BSi 5837 Arboricultural Method Statement

CLIENT:	Allcock
SITE:	13 Pound Close, Hail Weston, St Neots, PE19 5JT
OUR REF:	v397ams/CJO/2804
DATE OF REPORT:	8 May 2025

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SUMMARY

Successful avoidance of any damage can be achieved through appropriate tree protection details, correct implementation of these details and close liaison with the Council's tree officer and the appointed arboriculturist.

These details and procedures are provided in the arboricultural method statements outlined below and illustrated in the Tree Protection Plan at Appendix A. All key site personnel must fully familiarise themselves and understand this method statement and tree protection plan. A copy of the method statement must be kept on site at all times. To ensure the correct installation of the tree protection and its continued efficacy throughout the construction process, the following principals must apply:

- **All relevant aspects of this method statement must be incorporated into the construction method statement to avoid any conflicts.**
- **No building work or other activity associated with development can take place until the approved protection measures are in place and secure, and a site meeting between involving the contractor, architect, arboricultural officer and consultant has taken place.**
- **Details of key site personnel will be submitted to the Council's arboricultural officer prior to the commencement of site works.**
- **All key site personnel must fully familiarise themselves and understand this method statement and tree protection plans.**
- **A copy of this method statement must be kept on site at all times. A large (not less than A3 size) copy of the TPP must be placed on the site office noticeboard**.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BRIEF

OMC Associates are instructed to provide an arboricultural method statement for 13 Pound Close, Hail Weston, St Neots, PE19 5JT to discharge Condition 4 attached to planning consent 25/00351/HHFUL.

Recommendations are consistent with the most recently revised version of the British Standard on this subject, “Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations”, BS 5837 (2012).

1.2 SCOPE AND BACKGROUND

This report incorporates an arboricultural method statement providing the details necessary to ensure retained trees on site are not damaged during construction and is supplemented by a Tree Protection Plan.

1.3 DOCUMENTS

Plans are based on the drawings provided by Visual Creations Ltd, Ref. 13-PDCL.

2.0 PHASING OF INSPECTION/MONITORING

2.1 INTRODUCTION

Section 3 provides all the details relating to tree protection specific to this development. Critical to its implementation is a clear understanding of when and how the protection is implemented, what action must be taken when there is a breach of the approved protection and how to implement any changes in the approved protection necessitated by unanticipated events/changes in design.

2.2 SITE ARBORICULTURALIST

An appropriately experienced and professional arboriculturist must be appointed at the outset whose role will be to ensure full compliance of the approved tree protection measures through regular monitoring and maintenance of a progress sheet that shall be signed off by the arboriculturist and site manager (or equivalent) on completion of the development and submitted to the LPA.

2.3 STAGE 1 - PRE-COMMENCEMENT MEETING

This will involve the arboriculturist, the site manager and other relevant site personnel and optionally the local authority arboricultural officer. He/she must be given sufficient advance warning of the meeting. This meeting could be viewed as a form of induction and will ensure:

1. a full understanding exists of what and where the tree protection comprises - if necessary, the site can be marked out to indicate the positioning of protection.
2. if and when arboricultural supervision is required.
3. exchange of all relevant contact details and distribution of an arboricultural site monitoring record.
4. that all parties are happy with what is agreed and that it is deemed practical. Any tweaks/changes made at this stage that vary to the approved details must be agreed by the LPA Tree Officer and a means of ensuring this is appropriately recorded with the LPA determined.

There is no reason why the tree protection cannot be installed prior to this meeting so long as the opportunity remains for adjusting or improving it according to advice from the site arboriculturist.

2.4 STAGE 2 - MONITORING

The arboriculturist will monitor the development through regular, informal site visits or in accordance with an agreed schedule. The inspection record will be completed and signed off after each visit.

Any discrepancies to the approved, implemented protection shall be highlighted and the site arboriculturist recommended course of action implemented immediately, if necessary, stopping all development until resolved. A re-inspection will be organised to ensure satisfactory resolution.

The site manager will contact the arboriculturist immediately if damage to trees or root zones occurs.

2.5 STAGE 3 - SUPERVISION

The arboricultural method statement (AMS) may specify sensitive works within Root Protection Areas that require arboricultural supervision. These will be clearly shown in the AMS. The site manager will contact the site arboriculturist when this is ready to be carried out.

2.6 STAGE 4 - COMPLETION

On completion of all works on site, the site arboriculturist will be called to site to carry out a final inspection of the trees and the integrity of the RPAs. A Record of Completion will be signed by the site arboriculturist and the site manager and submitted to the LPA for discharge or complete discharge of outstanding conditions.

This will not be completed where damage to trees or RPAs is noted at this final inspection until remedial measures as agreed between the site arboriculturist and the LPA Arboricultural Officer are fully implemented.

3.0 TREE PROTECTION SPECIFICS

The tree protection strategy is based on the creation of an exclusion zone to safeguard the sections of RPAs that encroach into the site where building activity may occur.

3.1 INSTALLATION OF PROTECTIVE BARRIERS

An RPA is defined in BSI 5837 (2012) as "the area surrounding a tree that contains sufficient rooting volume to ensure the survival of the tree".

Damage to the RPA can be avoided through the establishment of Construction Exclusion Zones (CEZ) with the use of protective fencing. The use of a CEZ prevents or limits RPA incursion by separating from construction activity.

The positioning of all tree protection fencing is clearly illustrated on the tree protection plan.

On completion of all works, the CEZ will be pushed back to accommodate the removal of the existing gravel track within the RPA of T1 and reinstatement of open ground (hatched brown on the TPP).

The barriers used to secure the CEZ must be installed prior to commencement of any construction activity. Once erected and secured the exclusion zone must not under any circumstances be altered or removed without advice from the arboriculturist and/or approval of the local planning authority.

BS 5837:2012 recommends weld mesh Heras-type panels secured firmly to a scaffold framework (scaffold clamps are recommended) and braced with diagonal stabilizer struts all secured to the ground with metal pins, see Appendix B.

NOTE: In the event the fencing becomes damaged it must be repaired or replaced as soon as is reasonably practicable to preserve its efficacy.

Tree protection posters as shown at Appendix C should be secured to the fencing to serve as explanation for its presence.

Only once the protective fencing is in place and secured, (as well as any other protection measures detailed below) may construction commence. The fencing will remain in place and secured until such time that all construction is complete, and materials/equipment have been removed from the site.

3.2 ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONS OUTSIDE THE TREE EXCLUSION ZONE

- All-weather notices should be erected on the barrier with words such as "Exclusion Zone – Not to be moved without appropriate consent". Copies of such notices are attached to Appendix C.
- Materials that will contaminate the ground such as diesel oil and concrete mixings will not be discharged within the RPA or within 10m of any of the tree stems.
- Notice boards, telephone cables or other services should not be attached to any part of the tree.
- No fires that have the potential for flames to extend to within 5m of any point of the tree are to be lit.

4.0 SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

4.1 PHASES OF TREE PROTECTION

All key site personnel must fully familiarise themselves and understand this method statement and tree protection plan. A copy of the method statement must be kept at all times on site. A large (not less than A3 size) copy of the TPP must be placed on the site office noticeboard. The general sequence of events should be as follows:

Stage 1: Pre-commencement site meeting involving the site manager/foreman and arboriculturist. The local authority arboricultural officer may also be notified of this meeting in good time to allow the opportunity for he/she to attend. Mark out positions for protection for phase 1 and discuss all tree protection issues.

Stage 1: Install tree protection fencing and inspect.

Stage 2: On completion of all other work, reconfigure tree protection fencing around T1 to accommodate removal of gravel track and mulch

4.2 ARBORICULTURAL INVOVEMENT

The arboriculturist will monitor the development through periodic site visits or in accordance with an agreed schedule. Regularity will be determined by the impact of the scheme on trees, the complexity of protection and the significance of trees. The inspection record will be completed and signed off after each visit.

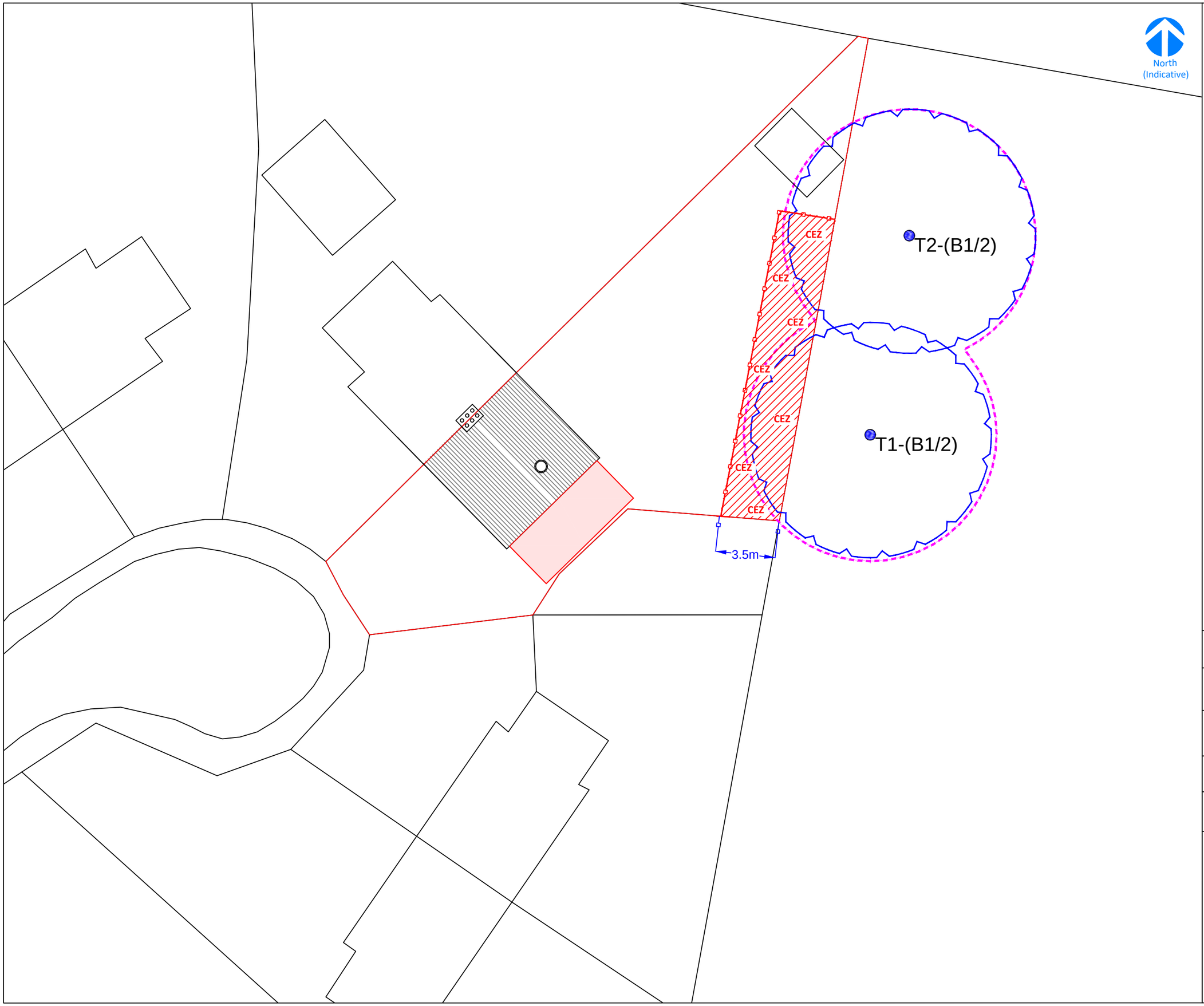
Any discrepancies to the approved, implemented protection shall be highlighted and the site arboriculturist recommended course of action implemented immediately, if necessary, stopping all development until resolved. A re-inspection will be organised to ensure satisfactory resolution.

The site manager will contact the arboriculturist immediately if damage to trees or root zones occurs.

Once all works are complete, arrange post construction meeting to ensure no damage to trees and RPAs. (Organise remedial works as recommended by the arboriculturist where damage noted). Remove temporary protection.

OMC Associates

Appendix A Tree Protection Plan



DO NOT SCALE - Use only figured dimensions
To be read in colour

BS 5837:2012 TREE RETENTION CATEGORIES

Category A
Trees of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested)

Category B
Trees of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)

Category C
Trees of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.

Category U
Trees in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.

BS 5837 Tree Protection Fencing
(refer to Section 3.1 of the Arboricultural Method Statement for description and specification)

CEZ

	-	-

REVISIONS

Title
Tree Protection Plan

Client
Allcock

Project
13 Pound Close, Hail Weston, St Neots, PE19 5JT

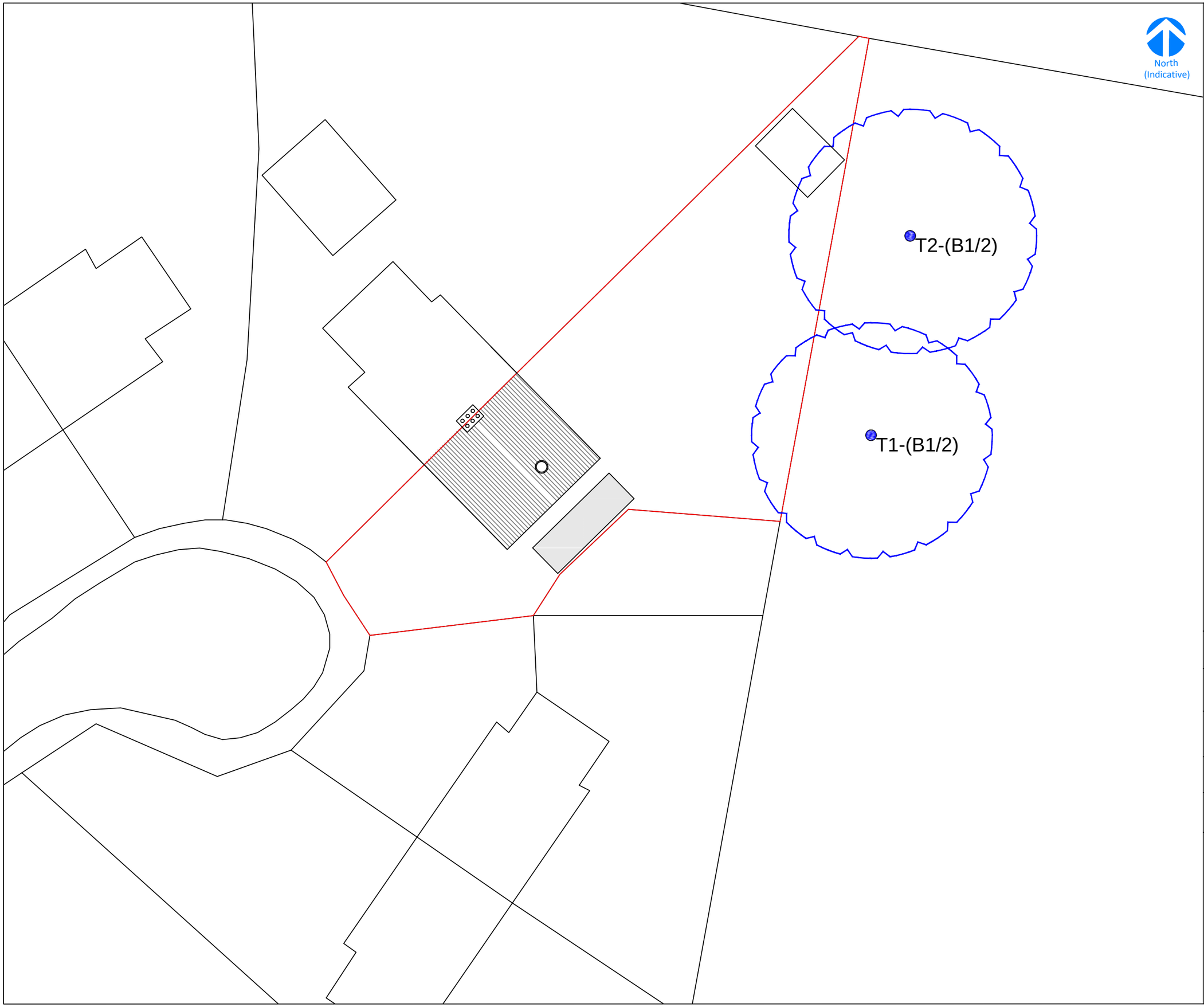
Date	Drawn by
8 May 2025	CS
Project Ref.	**Scale**
v397_TPP	1:200 @ A3

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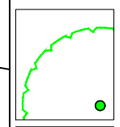
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Appendix B Tree Survey Plan

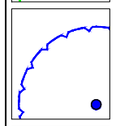


DO NOT SCALE - Use only figured dimensions
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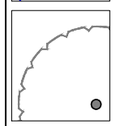
BS 5837:2012 TREE RETENTION CATEGORIES



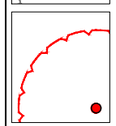
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Category U
Trees in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management.

-	-
REVISIONS	

Title
Tree Survey Plan

Client
Allcock

Project
13 Pound Close, Hail Weston, St Neots, PE19 5JT

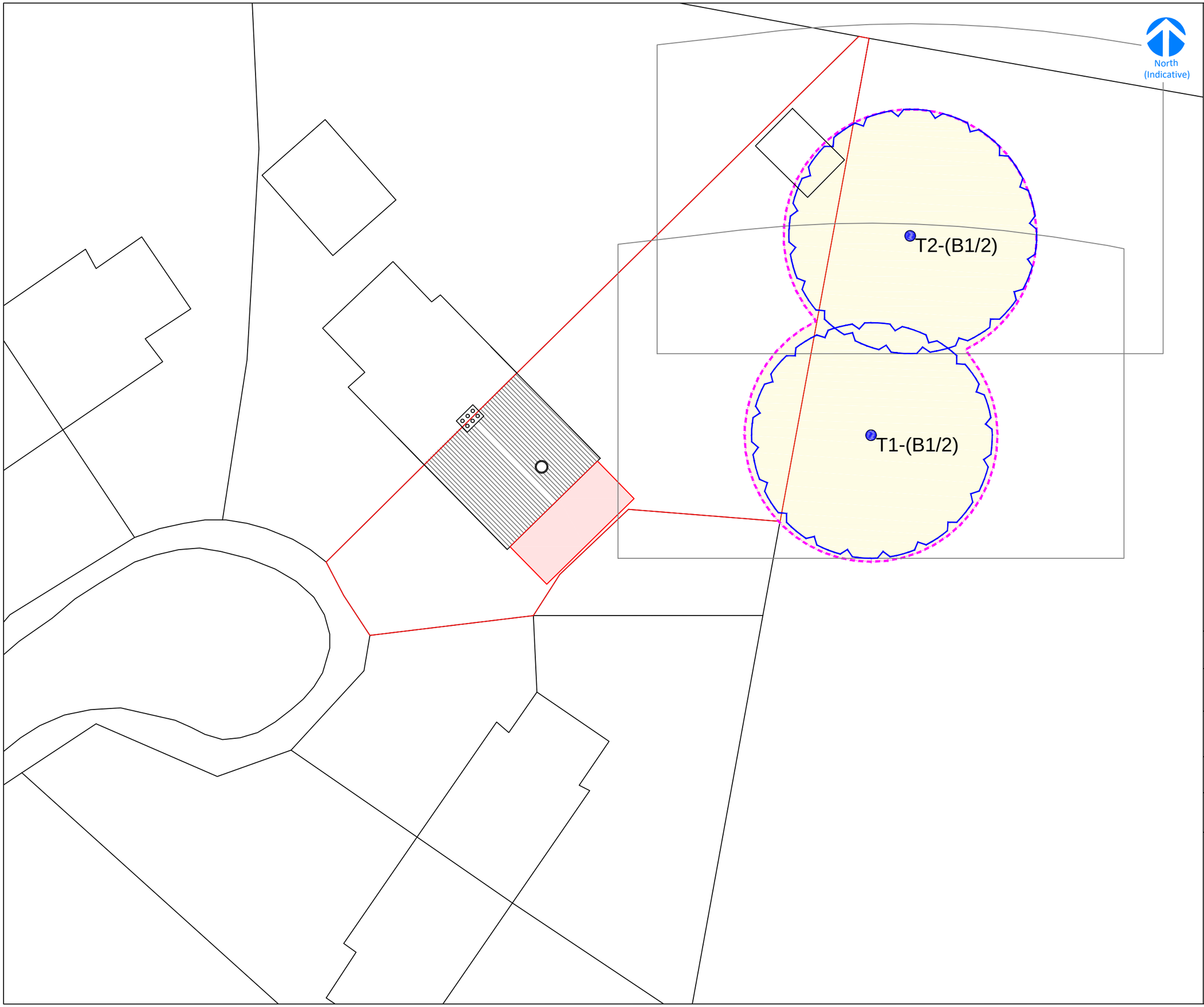
Date	Drawn by
8 May 2025	CS
Project Ref.	Scale
v397_TSP	1:200 @ A3

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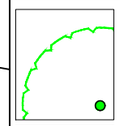
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Appendix C Tree Constraints Plan

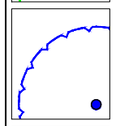


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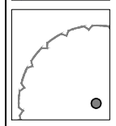
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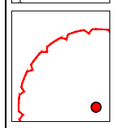
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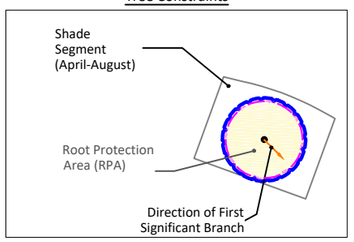


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Tree Constraints



	-	-
REVISIONS		

Title
Tree Constraints Plan

Client
Allcock

Project
13 Pound Close, Hail Weston, St Neots, PE19 5JT

Date	Drawn by
8 May 2025	CS
Project Ref. v397_TCP	Scale 1:200 @ A3

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Appendix D Specification for Heras protective fencing and signage



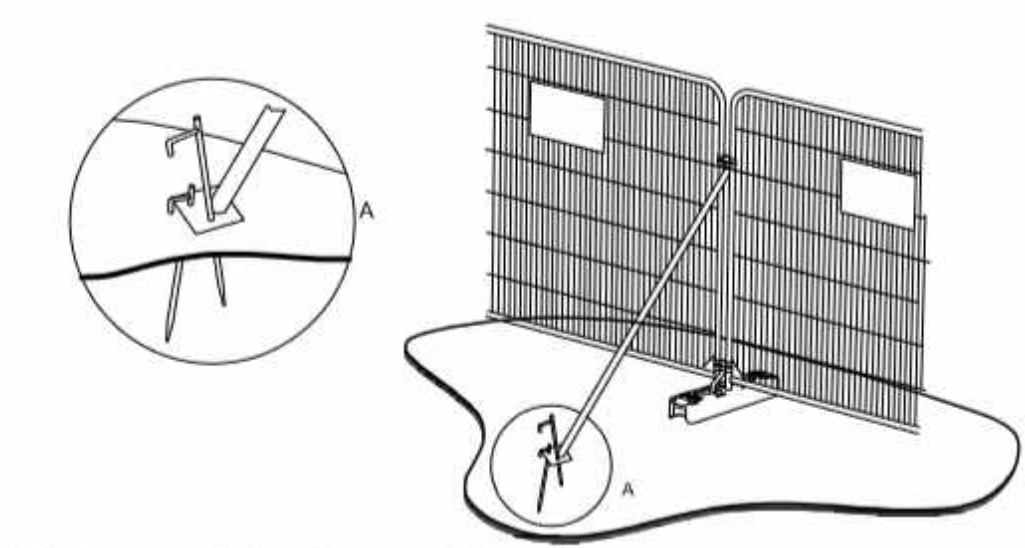
TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT!

(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)
TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR ARE THE SUBJECTS OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.
CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.

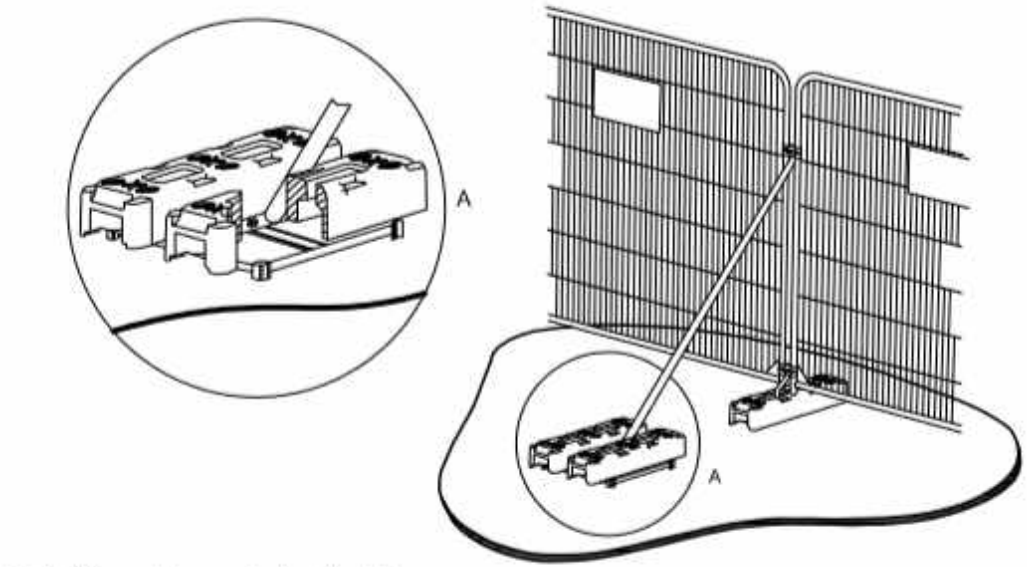
ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE WITH WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY.

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a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins



b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray



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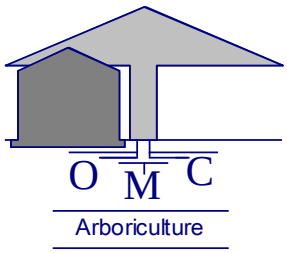
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Appendix E Tree Details

TREE SCHEDULE



ID	Species	Age Class	Dia. At 1.5m (mm)	Height (m)	Crown Height	1st branch	Crown Radius				SULE	Condition Physiological	Condition Structural	RPA Radius (m)	Quality Category (BS:5837)	Tree-Work	Site: 96a-100 Westfield Road, Manea, PE15 9LS OMC Associates www: omc-associates.co.uk Comments
							N	S	E	W							
T1	Common lime (*Tilia x europaea*)	M	600	14.4			6.4	7.1	6.8	6.9	>40	Good	Good	7.2	B1/2		Fine specimen within recreation ground; good health; landscape amenity value
T2	Common lime (*Tilia x europaea*)	M	610	14.1			7.2	6.9	7.0	6.7	>40	Good	Good	7.3	B1/2		Fine specimen within recreation ground; good health; landscape amenity value



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Appendix F Monitoring schedule

PURPOSE OF VISIT	TIMING	PERSONNEL PRESENT	REMOTE - PHOTO BASED	OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	COMPLETE Y/N
1. Appoint arboriculturist to oversee all arboricultural issues on site.	Pre-commencement				
2. On-site tree protection induction with construction team, arboriculturist & tree officer (if attending); *	Pre-commencement				
3. Erect tree protective fencing as detailed in the AMS and shown on the TPP	Pre-commencement				
4. Reconfigure Heras fencing around T1; remove gravel drive and reinstate open ground and mulch as per the methodology in S.3.3	Construction				
5. Final, completion inspection and identification of any remedial actions.	Completion of scheme				

**** Tree protection may be put in place and inspected at the same time as the site induction/meeting in some circumstances***

Project Contacts

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Project Agent:	Paul Warrington - Visual Creations Ltd	07970 166956	visualcreationslimited@gmail.com

Notes