



ROAVR | GROUP

Project: 25_5837_06_70
Site: L'ortolan, Church Lane, Shinfield, Reading, RG2 9BY
Client: Zara Hussian



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Project Number:	25_5837_06_70
Report Type:	Arboricultural Impact Assessment
Site Address:	L'ortolan, Church Lane, Shinfield, Reading, RG2 9BY

Role:	Name:	Date:
Instructing Party	Zara Hussian	13/06/2025
Customer	Zara Hussian	18/06/2025
Surveyor	Connor Harmsworth	26/06/2025
Consultant	Alexander Barnes - BSc Arb, MArborA	17/07/2025

Revision History		
Date:	Version number:	Summary of changes:
26/06/2025	1.0	First Review (Internal)
17/07/2025	1.0	First Issue

Arboricultural impact assessment

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Validation Statement for the Local Planning Authority.

This report includes the following for LPA validation purposes:

- A **tree survey and tree constraints plan** showing the existing trees, their category rating and above and below ground constraints shown on an OS extract OR a topographical survey
- An **arboricultural impact assessment** which describes how the development will affect local character from a tree perspective
- **Appendices** highlighting tree related information including the **arboricultural data tables**

Customer Action Points.

- ☐ - reporting complete - send to your Local Planning Authority
- ☐ - on planning award contact us with your decision notice

1. Introduction & Scope:

This arboricultural assessment has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012, providing the necessary information for the Local Planning Authority to assess the potential impact of the proposed development on local character and amenity from a tree perspective.

The brief was to survey the tree population on-site and identify any arboricultural constraints to the proposed development. The assessment includes all trees with a stem diameter greater than 75mm measured at 1.5 metres above ground level, as required by BS5837.

Tree surveys were conducted using ground-based inspections and the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method. A sounding hammer was used to assess for decay where relevant, but no invasive techniques were employed at this stage. Root Protection Areas (RPAs) were calculated in line with the methodology set out in BS5837.

Key elements of the report include:

- A Tree Constraints Plan, illustrating the position of trees on the site.
- Arboricultural data tables providing information on tree species, condition, and dimensions.
- Grouping or designation of groups and woodlands where areas were uniform in species, age, or geography, as permitted under BS5837.

This report will assist the planning process by evaluating the impact of the proposed development on the existing tree stock. Section 4 includes the Arboricultural Impact Assessment, which examines constraints posed by trees both above ground (e.g., crown spread) and below ground (e.g., RPAs).

Report Author.

ROAVR (ROAVR Group) was formed in 2010 and since then has carried out arboricultural consultancy Nationwide with directly employed consultants. Our consultants are all individual members of the Arboricultural Association and the report author is listed in the document control sheet.

Photographic Plates.



Photographic plate showing T2. (ROAVR, 2025)



Photographic plate showing T3 (centre). (ROAVR, 2025)



Photographic plate showing T13 (centre). (ROAVR, 2025)



Photographic plate showing T15 (right) and T16 (left). (ROAVR, 2025)

2. Site Conditions & Site Surroundings

- 2.1 The site is situated in Shinfield in the Wokingham Borough Council control area. The site is located on the west side of the town and has a suburban type feel.
- 2.2 The site is home to a detached three storey dwelling with associated hard and soft landscape.
- 2.3 The wider locality is predominantly residential. The site is accessed via a private entrance way located just off Church Lane.
- 2.4 A desktop assessment has highlighted that site is not within a Conservation Area and that there are no TPO protected trees on or adjacent to the site.
- 2.5 All desktop assessment data was cross checked and validated on the 26/06/2025 using the web portal provided by the local planning authority.

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c0ad4ce95f8e46cfb28bb8cb126eac0>

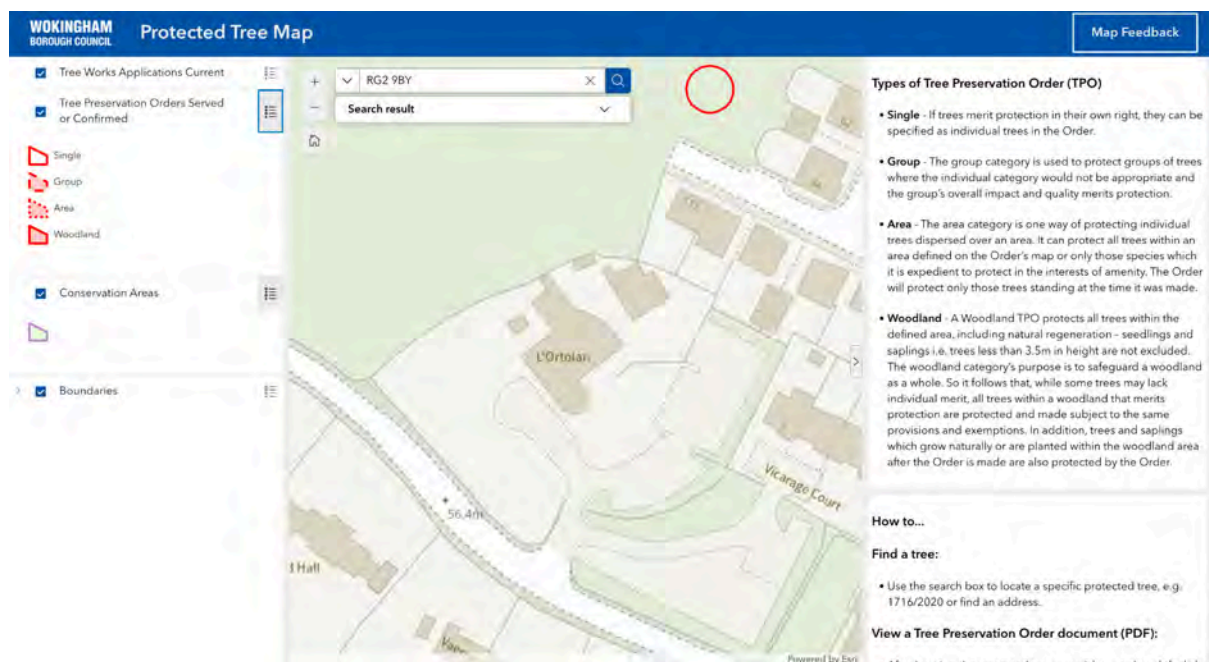


Image plate showing the desktop analysis results of the surveyed plot. (Wokingham Borough Council, 2025)

- 2.6 Works to protected trees require consent from the local planning authority. In the case of TPO's an application must be made. In the case of conservation areas a notification must be made. TPO applications take up to eight weeks, conservation area notifications take six weeks.
- 2.7 Certain exemptions apply; for example the removal of deadwood. In the case of dangerous trees 5-days written notice should be given to the local authority (in the cases of immediate danger the work should proceed, but the local authority contacted as soon as possible afterwards) with the works evidenced by photographs and video where possible. You should also check to ensure the works are exempt from the requirements of a felling licence.

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

- 2.8 It should be noted that planning consent overrides protected trees, where the works or removal are necessary for development to proceed and have been highlighted in the tree survey documents.
- 2.9 Bats. Under current legislation it is an offence to 'intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat' or 'damage, destroy or block access to the resting place of any bat'. For further details consultation must be made with the Statutory Nature Conservancy Organisation. Where relevant any current ecological surveys for the site will take precedence in this matter. Trees provide numerous 'potential roosting features' for a wide range of bat species. It is therefore crucial that any trees proposed for removal are checked by an appropriately competent person before any felling or ivy stripping works commence.

<https://www.bats.org.uk/advice/bats-and-the-law>

- 2.10 Birds. It is an offence to kill, injure or take any wild bird; or take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. Therefore work likely to disturb nesting birds must be avoided from late March to August. All birds, their nest and eggs are protected by law.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/wildlife-and-the-law/wildlife-and-countryside-act/>

3. Drawings

- 3.1 Appended to this report is a tree constraints plan and a tree assessment plan.
- 3.2 The tree constraints plan has been produced using a topographical survey plan. Tree positions and data have been applied using our survey handset as an onsite exercise with the constraints plan being produced as a PDF through Auto CAD.
- 3.3 An autoCAD .dwg file of the tree constraints is available on request for project stakeholders to utilise.
- 3.4 The *Tree Constraints Plan* shows the existing layout. For each tree the stem location is indicated and scaled according to its diameter, the canopy is indicated according to measurements taken along the four cardinal points of the compass. Root protection areas (RPAs) are indicated which are calculated according to the guidelines within BS 5837 (2012).
- 3.5 Where appropriate, the shapes of the RPAs have been amended to reflect actual site conditions or where trees have been heavily pruned. The 'original' RPAs are indicated as a dashed line whereas the amended RPAs are indicated as a solid line. Any variation to this approach will be highlighted on the appropriate plans.
- 3.6 The *Tree Assessment Plan / Arboricultural Impact Assessment* indicates the tree constraints with the proposals overlaid. Where applicable, this plan shows where works are proposed in Root Protection Areas and which trees are to be pruned or removed. This plan accompanies the Impact Assessment which is to be found in Section 4.
- 3.7 The *Tree Protection Plan (if applicable)* shows the protection measures that are to be installed during the construction phase. This plan accompanies an arboricultural method statement where applicable and commissioned.

4. Arboricultural Impact Assessment - Site Specific

4.1. Tree Quality Statement.

A total of 29 arboricultural features were recorded, comprising 26 individual trees, 2 groups, and 1 hedge. The survey area includes a mix of early-mature to mature broadleaved and coniferous species, both native and ornamental.

The surveyed tree stock is of mixed quality. The majority of features fall within Category B and C, with only three trees (T1, T3, T16) considered high quality (Category A1). These high-quality specimens are large, mature trees in good condition, with estimated life expectancies exceeding 40 years. They make a significant contribution to the character and screening value of the site.

Category B trees account for a substantial portion of the surveyed stock. These trees, although not of outstanding individual merit, are generally in good condition with a remaining life expectancy of 20+ years. They contribute positively to the site's structure and visual amenity. *Gleditsia triacanthos* is particularly well represented in this group.

Category C trees and groups, including a number of off-site features, are of lower individual value. They typically show moderate to poor form, physical defects, suppressed crowns, or restricted rooting environments. Many exhibit ivy cover, limited access for full inspection, stem divisions, and minor structural or physiological defects. These features are considered to have a low level of arboricultural merit and shorter remaining lifespan.

No Category U trees were identified in the survey. Several trees display features that will require monitoring or management in future, including signs of decay (e.g. T2, T9, T11), mechanical damage, or root plate disturbance.

4.2 Description of The Proposed Development

The drawings listed in the table below were used by ROAVR to produce the Arboricultural drawings referenced in this report. If your plans change (either before or after planning submission), then the tree drawings will require updating. This report cannot be submitted in support of a scheme that varies from the drawing reference number shown in box one below as the Impact Assessment (Section 4) will not be valid.

Drawing Name / No.	Date Issued To ROAVR	ROAVR Drawings Issue Date:
1519.01B L'Ortolan Landscape Concept Plan.pdf	26/06/2025	18/07/2025

4.2.2. This assessment identifies and evaluates the likely arboricultural impacts arising from the proposed development. It reflects the BS5837 tree survey (ref. 25_5837_06_70), the submitted Tree Assessment Plan (TAP), architectural plans by Trace Architects (2025), and the landscape concept plan (ref. 1519.01B).

4.3. Summary of Development

The proposals include:

- Extensions and alterations to the existing dwelling
- A new ancillary garage and guest annex
- A new outbuilding and bin store
- Hard and soft landscaping works including drive reconfiguration, new terraces, fire pit, games area, and outdoor kitchen
- Boundary improvements and planting enhancements

4.4. Tree Removals

Five tree features are proposed for removal:

Tree / Group	Category	Justification
T13	U	Structurally poor; unsuitable for retention
T15	C1	Removal required to facilitate vehicle access into the proposed garage, which is sited on the location of the existing car parking area
T17	C1	Due to its low quality, future pressure from the proposed garage is likely, and removal is therefore recommended
T21	C1	Direct conflict with proposed terrace layout and hardstanding
G2 (part)	C3	Partial removal required to enable removal and replacement of the existing water feature

4.5. RPA Encroachments & Construction Proximity

The following trees are subject to direct or indirect impacts due to proposed construction, access alterations, or landscape works:

- T1 (Category A1)

Excavations associated with the proposed entrance gate and brick piers will enter the RPA. All digging for piers must be carried out by hand and under arboricultural supervision. If roots are encountered, the pier locations must be adjusted to avoid significant damage.

- T3 (Category A1)

The slight extension of the forecourt to improve vehicle turning overlaps the edge of the RPA. This area is to be constructed using a no-dig method with permeable resin-bound gravel. No excavation should be permitted within the RPA.

- T21 (Category C1)

The proposed terrace layout and associated hardstanding directly conflict with this tree. Removal is required. The tree is already located in hard surface and its loss is unavoidable.

- G2 (Category C3)

Selective removal of parts of the group is required to allow removal of the existing water feature and its replacement with a heritage-style feature. Only affected stems will be removed, and the remainder of the group retained and protected.

- H1 (Category C2)

Some sections of the hedge are adjacent to new planting beds and hardscape works. Hedge management will be needed but no full removal is proposed. Pruning and trimming must be carried out sensitively and only where necessary.

- Deer Fence Installation (north boundary)

Fence posts will be located within the RPAs of retained off-site trees. Each post hole must be probed manually before installation. If roots are encountered, post positions must be adjusted to avoid harm.

4.6. Mitigation Planting

New tree planting is already proposed on site as part of the landscape design. To compensate for the removal of five tree features (T13, T15, T17, T21 and part of G2), a minimum of ten new trees will be planted across the site, following a 2:1 replacement ratio. The landscape concept plan identifies opportunities for new planting in the south garden, west terrace, and northern and eastern boundaries. These locations offer good growing conditions and will contribute to the site's long-term visual and ecological value.

The following tree species are considered suitable for inclusion within the planting scheme:

- *Acer campestre* (Field Maple) – native, tolerant of urban conditions
- *Carpinus betulus* (Hornbeam) – strong structure, good screening value
- *Amelanchier lamarckii* (Juneberry) – ornamental form and blossom
- *Sorbus aucuparia* (Rowan) – light crown and high wildlife benefit
- *Liquidambar styraciflua* (Sweetgum) – seasonal colour and specimen value

All new trees should be planted with appropriate pit preparation, staking, mulch, and irrigation to support successful establishment and long-term retention. Species selection and final locations should be confirmed through the detailed landscape design and coordinated with the Arboricultural Method Statement.

4.7. Conclusion

- All high-quality trees including T1 and T3 are retained, with manageable RPA encroachments
- Trees near proposed structures and hard surfacing can be retained with appropriate protection, including no-dig surfacing, hand excavation, and fencing
- The site's arboricultural value will be enhanced through new planting, managed retention, and sensitive landscape design

To ensure protection of retained trees during construction, a Tree Protection Plan and a detailed Arboricultural Method Statement will be required. These documents will set out the specific protective measures, working methods, supervision requirements, and timing of operations to ensure compliance with BS5837:2012 throughout the construction period.

5. Limitations

- 5.1 ROAVR has prepared this Report for the sole use of the above named Client/Agent in accordance with our terms of business, under which our services were performed. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this Report or any other services provided by us.
- 5.2 This Report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of ROAVR. The assessments made assume that the land use will continue for their current purpose without significant change. ROAVR has not independently verified information obtained from third parties.
- 5.3 This report, video walkthrough, data tables and raw data remain the copyright of ROAVR until such time as any monies owed are settled in full and the report may be withdrawn at any time.
- 5.4 This report, site visit, plans and conclusions are proportional to the proposals and in some cases a simple plan based impact assessment may be all that is required.
- 5.5 Important - to ensure fair allocation of resources, we allow you ten working days to review the report and issue any feedback, beyond that changes are chargeable.
- 5.6 For references and further information regarding tree survey process visit: <https://www.roavr-group.co.uk/roavr-group/survey/sp-3-arboriculture/>

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us at any time.

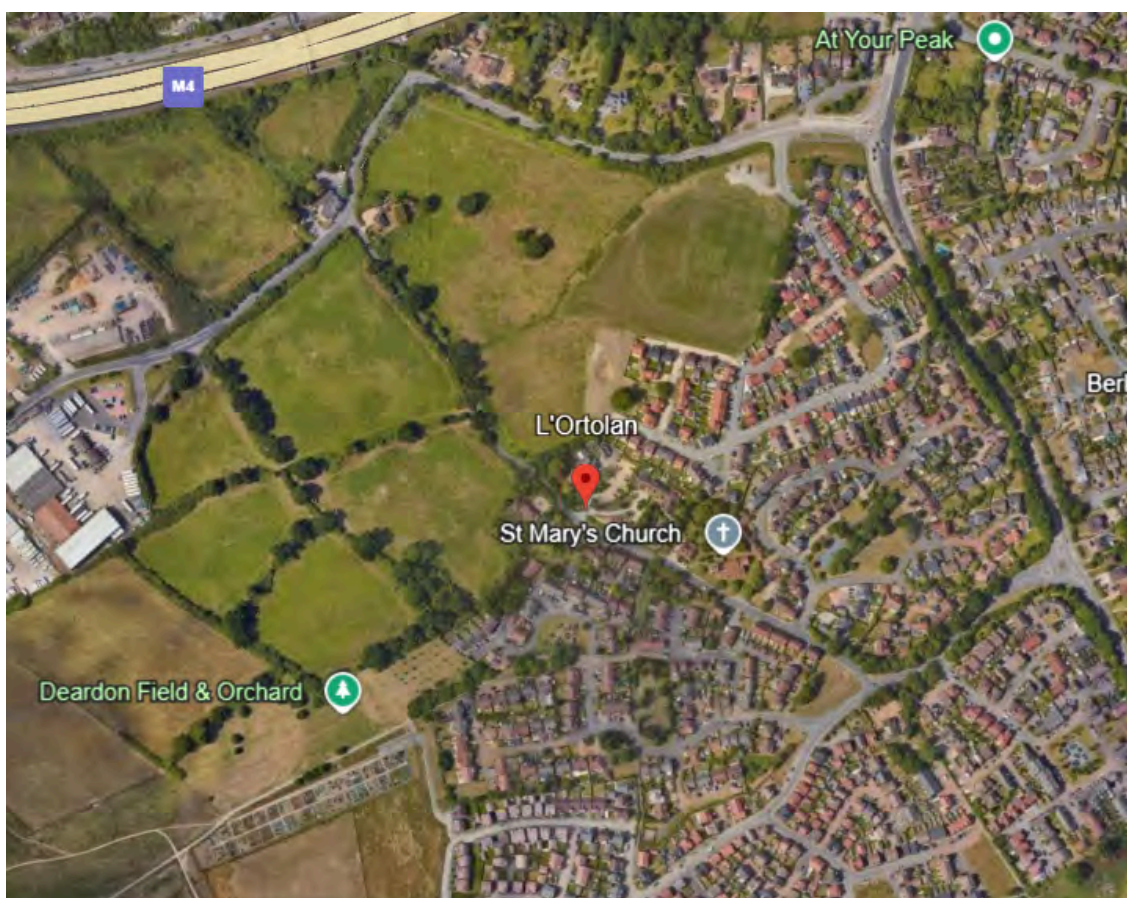
Mr. Alexander Barnes BSc Arb, MArborA
Consultant Arborist

Alexander Barnes


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Prepared by: Alexander Barnes
Checked by: Peter Haine

Appendix 1 – Site Location



(Google Earth, 2025)

Appendix 2 – Arboricultural Data Tables

Key to Arboricultural Data Tables

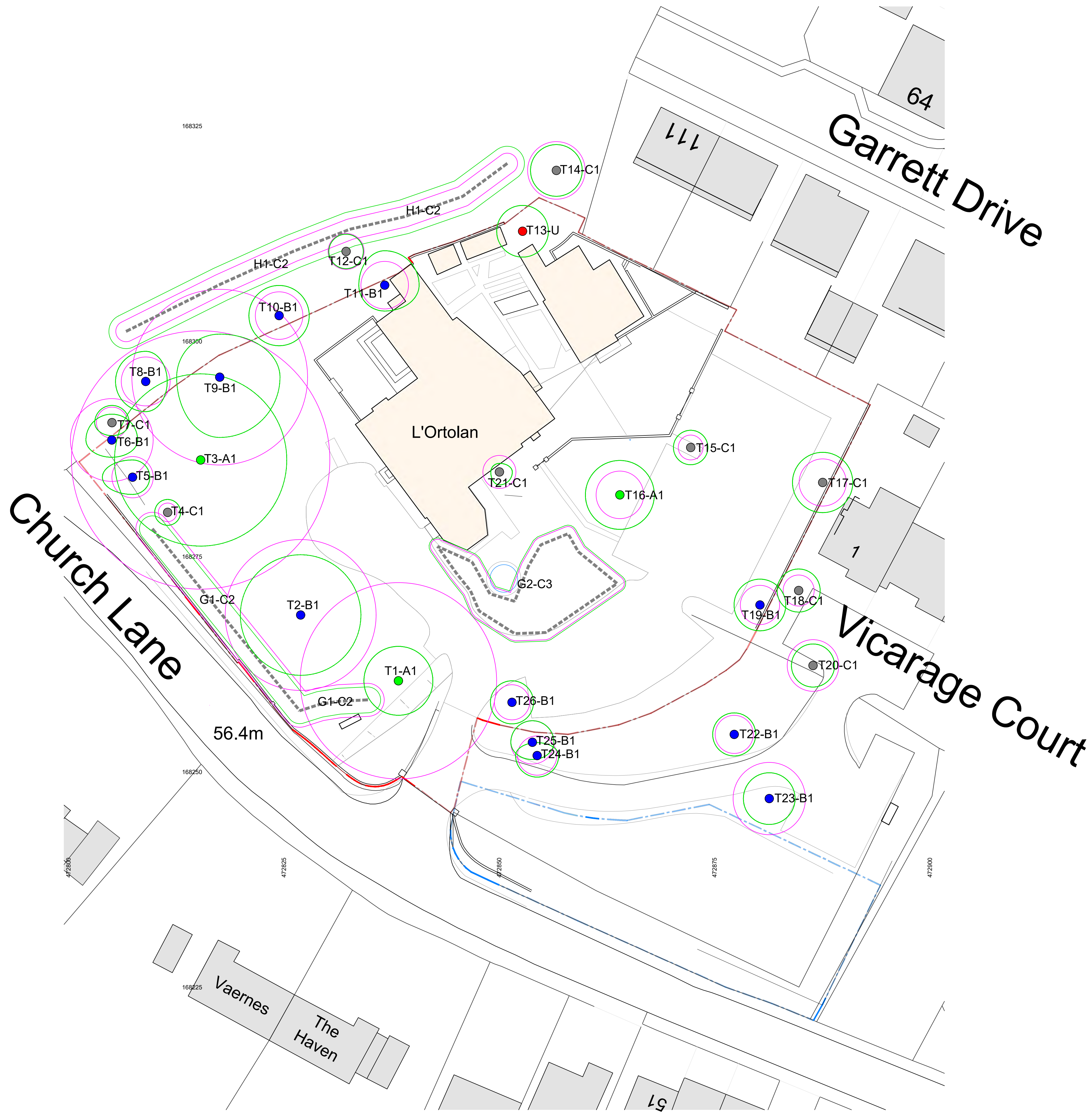
Tree Number	Reference no. T1, T2 etc. for trees; H for hedgerows; G for Groups and W for woodlands.
Species	Tree species <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> ; <i>Quercus robur</i> - Latin names.
Age Class	The estimated age class of the tree (relative to species) Y - Young SM - Semi-mature EM - Early-mature M - Mature OM - Over-mature or V - Veteran
Height (Crown Height)	Height of the tree in metres. (Height of the crown above ground level in metres)
Number of Stems	Number of clear stems above 1.5 metres
Diameter at Breast Height	Diameter of stem (mm) at breast height (1.5 metres above ground).
Crown Spread (N, S, E, W)	The maximum spread of the tree's canopy measured from the stem in four directions (North, East, South, West).
Life Expectancy	Estimated safe, usable life expectancy.
Physical Description	Details of tree type, quality, location etc
Comments	Any comments or remarks recorded by the surveyor
Management Recommendations	Recommendations (regardless of the development proposals if available) for removal, retention and/or remedial arboricultural works.
RPA offset from stem	Radius of the root protection area measured in metres
Category Rating	<p>Tree categorisation based on section 4.5 of BS 5837 (2012) Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations:</p> <p>A – Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years. B – Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years. C – Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm U – Trees in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years</p> <p>Subcategories: 1: Mainly arboricultural & aesthetic qualities 2: Mainly landscape qualities 3: Mainly cultural values, including conservation</p>

Tree Number	Species	Age Class	DBH	Height (crown height)	N	E	S	W	Condition	Life Expectancy	Physical Description	Comments	Managment Recommendations	RPA offset from stem.	Category Rating
T1	<i>Sequoia sempervirens</i> (Coast Redwood)	M	950	15(1.5)	4	4	4	4	Good	40+	None	None	None	11.4	A1
G1	<i>Taxus baccata</i> (Yew), <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	EM	160	4(0.5)	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Fair	10+	None	Part of linear group.	None	1.92	C2
T2	<i>Salix X chrysocoma</i> (Weeping Willow)	M	730	8(1.5)	7	7	7	7	Good	20+	Turkey tail on stem.	Fungal brackets visible on stem. Mechanical Damage.	None	8.76	B1
T3	<i>Cedrus libani atlantica</i> 'Glauc' (Atlantic Cedar)	M	1320	17(4)	10	10	10	10	Good	40+	None	None	None	15	A1
T4	<i>X Cupressocyparis leylandii</i> (Leyland Cypress)	Y	90	4(0.5)	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	Fair	10+	None	None	None	1.08	C1
T5	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	EM	200	7(2)	2	2	2	3.5	Good	20+	None	None	None	2.4	B1
T6	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	M	400	5(2)	3	3	2	3	Good	20+	None	None	None	4.8	B1
T7	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i> (Holly)	SM	150	3.5(1)	2	2	1.5	2	Fair	10+	Off site.	Ivy on tree. Unable to inspect stem due to Ivy.	None	1.8	C1
T8	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	M	170,165	5(2)	3.5	2.5	3.5	3.5	Good	20+	Off site.	None	None	2.84	B1
T9	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	M	850	5(2)	5	7	7	5	Good	20+	Cavity in included Union, root plate lifting, leaning South.	Leaning South.	None	10.2	B1
T10	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	M	230	5(2)	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Good	20+	Off site.	Ivy on tree. Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth.	None	2.76	B1
T11	<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i> (Honey Locust)	M	230	5(2)	4	4	3	3	Good	20+	Cavity within union, shere bomb cracks.	Stem divides above 1.5m.	None	2.76	B1
T12	<i>Salix caprea</i> (Goat Willow)	Y	90,100,110	6(1)	2	2	2	2	Fair	10+	Off site.	Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth. Stem divides at ground level.	None	2.09	C1
T13	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> (Hawthorn)	EM	100,95,130,125	5(1.5)	3	3	3	3	Fair	10+	None	Ivy on tree. Stem divides below 1.5m. Dieback in crown. Low bud/leaf density. Broken branches in crown.	None	2.72	C1
T14	<i>Salix caprea</i> (Goat Willow)	Y	120,130,150,90,125	7(1)	3	3	3	3	Fair	10+	Off site.	Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth. Stem divides at ground level.	None	3.34	C1
H1	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i> (Hawthorn), <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> (Holly), <i>Salix caprea</i> (Goat Willow), <i>Quercus robur</i> (Common Oak), <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> (Sycamore)	Y	100	4(0.5)	2	2	2	2	Fair	10+	Off site.	Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth.	None	1.2	C2
T15	<i>Sorbus aria</i> (Whitebeam)	Y	120	3.5(1.5)	2	2	2	2	Fair	10+	None	Tree located within hard surface area.	None	1.44	C1
T16	<i>Acer platanoides</i> (Norway Maple)	M	230	7(1.5)	4	4	4	4	Good	40+	None	None	None	2.76	A1
T17	<i>Prunus avium</i> (Wild Cherry)	EM	120,110,160	4(1.5)	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	Fair	10+	None	Stem divides below 1.5m.	None	2.74	C1
T18	<i>Pyrus</i> (Pear)	EM	150	4(1)	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Fair	10+	Off site.	Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth.	None	1.8	C1
T19	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> (Sycamore)	EM	190	7(1.5)	3	3	3	3	Good	20+	None	None	None	2.28	B1
T20	<i>Pyrus</i> (Pear)	M	250	6(1)	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Fair	10+	Off site.	Unable to inspect stem due to undergrowth.	None	3	C1
T21	<i>Cotoneaster frigidus</i> (Cotoneaster)	M	160	3.5(1.5)	1	1.5	1.5	1	Fair	10+	None	Tree located within hard surface area. Dieback in crown.	None	1.92	C1
T22	<i>Prunus domestica</i> (Damson)	EM	90,160	6(1.5)	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Good	20+	Off site.	None	None	2.21	B1

T23	<i>Pyrus</i> (Pear)	M	350	7(1)	3	3	3	3	Good	20+	Off site.	None	None	4.2	B1
T24	<i>Betula pendula</i> (Silver Birch)	EM	190	9(1.5)	1.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Good	20+	Off site.	None	None	2.28	B1
T25	<i>Betula pendula</i> (Silver Birch)	EM	210	12(1.5)	2.5	2.5	2	2.5	Good	20+	Off site.	None	None	2.52	B1
T26	<i>Betula pendula</i> (Silver Birch)	EM	170	7(1.5)	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	Good	20+	None	None	None	2.04	B1
G2	<i>Palm</i> , <i>X Cupressocyparis leylandii</i> (Leyland Cypress), <i>Laurus nobilis</i> (Bay), <i>Cotoneaster frigidus</i> (Cotoneaster), <i>Taxus baccata</i> (Yew)	Y	70	3(0.5)	1	1	1	1	Fair	10+	None	None	None	0.84	C3

Appendix 3 – Arboricultural Plans

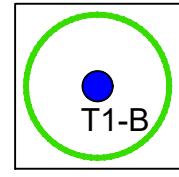
General Notes
Do not scale off drawing - refer to the tree data schedule for accurate crown spread measurements.
Depictions of tree canopies are based on measurements taken to four cardinal compass points.
No liability of any kind is accepted for any omissions or inaccuracies in respect of this plan.
The original of this drawing was produced in colour; a monochrome copy should not be relied upon.
All rights reserved.



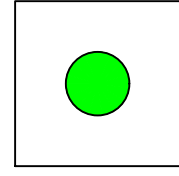
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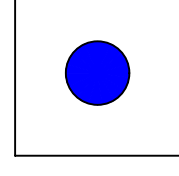
Key



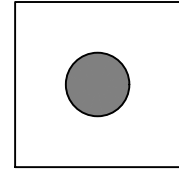
Trees
Showing Canopy extents, category
colour and tag number (with category).



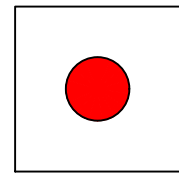
Category A
Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.



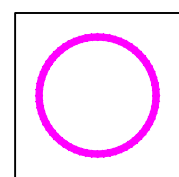
Category B
Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.



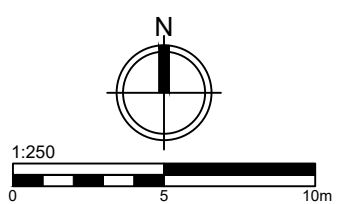
Category C
Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150 mm.




Category U
Trees in such a condition that they can not realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.



BS 5837:2012 Root Protection Area



Drawing Title			
Tree Assessment Plan			
Client			
Zara Hussain			
Site/Project			
L'ortolan, Church Lane, Shinfield, Reading, RG2 9BY			
Scale/Sheet		Date	
1:250 @ A1		26/06/2025	
Drawing No	Rev	Drawn By	Checked By
25_5837_06_70	1	PH	MH
			
ROAVR Group, Marr House Beechwood Business Park, Inverness, IV2 3BW www.roavr-group.co.uk support@roavr-group.co.uk 01463 667302			