

TREEVEYS CONSULTING

Tree Condition Report

The Cottage (Now known as
St Monica's Road "The Burrow")
Kingsdown
Deal
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1.0 Instructions

- 1.1. We have been instructed by **Mrs Melanie Watson** to carry out a Tree Condition Report on a mature *Fagus sylvatica* (Beech) situated on a soft landscaped area to the south of the main building.
- 1.2. Trees are dynamic living organisms, whose health and condition can be subject to rapid change depending on climatic impact, organic and non-organic interactions. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report relate to the trees at the time of inspection.
- 1.3. The survey and report have been completed by **Morgan Davies**, who holds a Dip Arb and LANTRA award in Professional Tree Inspection.
- 1.4. The site was surveyed on (02/02/2019).

2.0 Survey Methodology.

- 2.1. Trees are inspected visually from ground level (VTA) only in accordance with advised best practice as per the LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection course.
- 2.2. The trees physiological and structural condition is assessed starting at the base and working up. This will include an overall visual inspection of the trees crown on approach to the tree.
- 2.3. All individually surveyed trees have been given a notional identification i.e. T1 – T10 (Tree number).
- 2.4. Areas consisting of large groups of trees will be surveyed as groupings of trees. Individual trees in these groupings will be inspected for defects.
- 2.5. Trees which are tagged on site with a disc may not start at number 1 (T-1).
- 2.6. All tagged trees have been surveyed using the VTA (Visual Tree Assessment) method.
- 2.7. All collected survey data and work recommendations for the inspected trees is presented in the survey schedule which forms **Appendix 1** to this report. For photographs of trees referenced see **Appendix 3**.
- 2.8. Trees with no works or no major defect will not be included in the recommendations or the survey schedule for this report.
- 2.9. Crown spread from stem and tree height are estimated measurements.

3.0 Site Overview

- 3.1. The site comprises of a private property with the main building situated to the north of a maintained soft landscaped piece of land.
- 3.2. The tree being surveyed (T1) is situated to the south of the main building.
- 3.3. The open land to the south of (T1) has planning approval for a new building.
- 3.4. A BS5837 survey has been carried out on the trees on the property as per the requirement for planning approval. T1 was marked for retention in the survey.
- 3.5. The site does not fall within a conservation area and therefore will not be subject to a 211 Notice to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) prior to any works being carried out. (only trees over 7.5cm in diameter at 1.5m from ground level require a 211 notice prior to works being carried out).
- 3.6. There is a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) on T1 and will therefore require written consent from the LA (Local Authority) before any works are to be carried out.
- 3.7. Weather on the day of survey: Dry, partly cloudy with a westerly wind.

4.0 Findings and Conclusions

- 4.1. T1 is a mature Beech positioned on a soft landscaped grass area which forms part of the garden to The Cottage. **(see Appendix 4).**
- 4.2. T1 is exposed to a predominantly westerly wind. The crown of the tree is weighted heavily to the east.
- 4.3. The site has been cleared of numerous trees of varying sizes which were situated to the west of T1.
- 4.4. Soil to the south of the trees base has been disturbed by machinery, no evidence there is root damage or disturbance.
- 4.5. The RPA (root protection area) was set out for T1 in the BS5837 survey, however, the RPA has not been adhered to by the contractor at time of this survey. Heras fencing has been placed approximately 2.5m from the base of the tree, this is not correct as the BS5837 survey provided in accordance with planning permission for the site states the RPA fencing should be placed at approximately 10m from the base of the tree **(see photo 8 Appendix 3).**
- 4.6. There is black staining on the main stem, north facing, at 1.6m above ground level. A sounding mallet was used, slight change in frequency to area with black staining **(see photo 3 Appendix 3).** No change in frequency on the rest of the main stem to 2m above ground level.
- 4.7. Base of stem showing signs of buttressing, not significant at this time **(see photo 1&2 appendix 3).**
- 4.8. The main stem splits into multiple stems at 4.5m above ground level, the largest of these multi stems, west facing, has four woodpecker holes at 5m to 6m above ground level **(see photo 3 & 4 Appendix 3).**
- 4.9. The union to the main stem is showing signs of reaction growth, also known as elephant ears **(see photo 4 Appendix 3).**
- 4.10. A climbing inspection was carried out to determine the extent of the decay in the holes, a borescope/endoscope was used to look inside the woodpecker holes. The horizontal cavity in the stem measured no deeper than 20cm into the stem. the stem had a SD (stem diameter) estimated to be 50cm. The vertical decay in the stem was estimated to no deeper then 25cm from the first hole from ground level. The decay from the first hole did not link up with the decay in the second hole from ground level. It was not possible to determine whether the top two woodpecker holes (A & B) were linked via decay internally **(see photo 5 Appendix 3).**
- 4.11. There is a large section of deadwood **(Maj DW see Appendix 2)** situated at 8m from ground level, west facing, on the west facing stem.

- 4.12. There is a historical wound to a limb, west facing, on the north side of canopy at 8m, reaction wood is present (see photo 6 Appendix 3).

5.0 Recommendations

- 5.1. Reduce the crown by 3m from the tips on the north, east and south facing sides of the crown in accordance with BS3998. (see photo 7 Appendix 3, see survey schedule Appendix 1).
- 5.2. No reduction is required to the west side of the crown.
- 5.3. Remove any and all Mod and Maj deadwood from crown (see Appendix 2).
- 5.4. Reinspect T1 in July 2019 to gauge the crown vitality.
- 5.5. Reinspect T1 in October 2019 to look for fungal fruiting bodies.

6.0 Statutory Obligations and limitations

- 6.1. Works to trees which are covered by Tree Preservation Orders [TPOs] or are within a Conservation Area [CA] require permission or consent from your Local Planning Authority [LPA].
- 6.2. It is normally necessary to follow the statutory application procedure if tree surgery is required in respect of protected trees. It is a criminal offence under normal circumstances to disturb or destroy – whether intentional or unintentional - the nesting sites of wild birds or the roost sites of bats, under the 'Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, the 'Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000' and the 'Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010' (as amended 2011). Therefore, avoid carrying out significant tree works during the bird nesting season (mid March to the end of July).
- 6.3. Unless specifically mentioned, the report will only be concerned with above ground inspections. No below ground inspections will be carried out without the prior confirmation from the client that such works should be undertaken.
- 6.4. This report will remain valid for one year from the date of inspection, but will become invalid if any building works are carried out upon the property, soil levels altered in any way close to the tree or trees, or tree work is undertaken on the surveyed trees. It must also be appreciated that recommendations proposed within this report may be superseded by extreme weather, or any other unreasonably foreseeable events.
- 6.5. The Occupiers Liability Act (1957 and 1984) places a duty of care upon tree owners to ensure that no reasonably foreseeable harm is caused to persons or their property.

7.0 References

- 7.1. BS 4043 Transplanting root-balled trees
- 7.2. BS 8545:2014 Trees: from nursery to independence in the landscape – Recommendations
- 7.3. BS 4428 Code of practice for general landscape operations (excluding hard surfaces)
- 7.4. BS 3998:2010 Tree Work – Recommendations
- 7.5. Modern Arboriculture, Alex L. Shigo
- 7.6. Trees: Their Natural History, Peter Thomas
- 7.7. Tree Roots in the Built Environment, John Roberts, Nick Jackson & Mark Smith
- 7.8. A New Tree Biology and Dictionary, Alex L. Shigo
- 7.9. The body language of trees, Claus Matheck and Helge Breloer
- 7.10. Principals of Tree Hazard Assessment and Management, David Lonsdale
- 7.11. Diagnosis of ill-health in tree, R.G. Strouts & T.G. Winter.

APPENDIX 1: SURVEY SCHEDULE

Tree no	Species	Tree Height Est. (m)	SD @ 1.5m (cm)	Crown Spread from stem (m)				Life Stage	Condition/Comments	Recommendations	Work Priority	Inspection frequency
				N	E	S	W					
1	Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	20	84	6	7	5	4	M	<p>P: Fair S: Fair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soil/earth around the base of the tree to the south has been disturbed by machinery. No evidence the roots have been disturbed (see photo 8 Appendix 3). - Buttressing around base of stem (See photo 1&2 Appendix 3). - Black staining on main stem, north facing, at 1.6m above ground level (See photo 3 Appendix 3). - Sounding mallet used on main stem to 2m, no change in frequency except for area with black staining/exude. - Multi-stems at 4.5m above ground level, reaction growth in the union present (See photo 4 Appendix 3). - The west facing multi-stem has 3 woodpecker holes, west facing, at 5 – 6m above ground level (see photo 5 Appendix 3). - Crown weighted heavily to the east (see photo 7 Appendix 3). - Wound to limb, west facing, on the north side of the crown at 8m. Wound wood present (see photo 6 Appendix 3). - Maj DW, west facing, at 8m. - RPA fencing present due to future construction. Not placed in correct position, moved to 2.5m from base of stem by contractors (see photo 8 Appendix 3). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce crown by 3m from tips, north, east, south facing only. - Remove Maj DW, east facing. - Reinspect tree in July to assess crown vitality. - Reinspect tree between September and October to look for fungal fruiting bodies, specifically around the rooting zone. 	U	18

APPENDIX 2**Life stage:**

- Y** – Young, first third of normal life
- SM** - Semi Mature, in middle third of normal life expectancy
- M** – Mature, in final third of normal life expectancy
- O** – Over mature, In natural decline
- D** – Dead, no longer functioning physiology

Physiology and Structural Condition:

- G** – Good = no significant defects noted in either physiological or structural condition.
- F** – Fair = physiological and/or structural condition slightly compromised.
- P** – Poor = physiological and/or structural condition significantly compromised.

N – North | **E** – East | **S** – South | **W** – West

SD: Stem Diameter (1.5m from ground level)

Est: Estimated

DW: Dead Wood:

Maj DW: Major Deadwood < 50mm diameter

Mod DW: Moderate Deadwood: < 35mm – 50mm

Min DW: Minimal Deadwood: < 0 – 35mm

Sig: Significant

Not Sig: Not Significant

Work Priority:

- V** – Very Urgent, within 24hours
- U** – Urgent, within 30 days
- N** – Non-Urgent, within 90 days
- R** – Routine, as part of scheduled maintenance
- O** – Optional, only if overall aims and/or budget is conducive.

Inspection frequency:

- 6** – 6 months
- 12** – 12 months
- 18** – 18 months
- 36** – 3 yearly
- 60** – 5 yearly

NB: above inspection frequencies may be provisional on findings of any additional *initial* inspection recommended, and additional interim inspections are also recommended after storms, gales, prolonged flooding.

APPENDIX 3

Photo 1 & 2.

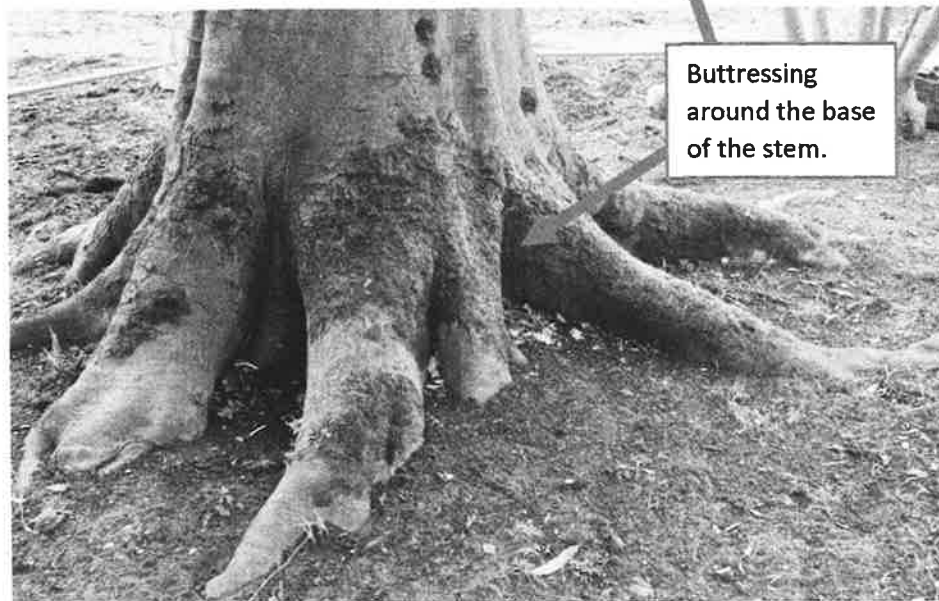


Photo 3.

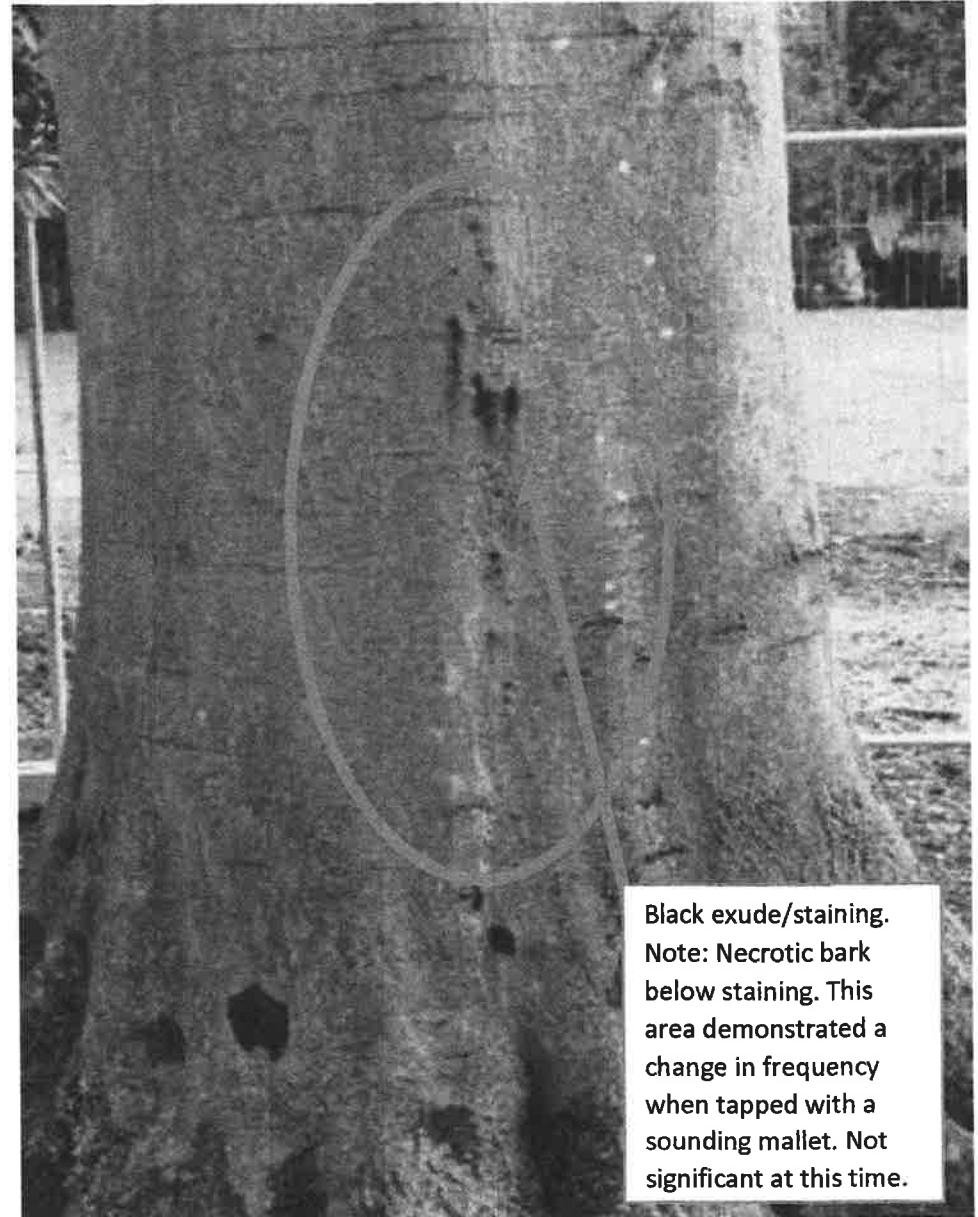


Photo 4.

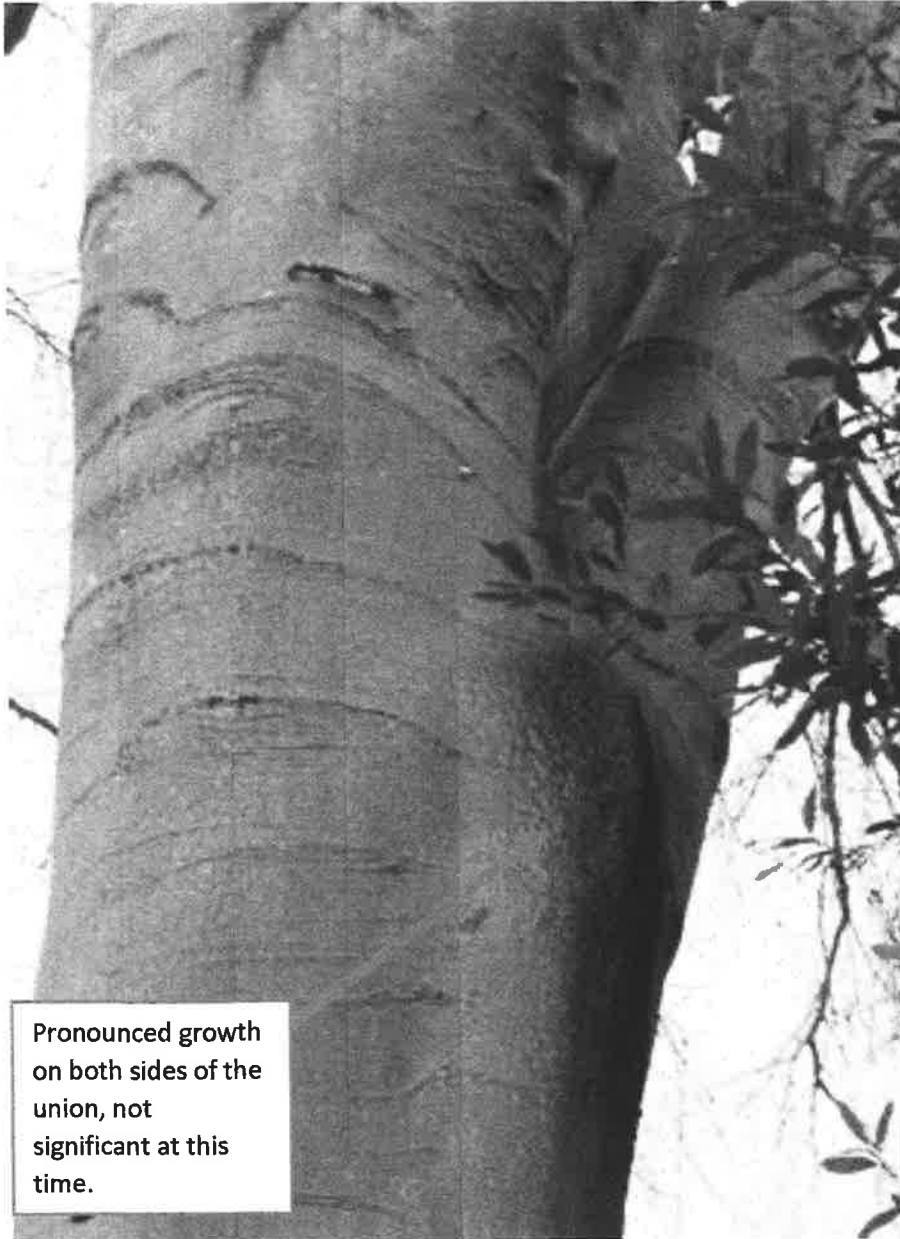


Photo 5.

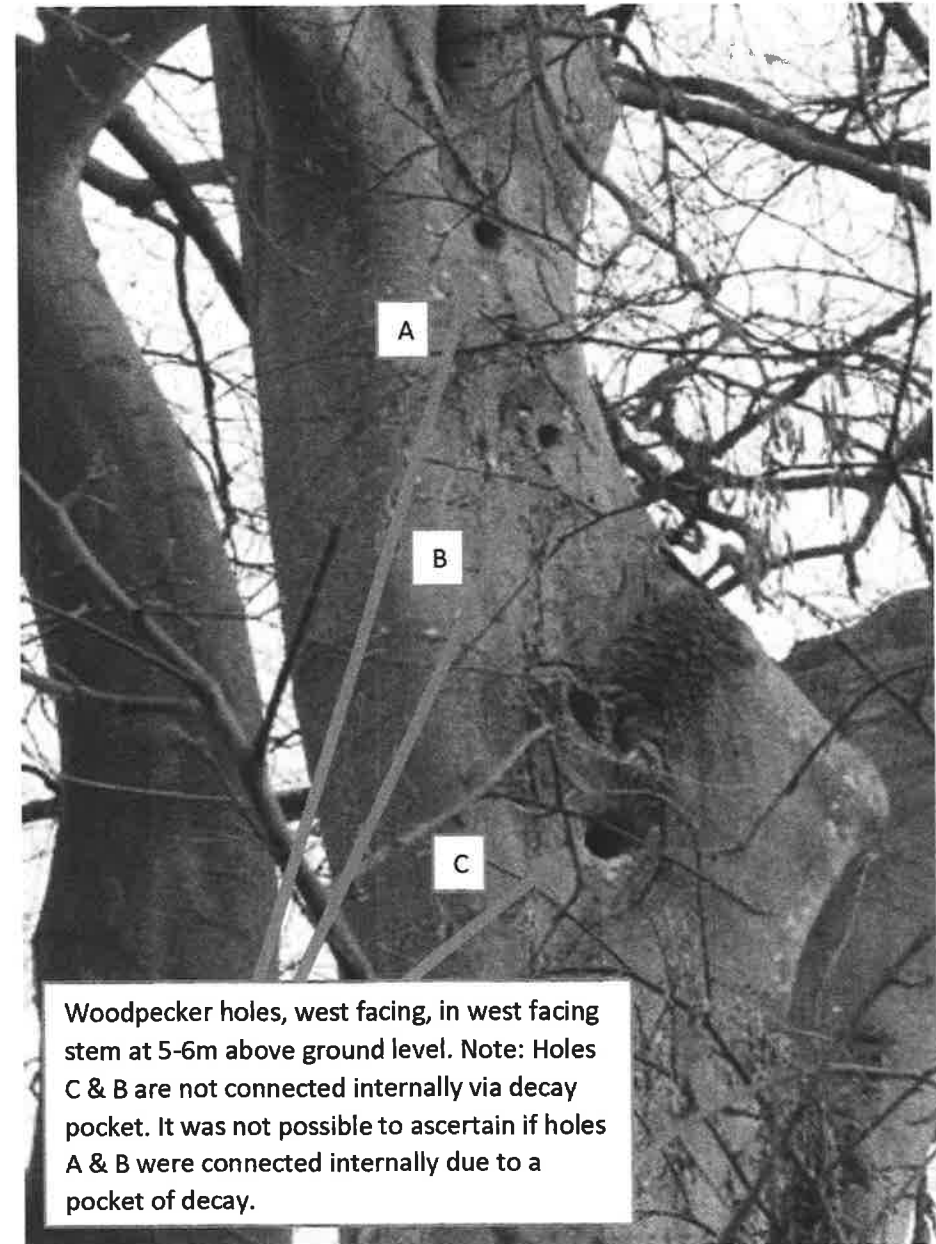


Photo 6.

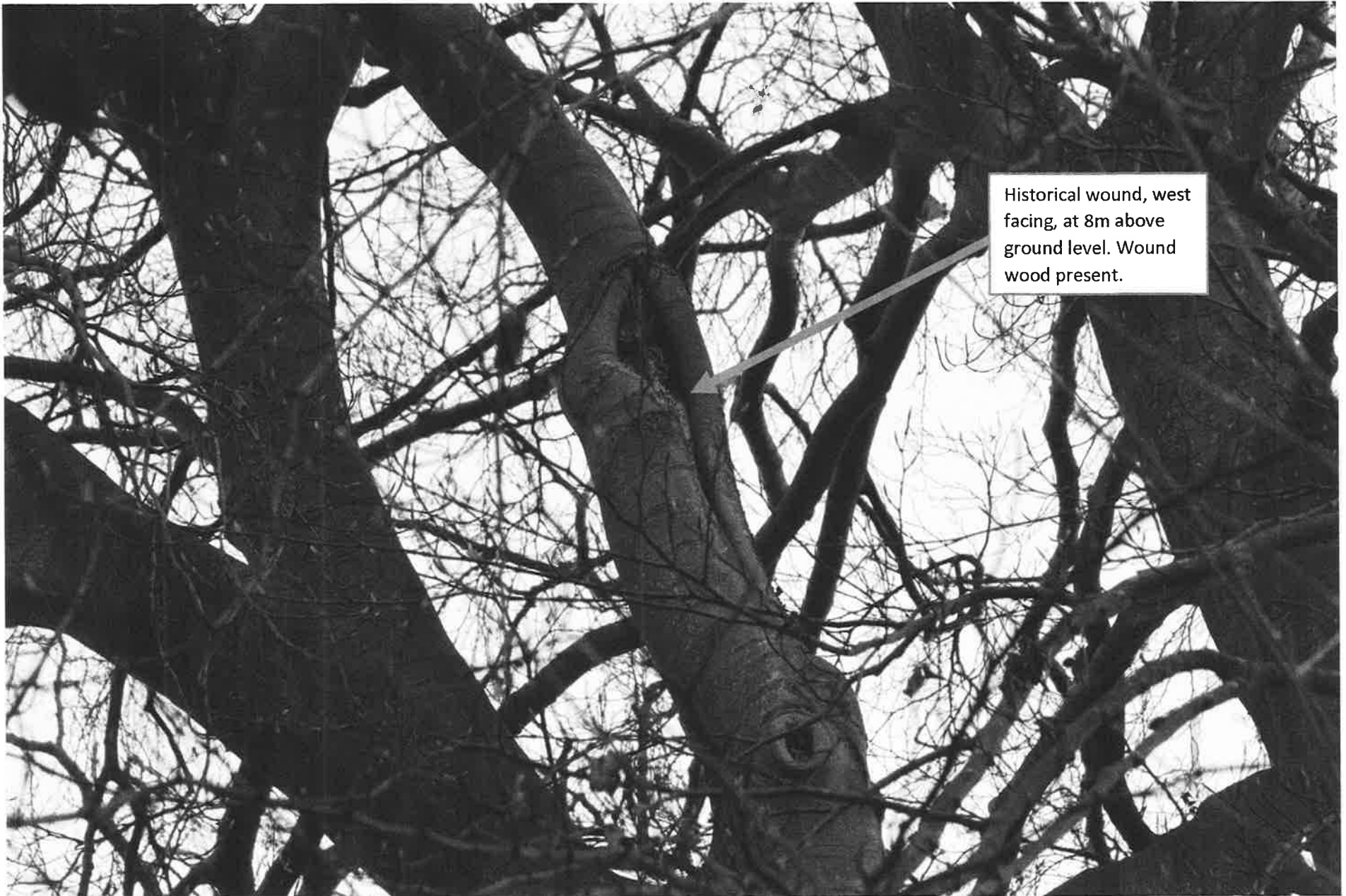


Photo 7.

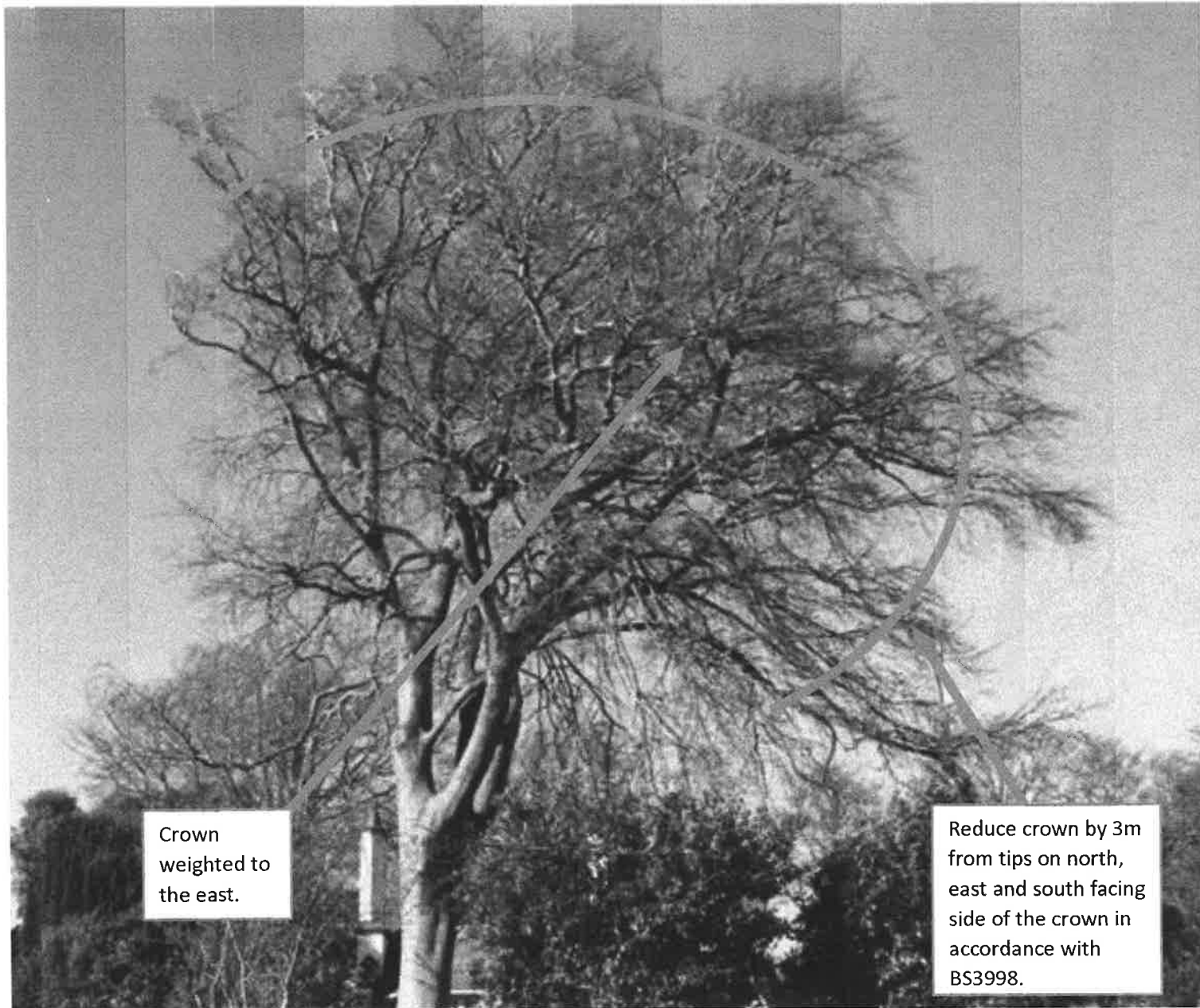
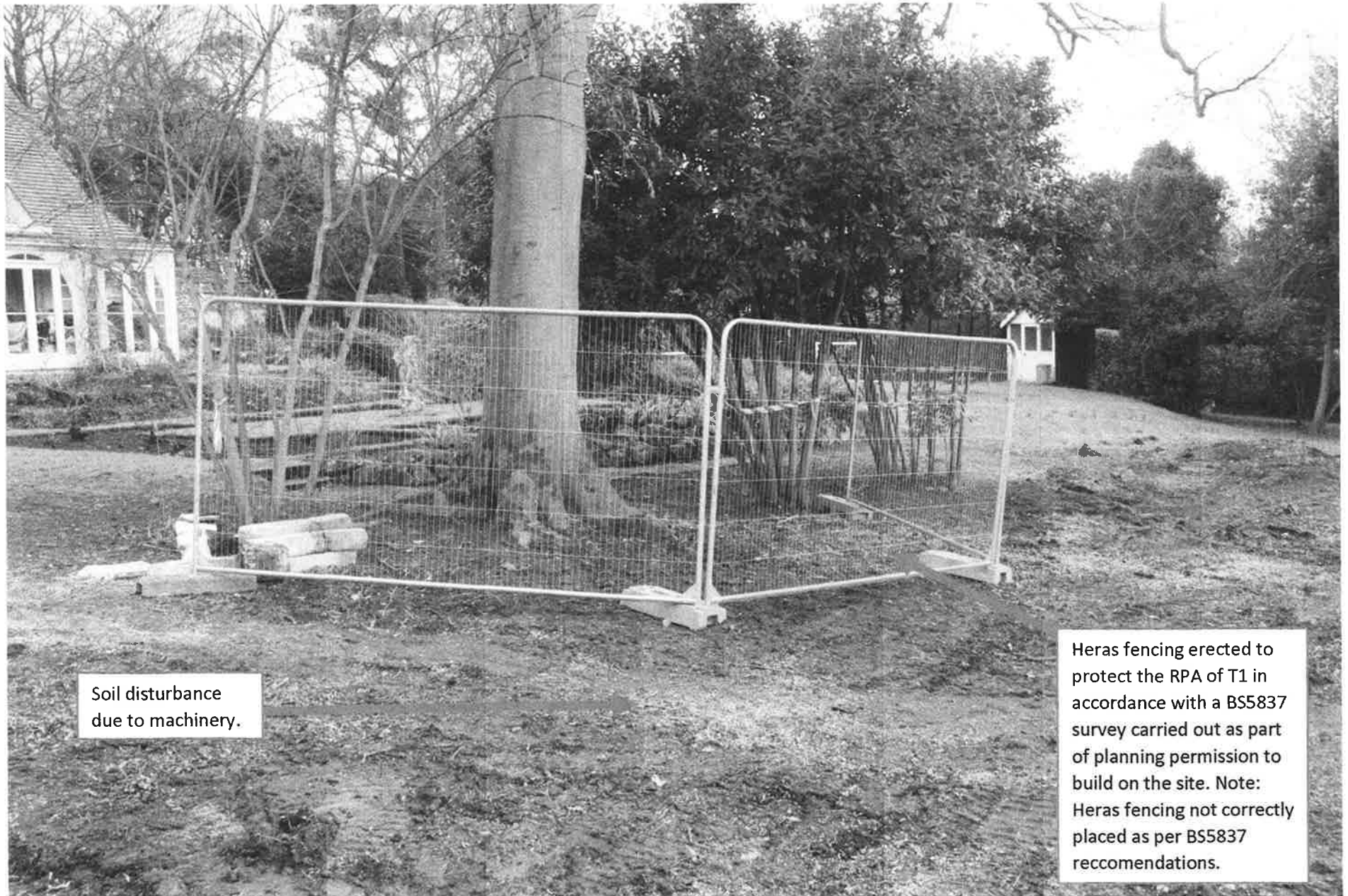


Photo 8



Appendix 4

