



Marcus Foster
Arboricultural Design & Consultancy
BA (Hons) | NDArb | AATechcert (MArborA)

Hand Dug Trial Trench Arboricultural Method Statement **Spurgeons College - Tree T97, English oak**

1.0 Scope of Works

1.1 Implementaion of 2 no. Trial Trenches within the Root Protection Area (RPA) of retained tree T97 as shown on the Tree Constraints Plan (TCP) - Trial hole location plan (overleaf) are being implemented to inform:

- (i) Extent of root growth / root morphology on line of TJ Building footprint as proposed for the buildings southern and western elevations where within the RPA

2.0 Implementation of Trial Trench / Working Methodology

2.1 Trial Trenches for location shown shall be

600mm width x 800mm depth x length of RPA incursion

2.2 The working method shall be carried out as follows:

- a) Trial trenches must be undertaken with **HAND TOOLS ONLY**
- b) Hand digging to be carried out **WITHOUT** severance of larger tree roots: the severance of any tree roots encountered larger than 2.5cm (25mm) in diameter - in addition to massing of fibrous roots - **MUST NOT OCCUR.**
- c) If at any point it is deemed not possible to continue with excavations without having to damage tree roots as highlighted above, the Local Authority Tree Officer and / or the appointed Arboricultural Consultant must be contacted.
- d) The hand dug pit should aim to **expose any larger tree roots exposed and retain these in situ for inspection bt Marcus Foster upon completion.**
- (e) The trench should not be infilled until the Consulting Arboriculturist have been contacted and have visited to inspect / document:

2.3 Hand Tools Summary

BS5837 (2012) makes provision for undertaking excavations in RPAs, explaining that all excavation must be carried out carefully using spades, forks and trowels, It is important not to damage the bark and wood of any roots. For this area, the following tools, or similar be used:



- If at any point it is deemed not possible to continue with excavations without having to damage very significant tree roots, the appointed Arboricultural Consultant must be contacted.

3.0 Consulting Arboriculturist Contact Details

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TRIAL TRENCH LOCATION PLAN

