Tree condition assessment

at

23 Lenten Street, Alton

for

A H Buckham Limited

sapling arboriculture ltd

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Site	23 Lenten Street
Date of survey	18th January 2021
Weather	Clear with light winds
Surveyed by	Ben Abbatt
Client	A H Buckham Limited

Instruction To carry out a tree condition assessment of four trees. Production of survey report and provision of management recommendations with priorities as appropriate.

The tree condition assessment is to be carried out in relation to the landowner's duty under the Occupier's Liability Act 1984 and common law. Presumption for tree management will be in favour of retention of the tree(s) where appropriate.

Limitations The tree survey was carried out from ground level, identifying significant tree features that may have significant bearing upon the condition and management of the tree and giving appropriate recommendations and priorities. The tree was not climbed as part of this survey.

Typical significant defects that are to be identified can be referred to in "Hazards from Trees, a general guide" by David Lonsdale and "The body language of trees" by Claus Mattheck published by the Forestry Commission and the Department of the Environment respectively.

To carry out the tree survey reasonable access around the base of the tree is required. Where this is not feasible, these parts of the tree may not able to be inspected. If view of the entire structure of the tree(s) is limited, for instance by the properties in private ownership, this is a limitation to the tree survey and some parts of the tree may not be able to be fully surveyed.

Trees are dynamic structures and as such their condition and health may change in a short period of time, particularly in relation to changes in their immediate environment and circumstances, and as such the survey relates only to the visible condition found on the day of the survey. Tree(s) should be re-surveyed on a regular basis so that the change in condition can be identified. An appropriate time period between surveys may be up to 5 years depending upon the species, condition of the trees, their maturity / size and the target(s). Recommendations for the period between surveys will be given.

No soil investigations will be carried out.

Tree Condition Survey Data

Site A H Buckham

Date of survey 10th February 2021

Job reference J701.04

Surveyor Ben Abbatt

Resurvey To be complete by the 1st June 2024

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	1	Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	22	Mature	Good	Fair	Canopy spread to the north 6m, east 11m, south 8m, west 10m. Overlong branches to the eastover adjacent garden and structures. Frequent moderate (25 to 100mm diameter) deadwood. Failed metal cable bracing at c6m. Two stems from the base (north east to south west). Anticipated altered exposure due to loss of tree 2.	Selective tip reduction of lateral radial branches to create a horizontal radial branch length of 8m (this is a reduction of 3m on the east side, and 2m on the west side) and reshape the canopy to form a natural domed canopy form. Install cable bracing to reduce potential for separation of the two stems at the base. Remove deadwood more than 25mm diameter.	Moderate
T	2	Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	21	Mature	Fair	Poor	Slightly sparse canopy particularly with decline in the lower canopy on the east side. Frequent woodpecker holes in the upper canopy - high potential for structural failure. Two branch failures from the mid canopy. Prior reduction or failures with mature regrowth and subsequent decay in the mid canopy.	Remove. Treat stump (suitable for adjacent to watercourse) to prevent regrowth. Plant replacement lime Tilia x europaea containerised 10 to 12cm girth at 1m in proximity to tree removal, but more than 5m from the boundary and watercourse.	Moderate
T	3	Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*	19	Mature	Good	Fair	Asymmetrical canopy towards the north west and adjacent stream and towards adjacent dwellings. Asymmetrical canopy due to growth from beneath tree 2. High water table leading to lower soil cohesion and reduced tree stability. Anticipated altered exposure due to loss of tree 2.	Remove. Treat stump (suitable for adjacent to watercourse) to prevent regrowth. Plant replacement alder Altus glutinosa containerised 10 to 12cm girth at 1m in proximity to tree removal, but more than 5m from the water course.	Moderate
T	4	Cedar *Cedrus libani*	19	Mature	Good	Poor	Typical historic branch and stem failures in the upper canopy with good wound wood response. Branches close to structures. 16 degrees lean from vertical to south east towards office buildings .Good buttress root development with fungal fruiting body material between buttresses to the east and south. Bark loss and and exposed wood to the north. Resi F300 data informs works recommendations.	Remove. Grind stump and structural roots within 4m of the tree to 200mm depth and remove arisings. Import weed free, aeorbic, natural top soil to fill the hole left by the removal of the arisings and to allow replacement tree planting. Plant replacement evergreen, tall growing tree species to recreate the courtyard environment.	Moderate

Consideration

The sycamore T2 is likely to suffer further primary branch failures. Due to the number of failures, position over the boundary to the site, and the use within the site, the retention of the tree in its current form is inappropriate. Tree works to reduce the tree to a format more suitable for its circumstances is likely to predispose the tree to physiological failure, particularly as the canopy is showing indications of a stressed physiology. Therefore, the recommended management for this tree is removal and replacement.

With the anticipated loss of T2, the likelihood of T3 sycamore to fail towards the adjacent dwellings to the north significantly increases. This is due to the altered exposure, asymmetrical canopy, lean and low soil strength caused by the high-water table. Therefore, the recommended management for this tree is removal and replacement.

With the anticipated loss of T2, sycamore T1 will also have an altered exposure. However, the structure and form of this tree is more likely to withstand its change in circumstances with appropriate remedial tree works. Cable bracing is recommended to be installed to reduce the potential for separation of the stems at the base. This cable bracing will need to be assessed annually by the contractor to ensure that it remains suitable for its purpose and replaced at the end of its safe useful life expectancy. This should be in accordance with the cable bracing providers product details or every 5 years, whichever is the sooner.

The cedar, T4, has decay at the base of the tree evidenced by the unidentified fungal fruiting body material between the buttresses to the east and the south. To assist the consideration of the decay a Resi F300 was used. The Resi F300 is a mechanical drill which has a 3mm wide needle that measures the resistance as it progresses into the tree. The data is recorded on a paper strip and electronically. This data is measured at a 1:1 scale and are metric units. The Resi data output is per drill and in the top left details measurement / object data including measurement number, drilling depth, wood species (drill set to either hard or soft), identification number, date, time, rate of advance of the drill, diameter of the tree at the point of drilling, level (height above ground level), direction from which the drill progresses in relation to the centre of the tree stem, specific species of the tree and site location. The central section is a graph to be read from right to left. The graph shows the drilling depth (in cm) and the resistance Amplitude. If desired, this graph can have annotation added with specific colouring shown above and below the graph. This interpretation colouring then also relates to a box in the bottom left which details the colour coding of the annotation and provides specific measurements. In the bottom right there is a comments box to aid understanding of the data recorded and additional field notes where applicable. This device is used to help provide additional data on the potential decay within a tree.

Gross defects are simpler to identify, for instance advanced decay where resistance is minimal the Amplitude drops to near zero. Complex or early stage decay requires a specialist consideration and an understanding of wood structure and types of decay that may occur.

In this instance, readings from the Resi F300 identify that the decay is present and partial at the point of assessment.

It is not known which decay fungus is colonising the tree, the fungal material is too deteriorated for field identification. Three typical fungi that frequently colonise cedar include *Phaeolus schweinitzii*, *Sparassis crispa* and *Heterobasidion annosum*. All three fungi cause decay of the roots. As partial decay is shown at 0.3m, the likelihood of decay of the base and structural roots is increased. The decay is exacerbated by the lean of the tree. Tree works to reduce the tree to a format more suitable for the use of the site is likely to diminish the aesthetic value of the tree. Therefore, the recommended management for this tree is removal and replacement.

General notes

The tree survey can only be an assessment of the tree at the time of the survey and the tree(s) should be re-surveyed on a regular basis. An appropriate time period between surveys may be up to 5 years depending upon the condition of the trees, their maturity and the target(s). Recommendations for the period between surveys will be given.

As trees are dynamic structures their condition and health may change in a short period of time, particularly in relation to changes in their immediate environment and circumstances. Therefore, the survey is an assessment of the trees at the time of the survey only. If there is a significant change in the immediate environment and circumstances, then this should be brought to the attention of the Arboricultural Consultant so that they may advise accordingly.

I have not checked whether the site is within a Conservation Area or whether the trees are under Tree Preservation Order (TPO). Prior to any tree works confirmation of whether these legal restrictions apply to the site or trees ought to be sought from the Local Planning Authority (LPA). If the trees stand within a Conservation Area designated under the Town and Country Planning Act the LPA will normally require 6 weeks notice of intention to carry out any tree works as detailed in the survey. If the trees are under TPO then the LPA will normally require an application for any tree works. Some tree works are exempt, for instance if the trees are dead or dangerous, and certain works can be carried out without application. It is necessary to give the LPA at least five days notice prior to carrying out any of these tree works under these exemptions. This survey, with recommendations, can be used to support any such application or notice.

Wildlife issues are of significant concern to the general public. A balance has to be found between the protection of wildlife and the need for safety when managing trees. The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1980) and Countryside Rights of Way Act (2000) give statutory protection to wild birds, bats, mammals, some invertebrates and plants. It is important to ensure that this legislation is properly considered when carrying out any works to trees.

Bird nests were not identified whilst on site. However, any Arborist carrying out the tree works should ensure that there is no disturbance to nesting birds prior to the works being carried out. Further guidance upon the appropriate timing of the works can be sought from DEFRA, if necessary. Where nesting birds are found, further information should be sought from DEFRA 08459 33 55 77 or helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk. Prior to any works being implemented the tree contractor must identify whether there are any bats or birds using the tree as roost or nest. If such habitation is identified, then the tree contractor must obtain the necessary licence from Natural England (0845 601 4523 www.naturalengland.org.uk) to carry out the works.

During the tree works, the contractor should carry out the tree works with bats as an active consideration and follow the current industry best practice, e.g. Arboricultural Association Guidance Note 1 Bats in the context of tree work operations 2011, BS8596 Micro guide to surveying for bats in trees and woodland https://shop.bsigroup.com/upload/273444/BSI-Bat-Microguide-UK-EN.pdf

Biosecurity measures: To minimise to potential for contamination of the tree from other tree works it is appropriate to sterilise tools to be used before and after the works are implemented. Appropriate disinfectant includes Propellar or Cleankill Sanitizing spray. Loose debris is to be brushed off prior to treating with disinfectant to ensure appropriate application. See http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/FCMS028-guidance.pdf/$file/FCMS028-guidance.pdf for further information on Biosecurity and http://www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/infd-9fjd2d for disinfectant information.

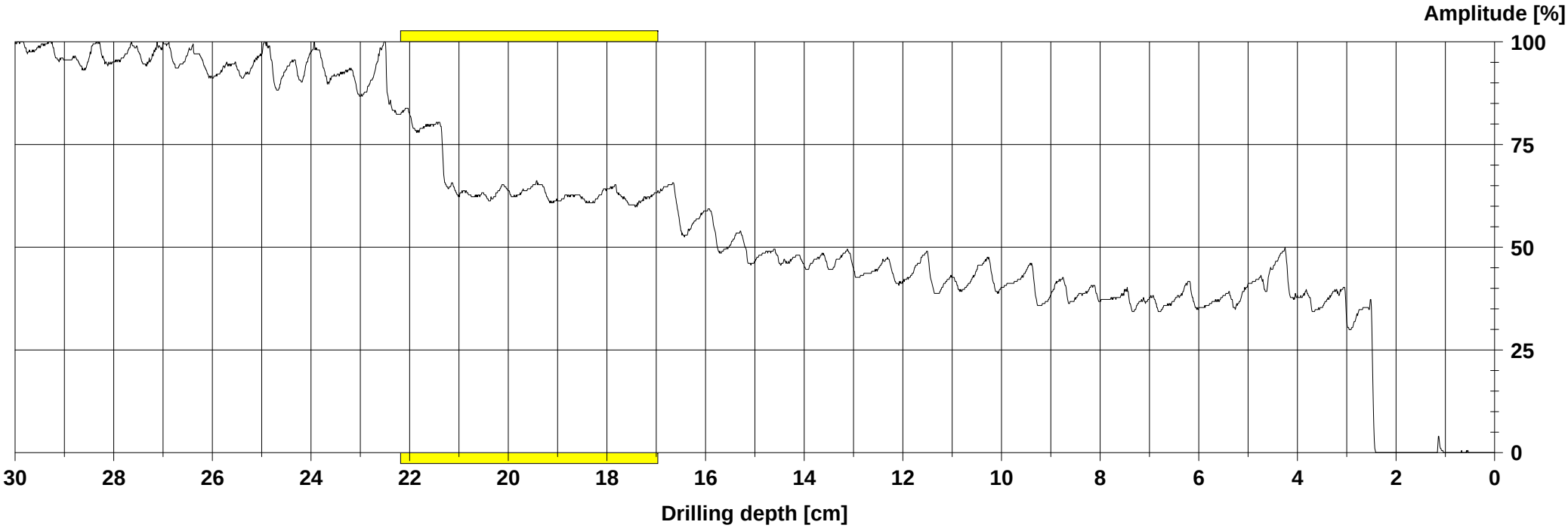
Key to condition survey sheet

Designation	Designation (T is Tree, G is Group, H is Hedge, W is woodland, S is Stump)	
Reference number	Number used to identify the tree survey details with the position of the tree on the tree survey plan and, when used with tree tags, the specific tree on site.	
Species	Species of tree.	
Height	Height measured in metres.	
Age Class (Age)	**Young**	A tree considered to be less than approximately 20 years old.
	Middle aged	A tree in approximately the first 1/5th of its normal life span with apical dominance (rapidly growing with a clear main leader) and not yet fully at its environmental potential full height.
	Mature	A tree in its 2/5ths to 5/5ths of its normal life span with apical dominance lost and at its environmental potential full height.
Condition (Physiological and Structural)	**Good**	A tree of typical physiological and structural condition that requires only general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape.
	Fair	A tree of impaired physiological and / or structural condition that may require remedial and general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape.
	Poor	A tree of significantly impaired physiological and / or structural condition that will require remedial and general tree works to facilitate its retention in the landscape if feasible.
Recommendations	As per BS3998: 2010 Recommendations for Tree Works.	
Priority	**Immediate**	Works should be carried out immediately as the probability of harm or damage occurring is likely.
	High	These works are important to carry out as soon as reasonably possible and any budget available for tree management should be spent upon these trees before the moderate and low categories. Works in this category usually will relate to abatement of risk for harm and or damage to occur. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 1 month.
	Moderate	These works are important to carry out as soon as reasonably possible and any budget available for tree management should be spent upon these trees before the low categories. Works in this category usually will relate to abatement of risk for harm and or damage to occur and for the good arboricultural management of the trees. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 3 months.
	Low	Works in this category usually will relate to the good arboricultural management of the trees. Ideally works in this category are anticipated to be carried out within 12 months.
Re-survey	This is the time period in which it is recommended that the tree is surveyed again. This is based upon the condition of the tree, its location, previous, current and future management. It is normally expressed at a time period from the date of the report / survey, whichever is the sooner. If no time period is noted then the default period is one year.	

Resi F300 data

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 1	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 30.05 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: North		
Time	: 10:06:00	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 74 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

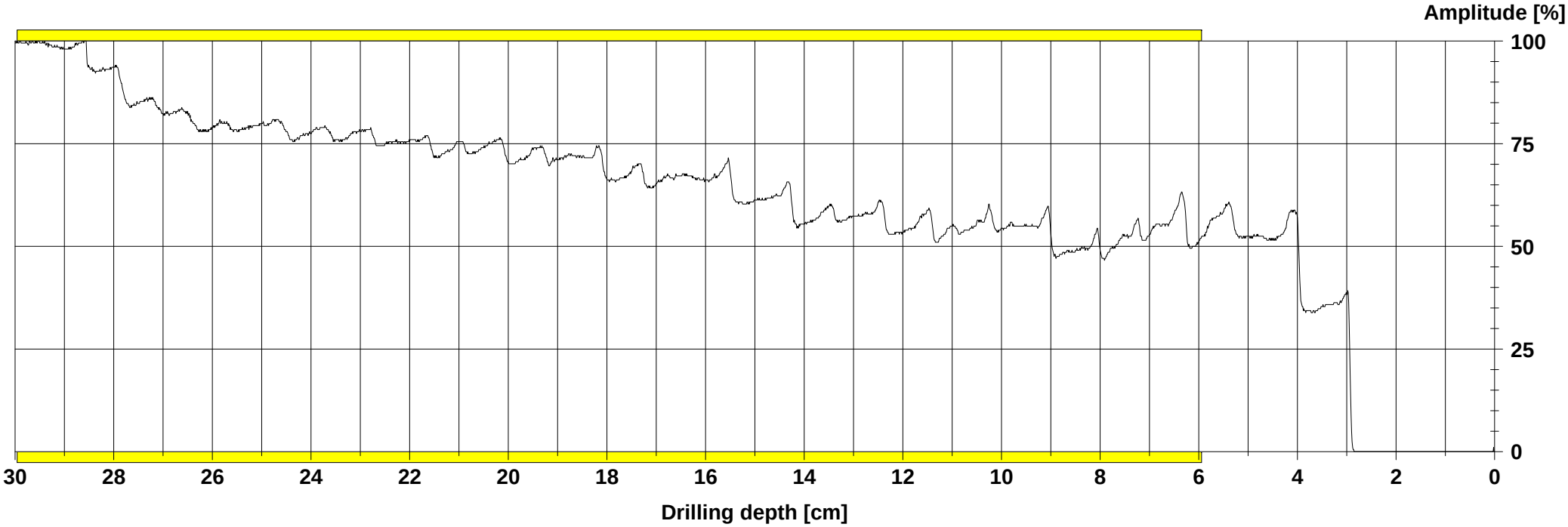
☑	**From**	17.0 cm	**to**	22.2 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into buttress. Fungal material adjacent to the buttress.

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 2	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 30.01 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: South east		
Time	: 10:07:33	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 74 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

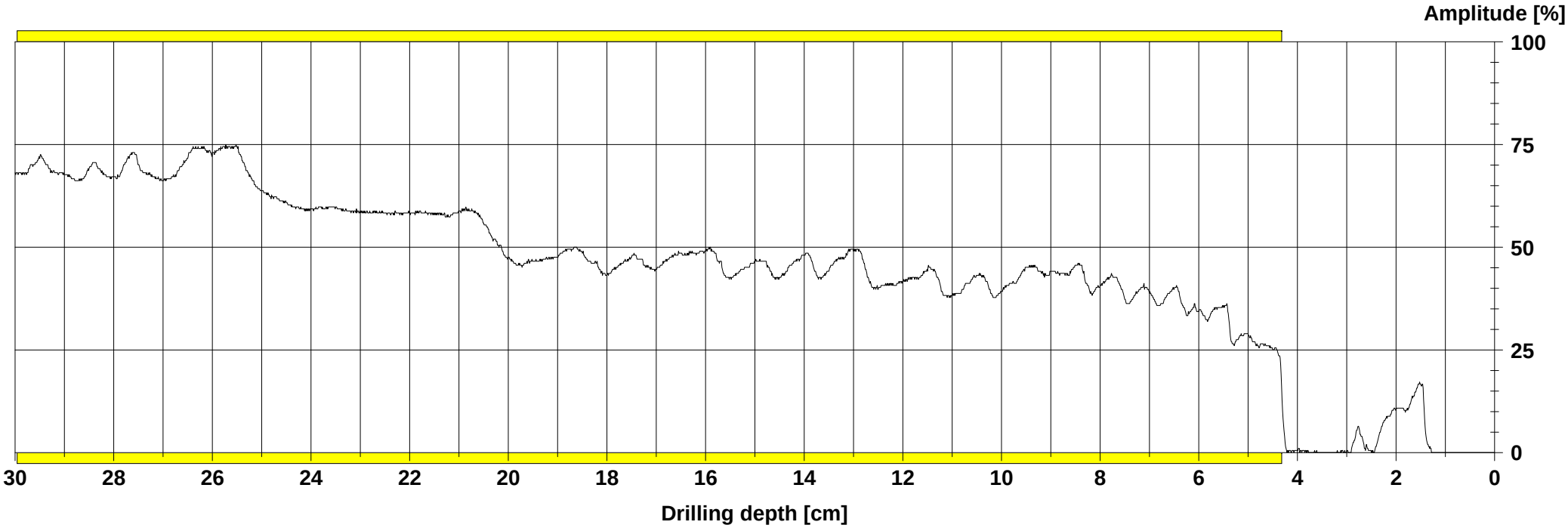
☑	**From** 5.9 cm	**to**	30.0 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into buttress. Fungal material either side of the buttress.

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 3	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 30.03 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: South		
Time	: 10:08:48	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 73 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

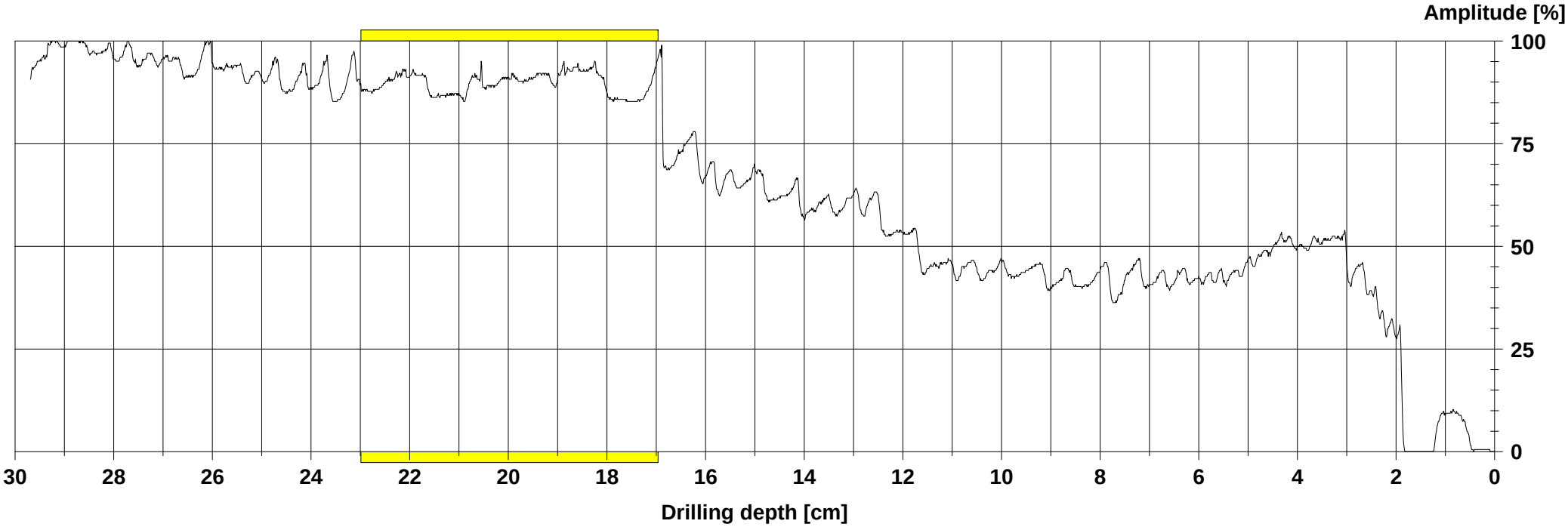
☑	**From** 4.3 cm	**to**	30.0 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into buttress. Fungal material adjacent to the buttress.

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 4	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 29.69 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: South west		
Time	: 10:10:06	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 73 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

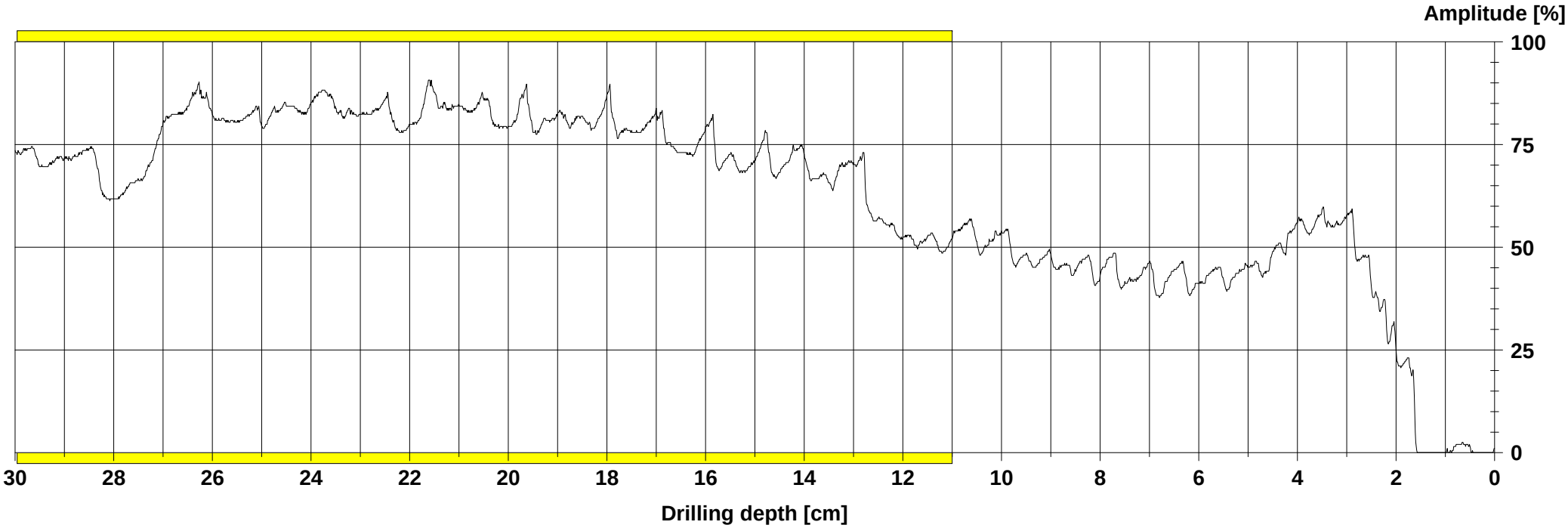
☐	**From**	17.0 cm	**to**	23.0 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From**	0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into buttress.

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 5	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 30.06 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: West north west		
Time	: 10:11:39	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 73 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

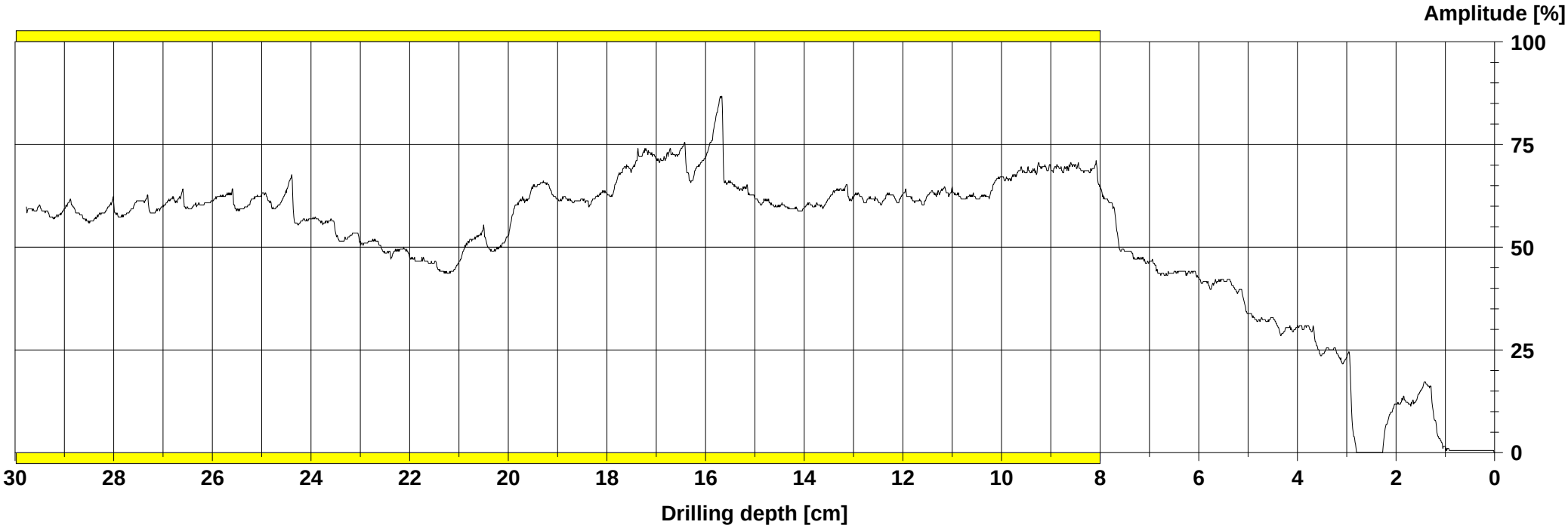
☑	**From** 11.0 cm	**to**	30.0 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into buttress.

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 6	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 29.77 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: East		
Time	: 10:15:48	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 76 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

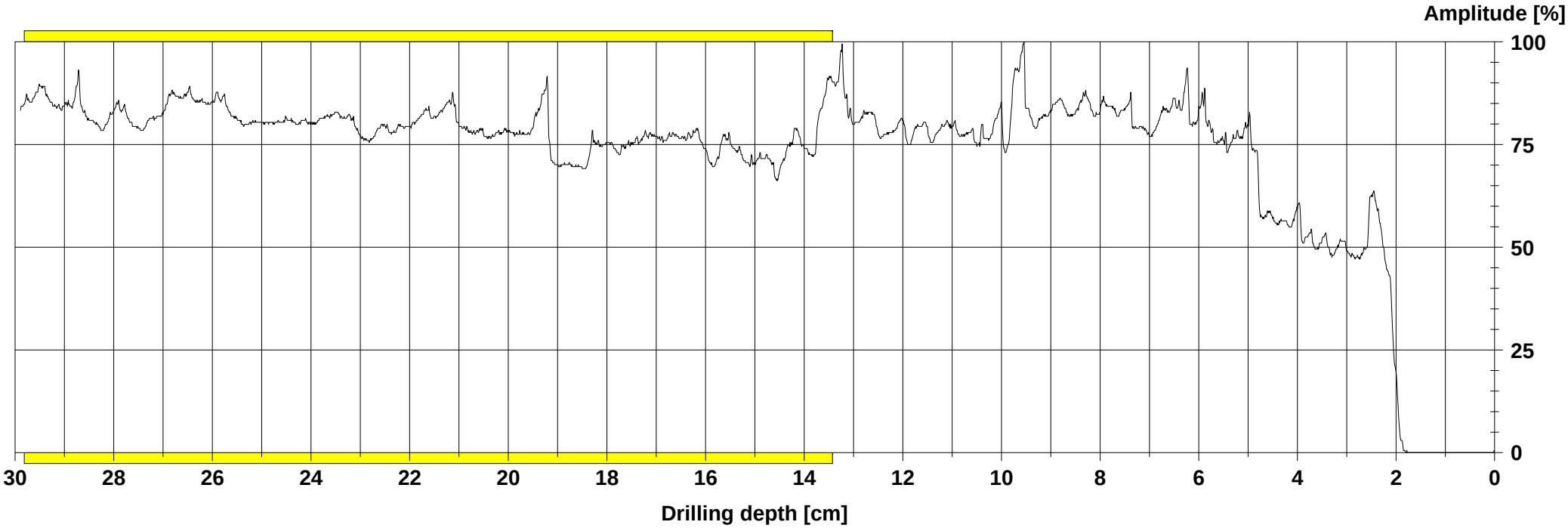
☑	**From** 8.0 cm	**to**	30.0 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into area between buttresses and immediateley adjacent to the fungal material.

Measuring / object data

Measurement no.	: 7	**Tilt**	: ---	**Name**	: Ben Abbatt
Drilling depth	: 29.89 cm	**Avg. curve**	: off		
Wood species	: Soft (1)	**Diameter**	: 149.0 cm		
ID number	: T4	**Level**	: 30.0 cm		
Date	: 10.02.2021	**Direction**	: South		
Time	: 10:16:55	**Object species**	: Cedar Cedrus		
Advance	: 76 cm/min	**Location**	: 23 Lenten Street		



Assessment

☑	**From** 13.4 cm	**to**	29.8 cm	:	Partially degraded
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	
☐	**From** 0.0 cm	**to**	0.0 cm	:	

Comment

Into area between buttresses and immediateley adjacent to the fungal material.

Photographs

SAL1 T2 sycamore with woodpecker holes, decay and failed branches evident (shown by red arrows).

SAL2 T2 sycamore with declining canopy over the adjacent property.

SAL3 T3 sycamore adjacent to the watercourse with lean to the north.

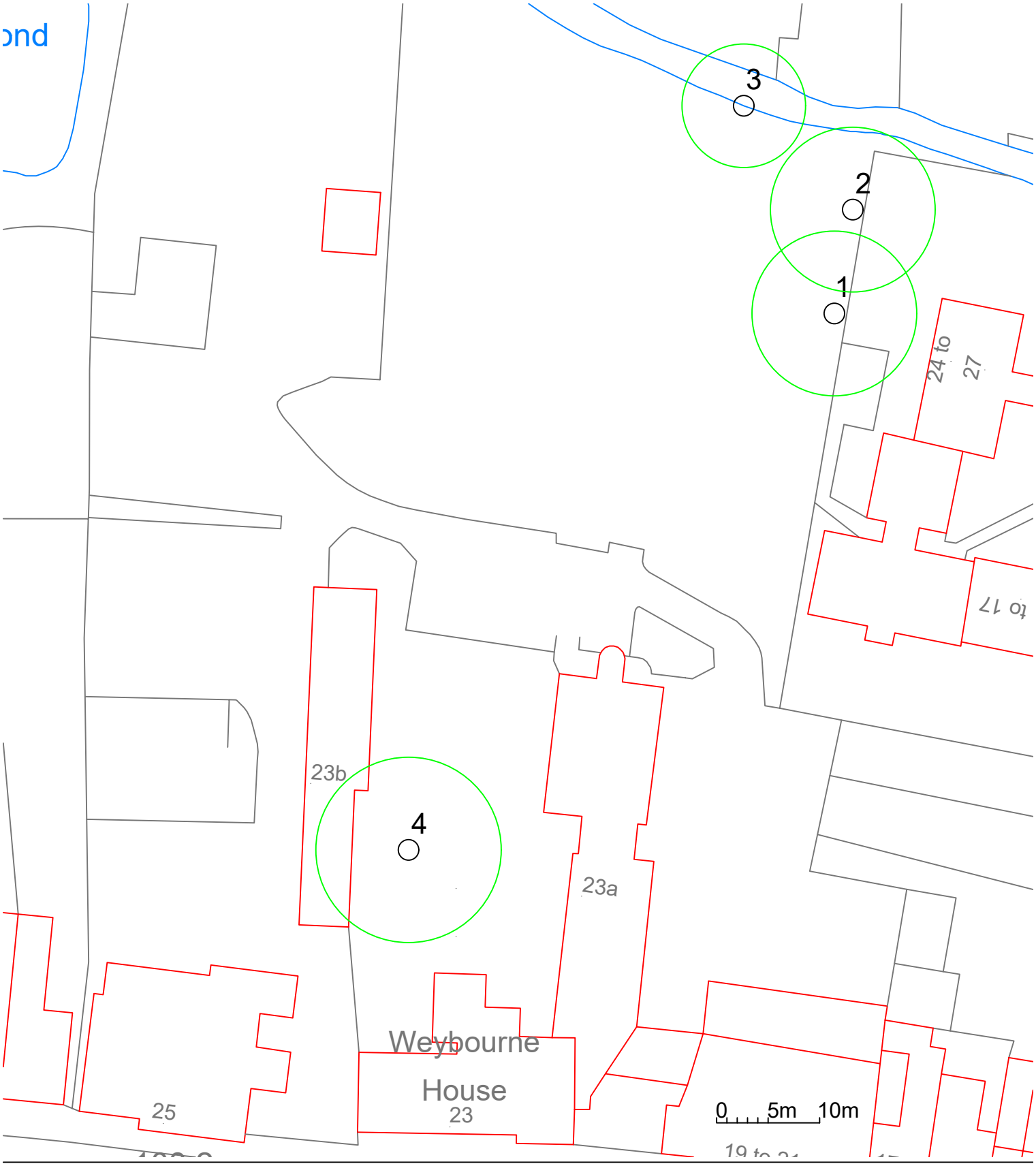
SAL4 T1 sycamore in the foreground, T2 sycamore immediately behind and T3 sycamore to the left.

SAL5 T1 sycamore with failed metal cable bracing identified by red arrows.

SAL 6 T4 cedar with unidentified fungal fruiting body between the buttresses on the east side identified by a red arrow.

SAL 7 T4 cedar with unidentified fungal fruiting body between the buttresses on the south side identified by a red arrow.

Site plan



General / Key:

Indicative group

Indicative tree position

Site: A H Buckham Limited

Data: Ordnance survey data provided under licence 100019980. Crown copyright. All rights reserved.

This drawing is produced in colour. Please ensure that you use a colour printing to ensure that the drawing is correctly interpreted.

Drawing title:

Tree survey plan

Drawing reference: J701.04

Revision: -

Date: February 2021

Scale: 1 to 500 on A4

Sheet: 1 of 1

N

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