



Protection and Retention of Existing Vegetation - Arboriculture Method Statement

The Contractor is to exercise extreme care when undertaking operations below the canopy of existing trees / vegetation and within the specified Root Protection Areas designated for protection and at all times avoid damage to the roots, trunk and existing tree architecture.

Any excavations, cultivation and grading below the canopy of existing trees and within the specified Root Protection Areas of the existing trees / vegetation is to be carried out using hand tools only, taking great care not to damage or disturb any existing tree roots.

Tree roots measuring <25mm may be severed using specialist hand tools only and to the absolute minimum extent required - wherever possible tree roots must be left intact. Exposed roots should be immediately wrapped in dry hessian sacking or coconut matting in order to prevent drying and as a temporary measure can be surrounded with a loose granular fill prior to backfilling with the excavated topsoil.

All trees to be retained on site are to be protected with fencing erected around the area of vegetation in accordance with the guidelines as laid out in BS 5837: 2012; 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction - Recommendations' and as specified. The fencing is to be installed and maintained during the entire construction program by the contractor who will be responsible for ensuring the area below the canopy of existing trees and within the specified Root Protection Areas is protected at all times.

The installed protective fencing is to be 2.0 metres height 'Heras' Welded Wire Mesh Fencing (or similar and approved) secured to a scaffolding framework, set into the existing ground and positioned to the outside edge of the existing tree Root Protection Areas as specified. All tree protection to be in accordance with BS 5837:2012 - 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition, and Construction recommendations'. The fencing is to be fixed securely and where possible attached to fences, walls, knee rails etc to ensure a robust temporary fence line and a completely protected area.

Day-glo ribbons or similar are to be attached to the top of the fencing to ensure it is clearly visible and these will be maintained for the entirety of the construction program by the main contractor. Fencing will enclose the full tree root protection areas as specified and generally 1.5m to either side of any hedge.

All tree protection fencing is to be maintained for the full contract period. All excavations, earthworks and cultivation within the specified tree root protection areas and below the canopy spread of any existing tree; shrub or hedge will be undertaken with hand tools only. Repositioning of the protective fencing during the course of the construction works as the contract works progress will be with the approval of the Arboriculture Consultant.

following the completion of the construction works, the Contractor will remove all temporary protective fencing from the site. All retained vegetation is to be healthy and thriving at the handover date.

Within the specified tree root protection area the following activities must not take place;

- No vehicles are to be used in the fenced off areas;
- No materials are to be stockpiled or stored;
- No chemicals are to be stored;
- No excavation / increase in soil levels will occur;
- No fires shall be lit on site.

Lifting of Existing Hard Surfaced Areas

Existing hard surfacing within tree root protection areas are to be left in place during the construction phase.

The removal of all existing hard surface layer within designated tree root protection areas should be undertaken taking care to ensure the existing tree roots remain undamaged. Any operations should be undertaken manually and with hand tools (suitable machinery may be used in consultation with the arboriculture consultant) and should be accomplished by working backwards to ensure the resulting, exposed ground is not compacted.

Demolition of Structures

Trees close to structures which are scheduled to be demolished within RPAs should be selectively pruned (Tying back branches to achieve a clear working space should also be considered as an alternative) in order to prevent accidental damage. Movement of machinery is to be restricted to areas outside of designated RPAs, areas with ground protection or from within the existing building footprint / existing hard surfaced areas. Where trees are in close proximity to structures they should be demolished using a 'top down pull back' method. Any below ground structures within existing Tree RPAs (eg foundations) are to be left in situ to prevent accidental damage to tree roots.

Tree Surgery

Any significant defects found in the trees during the course of the scheduled work to be reported to the Landscape Architect. All work is to be undertaken by an approved and qualified tree surgeon in accordance with BS 3998: 2010 - Tree Surgery. Great care is to be taken to avoid damage to neighbouring trees which are to be retained. Branches in confined spaces are to be removed in sections. All arisings are to be transported and disposed of away from site.

Tree and Vegetation Management

For Tree and Vegetation Retention and Removal Proposals refer to the attached Existing Tree Schedule and Schedule of Tree Works. For any tree and vegetation management proposals refer to the Tree Surgery contained within the Existing Tree Schedule.

Manual Dig

All excavation operations within designated RPAs are to be undertaken manually with hand tools (or air spade) in order to protect existing tree roots and to be in accordance with BS 5837: 2012 - 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'. No machinery is to be used within designated TRPAs.

Phasing

The proposed construction phasing is to be as follows:

- Temporary tree protection fencing is to be erected as shown and to remain in place for the duration of all construction site activities;
- Temporary fencing to be removed.

KEY

Existing Loose Stone Surfacing

Proposed Grasscrete Surfacing
Proposed grasscrete surfacing to car park extension. Refer to KM Architecture for full details.

Existing Hedgerows to be Retained
Existing hedgerows to be retained and protected within the proposed development scheme.

Tree Protection Fencing
Temporary Tree Protection Fencing as specified within BS5837: 'Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction'. Recommendations: Fencing to be 2.0m high welded mesh Herras fencing located as specified.

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	INITIALS

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Project Title:
Philpots Manor School, West Hoathly, RH19 4PR

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Tree Protection Drawing

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AR

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