

Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS): and tree protection

Woodpecker Wood, Court Hill, Damerham, Salisbury SP6 3HL

9 March 2023

Reference 246/AMS/3

	Section
Summary	1
General precautions	2
Construction Specifications	3
CS1 Install tree protection fencing	CS1
CS2 Tree pruning	CS2
CS3 Groundwork	CS3
CS4 Install a new hard surface	CS4
Appendix	
Tree protection fencing specification	A

Revision 246/AMS/3

Updated following site meeting with Impact Moling Trenchless Installations Ltd; and
Revisions to sewage treatment

1 Summary

The building lies within an Ancient Woodland that is also covered by a tree preservation order (TPO) with a 'Woodland' classification which protects the woodland as a whole, including seedlings and regeneration. The woodland is an important landscape feature that make a significant contribution to the amenity of the area. It should be protected from demolition and construction activities.

No vehicles, storage or construction activities should take place further into the woodland than the western (furthest) end of the building. This is why the tree protection fence is shown across the track.

This AMS sets out methods of tree protection and general best practice for construction activities within the root protection area (RPA) of retained trees.

This report provides site-specific mitigation...	It is based on the Arboricultural Impact Assessment data for soil, species, sensitivity of the trees to damage and the magnitude of the impacts of the proposed development
...in order to reduce the likelihood of damage to trees...	The guidance in BS5937:2012 <i>Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction- Recommendations</i> Technical Design stage Sections 6-8 applies
...and in order to comply with any planning conditions	Planning conditions typically require adherence to an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) and may require a pre-commencement meeting.

2 General precautions

The access track and the open area to the south of the building can be used for vehicle parking and dry material storage.

Fires should be avoided	Where they are unavoidable, they should not be lit in a position where heat could affect foliage or branches, so take wind direction and potential size of the fire into account.
Run-off from concrete mixing causes damage to tree roots	Concrete mixing should take place on a ply board on top of a polythene membrane and outside the tree canopy.
Materials must not be stored and handled near trees	Any materials whose accidental spillage would cause damage to a tree should be stored and handled well away from the canopy of a tree

3 Construction specifications (CS)

The following construction specifications are specific to the construction activities on this site. These are arboricultural specifications based on the physiological needs of the trees and are not engineering specifications. BS5827:2012 *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations* is the arboricultural reference.

CS1 Install tree protection fencing (barriers)

The fencing should be erected before anything is bought to site and should not be moved

A fence has been shown on plan RNapc/246/TPP/3 around the building to limit the spread of building activities, and across the end of the track to protect the woodland. The fence will be a series of weldmesh panels supported on diagonal struts (see image) which should be adequate for this site.

On the approach to the building all vehicles should remain on the existing track. The edge should be protected by a flexible mesh orange plastic fence supported by road pins to prevent vehicle access into the wood.

CS2 Tree pruning

The tree work is listed in the Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) document

Those trees that have major deadwood in the crowns which overhangs the building should have the deadwood removed to prevent future damage.

All tree work should be carried out by a suitably qualified Tree Contractor

CS3 Groundwork

Installation of a new water main

See 246/Tree Report-2 and the attached statement from Impact Molding Trenchless Installations Ltd.

Ground works

The existing track surface is to be scraped to remove surface vegetation. The underlying existing stone surface is to be retained and re-dressed with stone. Only scrape the surface of the track to its original width as shown by the solid black line on the plan. Do not extend the width of the track by scraping as this will cause damage to the roots of adjacent trees.

Any groundworks should be carried out using a toothless bucket. No roots with a diameter greater than 20mm shall be severed unless agreed by the Arboriculturist.

Extract from BS5837:2012 Section 7.2

7.2 Avoiding physical damage to the roots during demolition or construction

7.2.1 To avoid damage to tree roots, existing ground levels should be retained within the RPA. Intrusion into soil (other than for piling) within the RPA is generally not acceptable, and topsoil within it should be retained in situ. However, limited manual excavation within the RPA might be acceptable, subject to justification. Such excavation should be undertaken carefully, using hand-held tools and preferably by compressed air soil displacement.

NOTE Due to the demands that manual excavation places on a development project, and limitations arising from health and safety considerations, it is not realistic to plan for excavation using hand-held tools where there is a need for trench shoring or grading the sides of the excavation to a stable angle of repose.

7.2.2 Roots, whilst exposed, should immediately be wrapped or covered to prevent desiccation and to protect them from rapid temperature changes. Any wrapping should be removed prior to backfilling, which should take place as soon as possible.

7.2.3 Roots smaller than 25 mm diameter may be pruned back, making a clean cut with a suitable sharp tool (e.g. bypass secateurs or handsaw), except where they occur in clumps. Roots occurring in clumps or of 25 mm diameter and over should be severed only following consultation with an arboriculturist, as such roots might be essential to the tree's health and stability.

7.2.4 Prior to backfilling, retained roots should be surrounded with topsoil or uncompacted sharp sand (builders' sand should not be used because of its high salt content, which is toxic to tree roots), or other loose inert granular fill, before soil or other suitable material is replaced. This material should be free of contaminants and other foreign objects potentially injurious to tree roots.

**New services and soakaways
BS58937 7.7**

Soakaways and septic tanks should not be located within the RPA of a retained tree. The revised position is shown on the site plan.

CS4 Install new hard surfacing

The track is to be re-stoned

The surface is to be re-stoned with a non-calcareous no-fines stone. Do not use hoggin.

A Appendix A Tree protection specification

Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems

