

BS5837:2012



HERITAGE
TREE SPECIALISTS LTD
TREE SURGERY • FORESTRY

**Proposed Potting Shed:
4A Corporation Rd
Wisbech
Cambridgeshire
PE13 2SD**

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Site Overview

- 1.1** The property in question is accessed directly from Corporation Road, Wisbech
- 1.2** The property is situated in a residential area with dwellings occupying land to the West and North. To the East and South the property is bordered by Corporation Rd.
- 1.3** The site currently comprises a detached two storey dwelling with integrated single garage. To the front is a driveway and parking area and to the rear is a lawned garden with patio area.

2 Client Instructions

- 2.1** Heritage Tree Specialists Ltd has been instructed to produce a BS5837:2012 Tree Report to accompany a Planning Application for the site.
- 2.2** We understand that the current proposal comprises the conversion of the garage to a Workroom (replacement of current garage door with a window and internal construction works), and the construction of a Potting Shed on a new concrete base.
- 2.3** Heritage Tree Specialists Ltd have been instructed by Daniel Wallage, of Waite & Wallage Architects Ltd to provide a report on Arboricultural Implications and Tree Protection, and to act as Project Arboriculturists.

3 Survey, Assessment & Plans

3.1 General

A PDF Plan accompanying this report is designed to show:

- the location of the individual tree in relation to the existing buildings.
- the extent of Root Protection Areas.
- proposed construction within the RPA of retained tree.

3.2 Survey

3.2.1 The survey carried out by Heritage Tree Specialists Ltd includes:

- a) the position of all trees within the site with a stem diameter of 75 mm or more (see Note), measured at 1.5 m above highest adjacent ground level;

NOTE In the case of woodlands or substantial tree groups, only individual trees with stem diameters greater than 150 mm usually need be plotted.

b) the position of trees with an estimated stem diameter of 75 mm or more that overhang the site or are located beyond the site boundaries within a distance of up to 12 times their estimated stem diameter;

c) for individual trees, the crown spread taken at four cardinal points; for woodlands or substantial tree groups, the overall extent of the canopy;

d) the extent, basal ground levels and height of shrub masses, hedges, hedgerows and stumps;

e) other relevant landscape features and artefacts, such as streams, buildings and other structures, boundary features and means of enclosure, trenching scars near to trees, and overhead and underground utility apparatus, including drainage runs with manholes and invert levels.

3.3 Tree survey

3.3.1 Timing

A tree survey was carried out on 28th November 2023. Weather conditions were clear and trees were not in leaf.

Tree Ref No.	Species	Height m	Stem Diameter mm	Branch Spread m	Height of Crown Clearance 1 st Branch (Crown) m	Age Class Young / Middle / Mature / Over Mature / Veteran	Physiological Condition Good / Fair / Poor / Dead	Structural Condition Collapse / Decay / Defects	Management Recommendations and Category Grading	Estimated remaining contribution Years
1	Beech	21	1160	N 6.5 E 8.5 S 8.0 W 5.5	3.0 (2.0)	Mature	Fair	Minor Deadwood Asymmetry to the crown due to previous pruning	Remove deadwood over 25mm in diameter. Retain tree B1	20+

3.4 Root protection area (RPA)

3.4.1 The RPA has been calculated as an area equivalent to a circle with a radius 12 times the stem diameter.

3.4.2 The RPA of retained tree T1 has been plotted on a Plan which is included in this report.

3.4.3 The RPA of the retained tree on this site are as follows:

Tree No.	Species	Category	S or MS	Stem Diameter (mm)	Minimum radius of root protection (m)	Minimum Root Protection Area (m2)
1	Beech	B	S	1160	13.8	598

4 Arboricultural Statements

4.1 Arboricultural Constraints

A single mature Beech tree occupies a position in the rear garden. The tree has been pruned previously to provide clearance from the dwelling and, as a result, there is some asymmetry to the crown. The tree appears to be in good health with limited deadwood to the crown.



T1 (Beech)

4.2 Arboricultural Impact

4.2.1 The proposed concrete pad for the Potting Shed is to occupy 15m² within the RPA of T1. This equates to approximately 2.5% of the total RPA and is acceptable.

4.2.2 Physical Protection Barriers are to be installed to prevent unauthorised construction activity from further encroachment into the RPA.

4.2.3 Method Statements included in this report in order to avoid damage to the roots and rooting environment of T1.

5 Tree Protection

5.1 The tree protection plan is included in this report and shows all hard surfacing and other structures within the RPA.

5.2 The plan indicates the precise location of protective barriers to be erected to form a construction exclusion zone around the retained trees.

5.3 To avoid disturbance to the physical protection, once installed, the following guidelines should be followed:

Access to and from the site is to be via the existing access point at Corporation Road. Vehicles and construction plant must operate only on the existing driveway and not breach any protection barrier.

Construction activity within 1 metre of any physical protection barrier is to be carried out, carefully, using hand tools and low impact machinery.

Construction plant is to work and run no closer than 1 metre from Physical Protection Barriers

Any temporary latrines etc are to be situated no closer than 3 metres from Tree Protection Barrier in order to avoid damage during placement and removal.

Materials associated with the building works are not to be stored within 2 metres of the Physical Protection Barrier. This will minimise the risk of damage to the Root Protection Areas or crowns when loading and unloading. Furthermore, this will also minimise any risks of damage to tree roots through contamination due to spillages etc.

5.4 Barriers

5.4.1 The tree is to be protected by barriers before any materials or machinery are brought onto the site, and before any demolition, development or stripping of soil commences. Vertical barriers are to be erected to create a construction exclusion zone.

5.4.2 Free standing Physical protection is to be installed in order to provide protection to retained tree T1. This is to comprise a run of 10 metres as indicated on the accompanying Plan.

5.4.3 Pre-development tree work may be undertaken before the installation of tree protection measures, with the agreement of the planning authority if appropriate.

5.4.4 The physical protection barrier is to comprise free standing welded mesh panels (Heras fencing) to a height of 1.8 metres, which are to be secured in position using Rubber Block Feet.

5.4.5 All-weather notices should be attached to the barrier with words such as: **“CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE – NO ACCESS”**.

5.5 Additional precautions outside the exclusion zone

5.5.1 Planning of site operations must take sufficient account of wide loads, tall loads and plant with booms, jibs and counterweights (including drilling rigs), in order that they can operate without coming into contact with retained trees. Such contact can result in serious damage to the trees and might make their safe retention impossible. Consequently, any transit or traverse of plant in proximity to trees is to be conducted under the supervision of a banksman, to ensure that adequate clearance from trees is maintained at all times.

5.5.2 No fires to be lit on site.

5.5.3 All materials are to be stored in the open shingle area to the front of the existing dwelling.

6 Method Statements for Demolition & Construction

6.1 Proposed Site Layout is indicated on the accompanying Plan.

6.2 The plan accompanying this report indicates the precise location of the vertical Protection Barrier to be installed to ensure minimal encroachment into the RPA

6.3 To avoid disturbance to the RPA of retained trees T2 and T3, the following Methods must be employed prior to and during construction of the Concrete Base and Potting Shed

6.4 Access to and from the site is to be via the existing access point at Corporation Road. Vehicles must be parked on the existing driveway.

6.5 Materials are to be stored on the driveway / parking area area to the front of the existing dwelling.

6.6 Existing grass / vegetation is to be removed using hand tools. An alternative would be to apply herbicide.

6.7 The proposed shed base is to be constructed above the existing soil level. The ground must not be skimmed in order to establish the new hard surface at the former ground surface.

6.8 We are unaware of any service routes to the proposed Potting Shed. Where excavation is required for the routing of underground cables this is to be carried out by hand.

6.9.1 Exposed roots are to be immediately be wrapped or covered to prevent desiccation and to protect them from rapid temperature changes. Any wrapping is to be removed prior to backfilling, which is to take place as soon as possible.

6.9.2 Roots smaller than 25 mm diameter will 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 are to be severed only following consultation with an arboriculturist, as such roots might be essential to the tree's health and stability.

6.9.3 Prior to backfilling, retained roots are to be surrounded with topsoil or uncompacted sharp sand (builders' sand must 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 must be free of contaminants and other foreign objects potentially injurious to tree roots.

7 Pre and Post Development Tree management

7.1 Pre-development tree work – Schedule of Works

T1 (Beech) – Remove deadwood over 25mm in diameter.

7.2 Post-development management: existing trees

7.2.1 It must be considered that any retained tree may be adversely affected as a result of development if recommended procedures are not correctly followed. Decline may occur over a period of several years before eventual tree death. It is, therefore, recommended that trees be assessed for signs of distress in the years following development.

7.2.2 All trees should be routinely checked for the presence of deadwood within the crown. This is especially important as activity within the target area beneath the crown increases

7.2.3 Whenever any tree surgery works are carried consents must be obtained from the local Planning Authority and work should be carried out by professional tree surgeons in accordance with BS3998.

