence and could result in prosecution, a criminal record and a substantial fine.

6. Site Description

- 6.1 ***The Site -Description:*** The site is situated to the southeast of Hinckley Town Centre. It currently consists of a house (photograph 1) in substantial gardens with outbuildings and a parking area. There are established trees mainly on the periphery of the site. A protected ash tree (photograph 2) is growing in the garden of the neighbouring property to the west which appears to be infected by ash dieback disease. Access is currently available via a hard surface driveway from Sunnyhill.



Photograph 1



Photograph 2

7. Method Statement

- 7.1 **Root Protection Areas:** An RPA is an area described on the Tree Protection Plan 01 as a yellow circle. RPAs for groups of trees are described on the constraints plan by a yellow line as a 1m buffer from the canopy edge. An RPA describes the minimum root area around a tree required to maintain its vitality. An RPA is calculated according to the guidelines in the BS5837 and is capped at 15m radius.
- 7.2 BS5837 allows for limited development to take place inside the RPA of a tree with special measures such as pile and beam foundations or no-dig hard surfacing. Where at all possible, the installation of utilities should take place outside the RPAs of retained trees. Significant changes in levels inside RPAs should be avoided.
- 7.3 There is no formal calculation for RPAs in respect of hedgerows. Notwithstanding that, we would suggest that you maintain a minimum safe distance from the canopy edge of roughly 1m.
- 7.4 **The New House & the Ash Tree T001:** The house is to be constructed roughly on the footprint of the existing one with a slight increase in size to the rear. It will be just inside the RPA of the ash tree T001 as described on the Tree Protection Plan 01. BS5837 suggests that building works may take place inside the RPA of a tree by way of special construction measures where alternative locations have been considered. To meet with these guidelines, it is suggested that pile and beam type foundations be used with a ventilated air space between the underside of the beam and floor and the existing soil to allow the exchange of water, oxygen, and nutrients similar to that described in figure 1. They will effectively bridge over the roots of the adjacent trees. The remaining house outside the RPAs of the retained trees may be placed on normal strip foundations.

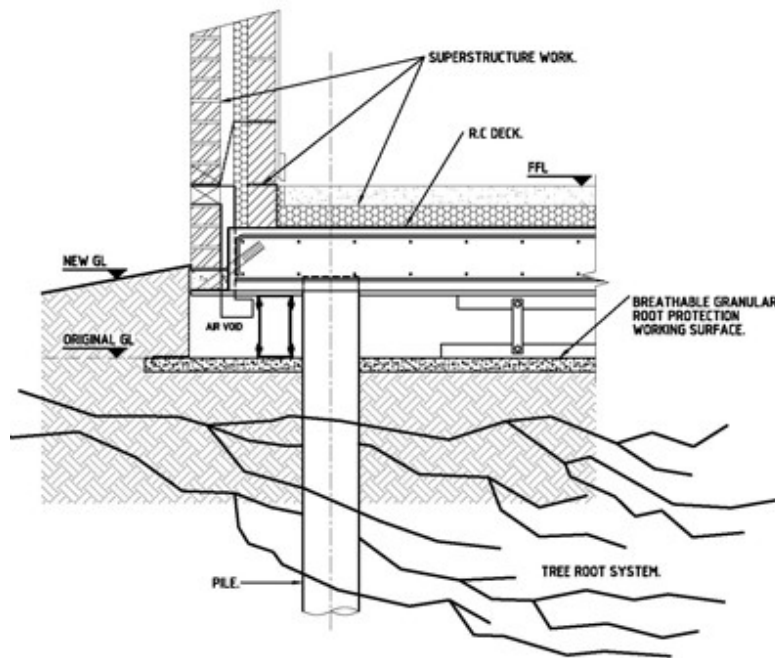


Figure 1

- 7.5 The pile and beam foundations should be carried out carefully. The beam should be placed at or just above ground level. No excavations should take place.
- 7.6 ***Installing the new pile Footing for the House:*** Extreme caution should be exercised when working inside the RPAs of the retained trees. The storage of heavy machinery, materials, fuels etc must be avoided inside the RPA even on the hard surfaces.
- 7.7 The position of the piles will be defined by the architects and their engineers. The piles should be as narrow as practically possible and will be screwed into the ground by gradual turning pressure rather than a hammer.
- 7.8 The piles will be installed from the temporary ground protection inside the RPA. The works will not involve an incursion by machinery or operatives into the Construction Exclusion Zone of the retained trees.

- 7.9 The beams and supported floors should be placed at or just above ground level on the piles with a ventilated void to enable the exchange of oxygen, water and nutrients. No digging or excavating shall be carried out. Only the careful removal of surface vegetation and/or existing hard surfaces is allowed by hand. The floors should be installed carefully without incursion by machinery or operatives into the Construction Exclusion Zone of the retained trees.
- 7.10 It is for a suitably qualified engineer in consultation with an arboriculturist to agree the final design and supervise the works on site. The use of chemicals or other potentially toxic substances or the fuelling of tools such as power saws must be avoided in the Construction Exclusion Zone.
- 7.11 Operatives must be made aware of the importance of the retained trees and what is expected of them during development.
- 7.12 **The Floor:** The new supported house floor should be placed at or just above ground level on the pile and beam framework with a ventilated void to enable the exchange of oxygen and nutrients. No excavations should take place.
- 7.13 **Irrigation:** The rainwater runoff from the roof may be routed via gutters and down pipes and naturally dispersed into the ground around the nearby tree T001 to mitigate any potential loss of moisture in that area.
- 7.14 **The Access:** The existing driveway will facilitate access for the demolition and building works.
- 7.15 **Demolition/Removal of the Existing Structure/s:** The existing house will be demolished/removed with the greatest of care under the supervision of the site manager. The buildings will be demolished in a controlled manner inwards away from the canopies of the retained trees. Machines required to carry out the demolition work will be sited on the existing building, hard surface footprint and/or temporary ground protection inside the RPAs of retained trees.
- 7.16 Excavation below the existing floor slab will be carried out with great care to minimise the impact on the roots systems. If roots or clumps of roots are encountered during these works, then they must be retained. They may be pruned back to beyond the work area using hand tools such as a pruning saw or secateurs only under the supervision of an arboriculturist. The pruning/cutting of roots greater than 25mm diameter must be carried out under the supervision of an arboriculturist.

- 7.17 A final detailed method statement for demolition of the existing buildings inside/or on the cusp of the existing RPAs and crown radii should be developed by a demolition expert in conjunction with an arboriculturist. A pre-commencement site meeting with the contractors, an arboriculturist and the site manager/supervisor must be arranged to highlight any areas of concern in respect of the proposed demolition and construction works. Operatives must be kept aware of the importance of the retained trees and what is expected of them during development.
- 7.18 The use of chemicals or other potentially toxic substances or the fueling of tools such as power saws must be avoided near to the retained trees.
- 7.19 **Utilities:** Utilities are already installed at the site.
- 7.20 **Tree Protection-Installation of Temporary Tree Protection Barriers:** Barriers should be placed around the retained trees RPAs for the duration of the site clearance, demolition, and construction work. They should be constructed in the manner described in the default BS5837 specification in figure 2 and photograph 3 below. The position of the protection barriers inside the site in relation to the new structure/s and the retained trees is shown on the Tree Protection Plan 01. The barriers will be placed on the edge of the existing hard surface/temporary ground protection where access is required and agreed as described in the following photograph 4.

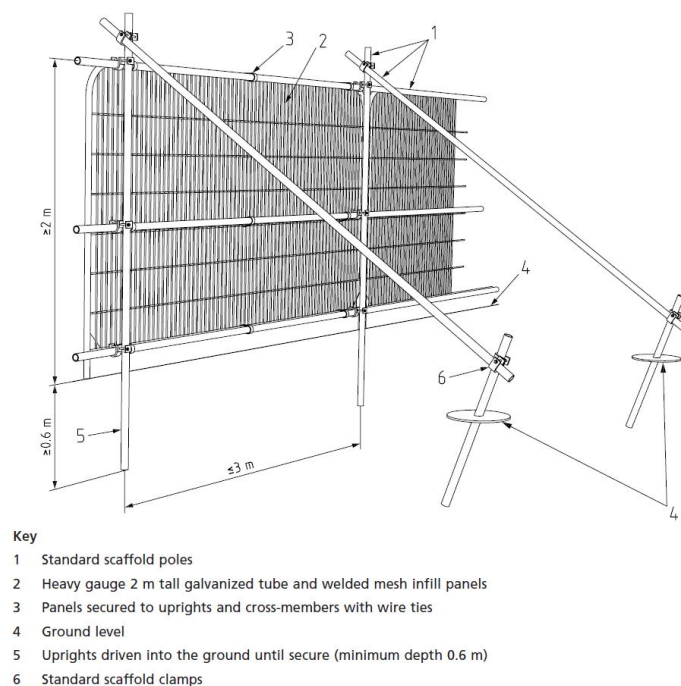


Figure 2
(BS5837 2012 section 6)



Photograph 3
(Onsite example of tree protection barriers)



Photograph 4
(Example of tree protection barriers placed adjacent to existing hard surface &/or temporary ground cover)

- 7.21 The area inside the protection barriers must remain undisturbed during the development process. It is a construction exclusion zone (CEZ). No change in levels (up or down), fires, roads, or pathways shall be installed in the CEZ. No storage of materials or use of fuels, chemicals, equipment, digging, or passage vehicles are permitted in the CEZ. Adequate provision for storage, office accommodation, access for construction traffic and parking is available outside the CEZ. The CEZ is shown clearly on the tree protection plan.
- 7.22 The barriers must be in place before building work commences and must always be fit for purpose. It is recommended that an appropriately qualified arboriculturist should approve the fencing and supervise any amendments or repairs. Damaged barriers must be repaired immediately. The barriers should not be removed until work is completed on site.
- 7.23 The position of the barriers may be amended only under the direct supervision of the site manager and/or a retained arboriculturist and/or the local authority.
- 7.24 Contaminating materials such as concrete washings should be disposed of at a minimum of 10m from the retained trees and hedgerows in a position where, if spilt, could not run towards the trees and hedgerows. Notice boards, service/utility cables etc. must not be attached to any part of the protected tree/s or hedgerows. Fires must not be lit where the flames could extend to within 5m of the trees and hedgerows canopy edge.
- 7.25 Robust weatherproof signs like that in figure 2 should be attached to the protective barriers at 4 to 6m spacing's.



Figure 2

- 7.26 **Temporary Ground Protection:** A temporary ground protection system will be placed on the existing access way and on the uncovered land outside the barriers inside the RPAs where work is to take place from. The protection system should be constructed of strong wood, plastic or metal plates that must lock together to form a temporary surface as described in photograph 5. The temporary ground protection material must be laid on top of an approximately 30-50mm deep layer of woodchip (photograph 6) to absorb the weight of passing people and equipment. The purpose of the temporary protective surface is that it can be traversed over without the plates moving. The temporary ground protection should be retained for the entirety of the site clearance, demolition and building works and not removed until they are complete.



Photograph 5
(©Ground Guards)



Photograph 6
(©Ground Guards)

7.27 **Phasing of Work:** The work shall be phased as follows:

1. Carry out proposed pruning work.
2. Install barriers and temporary ground protection, start demolition and then construction work.
3. Remove temporary barriers and ground protection only on completion of all demolition and building works.

7.28 **Site Supervision:** It will be necessary to supervise the operation of tall or wide machinery such as booms or jibs during the demolition and construction work in proximity to the canopies of retained trees. It is recommended that a pre-commencement meeting be arranged with the contractors who will be working at the site and who may be operating machinery to address/overcome any concerns about access and nearby trees.

8. General Advice

- 8.1 **Dead Wood:** Dead wood is important to the biodiversity of the area and can be a habitat. However, dead wood is sometimes fragile which can fall from canopies and cause damage or injury. Hence, it is recommended in the survey that loose dead branches be removed from the crowns of trees particularly over the road, structures, footpaths, and parking areas even when the size and amount is relatively small. Dead wood may be retained in piles within woodlands or groups to provide habitats for small mammals, insects etc.
- 8.2 **Ivy Growth:** Ivy has conservation and wildlife habitat benefits. If left unchecked, however, it can overgrow a tree's canopy and ground flora. Ivy also hampers inspections as it can prevent an adequate view of the stem and crown. While we would not suggest that ivy be eradicated from the site, we would recommend that it be controlled and prevented from growing very densely in the canopies of the trees and on the ground.
- 8.3 **Future Appraisals:** It is recommended that any retained trees are reassessed immediately post construction prior to occupation.
- 8.4 **Power Cables:** There are/may be power cables at/or near the site. Working on trees near power cables is dangerous. You should take specialist advice.
- 8.5 **Trees Growing on/or Just Outside Site Boundary:** Trees outside the site boundary are the responsibility of the adjacent landowners. Trees growing on the boundary may be joint ownership. You should establish ownership before working on them. There is a right to cut branches back to the boundary of a property but no further. The work must be done from your property. You must offer the cuttings back to the neighbouring landowner or dispose of them yourself.
- 8.6 **Tree Assessment & Biosecurity Advice Note:** Ash dieback disease and other pathogens are present at/and around the site. This will impact on the suitability of some of the trees for retention. It is recommended that all retained trees are reassessed immediately post construction prior to occupation. We would suggest that biosecurity measures be put in place when felling or pruning trees and disposing of brash and timber. Contractors can help to restrict the spread of diseases like Chalara ash dieback. They can do this by clearing soil, mud, twigs, leaves and other plant debris off their footwear, clothing, tools, and vehicles. They should then wash/disinfect these items before visiting other similar sites. Ideally, work to ash and oak trees should be done outside the summer months as the disease can spread via microscopic fungal spores. Further information is available at www.forestresearch.gov.uk.

9. Tree Work Standards

- 9.1 **Tree Pruning:** Minor pruning is required to directly facilitate the development area and to allow access for lorries or vans. Where appropriate and possible, any bough agreed to be removed or shortened should be cut back to a suitable point such as the branch collar or suitably positioned secondary branch. The branch collar shall be left intact. Climbing irons or 'spikes' shall not be used.
- 9.2 The safety of operatives and the public should be paramount. The integrity of the remaining trees is also important. Machinery should be used in a proper and safe manner and must always be fit for purpose. Power saws, wood chipping machines etc should be maintained and fuelled outside the site to prevent damage by spillages.
- 9.3 The appropriate signage should be used and footpaths, roads etc closed and or managed in line with current guidelines for best practice and the law. It is our advice that contracting companies employed to carry out the recommended works be appropriately trained, insured, and qualified. All tree pruning works should be carried out to the BS3998 (2010) Tree Works-Recommendations guidelines for best practice. Works should be carried out as soon as possible subject to statutory constraints.
- 9.4 On undertaking the recommended works, the arborist/tree surgeon must without delay report any defects that become apparent while climbing or working on the trees in question. Those defects must be reported immediately to the project manager, landowner and/or the author of this report to enable the appropriate remedial action.
- 9.5 **Power Cables:** There may be power cables at the site. Working on trees near power cables is dangerous. We would recommend that you obtain expert advice in respect to this matter.

References:

BS5837 (2012) Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition & Construction - Recommendations

BS3998 (2010) Tree Works-Recommendations

Plans:

Tree Protection Plan 01

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Survey Notes	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T001	Ash (<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 14 Stem Diam(mm): 830 Spread (m): 8N, 8E, 8S, 8W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Exhibiting symptoms of infection by Chalara ash die back disease Dead branches positioned throughout canopy Historically crown reduced - vigorous regrowth at points of pruning Dead wood in crown Tree located in neighbouring garden, appraisal undertaken from inside site only, no view of stem, base or branch framework Stem measurement estimated & slightly increased from appraisal undertaken for neighbouring property owner in 2019 Tree responsibility of neighbouring land owner Tree Preservation Order	C1	Radius: 10.0m. Area: 314 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Public Amenity Value: High	Remove dead wood over site Raise crown over site to 4.5m from ground level to facilitate access for development Further assessment recommended-further works may be required
T002	Apple (<i>Malus sp.</i>)	Tree	Stem Diam(mm): 410 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Crown Clearance (m): 1 Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Broad open crown Decay in branch framework Not plotted on topographical survey plan - position estimated	C1	Radius: 4.9m. Area: 75 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Remove dead wood Reduce crown proportionately by 2m & remove decayed branches

Appendix 1

Tree Survey Schedule (Based on current site conditions)

Ref.	Species	Full Structure	Measurements	Survey Notes	Retention Category	RPA	Measurements2	Recommendations
T003	Rowan (<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>)	Tree	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam(mm): 190 Spread (m): 2N, 2E, 2S, 2W Crown Clearance (m): 2 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Small tree located close to site boundary Not plotted on topographical survey plan - position estimated	C1	Radius: 2.3m. Area: 17 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Good Public Amenity Value: Low	None
T004	Silver Birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>) English Yew (<i>Taxus baccata</i>) Cypress (<i>Chamaecyparis sp.</i>) Cherry (<i>Prunus sp</i>) Purple plum (<i>Prunus sp</i>)	Group	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam(mm): 400 Spread (m): 3N, 3E, 3S, 3W Crown Clearance (m): 0 Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 10+ Years	Linier group of mixed species trees & woody shrubs located close to site boundary Dead cherry Silver birch has been historically crown reduced-assessment restricted by dense ivy growth Not plotted on topographical survey plan - position estimated	C2	Area: 201 sq m.	Other Reference: Vigour: Fair Public Amenity Value: Low	Clear ivy from birch & re-assess with view to reducing height & width proportionately by 4-5m to lessen weight & leverage on branch framework. Or remove completely depending on outcome of re-assessment Remove dead wood & dead trees

The trees are identified by their common and botanical names. The identification is based on visual observations and the common name is listed first, with the botanical name in brackets. In some instances, it may be difficult to identify a particular tree without further detailed investigations. Where there is some doubt of the precise species of tree, a sp is shown after the genus. The species shown for groups represents the main constituent and there may be other minor species not listed. Common names are sometimes regional and may therefore vary in terms of the locality.

BS5837 (2012) suggests the following **age classifications** which have been supplemented to assist the reader:

Yng- *Young tree/s of less than 1/3 life expectancy*

SM- *Semi-mature tree/s between young & middle aged*

EM- *Early-mature tree/s of 1/3-2/3 life expectancy*

Mat- *Mature tree/s of more or less full height, but with potential to increase in girth*

O/M- *Over Mature tree/s declining in health & stature*

Vet- *Veteran tree/s of significant & identifiable historical, ecological & conservation value*

A **retention category** (Ret Cat) is given as follows to correspond with table 1 of BS5837 (2012):

Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	- 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 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 <i>NOTE: Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>			See Table 2
	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)	See Table 2
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 remediable 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	See Table 2
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 150 mm	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	See Table 2

Hedgerows are not given a retention classification.

The trees are given a supplementary **Vigour Category** is given thus: Good, Fair, Poor, Very-poor/Dead.

Trunk diameters are recorded in millimetres at 1.5m from ground level and at the narrowest point below any out of the ordinary swelling as recommended in BS5837 (2012). They are measured on the up-slope side of the tree base on sloping-ground as recommended in BS5837 (2012). Trees with irregular bulging stems are measured at the narrowest point below the bulge. Trees with low branching are measured at the narrowest point below the fork. A current maximum stem diameter is given to trees considered as a group. Stem diameters for multi-stemmed trees with up to 5 trunks are taken individually. The stem diameters for trees with more than 5 stems is recorded with a single average measurement.

Tree heights are estimated in metres. As recommended in BS5837 (2012) **Crown radii** (Spread) are measured at the four cardinal points in meters: *N-North, E-East, S-South, W-West* and a lowest crown clearance from ground level is given at the lowest of the four cardinal points or all four when the crown clearance is roughly level. The crown radius and level measurements are as accurate as possible, but in some instances, are estimated (est) due to difficult ground conditions or restricted access. In the case of tree groups, the maximum peripheral spread is given.

Brief observations are made on the overall health and condition of the trees, obvious defects identified, and recommendations are given for any management works considered appropriate on the date of inspection in relation to the current site conditions.



RJ Tree Services Ltd

Registered Office:

27 Main Street, Foxton, Leicestershire, LE16 7RB
Mob: 07765 792719 Email: richard@rjtreeservices.co.uk

Director: Richard Jones MICFor, F Arbor A, CEnv

Company Number: 9484682