



Client: Robert Hill

Location: 4 St Catherine's Place

Surveyed: 26 September 2023



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## Introduction

The tree survey is a tree management and building design tool which surveys the trees in their current context. The aims of the tree survey are:

1. To categorise the trees as to their suitability for retention in terms of their quality and value. Quality is based on the tree's condition, and importance in terms of cultural, species, aesthetic or ecological significance.
2. To minimise unnecessary impact and to the retain tree population and demonstrate the constraints and opportunities available in the positioning of building and other work activity.

## Summary

The survey is based on a comprehensive visual inspection, carried out in two visits on 18 and 26 September 2023. The weather conditions were bright.

The survey was commissioned by Robert Hill.

The site is residential and within a conservation area.

## Methodology

This survey included all established and young trees within the site.

Tree locations have been plotted within a map of the site, using GPS and ARGIS technology to determine their location.

The average radial canopy and the RPA of each available tree is displayed, with the RPA as a pink line, and the canopy spread as a shaded area. Category A trees are light green, B trees are light blue, C trees are grey, and U trees are red. Hedges are dark green lines.

## Survey Findings

1. One individual tree was surveyed. Only trees with a diameter at breast height of greater than 75mm were described.
2. See Appendix B for the full tree survey schedule.

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where appropriate)			Identification on plan
<b>Trees unsuitable for retention</b> (see Note)				
<b>Category U</b> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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)</li> <li>Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline</li> <li>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</li> </ul> <p><i>NOTE</i> Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</p>			See Appendix B
	<b>1 Mainly arboricultural qualities</b>	<b>2 Mainly landscape qualities</b>	<b>3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation</b>	
<b>Trees to be considered for retention</b>				
<b>Category A</b> <b>Trees of high quality</b> 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 Appendix B
<b>Category B</b> <b>Trees of moderate quality</b> 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 Appendix B
<b>Category C</b> <b>Trees of low quality</b> 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 Appendix B

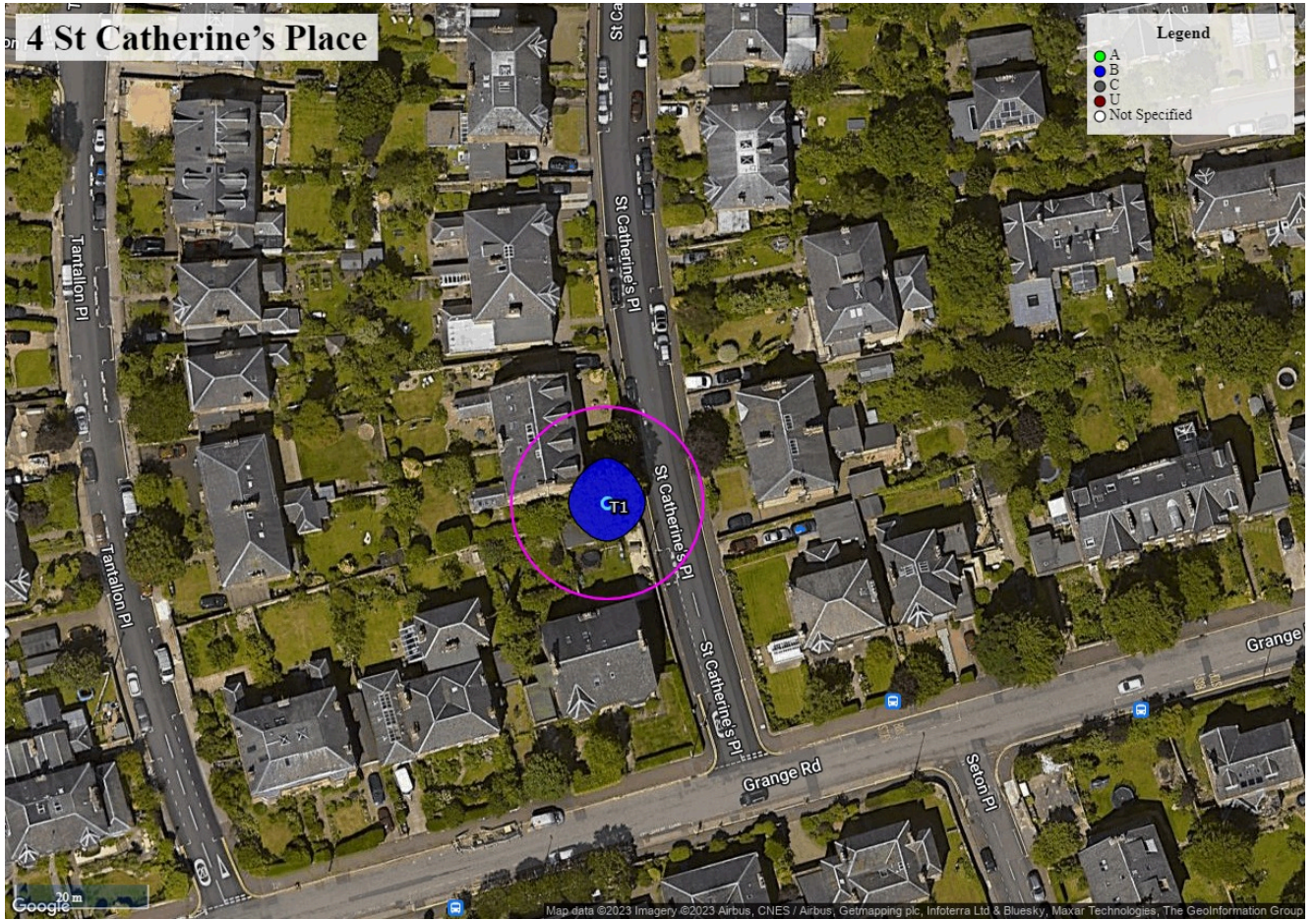
**Appendix A – Cascade Chart for tree quality assessment**

Woodland & Countryside Management (2012)

## Key to Tree Survey Schedule

Tag number	Unique number on tag attached to the tree, within a set of numbers 0601 - 0700 N.B. Tags 656 and 688 were missing from the set.
Species	Botanical name (Common name)
DBH (m)	Diameter of stem at breast height, approximately 1.5 metres.
N(m)	Estimated Canopy spread to the North in metres.
S (m)	Estimated Canopy spread to the South in metres.
E (m)	Estimated Canopy spread to the East in metres.
W (m)	Estimated Canopy spread to the West in metres.
Height (m)	Tree Height to the nearest metre.
C. Height (m)	Canopy Height in metres.
BS Cat.	British Standard Category – A, B, C or U – refer to Appendix A
Condition	<p>Observations, particularly of structural and/or physiological condition (e.g. the presence of decay, defects and pathological infections), as well as nuisances caused by the tree.</p> <p><b>Good</b> = Full healthy canopy. Free from major cavities, wounds, pests or diseases.</p> <p><b>Fair</b> = Slightly reduced leaf cover, minor deadwood or isolated major deadwood. Early stages of decay/disease. Structural faults.</p> <p><b>Poor</b> = Overall sparse leafing or extensive deadwood. Well established decay organisms. Structurally unsound cavities and or large wounds. Structural features prone to failure.</p> <p><b>Dead</b> = No living parts. Advanced decay. Structurally unsound.</p>
Age (yrs)	Estimated age of the tree in years
Stems	Number of main stems.
ERC (yrs)	Estimated Remaining Life Expectancy of this tree in this site.
Comments	Comments about the tree.
Recommendations	Management recommendations for the tree. Namely, Remove or Retain. Pruning recommendations also added.
RPA (radius)	Root Protection Area, a radius measurement in metres from the stem which would need to be undisturbed if this tree was to be undamaged by proposed development.

# Map and Images





## 4 St Catherine's Place



Tree Details

Tag Number:	T1
Common Name:	Horse chestnut
Latin Name:	Aesculus hippocastanum
Tree Height [m]:	16
Number of Stems:	1
Stem Diameter [mm]:	1300
(N) Branch Spread [m]:	7
(E) Branch Spread [m]:	6
(S) Branch Spread [m]:	6
(W) Branch Spread [m]:	6
Height of First Significant Branch [m]:	4
Height of Canopy Above Ground Level [m]:	4
Physiological Condition:	Fair
Structural Condition:	Good
Quality Category:	B
Quality Sub-Category:	

Comments: Suffering from leaf blotch and leaf miner. May be suffering from bacterial canker (some black exudate seen on stem base and in canopy). Some large pruning wounds on eastern side rod canopy, approximately 4m above the ground and between 60-150mm in diameter. They appear to be occluding slowly but will likely allow decay in before process is complete, given the life stage of the tree.

Recommendations: Monitor for bacterial canker spread, any signs of decline (leaf/branch death etc.)

Works to be completed by:

Estimated work hours:

Tree Location

Address:	4 Saint Catherine's Place
City:	
Longitude:	-3.184886
Latitude:	55.936736

Photos





## **Caveats and Limitations**

1. This survey was conducted according to the VTA type 1 method (Mattheck & Breloer, 1994; Mattheck 2007) meaning survey work was carried out from ground level only.
2. Root protection areas (RPAs) are calculated with a standard formula; it is a best estimate. Tree roots are opportunistic and rely on favourable rooting conditions. RPAs have been amended to avoid any unfavourable rooting conditions, such as certain built structures. The RPAs shown may not represent the true rooting area of an individual tree
3. No soil, foliage, wood, fungus or root samples were taken for analysis. Should any further investigation be required, this will be highlighted in the report.
4. No internal decay measurements were taken. Should any further investigation be required, this will be highlighted in the report.
5. Even apparently healthy, structurally sound trees can be adversely affected by extreme climatic conditions. Trees should be reinspected after such events.
6. Trees are living organisms and can decline in health rapidly due to biotic and abiotic influences. Therefore, due to the unpredictability of nature, the unforeseen failure of intact trees can never be ruled out.
7. The findings of this report are based on observations made at various visits, and best judgement has been made to ensure that any remedial work has been recommended; however no guarantee can be given as to the safety of any individual tree. For this reason, findings and recommendations in this report are valid only for a period of 12 months from the survey date, or until any extreme weather event, whichever is soonest.
8. Only visible pathogens were recorded at the time of the survey. This does not confirm the absence of other pathogens but merely states that no annual fruiting bodies or other indications were observed at the time of the survey.
9. A Type 1 VTA cannot eliminate the possibility that any of the trees are used as a habitat for protected flora and fauna (e.g. bat roost). Reference to the legal documents 'Countryside Rights of Way Act' (2000) and 'Nature Conservation Act' (2004) (Scotland) is advised. The trees have been assessed for potential bat habitat, as well as bird nesting. Due to the difficulty of assessing the upper stems and crowns of larger trees from the ground (especially evergreen trees), some habitat features may not have been observed.
10. British Standard 5837 (2012) is not a specification document; as such it is acknowledged that deviance from the recommendations is permitted, so long as it is justified (British Standards Institute 2012, p.iii).
11. Due to physical constraints inherent on the site, some measurements have been estimated.