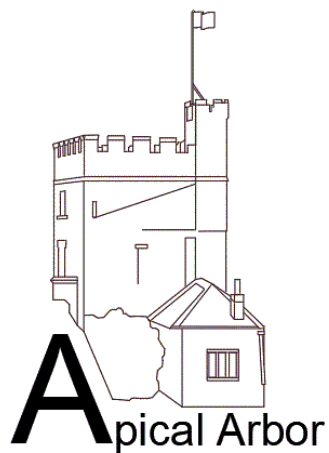
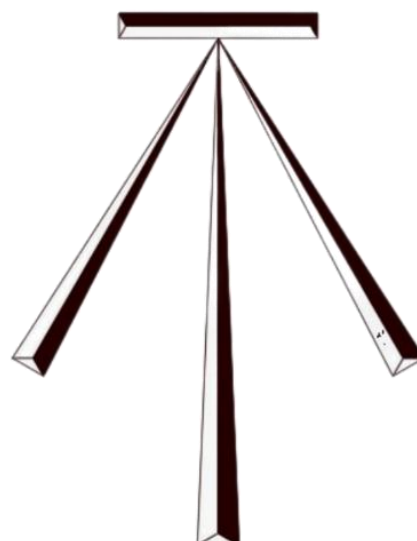




ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

1 Hill House Cottages, Milley Lane, Hare Hatch, Reading, Berkshire,
RG10 9TH

Prepared by: Philip Bridger, TechArborA, PTI





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Apical Arbor
No 2 Grange Cottage
Halse
Northamptonshire
NN13 6DY

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Appendix A Tree Schedule - AA TS 01

Appendix B Tree Location Plan – AA TL 02

Appendix C Tree Protection Plan – AA TPP 05

1 Summary

- 1.1 Following instructions received in July 2024, this statement has been produced to inform a tree protection adjacent to a new car port. .
- 1.2 The Site and proposed development have been assessed in accordance with the relevant British Standard, BS 5837:2012 ‘Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction’.
- 1.3 The Arboricultural survey was conducted by Philip Bridger in June 2021. The schedule provided in Appendix A provides a detailed record of each of these components. Appendix B provides a graphical representation of the survey data.

2 Introduction

- 2.1 The footprint of the car port will be located on the existing, hard surfaced driveway, .
- 2.2 Three large trees are near by to the development footprint.
- 2.3 This report provides an informed overview of the existing tree cover, a summary of any implications arising from the proposed scheme and comments regarding the integration of existing trees into the proposed setting.
- 2.4 The following information does not constitute a health and safety survey or report. Where concerns for tree health and safety exist the necessary and appropriate tree inspections should be undertaken.
- 2.5 This report considers only the arboricultural component of the Site. It does not include the fauna or the entire flora present on the Site and should not be used as an ecological appraisal.

3 Survey and Explanation of BS 5837:2012 Categories

- 3.1.1 This type of survey is designed to identify and assess trees likely to be affected by development of the Site and assign them to appropriate categories. The results of the tree survey, including material constraints arising from existing trees that merit retention, should then be used to inform the design process.
- 3.2 The schedule provided in Appendix A provides a detailed record of each of these components. Appendix B provides a graphical representation of the survey data.
- 3.3 Trees are surveyed on an individual basis unless they form a collective feature when they may be considered as a woodland, group, or hedge on the basis of aerodynamic, cultural, or visual features. Individual trees of particular prominence or value within a collection may still be assessed as individuals.

3.3.1 For each surveyed tree/group the following information has been recorded:

- i. TREE NO.: Used to identify trees in the schedule and associated plans.
- ii. SPECIES: Common names are used in this document and the Tree Schedule.
- iii. HEIGHT: Height of tree in metres to the centre of the crown top or highest point.
- iv. DBH: Diameter of the tree at 1.5m from ground level or at the closest appropriate point if this is not possible. Where multiple stems are present these are measured individually where practicable. This measurement is used to calculate the Root Protection Area (RPA) for each tree.
- v. CROWN SPREAD: Measured at appropriate compass points e.g., N, E, S, W. Dimensions are taken from the centre of the main trunk. An 'Up to' figure may be provided in some circumstances e.g., for smaller specimens or where access is restricted.
- vi. CROWN CLEARANCE: Height to the lowest branch from ground level. Small twigs and epicormic growth may be present below this level but could be removed with no detriment to the tree.
- vii. PHYSIOLOGY and STRUCTURE: Description of general form, including presence of physical defects, disease or decay and other appropriate details based on health, vitality, and overall structural integrity.
- viii. AGE CLASS: Young / Middle-aged / Mature / Over Mature / Veteran. Veteran trees are those deemed to be of significant biological, cultural, or aesthetic value, usually beyond typical age range and often exhibiting significant structural defects.

3.3.2 Trees are categorised as per Table 1 of BS 5837:2012; these are divided between retention categories 'A' – 'U'.

3.4 Explanation of Categories:

- i. **Category U:** Those in such a condition that any existing value would be lost within 10 years, or which should, in the current context, be removed for reasons of sound arboricultural management. If within ownership, category U trees should not be considered as constraints within the planning process. However, it may be desirable to seek retention of a category U specimen if it is considered to have significant ecological or conservation value. Category U trees are identified by dark red canopy edges on the tree plans. A dark grey RPA may be included if the trees are offsite or desirable for retention.
- ii. **Category A:** Those of high quality and value: in such a condition as to be able to make a substantial contribution (a minimum of 40 years is suggested). These are identified by light green RPAs on the tree plans.
- iii. **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). These are identified by dark blue RPAs on the tree plans.
- iv. **Category C:** Those of low quality and/or 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 150mm. These are identified by dark grey RPAs on the tree plans.

3.4.1 The following subcategories may be applied if appropriate. Trees may be allocated more than one subcategory, but this will not increase their overall value.

- i. Mainly **arboricultural** values (suffix 1)

A1: Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual; or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal Arboricultural features (e.g., the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue).

B1: Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g., presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and major storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention in the long term; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation.

C1: Unremarkable trees of extremely limited merit or such condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.

ii. Mainly **landscape** values (suffix 2)

A2: Trees, groups, or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.

B2: Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality.

C2: Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value; and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefit.

iii. Mainly **cultural** values, including **conservation** (suffix 3)

A3: Trees, groups, or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative, or other value (e.g., veteran trees or wood-pasture).

B3: Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.

C3: Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.

3.4.2 Note: as a general rule and irrespective of subcategories: category A trees are considered to be of the highest priority for retention; category B of moderate priority and those of category C standing of lower priority. Onsite category U trees are given the lowest priority for retention.

3.5 The Root Protection Area (RPA) is the minimum soil surface area (in m²) that should be left undisturbed around each tree to maintain the tree's long-term viability. In First Environment drawings RPAs are illustrated in colour to indicate the extent of the constraint posed and show the category of the relevant tree or group:

- Category A trees/groups: **Green** RPA
- Category B trees/groups: **Blue** RPA

- Category C trees/groups: **Grey** RPA
- Offsite/Retained category U trees/groups: **Grey** RPA*
- Onsite category U or Removed trees/groups: No RPA*

*Category U trees are identified by a **Dark Red** canopy edge

4 Tree Removals

4.1 No trees will need to be removed to facilitate this development.

5 Impacts on Trees

5.1 T3 - Lime

5.1.1 RPA = 408.3m²

5.1.2 Area of Impact = 2.5462m²

5.1.3 Impact on T3 as a percentage = 0.6%

5.2 T4 - Lime

5.2.1 RPA = 452.4m²

5.2.2 Area of impact = 36.1707m²

5.2.3 Impacts on RPA as a percentage = 8%

5.3 T5 - Atlantic Cedar (offsite)

5.3.1 RPA = 452.4m²

5.3.2 Area of Impact = 4.2833m²

5.3.3 Impact on RPA as a percentage = 3%

- 5.4 BS5837:2012 recommends that any impacts to RPAs should not exceed 20%.
- 5.5 None of the impacts to RPAs exceed 20% and therefore Manual excavation has been recommended to install the car port.
- 5.6 None of the impacts above consider that the car port will be constructed where an existing hard surface is in place. Therefore, the impacts are likely to be less than stated above.

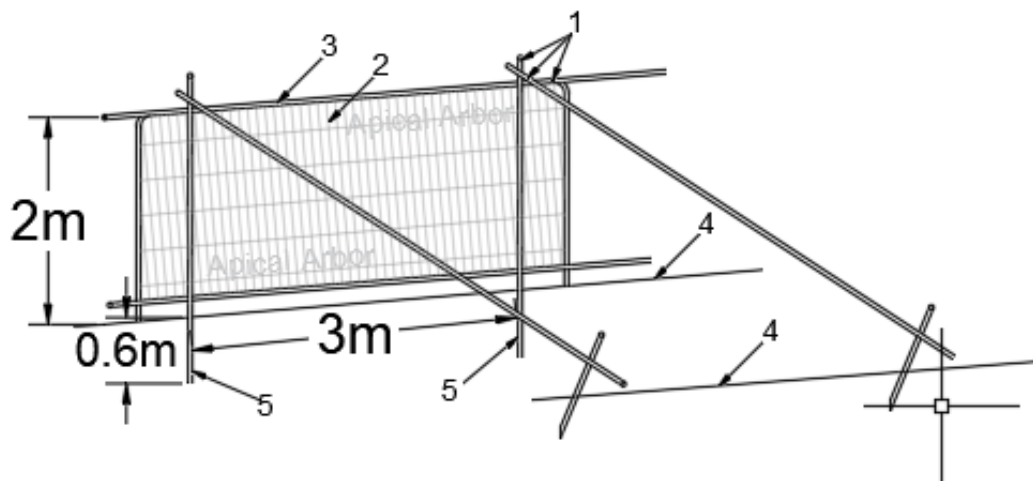
6 Hedge removal

- 6.1 The laurel hedge that creates a boundary along the driveway of the cottages, will be removed, and replaced with a Box (*Buxus sempervirens*) hedge, or similar, low-level hedging.

7 Wall removal

- 7.1 Small section of existing wall to be removed (north east of the of T3), which will retain the footings, in order to protect the roots of retained trees.
- 7.2 The wearing course of the bricks will be reused as an edge and base for new flower beds.
- 7.3 This process should be considered acceptable in arboricultural terms.

8 Tree Protection Fencing



Key

- 1 Standard Scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy Gauge 2m tall, galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights and cross members with wire ties
- 4 Ground level
- 5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (min. 0.6m)
- 6 Standard Scaffold clamps

9 Manual Excavation,

- 9.1 Within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of trees to be retained sections of any proposed excavation will be conducted by hand under direct Arboricultural supervision. These areas are indicated on the adjacent plan by orange solid lines. These areas are likely to contain roots that are necessary to protect, therefore:

- 9.2 Excavations should, where possible, be conducted with an 'air-spade'; where this is not practical spades & forks should be used. This should always be conducted under direct Arboricultural supervision.
- 9.3 Wearing course only is to be broken up using handheld breakers and spoil removed manually.
- 9.4 All excavation within an RPA is to be directly supervised by an Arboricultural consultant.
- 9.5 No vehicles or plant to be permitted within the RPA.
- 9.6 Any roots that are less than 25mm diameter are to be pruned back, preferably to a side branch, using sharp cutting tools i.e., secateurs or hand saw.
- 9.7 Roots larger than 25mm shall only be severed following consultation with the onsite arboriculturist.
- 9.8 Avoid damaging the protective bark of larger roots.
- 9.9 Exposed roots to be covered in dry hessian sacking or covered in clean topsoil to protect from dehydration and temperature flux.
- 9.10 Prior to backfilling, hessian wrapping to be removed and retained roots to be surrounded by sharp sand before soil is replaced. Builders sand shall not to be used due to its high salt content.
- 9.11 Underground services are to be routed and installed with minimal disruption to roots. It is preferable to employ trenchless techniques where practicable. In all cases where services are to pass within the RPA, detailed plans showing the proposed route shall be drawn up in conjunction with an Arboricultural consultant.

10 Hard surface retention

- 10.1 Within the area of the transparent pink hatch, all hard surfacing should remain at the existing level and be undisturbed.

10.2 Preservation of this hard surface will protect the adjacent trees and mitigate the necessity for more tree protection fencing.

10.3 The trees have grown adjacent to the existing driveway for many decades, additional, temporary traffic should not be considered an adverse impact, as long as the existing hard surface is retained.

11 Lime Tree pruning / remedial works

11.1 T3 Lime

11.1.1 Reduce canopy height from 25m height to 20m fished height.

11.1.2 Reduce canopy spread from 6m to 4m radial canopy spread.

11.1.3 Crown lift from 3m above driveway to 5m above driveway.

11.1.4 Remove all epicormic growth up to canopy height, in order to make the tree stems a more formal feature on the frontage of the cottages.

11.2 T4 Lime

11.2.1 Reduce canopy height from 25m height to 20m finished height.

11.2.2 Reduce canopy spread from 7m to 5m radial canopy spread.

11.2.3 Crown lift from 3m above driveway to 7m above driveway to gain clearance from proposed structure.

11.2.4 Remove all epicormic growth up to canopy height, in order to make the tree stems a more formal feature on the frontage of the cottages.

12 Conclusions

- 12.1 It is our opinion that trees shown as retained can be integrated within the proposed context with minimal risk of adverse impact, or that impacts can be kept within acceptable levels.

13 Further Reading and Supporting Material:

British Standards Institution Publication (2010) *BS 3998: Recommendations for Tree Work*, BSI, London.

British Standards Institution Publication (2012) *BS 5837: Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition & Construction*, BSI, London.

Roberts, J., Jackson, N. & Smith, M. (2006) *Tree Roots in the Built Environment, Research for Amenity Trees No.8*, TSO, and London.

Appendices

Appendix A Tree Schedule - AA TS 01

Appendix B Tree Location Plan – AA TL 02

Appendix C Tree Protection Plan – AA TPP 05

Note: This schedule does not constitute a health and safety survey. Appropriate additional inspections should be conducted for matters pertaining to health and safety or duty of care requirements.

Each entry will contain the following information (dependent upon access):

1. Tree No: Allocated tree number (a Tree Preservation Order may be signified by an * suffix);
2. Species: Common names are shown;
3. Height: Height of each tree/group in metres to centre of upper crown or highest point;
4. Stem Diameter: Measured in millimetres at 1.5m from ground level; multiple stems are measured separately and the values combined; used to calculate the Root Protection Area (RPA); measurements for the same tree are separated by ‘-’ (e.g. 120-140-100);
5. Crown Spread: Measured in metres at compass points (e.g. N, E, S, W); dimensions are taken from centre of trunk to edge of canopy; ‘up to’ crown spreads will be shown with a repeated number;
6. Crown Clearance: Height in metres to lowest branch foliage from ground level;

7. Age Class:

- Young (Y) (less than 1/3 through typical life expectancy for species);
- Middle Aged (MA) (from 1/3 to 2/3 through typical life expectancy for species);
- Mature (M) (over 2/3 through typical life expectancy for species);
- Over Mature (OM) (beyond typical life expectancy for species);
- Veteran (V) (of biological, cultural or aesthetic value, usually appears beyond typical age range for species);
- Various (VAR) (contains more than one of the above classes);

8. Physiology: Considered to be one of the following: Average / Below average / Low / or Dead;

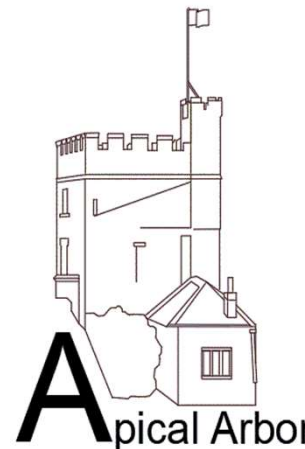
9. Structure: Considered to be one of the following: Good / Moderate / Indifferent / Poor / or Hazardous;

10. Comments: A description of general form, including presence of physical defects, disease or decay and other appropriate details based on vitality, context, potential and overall structural integrity;

11. BS 5837:2012 Category: Each individual tree, group or collection is assigned a category as defined in Table 1 of BS5837:2012;

(Note: a combined rating may be applied where individuals gain a higher category as part of a group or collection);

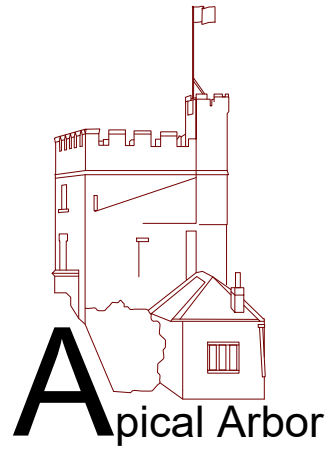
- U: Trees recommended for removal; in such a condition that any existing contribution would be lost within 10 years; shown with a red canopy edge on Apical Arbor plans;
- A: Trees of high quality and value; likely to make a substantial contribution for at least 40 years; shown with a green RPA on Apical Arbor plans;
- B: Trees of moderate quality and value; likely to make a significant contribution for at least 20 years; shown with a blue RPA on Apical Arbor plans;
- C: Trees of low quality and value; could remain for at least 10 years until new planting has established; young trees with a stem diameter < 150mm; shown with a grey RPA on First Apical Arbor plans.
- Subcategories are shown by a number and indicate significant value arising from Arboricultural (suffix 1), Landscape (suffix 2) or Ecological (suffix 3) considerations.



Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	CS N (m)	CS E (m)	CS S (m)	CS W (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Age Class	Comments	Category
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Tree No.	Species	Height (m)	Stem Diameter (mm)	CS N (m)	CS E (m)	CS S (m)	CS W (m)	Crown Clearance (m)	Physiological Condition	Structural Condition	Age Class	Comments	Category
G1	English Oak, Common Lime, Hazel, Field Maple	15.0	Max 500	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	1.00	Good	Average	M	Established boundary collection, of mixed species	B12
W1	Filed maple, Ash, Hazel English Oak, Various native fruit trees, Goat Willow.	Max 20	Max 1000	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	3.00	Good	Good	M	Established woodland of mixed native species, of good quality and value.	A123
G2	Goat Willow, English Oak, Ash, Grey poplar,	Max 15	Max 500	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	1.00	Average	Average	M	Established boundary screen, of various species,	B123
G3	Grey Poplar	Max 17	Max 600	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	2.00	Average	Poor	M	Single trunk, located on a bank, Pollarded many years ago, rot occurring in the unions of the pollards, some of the trees have recently been Pollarded.	C12
T1 & T2	Pear	5.0	Max 200	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.50	Average	Average	SM	Single trunks, structures typical for species, of no particular arboricultural quality.	C12
T3	Common Lime	25.0	950	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	3.00	Good	Good	M	Single trunk forks into two c dominant stems at approx. 12m, orientated east to west, union appears sound, good radial canopy, likely to be visible for distances to the north form multiple residential houses, has been sympathetically reduced in the past (within 10 years) good example of the species, no clear visual indications of any fungal or pathogenic infection.	A123
T4	Common Lime	25.0	1000	7.00	7.00	7.00	7.00	5.00	Good	Average	M	Single trunk, large subsidiary limb to the south east at approx. 6m, this tree has been Pollarded many years ago, at approx. 11m, regrowth from this point as is typical for species, provides some screen on the boundary, likely to be visible from multiple residential properties, no clear visual indications of any fungal or pathogenic infections,	B12
T5	Atlantic Cedar	19.0	1000	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	2.00	Average	Average	M	Offsite tree, single trunk, formal landscape feature on the neighbouring property.	B12
T6	Sycamore	16.0	500	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	2.00	Average	Average	M	Single trunk, large impact wound on the west side, exposed sapwood, likely self seeded, slightly suppressed by adjacent off site Cedar.	C12
G4	Leyland cypress	11.0	Max 500	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.00	Average	Average	SM	Established boundary hedge row	C12
T7	London Plane	17.0	1200	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	2.00	Good	Average	M	Single trunk, established ornamental tree, good examples of the species,	B12
T8	Beech	17.0	480	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	2.00	Average	Average	Sm	Exposed roots on est. side from dried pond, the tree is located on that bank of the dried pond. Single straight trunk, good example of the species, limited visibility due to adjacent tree cover.	B12
T9	Laurel	8.0	4 x 200	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.50	Average	Average	M	Multi stemmed habit, typical for the species, of no particular arboricultural quality,	C12
G5	Goat Willow	6.0	Max 200	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.00	Average	Poor	Y	Self seeded, located on the dried ponds island, several failed examples.	C1
G6	Goat willow	6.0	Max 200	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.00	Average	Poor	Y	Self seeded got willows, of no particular quality.	C1

End of Tree Schedule



Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION

Technician Member



Affiliate Member

KEY:

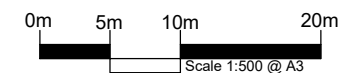
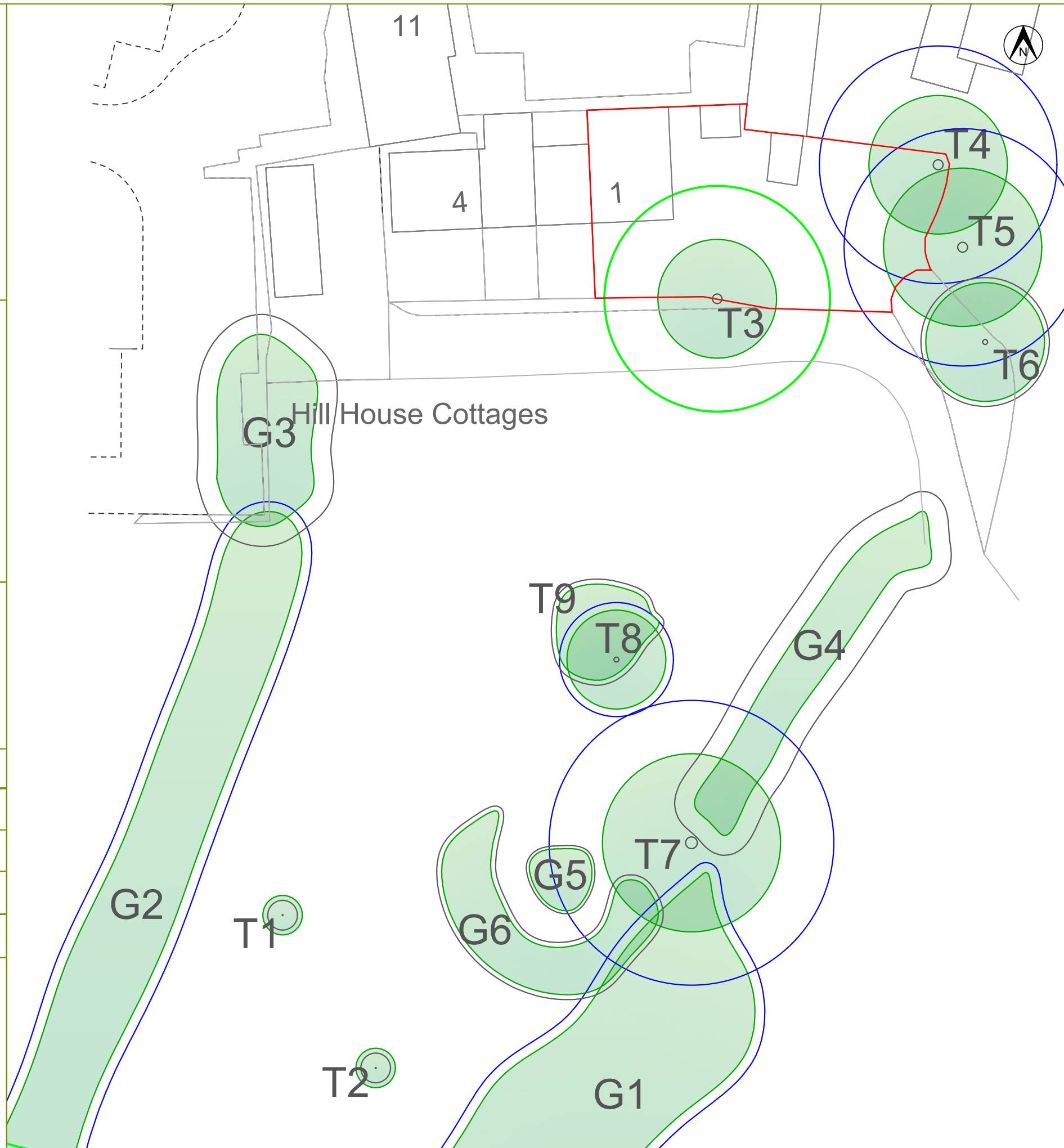
Tree Nos.:	⊙ T2	Tree Canopies:	○	Category 'C' RPA:	○
Category 'A' RPA:	○	Category 'B' RPA:	○		

Tree Categories and Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

Surveyed trees have been assigned a category in accordance with Table 1 of BS 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'. The category is indicated on First Environment plans by the colour of the Root Protection Area (RPA). The RPA delineates the minimum rooting area required to enable tree retention.

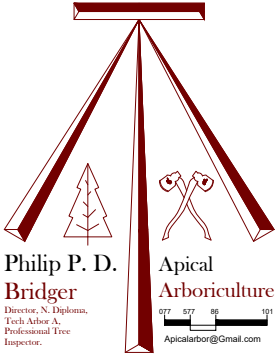
The categories are as follows:

- Category 'A' - Tree of high quality and/or value - **Green RPA**
- Category 'B' - Tree of moderate quality and/or value - **Blue RPA**
- Category 'C' - Tree of low quality and/or value - **Grey RPA**
- Category 'U' - Tree of significantly reduced potential - no RPA unless in third party ownership, then **Grey RPA**.

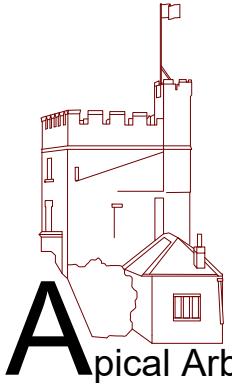


Project/Client:
**Hill House
Cottages, Hare
Hatch, Reading**

Based On: Topo
Title: Existing Site Plan
Drawing No: AA TL 02
Date: 26.10.22 | Drawn: PPDB | Checked: PPDB
Note: The original of this drawing was produced in colour - a monochrome copy should not be relied upon. Do not scale from this drawing.



Philip P. D.
Bridger
Director, N. Diploma,
Tech Arbor A,
Professional Tree
Inspector.



Apical
Arboriculture
Apical Arbor



Arboricultural
ASSOCIATION
Technician Member



RIBA
Affiliate Member

KEY:

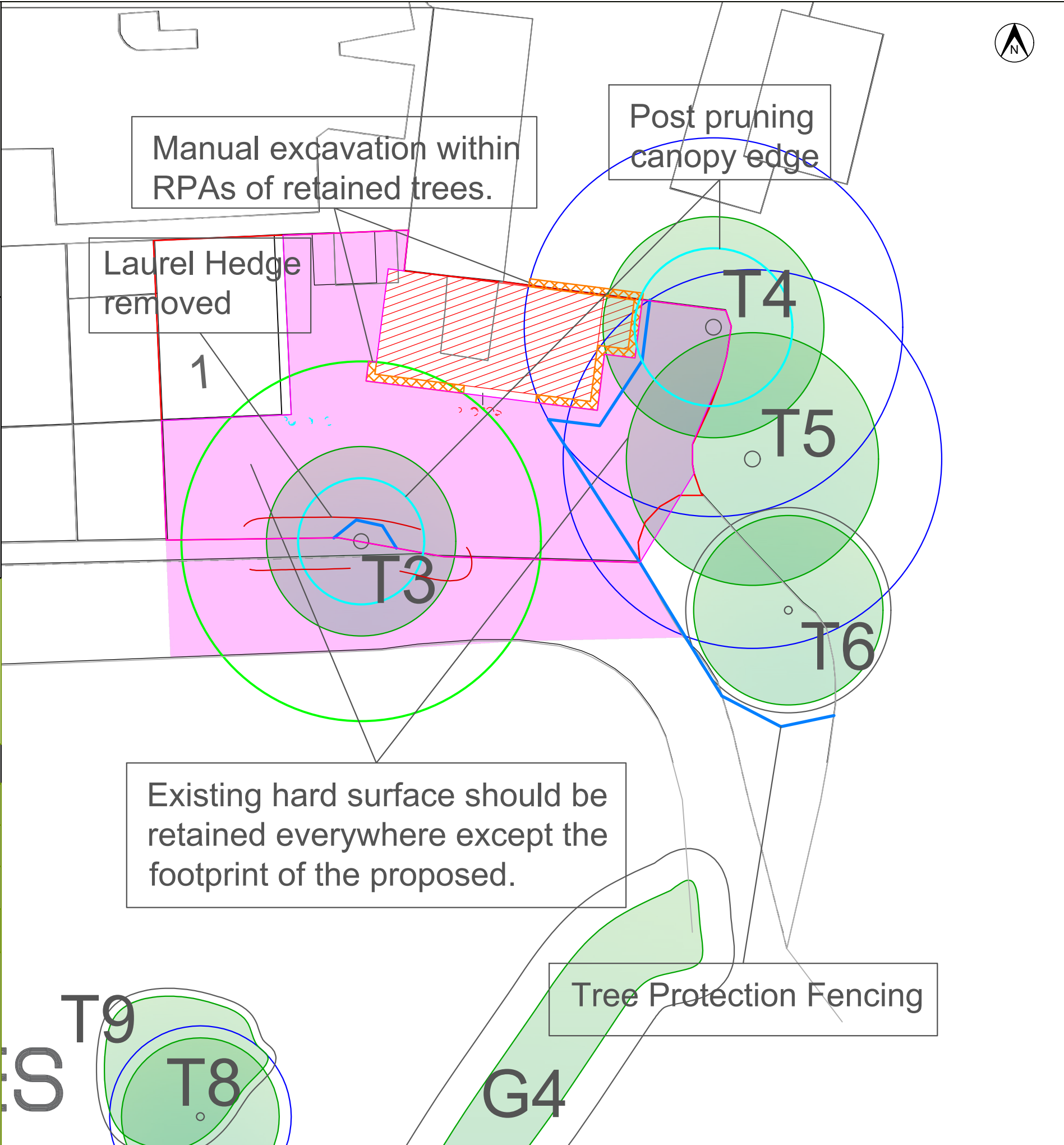
Tree Nos.:	⊗ T2	Tree Canopies:		Category 'C' RPA:	
Category 'A' RPA:		Category 'B' RPA:		Tree Protection Fencing:	
Manual Excavation		Hard surface retention		Post Pruning Edge	

Tree Categories and Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

Surveyed trees have been assigned a category in accordance with Table 1 of BS 5837:2012 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'. The category is indicated on First Environment plans by the colour of the Root Protection Area (RPA).The RPA delineates the minimum rooting area required to enable tree retention.

The categories are as follows:

- Category 'A' - Tree of high quality and/or value - **Green RPA**
- Category 'B' - Tree of moderate quality and/or value - **Blue RPA**
- Category 'C' - Tree of low quality and/or value - **Grey RPA**
- Category 'U' - Tree of significantly reduced potential - no RPA unless in third party ownership, then **Grey RPA**.



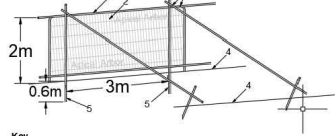
Manual Excavation

Within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) of trees to be retained sections of any proposed excavation will be carried out by hand under direct arboricultural supervision. These areas are indicated on the adjacent plan by orange solid lines. These areas are likely to contain roots that are necessary to protect, therefore:

- Excavations should, where possible, be carried out with an 'air-spade'; where this is not practical spades & forks should be used. This should always be carried out under direct arboricultural supervision;
- Wearing course only is to be broken up using hand held breakers and spoil removed manually;
- All excavation within an RPA is to be directly supervised by an arboricultural consultant;
- No vehicles or plant to be permitted within the RPA;
- Any roots that are less than 25mm diameter are to be pruned back, preferably to a side branch, using sharp cutting tools i.e. secateurs or hand saw;
- Roots larger than 25mm shall only be severed following consultation with the on site arboriculturist;
- Avoid damaging the protective bark of larger roots;
- Exposed roots to be covered in dry hessian sacking or covered in clean top soil to protect from dehydration and temperature flux;
- Prior to backfilling, hessian wrapping to be removed and retained roots to be surrounded by sharp sand before soil is replaced. Builders sand shall not to be used due to its high salt content.

Underground services are to be routed and installed with minimal disruption to roots. It is preferable to employ trenchless techniques where practicable. In all cases where services are to pass within the RPA, detailed plans showing the proposed route shall be drawn up in conjunction with an arboricultural consultant.

Tree Protection Fencing



Key

- Standard Scaffold poles
- Heavy Gauge 2m tall, galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- Panel secured to uprights and cross members with wire ties
- Ground level
- Uprights driven into the ground until secure (min. 0.6m)
- Standard Scaffold clamps

As shown in BS 5837:2012, Section 6, Figure 2.

Tree Protection Fencing to be erected where indicated by the bold blue lines on the adjacent plan, prior to the commencement of any demolition or construction work.

Fencing specification to be compliant with BS 5837:2012 (illustrated above) and should be fit for the purpose of excluding construction activity and any other unacceptable disturbance from within the Root Protection Areas of retained trees, i.e:

A scaffold framework in accordance with Figure 2 above comprising of a vertical and horizontal framework, well braced to resist impacts, with vertical tubes driven into the ground spaced at maximum intervals of 3m. Onto this, welded mesh panels should be securely fixed with wire, scaffold clamps or cable ties. If required, fence bases or feet will be secured into the ground with upright scaffold tubes. Panels supported on unsecured rubber or concrete feet are not resistant to impact and should not be used.

Hard surface retention

Within the area of the transparent pink hatch, all hard surfacing should remain at the existing level and be undisturbed.

Preservation of this hard surface will protect the adjacent trees and mitigate the necessity for more tree protection fencing.

The trees have grown adjacent to the existing driveway for many decades, additional, temporary traffic should not be considered an adverse impact, as long as the existing hard surface is retained.

0m 2.5m 5m 10m
Scale 1:250 @ A3

Project/Client:
Hill House Cottages, Hare Hatch, Reading

Based On: PROPOSED PLOT PLAN 1-HHC-104
Title: Tree Protection Plan
Drawing No: AA TPP 05
Date: 16.10.24 | Drawn: PPDB | Checked: PPDB
Note: The original of this drawing was produced in colour - a monochrome copy should not be relied upon. Do not scale from this drawing.

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