



Tree condition survey of various trees

at

Birdworld, Holt Pound, Farnham, GU10 4LD

Surveyed by
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Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant

Client
Birdworld Limited
Holt Pound
Farnham
GU10 4LD

Report date
15th November 2023

Report reference
J612.08

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Institute of
Chartered Foresters



CEnv
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Table of Contents

1. INSTRUCTION	3
2. SITE DETAILS.....	4
3. STATUTORY CONTROLS.....	5
4. LIMITATIONS.....	7
5. TREE SURVEY FINDINGS	8
6. DISCUSSION.....	9
7. RECOMMENDATIONS	10
APPENDICES	11
<i>Appendix 1: tree survey data</i>	12
<i>Appendix 2: tree survey plan</i>	22
<i>Appendix 3: general notes</i>	29
<i>Appendix 4: key to tree survey data</i>	30
<i>Appendix 5: surveyor qualifications and experience</i>	31

1. Instruction

- 1.1 I was instructed by Mr D Lloyd, Admin and Facilities Manager, to carry out a tree condition survey of trees within the Birdworld site, paying particular attention to any features that may pose a significant hazard to persons or property, and to produce a tree survey report including the provision of management recommendations with priorities.
- 1.2 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.
- 1.3 The client has raised concerns relating to the trees including their condition, proximity to the main public areas of Birdworld.
- 1.4 The main entrance area is subject to a positive return survey where the details of all the trees within the defined area are surveyed and recorded. The remaining main public areas are to be subject to a negative return survey where only the trees requiring remedial works are recorded.

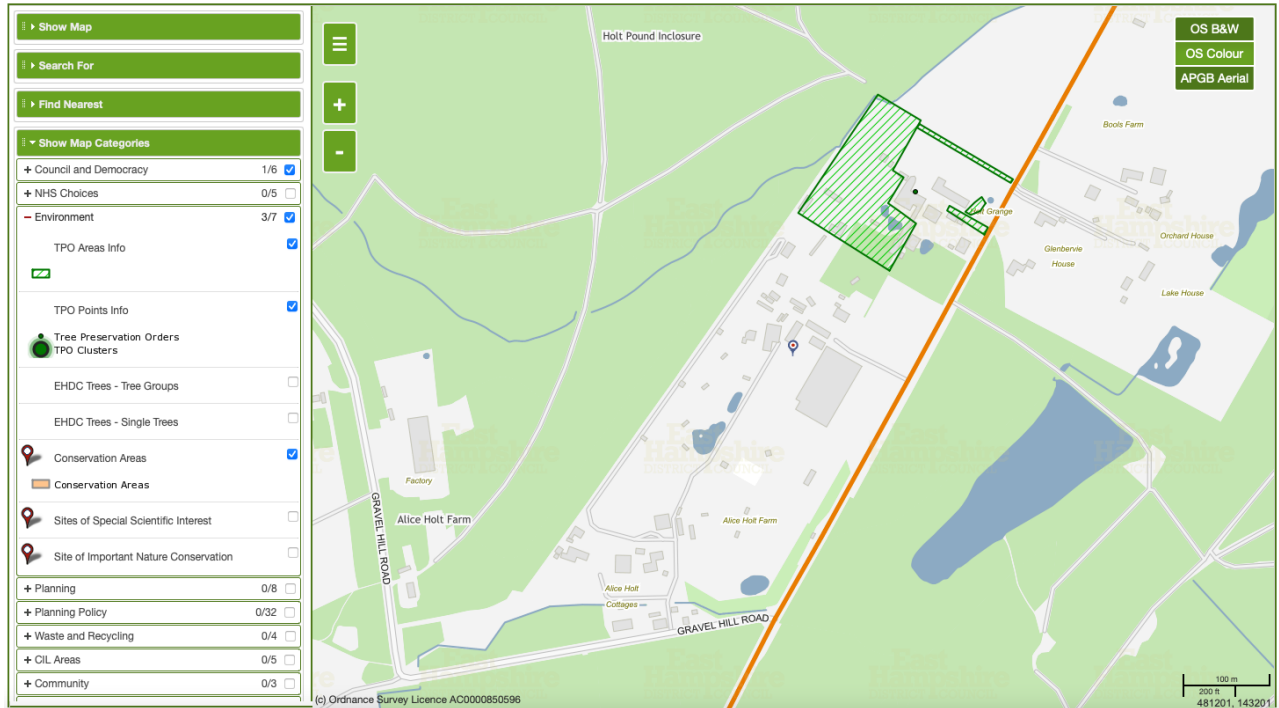
2. Site details

- 2.1 Birdworld is to the south of Farnham and on the west side of the A325 with the main entrance at [///diplomas.chefs.fond](https://www.diplomas.chefs.fond.com/)¹. The 26 acre site is an area adjacent to Forestry Commission woodland to the west and Gravel Hill Road to the south. The site is relatively flat with the main site areas being on the higher ground relative to the land to the north and south.

¹ <https://what3words.com/>

3. Statutory controls

- 3.1 The online mapping tool provided by East Hampshire District Council, accessed on 15th November 2023 identifies that the site is not subject to Conservation Area controls. However, Tree Preservation Order (472)70 does relate to the northern parts of the site (section 1 main entrance, section 2 seashore, section 8 car parking and section 9 additional car parking). See image SAL1:



SAL1 Image provided by council website².

- 3.2 The trees subject to TPO, a Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation) (England) Regulations 2012 will require consent from the planning authority prior to implementation. Therefore a s16 Tree Works Application³ will need to be issued to the planning authority for works where live wood is to be cut. Such tree works identified within any Consent will normally need to be complete before a 2 year period from the date of the Consent. Additional information on the process can be found at the government website⁴. This tree condition survey can be used to inform such a Tree Works Application.
- 3.3 Alternatively, works may be exempt from notice as detailed in The Town and Country Planning (Tree Preservation)(England) Regulations 2012 sections 14 (exceptions)⁵. Such exceptions are given as a s14 'Notice of Intent' and a 5 working day period for the planning authority to consider the matter and relate to the imminent threat of harm or damage. This tree condition survey can be used to inform such a s14 (5 day) Notice of Intent. On this occasion, no imminent threats were found.

² <https://maps.easthants.gov.uk/easthampshire.aspx>

³ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/605/regulation/16/made>

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tree-preservation-orders-and-trees-in-conservation-areas#making-applications-tpo>

⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/605/regulation/14/made>

- 3.4 Works in accordance with the Highways Act 1980, section 154⁶, overrides the town and Country Planning Act and can be implemented without reference to the planning authority. However, it is appropriate to inform the planning authority to avoid unnecessary waste of officer time investigating whether the works are exempt. In this instance, no such works fall within this exception.
- 3.5 The Forestry Act 1967⁷ may apply where trees are to be felled as the trees grow within a site subject to a commercial status.
- 3.6 This document does not consider specific covenants.

⁶ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1980/66/section/154>

⁷ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1967/10/section/9>

4. Limitations

- 4.1 The tree survey was carried out from ground level, with the aid of binoculars where appropriate, using the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) process. The VTA process is used to identify significant tree features that may have significant bearing upon the condition (physiological and structural) and management of the tree.
- 4.2 Typical significant defects that are identified are referred to in Lonsdale, D., "Hazards from Trees, a general guide" (FCPG13) published in 2000 by the Forestry Commission, Lonsdale, D., "Principles of tree hazard assessment and management" published in 1999 and 2001 and reprinted in 2013 by the Forestry Commission, and Mattheck, C., "The body language of trees" published in 1994 by the Department of the Environment and 2015 by Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.
- 4.3 Reasonable access around the base of the tree is required to carry out a tree survey. Where this is not feasible, these parts of the tree may not be fully assessed. If a view of the entire structure of the tree(s) is limited, for instance by the properties in private ownership or obscured by vegetation, this is a limitation to the tree survey and some parts of the tree may not be able to be fully surveyed. In this instance access was not always available due to buildings, land ownership, vegetation, etc., although views with the benefit of binoculars, provided a reasonable view of the trees.
- 4.4 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 context within which the tree(s) grow. Recommendations for the period between surveys are given.
- 4.6 No soil investigations have been carried out.

5. Tree survey findings

- 5.1 The survey was carried out on 7th November 2023. Mr Lloyd accompanied me for only parts of the site visit. The weather on the day of the site visit was clear, dry with low wind speeds.
- 5.2 The table of findings of the tree survey can be found in Appendix 1.
- 5.3 I have relied on the topographical survey for the positions of the trees surveyed. Where applicable I have annotated the topographical survey with the tree reference / aluminium numbers tags to correlate between the tree condition survey (Appendix 1), the tree survey plans (Appendix 2), and the specific trees surveyed on site. Position of the trees plotted is approximate on the tree survey plan and the specific trees will need to be identified through their approximate position shown on the tree survey plan, condition notes given in the tree survey text and the relevant tag number.

6. Discussion

- 6.1 Tree defects and features have been identified and remedial works specified. Such defects and features include pests and diseases, vitality assessments, structural assessment, form, prior management, proximal relationships, and species characteristics. These defects and features have been considered with respect to the reasonable safe use of the site.
- 6.2 The greater the amount of pruning work carried out, the greater the potential for undesirable physiological and structural impacts upon the retained trees (refer to British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendation for tree works paragraph 7.2.4 extent of pruning works). Therefore, works recommendations given seek to reasonably control the risks identified whilst minimising the potential impact upon retained trees to aid their retention in the landscape for as long as reasonably practicable. Additionally, tree works recommendations are kept to a minimum to minimise the potential aesthetic impacts that can occur through excessive tree works.
- 6.3 To conclude, in my consideration of the site, its location, use, frequency of occupation, the potential hazards that the trees present, the condition of the trees and potential for failure, and the potential size of the failure parts, I have provided tree works recommendations with priorities to aid the retention of the trees in the landscape where feasible and these works are detailed in section 7 and Appendix 1.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1 I have considered the findings of the tree survey within the context of the health and vitality of the trees and the circumstances within which they are located.
- 7.2 Recommended works are detailed in Appendix 1 for each tree or group with associated priorities. The priorities mean that the recommended works should be carried out within specified timescales detailed in Appendix 3 key to tree survey data.
- 7.3 Works are considered a 'High' priority and should be complete within 1 month from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the tree and its position and context. Two trees were identified as being subject to a high priority.
- 7.4 Works are considered a 'Moderate' priority and should be complete within 3 months from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the tree and its position and context. Two trees were identified as being subject to a moderate priority.
- 7.5 Works are considered a 'Low' priority and should be complete within 12 months from the date of this survey. The priority is considered based on the condition of the tree and its position and context. The remaining trees were identified as being subject to a low priority.
- 7.6 Tree works should be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 Recommendations for Tree Works and in particular biosecurity / avoidance of transmission of disease and pathogens (4.3), extent of pruning works (7.2.4), and natural target pruning (7.2.5). A tree contractor ought to carry out works in accordance with this British Standard and be aware of these specific elements.
- 7.7 Tree works, except high priority and felling works, ideally to be carried out ideally in the late summer (September) or mid winter (December to February) to aid the trees to respond to the pruning wounds in the most effective manner. The worst times to implement tree works to retained trees is particularly in spring and secondly around leaf fall and, therefore, these time periods (spring and leaf fall) ought to be avoided where possible to reduce the physiological impact upon retained trees.
- 7.8 Resurvey of the trees ought to be complete by the 1st November 2025. Resurvey is important as the condition of trees alters over time. Resurvey assumes the entirety of tree works recommended to be complete within the timescales given.

Appendices

Appendix 1: tree survey data

Tree Condition Survey

Site Birdworld, Holt Pound, Farnham, GU10 4LD
 Date of survey 7th November 2023
 Job reference J612.08
 Surveyor Ben Abbatt
 Resurvey To be complete by the 1st November 2025



Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
Section 1: Main entrance (positive return survey)									
T	600	Willow <i>Salix</i>	6	Mature	Good	Fair	Recent pollard with moderate regrowth. Cavity at the base.	Repollard to old pollard points at 3m.	Low
T	601	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	17	Mature		Fair	Recent crown reduction. 50% bark loss at the base.	No works required at the time of the survey.	~
T	604	Oak	22	Mature	Good	Fair	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood. Epicormic growth on the lower stem. Bark loss at the base commensurate with short wall construction.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter. Crown reduction to a final height of 17m with a horizontal radial canopy spread of 8m.	Low
T	605	Oak	22	Mature	Good	Fair	Top previously lost / removed. Weak union to the northwest. Adjacent tree to be reduced.	Crown reduction to a final height of 19m with a horizontal radial canopy spread of 8m.	Low
T	606	Oak	15	Mature	Good	Good	~	No works required at the time of the survey.	~

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	607	Horse chestnut <i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	15	Mature	Good	Fair	Bark cracks on the lower stem commensurate with horse chestnut bleeding canker https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/pest-and-disease-resources/bleeding-canker-of-horse-chestnut-pseudomonas-syringae-pv-aesculi/ Twin stem from the base with good 'u' shaped tensile union.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth. Remove arisings. Replace arisings with weed free, aerobic, natural top soil with good crumb structure and 'walk in' to remove excess air in the soil. Plant replacement tree.	Low
T	608	Willow	6	Mature	Good	Fair	Recent pollard with moderate regrowth. Decay at 3m.	Repollard to old pollard points at 3m.	Low
T	610	Grand fir <i>Abies grandis</i>	27	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	611	Willow	10	Mature	Good	Fair	Prior crown reduction to 7m with moderate regrowth.	No works required at the time of the survey.	~
T	612	Dawn redwood <i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	24	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	613	Persian ironwood <i>Parrotia persica</i>	12	Mature	Good	Good	Typical contorted low branching habit.	No works required at the time of the survey.	~

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	614	Sweet gum <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	21	Mature	Good	Good	Occasional minor (less than 25 mm diameter) deadwood.	No works required at the time of the survey.	~
T	615	Oak	18	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	635	Norway maple <i>Acer platanoides</i>	13	Mature	Good	Good	Close to adjacent building.	Clear building by 1m retaining overhanging branches outside this distance. Maximum wound size to be 50mm diameter.	Low
Section 2: Sea shore walk and owl parliament (negative return survey)									
T	616	Oak	17	Mature	Good	Fair	Close to structure. Bark cracks on lower stem commensurate with acute oak decline https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/pest-and-disease-resources/acute-oak-decline/ .	Clear building by 2m retaining overhanging branches outside this distance. Maximum wound size to be 50mm diameter. Tip reduction of branches to create an even horizontal canopy spread of 8m.	Low
T	1490	Oak	18	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	19	Birch <i>Betula</i>	18	Mature	Good	Good	Close to structure.	Clear building by 2m retaining overhanging branches outside this distance. Maximum wound size to be 50mm diameter.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	627	Oak	14	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	1000	Oak	14	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	628	Oak	14	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	61	Oak	14	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
Section 3: Woodland walk (negative return survey) (public access currently excluded)									
T	634	Horse chestnut	>20	Mature	Fair	Fair	Spiralling bark cracks commensurate with horse chestnut bleeding canker.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth.	Low
T	385	Horse chestnut	>20	Mature	Fair	Fair	Asymmetrical canopy towards the aviaries. Two stems from c1m.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	634	Horse chestnut	>20	Mature	Fair	Fair	Spiralling bark cracks commensurate with horse chestnut bleeding canker. Two stems from 7m with 'v' shaped compression union (weaker than the normal 'u' shaped tensile union).	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth.	Low
T	1491	Poplar <i>Populus</i>	c25	Mature	Poor		Sparse canopy. Canker throughout.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth.	Low
T	1492	Poplar	c25	Mature	Poor		Sparse canopy. Canker throughout.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth.	Low
T	1493	Western red cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	c18	Mature	Poor		Upper canopy dead.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth.	Low
Section 4: Safari (negative return survey)									
T	635 to 640	Oak	17	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood. Access to base of trees impeded by aviaries.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	3343	Western red cedar	13	Mature	Good	Good	Close to structure.	Clear building by 1m retaining overhanging branches outside this distance. Maximum wound size to be 50mm diameter.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
Section 5: Penguins and paddocks (negative return survey of the main walk routes through the area)									
T	643	Oak	13	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	644	Oak	14	Mature	Fair	Good	Sparse vitality over the compound area. Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood. Ivy and vegetation impede survey.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter. Sever ivy at the base and remove to 2m using hand tools only and taking care to avoid damage to the bark beneath. Clear tree base and lower stem of vegetation by 2m. Resurvey once ivy and vegetation has been removed from the lower stem.	Low
G	1	Group of western red cedar	12	Mature	Good	Fair	Section of group blown out of position by highwinds in 2013 / 2014. Three trees at southern end of the group have failed.	Reduce group to 10m height and maintain at this height.	Low
T	253	Cypress <i>Chamaecyparis</i>	7	Mature	Good	Poor	Asymmetrical canopy towards the footway. Multiple stems from the base.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth. Remove arisings. Replace arisings with weed free, aerobic, natural top soil with good crumb structure and 'walk in' to remove excess air in the soil. Plant replacement tree.	Low
T	25	Cedar <i>Cedrus</i>	12	Middle aged	Good	Fair	Competing minor stems.	Reduce the two minor stems at 1.8m and 1m by 50% of their length to allow main stem to become dominant to improve form and structure.	Low

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
T	1494	Chestnut variety	12	Middle aged	Poor	Poor	Bark death at the base. Adjacent to the "Bird of Prey" area.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth. Remove arisings. Replace arisings with weed free, aerobic, natural top soil with good crumb structure and 'walk in' to remove excess air in the soil. Plant replacement tree.	High
G	2	Group of willow	12	Mature	Good	Poor	Species susceptible to structural failure.	Coppice 50% of group every two years.	Low
T	28	Gum <i>Eucalyptus</i>	15	Mature	Good	Poor	Adjacent tree reduced increasing wind loading. Species characteristic of rapid growth and prone to branch failure.	Crown reduction to a final height of 10m with a horizontal radial canopy spread of 4.5m.	Moderate
Section 6: Events field (negative return survey of the main walk routes through the area)									
T	1495	Pine <i>Pinus</i>	14	Middle aged	Dead		Severe canopy decline. <i>Phaeolus schweinitzii</i> (decay fungal fruiting body) at the base.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth. Remove arisings. Replace arisings with weed free, aerobic, natural top soil with good crumb structure and 'walk in' to remove excess air in the soil. Plant replacement tree.	High
Section 7: Farm (negative return survey of the play area and main walk routes through the area)									
							None.		~

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
Section 8: Car parking area (negative return survey)									
T	645	Oak	18	Mature	Good	Good	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
G	3	Group of oak (6 no.)	10	Middle aged	Fair	Fair	Between tags 388 to 389. Sparse canopy. Poor growing circumstances in hard standing area.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
T	3347	Poplar	>25	Mature	Fair	Fair	Sparse canopy. Poor growing circumstances in hard standing with adjacent structures.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth. Remove arisings. Replace arisings with weed free, aerobic, natural top soil with good crumb structure and 'walk in' to remove excess air in the soil. Plant replacement tree.	Low
T	3348	Scots pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	15	Mature	Good	Poor	Aberrant sound of lower stem when tested with nylon hammer.	Use IML Resi F300 to assess extent of decay at the base of the tree.	Moderate
T	3349	Scots pine	17	Mature	Good	Poor	Aberrant sound of lower stem when tested with nylon hammer.	Use IML Resi F300 to assess extent of decay at the base of the tree.	Moderate

Designation	Reference number	Species	Height (m)	Age class	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Condition notes	Condition related tree works	Priority
Section 9: Additional car parking area (negative return survey)									
T	1496	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	14	Middle aged	Poor	Poor	Canopy decline commensurate with ash dieback https://www.forestresearch.gov.uk/tools-and-resources/fthr/pest-and-disease-resources/ash-dieback-hymenoscyphus-fraxineus/ . Four stems from the base.	Remove. Grind stump and buttress roots to 200 mm depth. Remove arisings. Replace arisings with weed free, aerobic, natural top soil with good crumb structure and 'walk in' to remove excess air in the soil. Plant replacement tree.	Low
T	390	Oak	12	Middle aged	Poor	Fair	Declining canopy. On edge of hard standing area.	Remove.	Low
T	112	Poplar	>20	Mature	Good	Fair	Typical moderate (25 to 100 mm diameter) deadwood.	Remove deadwood more than 25 mm diameter.	Low
		General					Mechanical damage to the base and structural roots of the poplar trees	Change the mowing regime to allow for the base and roots of the trees.	Low
		General					Epicormic growth on the lower stems impedes the tree survey.	Remove epicormic shoots from the base to 3m to allow future tree surveys.	Low

Appendix 2: tree survey plan



General / Key:

Site:
Birdworld, Farnham

Data:
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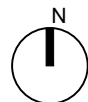
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1 of 6

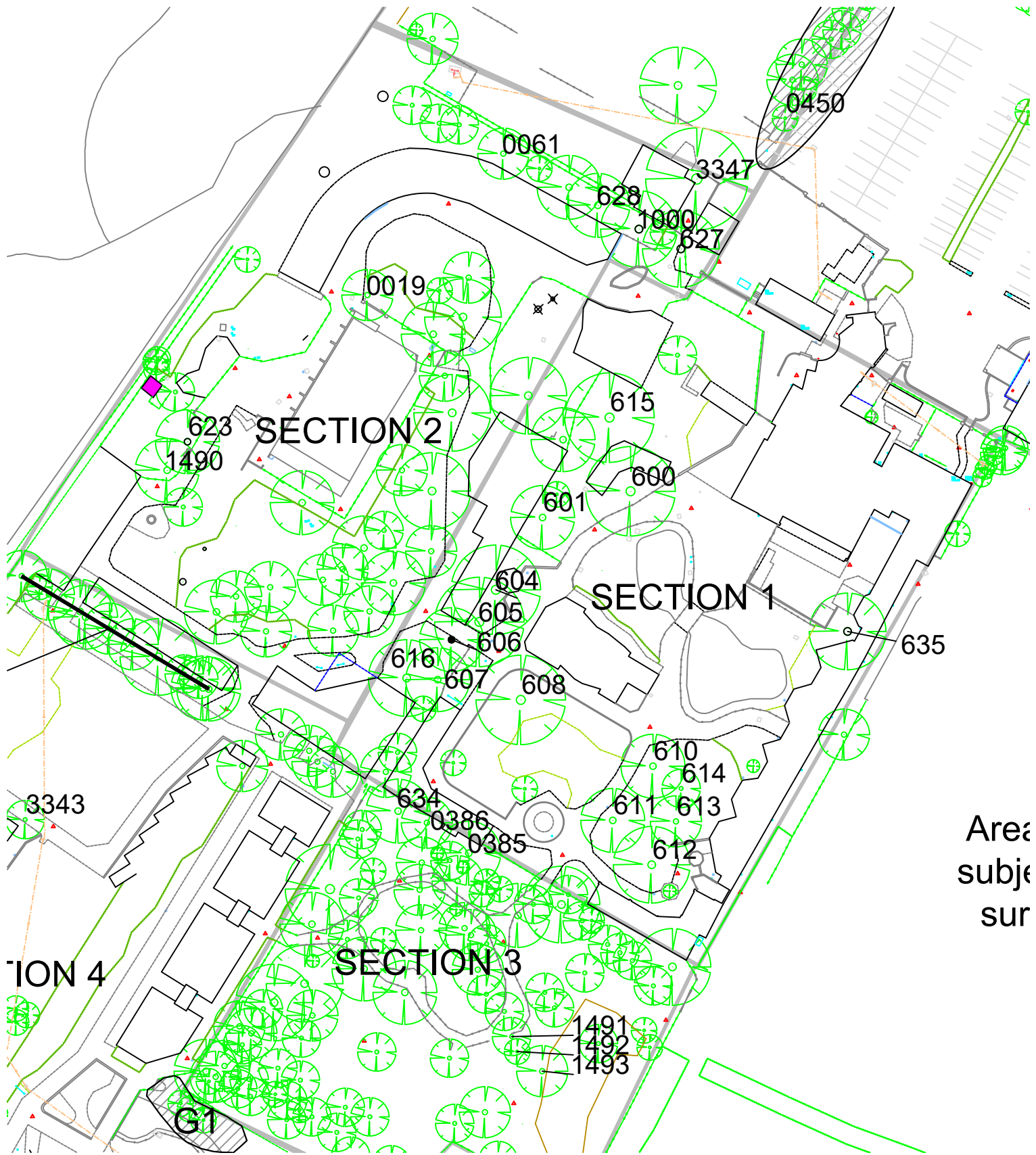
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Area
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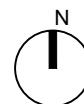
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2 of 6

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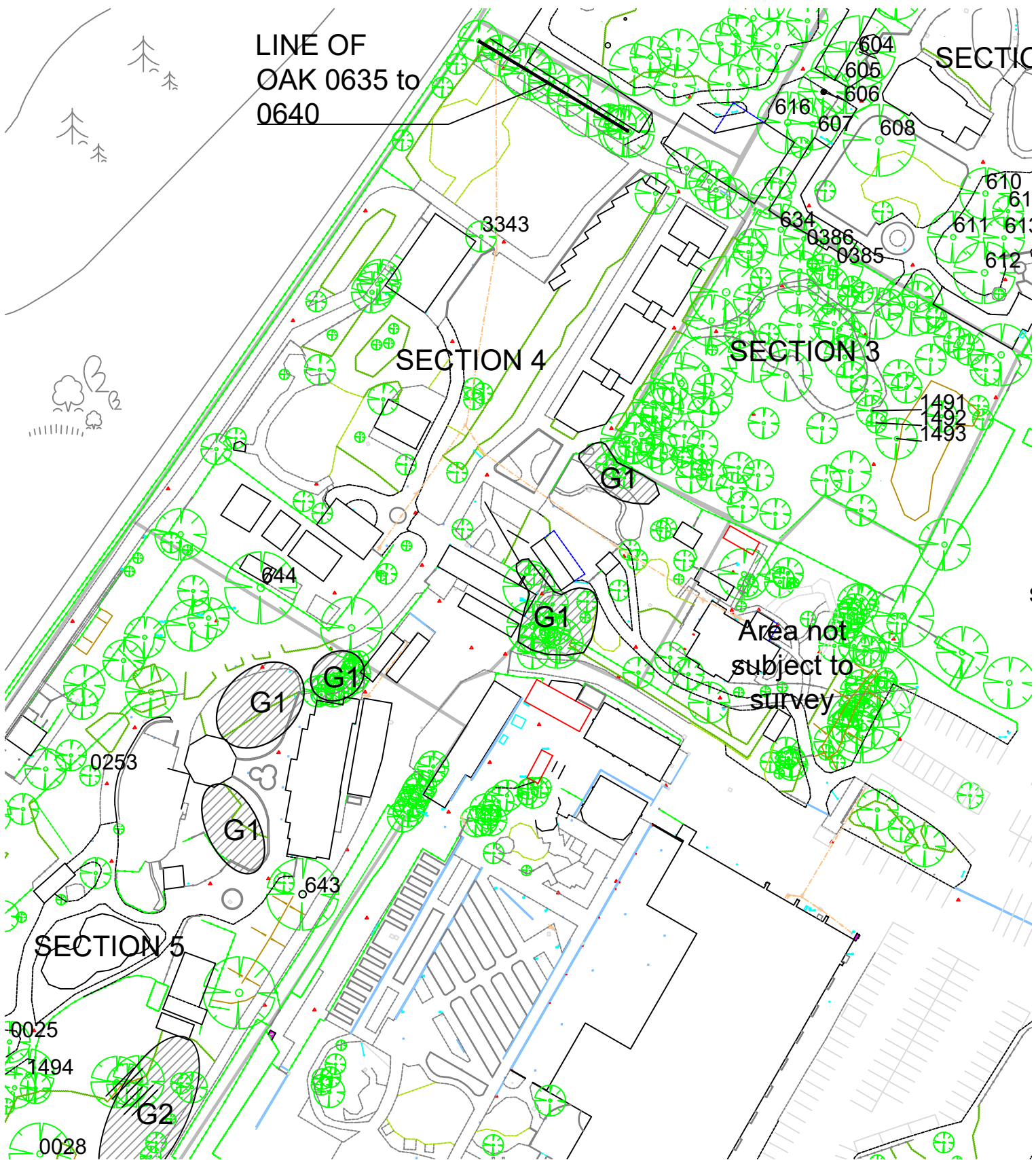
SECTION 1

SECTION 4

SECTION 3

SECTION 5

Area not
subject to
survey



General / Key:

Site:
Birdworld, Farnham

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Page:
3 of 6

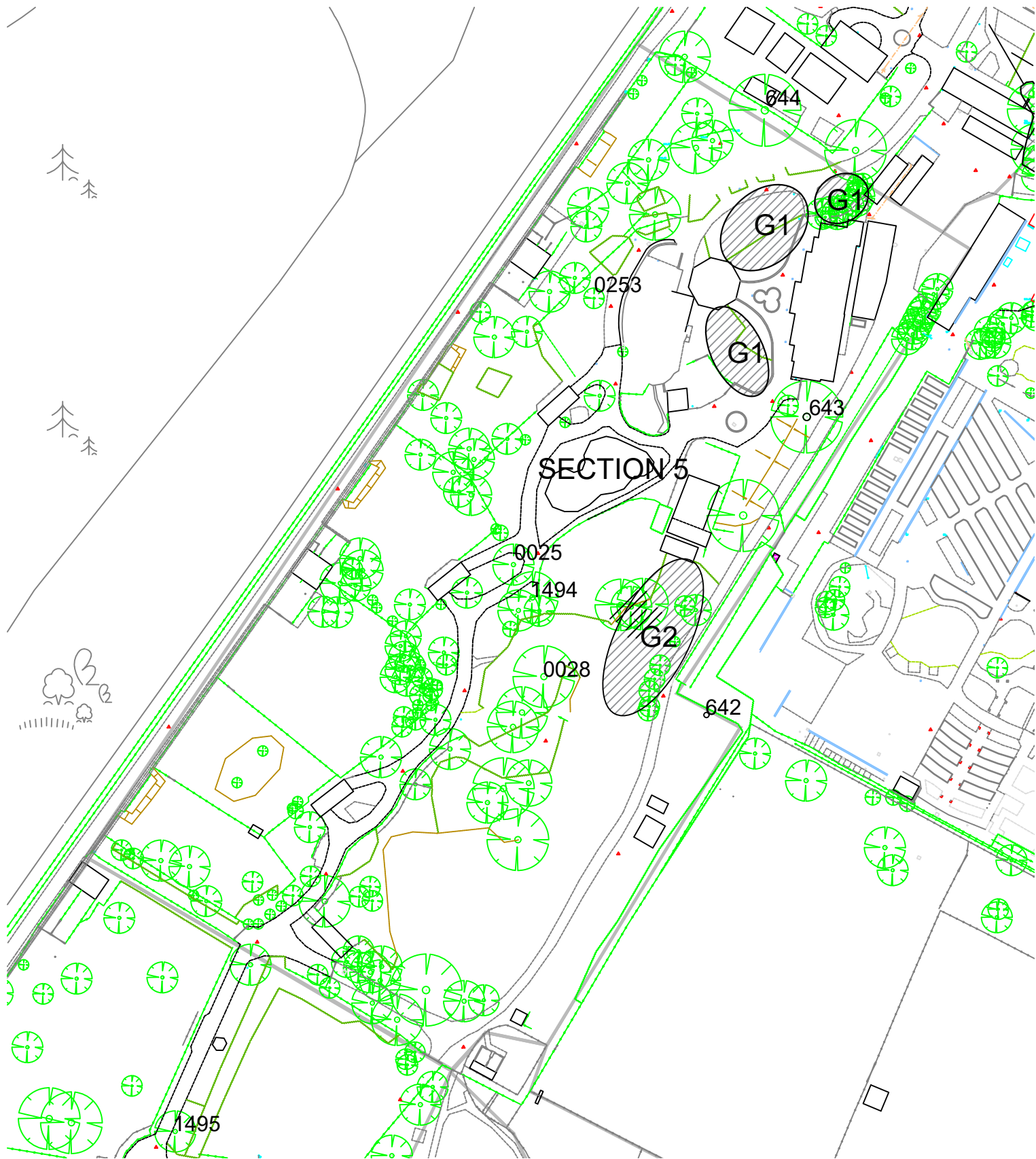
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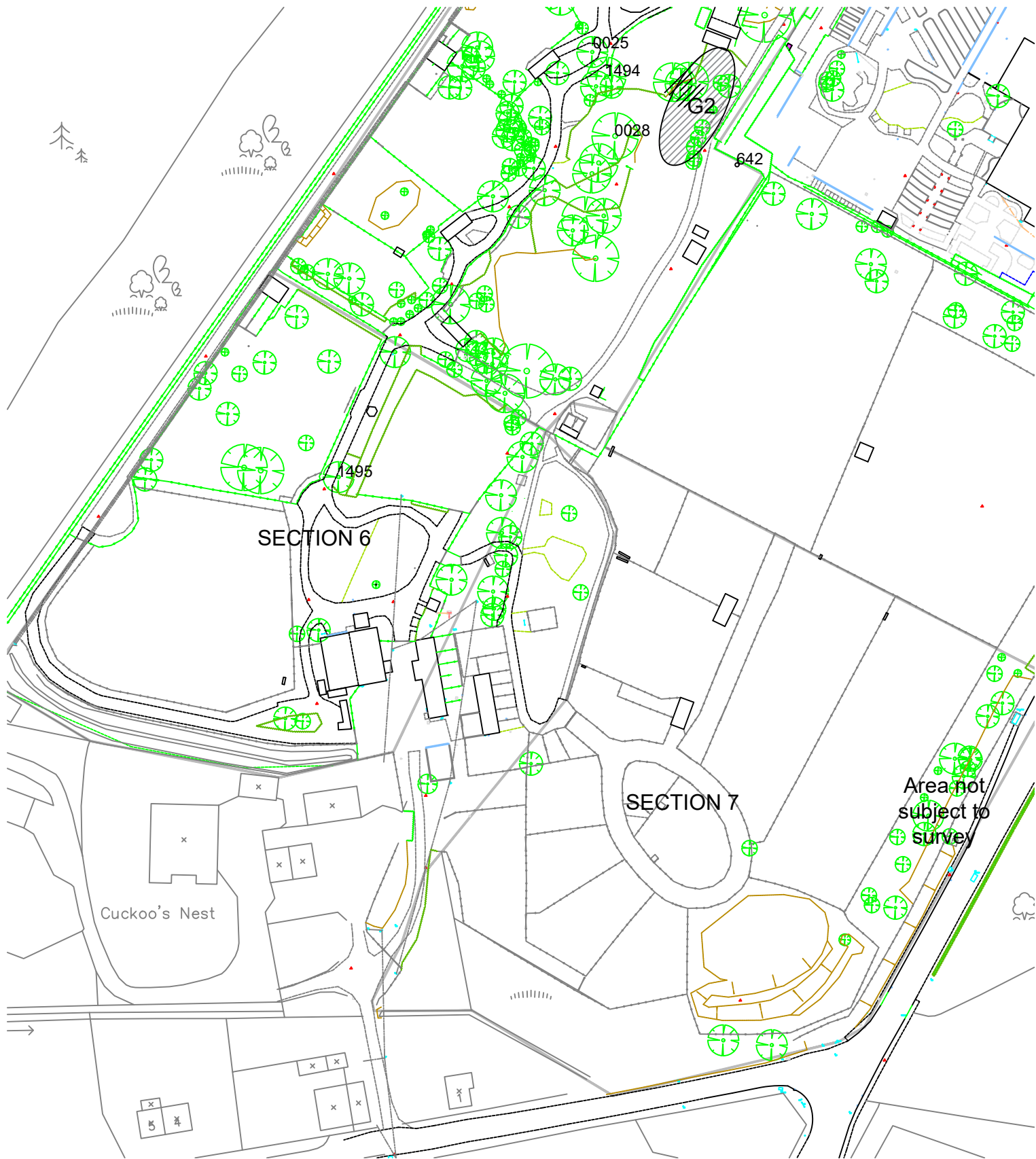
Page:
4 of 6

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General / Key:

Site:
Birdworld, Farnham

Data:
Site survey data provided by Birdworld.
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Drawing title:
Tree survey plan

Drawing reference:
J612 / 08

Revision: -

Date:
15th November 2023

Scale:
N/A on A4

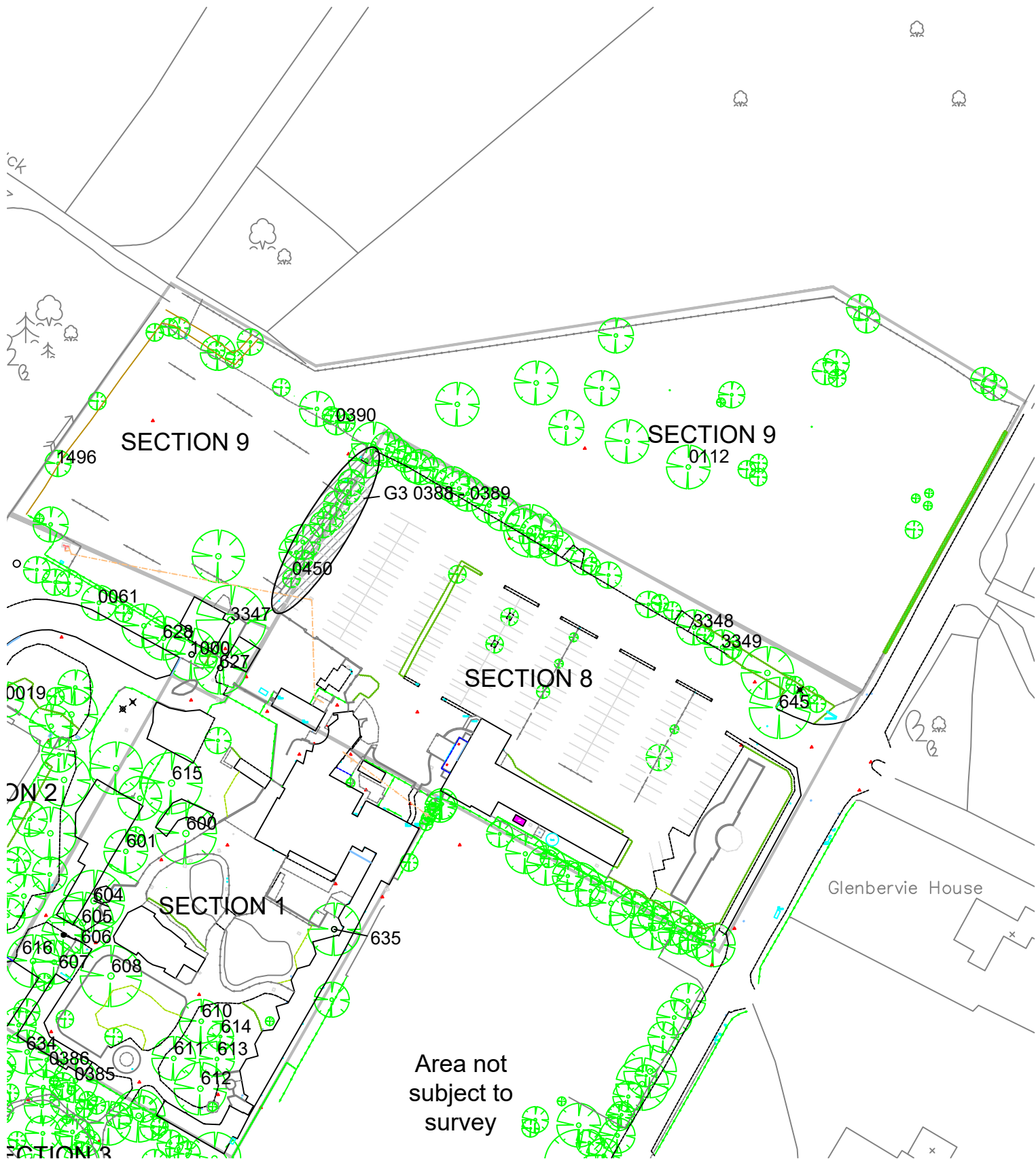
Page:
5 of 6

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Appendix 3: 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 arboriculturalist so that they may advise accordingly.

I have not specifically checked with the planning authority whether the site is within a Conservation Area or whether the trees are under Tree Preservation Order (TPO), but I have relied upon their published map information. Prior to any tree works confirmation of whether these legal restrictions apply to the site or trees ought to be sought from the planning authority. 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 planning authority 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 planning authority 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.

A bat survey prior to tree works is not recommended, except where there is a high potential for habitat. 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> which a competent tree contractor should be familiar with.

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](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/inf-d-9fjd2d> for disinfectant information.

Appendix 4: key to tree survey data

Desig	Designation (T is Tree, G is Group, H is Hedge, W is woodland, S is Stump)	
No	Tree number.	
Species	Species of tree.	
Height	Height measured in metres.	
Canopy spread	Canopy spread in metres is taken at the four cardinal points to derive an accurate representation of the crown.	
Height of crown	Height in metres of crown clearance above adjacent ground level.	
Age Class	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.	

Appendix 5: surveyor qualifications and experience

Ben Abbatt has been involved in the arboricultural industry since the mid 1990s and has worked in a variety of roles within the industry, starting as a forestry contractor, progressing to the surveying and management of forestry and arboricultural contracts for a national forestry company and running the arboricultural section of a horticultural business overseas. Additionally, Ben has worked in local Government at Borough and County levels, providing planning related advice and managing Tree Preservation Orders and Conservation Areas, as well as managing highways trees and contracts.

Since 2006, Ben has been the Director and Principal Consultant of Sapling Arboriculture Ltd.

Ben is a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF), Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), Society for the Environment (SocEnv) and the Arboricultural Association (AA), having been an Arboricultural Association Registered Consultant since 2006. He is also a member of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Royal Forestry Society.

He holds many arboricultural and forestry qualifications including the Professional Diploma in Arboriculture awarded by the Royal Forestry Society, the Technicians' Certificate awarded by the Arboricultural Association and an HNC in Forestry.

Ben is also a freelance trainer for LANTRA, delivering courses in Basic Tree Survey and Inspection and Professional Tree Inspection.



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