

BRITISH STANDARD 5837

TREE SURVEYS ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATION STUDIES

TPO/PLANNING ADVICE/ PROJECT MANAGEMENT

TREE INVENTORIES AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLANS

TREE PLANTING SCHEMES

TPO RE-SURVEY



ARBORICULTURAL IMPLICATIONS ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

AT

SUMMERSHADES
GRASSCROFT
OLDHAM

Author: C. Salisbury
Date: 06 November 2023
Ref: TRE/SGO



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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Mulberry Tree Management were instructed by Clive Rainford Homes Ltd, to carry out an arboricultural survey of trees at their site in Summershades, Grasscroft, Oldham.
- 1.2 This report details the arboricultural implications of developing the site, including:
 - a survey of the trees on and near the development which may impact the proposal from ground level, noting their location, species and all relevant parameters, i.e. stem diameter, height, crown spread, condition etc;
 - providing advice on the removal, retention and management of trees;
 - assessment of the potential effects of the proposal on retained trees and vice versa;
 - assessment of the requirement for tree protection for the duration of the works;
 - mitigation for any loss;
 - preparation of a tree schedule;
 - and report on the above matters.
- 1.3 The survey was carried out on 23 August 2023 by means of inspection from ground level by an experienced and qualified arboriculturalist. The inspection can be restricted in cases where trees were Ivy clad or surrounded by vegetation.
- 1.4 Under *BS5837: 2012 Trees in Relation to Construction - Recommendations*, the assessment of trees is made objectively. The tree categorisation method identifies the quality and value of the existing tree stock, allowing informed decisions to be made concerning development design layout.
- 1.5 The following documents have been made available by the client:
 - Drawing- Summershades SK03 Plans as Existing.dwg
 - Drawing- Summershades Proposed Plans.dwg
- 1.6 The supplied drawing included some tree positions plotted. Any dimensions regarding tree positions and protective fencing must be checked on site.
- 1.7 Weather conditions during the survey were dry and still.
- 1.8 The survey was carried out noting the conditions of the trees at the time of inspection. As trees are part of the natural environment, conditions can naturally change; therefore the contents of this report are valid for one year only. After this period, re-inspection may be necessary.

2.0 Survey Methodology

- 2.1 The trees were surveyed (prefixed T, or G for group) and recorded in the tree schedule in appendix one. Where groups are recorded, average height and diameter at breast height (DBH) of the trees in the group are reported. Where access to the base of any trees was limited, stem size was estimated.
- 2.2 All the trees were assessed using: a grading A to C (retention) and U (removal); condition and age class as defined in appendix two.
- 2.3 Where appropriate, canopy spread for each tree was recorded at four cardinal points in order to reproduce an accurate representation of the crown shape of the tree on the tree plan in appendix three.
- 2.4 The survey included all trees within the proposal area and trees near to the proposal.
- 2.5 Sight lines were difficult to establish during the survey due to the dense vegetation hence trees were grouped appropriately.

3.0 Development Proposals

- 3.1 Due to the proposed development and its associated infrastructure there are a number of locations where the proposals are in close proximity to the trees surveyed. The Site Layout Plan within appendix three identifies the trees in relation to the proposed development.
- 3.2 In order to fully assess the impact of the proposals an Impact Table has been created detailing each tree, which shows the proximity of the associated works to the tree.
- 3.3 This can then be assessed in accordance with BS 5837:2012 to determine whether the development will have a detrimental impact on the health of each tree. Once this has been determined remedial measures can be detailed to reduce the impact the proposals will have on the treescape.

3.4 Impact Table:-

Tree No.	Root Protection Area identified in Table 2 of BS 5837:2012	Distance to Proposed Hard Standing (m)	Distance to Proposed Development (m)	Can the Tree/s be Successfully Retained
W1	26m ²	20.40	9.00	Retain with the loss of approximately 100 trees
W2	69m ²	17.30	19.50	Retain with the loss of approximately 30 trees
W3	122m ²	7.60	5.20	Retain with the loss of approximately 80 trees

4.0 Impact Assessment

4.1 To assess the implications of the Impact Table each tree can be categorised in the following way: -

	Trees to be retained		Trees to be removed	
	With No Impact	With detailed construction	Due to Condition	Due to Development
Tree No.	W1, W2 & W3	N/A	N/A	W1 (approximately 100 trees), W2 (approximately 30 trees) & W3 (approximately 80 trees)

5.0 Mitigation Proposals

5.1 Compensatory Planting & Woodland Management

5.1.1 Due to the loss of the trees identified in section 3.4 it is proposed that along with the general soft landscaping for the development, supplementary tree management in the form of replacement tree planting and woodland management will support the application.

5.1.2 This will have a number of benefits for the development and the character of the area. These being:-

- Give a greater diversity of age class on the site; increasing sustainability.
- Give a greater diversity of species and therefore wildlife habitat.
- Securing the long-term management and continuation of woodland cover for within the area for perpetuity.

5.2 Avenue of Horse Chestnuts within W3

- 5.2.1 The layout has been specifically designed to secure the retention of the historic avenue of Horse Chestnut within W3. This avenue is in decline and suffering from Bleeding Canker but due to its prominence within the woodland compartment it is felt that its retention is justified.
- 5.2.2 The retention of the avenue will not only keep some historic amenity value as you enter the proposed development and provide an important feature its management will also provide an enhancement to the ecological value of the compartment.

6.0 Conclusions and Arboricultural Recommendations

- 6.1 The tree categorisation method identifies the quality and value of the existing tree stock but it is not meant to be interpreted rigidly and is presented in order to form a balanced judgement on tree retention and removal.
- 6.2 A precautionary method of working near trees is detailed in the accompanying Arboricultural Method Statement.
- 6.3 Following site development, regular (annual or biannual) inspections of all retained trees should be undertaken by a qualified Arboricultural Consultant.
- 6.4 It is considered that in following the advice in this document, any negative factors affecting trees on the site will be minimised.

Appendix One

Tree Survey Schedule

TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

Arboricultural Data Sheet:		Date of Survey: 23/08/23				Surveyor: C. Salisbury							
Tree No.	Species	DBH (mm)	Height (m)	Age	Crown Spread (m)				Crown clearance	Condition rating	Comments and preliminary management recommendations	Estimated remaining contribution	Tree quality category rating
					N	E	S	W					
W1	Oak, Birch, Rowan, Ash & Hawthorn	240 avg	8.40	SM/EM	-	-	-	-	1.00	B/C	A relatively even aged mixed species broadleaf woodland compartment	80+	B2
W2	Predominantly Sycamore with Willow & Oak	390 avg	13.60	SM/EM	-	-	-	-	2.00	B/C	A mixed broadleaf woodland compartment	80+	B2
W3	Chestnut, Sycamore, Birch & Oak	520 avg	14.60	EM/M	-	-	-	-	2.00	B/C	A broadleaf woodland compartment originating from what was likely to be a more formal garden	80+	A2

Appendix Two

Tree Survey Key

Trees for removal			
Category and definition		Criteria	
Category U Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years and which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management		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 R category trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby (e.g. Dutch elm disease), or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality Note – Habitat reinstatement may be appropriate (e.g. R category tree used as a bat roost: installation of bat box in nearby tree).	
Trees to be considered for retention			
Category and definition		Criteria - Subcategories	
		1 Arboriculture values	2 Landscape values
			3 Conservation values
Category A Those of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum 40 years is suggested)		Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or essential components of groups, or of formal or semi-formal arboriculture features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands which provide a definite screening or softening effect to the locality in relation to views into or out of the site, or those of particular visual importance (e.g. avenues or other arboricultural features assessed as groups)
Category B Those of moderate quality and value: those in such a condition as to make a significant contribution (a minimum of 20 years is suggested)		Trees that might be included in the high category, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and minor storm damage)	Trees present in numbers, usually as groups or woodlands, such that they form distinct landscape features, thereby attracting a higher collective rating than they might as individuals but which are not, individually, essential components of formal or semi-formal arboriculture features (e.g. trees of moderate quality within avenue that includes better, A category specimens), or trees situated mainly internally to the site, therefore individually having little impact on the wider locality
Category C Those of low quality and value: currently in adequate condition to remain until new planting could be established (a minimum of 10 years is suggested), or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm		Trees not qualifying in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary screening benefit
		Note - Whilst C category trees will usually not be retained where they would impose a significant constraint on development, young trees with a stem diameter of less than 150 mm should be considered for relocation	

Age Class

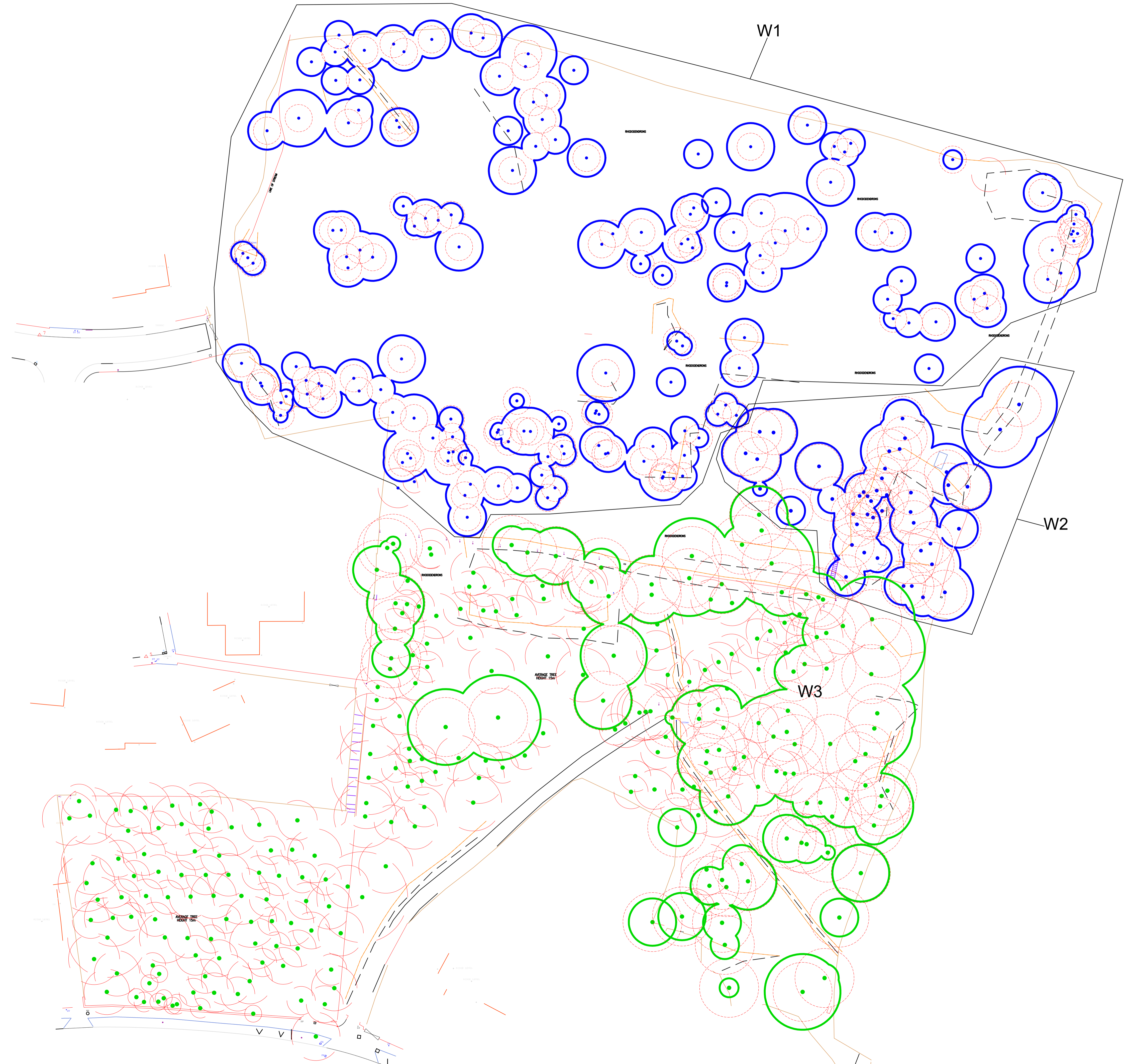
Y	Young	Trees that have not yet established
SM	Semi-Mature	Established trees up to 1/3 of expected height and crown
EM	Early mature	Between 1/3 and 2/3 expected height and crown
M	Mature	Between 2/3 and full expected height and crown
FM	Fully Mature	Full expected height and crown
OM	Over-Mature	Crown beginning to break up and decrease in size
S	Senescent	Crown in advanced stage of break-up






Condition

A	Good
B	Fair
C	Poor
D	Dead

Appendix Three

Plans



-  Category A Trees
-  Category B Trees
-  Category C Trees
-  Category U Trees
-  Root protection area

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Tel: 0161 955 3628
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Site Address:
 Summershades
 Grasscroft
 Oldham

Drawing Title:
 BS5837 Plan

Drawing No:
 SGO/BS/01

Date: 31/10/2023 Scale: 1:400@A1 Drawn by: CS

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- Category A Trees
- Category B Trees
- Category C Trees
- Category U Trees
- Root protection area

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Site Address:
 Summershades
 Grasscroft
 Oldham

Drawing Title:
 AIS Plan

Drawing No:
 SGO/AIS/01

Date: 31/10/2023 Scale: 1:400@A1 Drawn by: CS

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