

Arboricultural Survey to BS5837:2012

Ms Andrea Starns

**Oaklands Stud
Forest Grange
Horsham
West Sussex
RH13 6HX**

12 September 2025

Chris Poplett Dip Arb L4 MArborA

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This report has been released electronically and the appendices have been included at the end of this report. Plans are included as A0, A1, A2 or A3 as appropriate.

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1. Introduction

Arbtech Consulting Limited (Arbtech) received written instruction on 24 July 2025 from Ms Andrea Starns to attend, Oaklands Stud, Forest Grange, Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 6HX; grid reference TQ 21279 31809 (site) to undertake an arboricultural survey to BS5837:2012 guidance to assess trees, hedges and major shrub groups growing on and within influencing distance of the site and to produce a Schedule of Trees and a Tree Constraints Plan.

I am Chris Poplett, an arboricultural consultant at Arbtech Consulting Ltd. I undertook the tree survey on 10 September 2025 and subsequently have produced this summary of my findings.

Chris Poplett has accumulated experience within the arboricultural industry since 1996. Qualified to Level 4 Diploma and has Lantra professional tree inspector certification. Chris Poplett has been awarded professional membership of the Arboricultural association and is a certified soil food web laboratory technician.

The advice below and appended is underwritten by our Professional Indemnity insurance for the business practice of Arboricultural Consultancy in the sum of one million Pounds Sterling in each and every claim.

Table 1: Documents referred to.

Document	Reference No.
Survey base drawing	2405TA_R0_000
LPA pre-app comments	N/A
British Standard 5837:2012	“BS5837”
Tree Survey Schedule	Arbtech TS 01
Tree Constraints Plan	Arbtech TCP 01

2. Survey

During the survey the trees were categorised using “Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment” of the BS5837:2012 (see Appendix 1).

A total of eleven (11) individual trees and six (06) groups of trees were surveyed. Details for each of the trees surveyed are provided in the Schedule of Trees (see Appendix 2).

Table 2: Documents upon which this tree survey has been based.

Document	Originator	Reference Number	Title
Survey Base Drawing	Manor Wood Construction Ltd	2405TA_R0_000	Location and Block

Limitations: The survey was made at ground level using visual observation only. Detailed examinations, such as climbing inspections and advanced decay detection equipment were not employed, though may form part of the survey's management recommendations. Measurements were taken using specialist tapes, laser, and GPS devices. Where this was not possible, measurements are estimated.

Scope: Pre-development tree surveys make arboricultural management recommendations based exclusively upon the individual tree or group of trees condition relative to their present context (*i.e. not in relation to the proposed development*).

Legal Status: No statutory protection check has been performed. BS5837 does not draw any distinction between trees subject to statutory protection, such as a Tree Preservation Order ("TPO"), and those trees without. This is principally because a detailed planning consent overrides any TPO protection. Consequently, we do not seek to offer any comparison between or infer any difference in the quality or importance of TPO trees and other trees.

* For more information on the surveyed trees please see Arbtech Consulting Ltd, Tree Survey Schedule (Appendix 1), Tree Survey Report and Tree Constraints Plan.

Site description

The application site relates to an existing private equestrian facility located to the north of Forest Grange, outside any designated built-up area boundary. The site is also located within the High Weald National Landscape (formerly AONB). An area of ancient woodland (St. Leonards Forest) is located immediately to the north of the application site. The proposed site is opposite to the property known as Forest Grange Manor which includes a Grade II listed country house (Forest Grange) built in 1913. The site comprises a stable building with lean-to pole barn located immediately to the south of the stable building. The wider site consists of a number of divided paddocks, along with a sand school and hay barn. The site is accessed to the south-east, with the site bound by mature trees and woodland to the north and south, and divided paddocks to the east and west. The stable building is of a traditional design with a low-pitched roof and additional space for storage. The soft landscaping to the southern boundary of the site is classified as Priority Habitat. It is also noted that a tree located outside the application site boundary has recently been granted a tree preservation order (TPO).

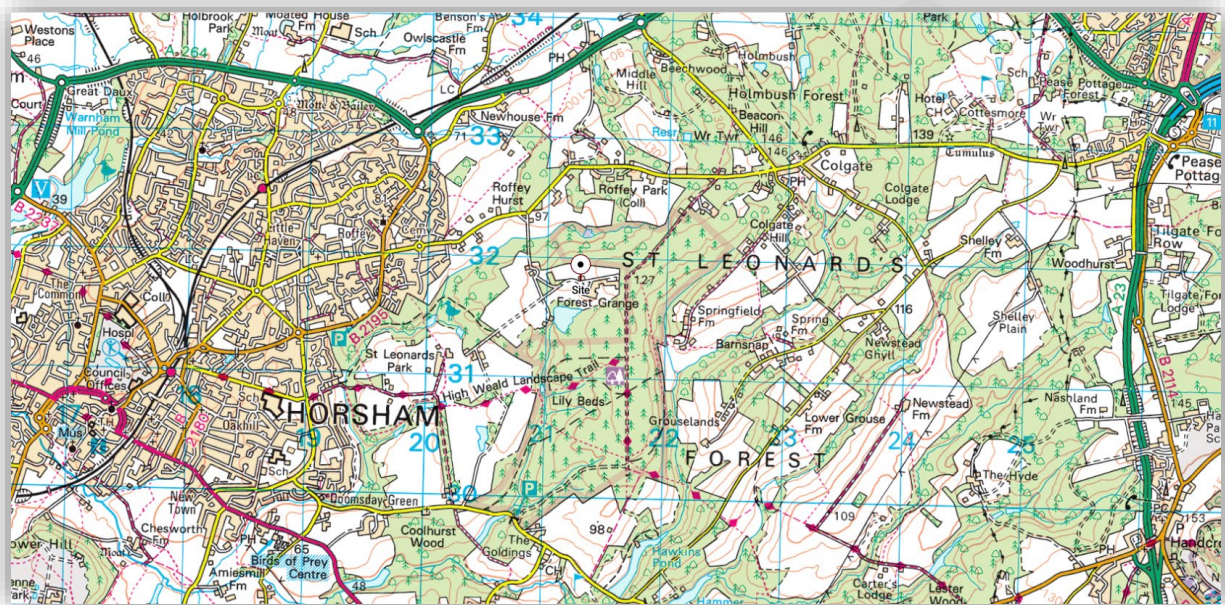


Figure 1: OS Map showing the site location (Bing Maps)

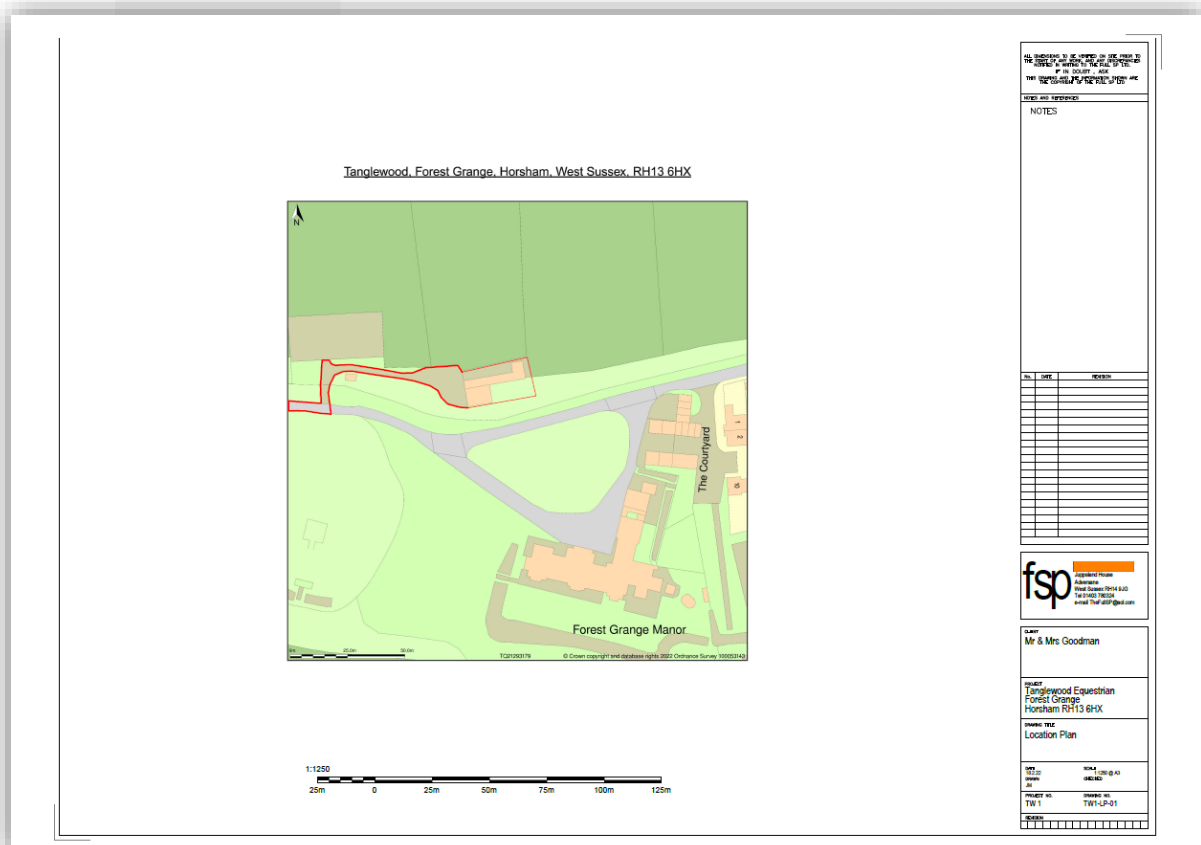


Figure 2: Location Plan with approximate red line boundary. DWG NO. TW1-LP-01 (FSP)

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3. BS5837:2012 Scope

This standard recognises that there can be problems for development close to existing trees which are to be retained, and of planting trees close to existing structures. This standard sets out to assist those concerned with trees, in relation to construction, to form balanced judgements. It does not set out to put arguments for or against development, or for the removal or retention of trees. Where development, including demolition, is to occur, the standard provides guidance on how to decide which trees are appropriate for retention, on the means of protecting these trees during development, including demolition and construction work, and on the means of incorporating trees into the developed landscape.

4. Methodology

The methodology used to assess the trees was the British Standard 5837:2012 ‘Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction’ tree survey method. The aim of the survey is to establish which trees are moderate and good quality; suitable for retention and justifying protection. And which trees are low or poor quality; either undesirable or unsuitable to retain and protect.

The tree survey includes all trees included in the land survey red line boundary plan, as well as any that may have been missed, and it should categorize trees or groups of trees, including woodlands for their quality and value within the existing context, in a transparent, understandable, and systematic way. Where the arboriculturist has deemed it appropriate, the trees have been tagged with small metal or plastic tags, placed as high as is convenient on the stem of each tree.

Whilst master plan proposals for the development of the site might be available, the trees have been surveyed without taking these into consideration. All detailed design work on site layout should take into consideration the results of the tree survey and the Tree Constraints Plan (TCP).

Trees forming groups and areas of woodland (including orchards, wood pasture and historic parkland) are identified and considered as groups where the arboriculturist has determined that this is appropriate, particularly where they contain a variety of species and age classes that could aid long-term management. It is often expedient to assess the quality and value of such groups of trees as a whole, rather than as individuals. However, an assessment of individuals within any group has been undertaken if they are open-grown or if there is a need to differentiate between them.

The quality and value of each tree or group of trees has been recorded by allocating it to one of the four categories: **A**, **B**, **C**, or **U** (highest to lowest quality respectively). The categories are differentiated on the tree survey plan by colour, or by suffixing the category adjacent to the tree identification number on the TCP.

The survey schedule lists all the trees or groups of trees. The following information is also provided:

- a) reference number (to be recorded on the tree survey plan);
- b) species (common or scientific names);
- c) height in meters (m);
- d) stem diameter in millimetres (mm) at 1.5m above adjacent ground level or immediately above the root flare for multi-stemmed trees;
- e) branch spread in meters taken at the four cardinal compass points;
- f) height of crown clearance above adjacent ground level in meters (m);
- g) age class (newly planted, young, semi-mature, early mature, mature, over mature);
- h) physiological condition (e.g. good, fair, poor, decline and dead);
- i) structural condition (e.g. good, fair, poor or not visible);
- j) comment about the tree, its location and preliminary management recommendations, including further investigation of suspected defects that require more detailed assessment and potential for wildlife habitat;
- k) The retention category referring to the quality and useful contribution in years; **U** = <10yrs; **A** = >40yrs; **B** = >20yrs; **C** = >10yrs. The retention subcategory referring to the type of amenity; 1 = Arboricultural; 2 = Landscape; 3 = Cultural including conservation (see Appendix 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment).

5. Definitions

Arboriculturist

An arboriculturist (or arboricultural consultant) is a person who has, through relevant education, training, and experience, gained recognized qualifications and expertise in the field of trees in relation to construction.

Tree Survey

A tree survey should be undertaken by an arboriculturist and should record information about the trees on a site independently of and prior to any specific design for development. As a subsequent task, and with reference to a design or potential design, the results of the survey should be included in the preparation of a tree constraints plan, which should be used to assist with site layout design.

Tree Constraints Plan

A TCP is a plan, typically delivered as an AutoCAD drawing (.DWG file format), prepared by an arboriculturist for the purposes of layout design showing the root protection area and representing the effect that the mature height and spread of retained trees will have on layouts through shade, dominance, etc.

Root Protection Area

An RPA is a layout design tool indicating the area surrounding a tree that contains sufficient rooting volume to ensure the survival of the tree, shown in plan form in m².

Construction Exclusion Zone (also termed Tree Protection Zone)

A construction exclusion or tree protection zone is an area based on the RPA (in m²), identified by an arboriculturist, to be protected during development, including demolition and construction work, by the use of barriers and/or ground protection fit for purpose to ensure the successful long-term retention of a tree.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)

This is a study, undertaken by an arboriculturist, to identify, evaluate and possibly mitigate the extent of direct and indirect impacts on existing trees that may arise as a result of the implementation of any site layout proposal.

Tree Protection Plan (TPP)

A TPP is a plan, typically delivered as an AutoCAD drawing (.DWG file format), prepared by an arboriculturist showing the finalized layout proposals, tree retention and tree and landscape protection measures detailed within the arboricultural method statement, which can be shown graphically.

Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS)

This is a methodology for the implementation of any aspect of development that has the potential to result in loss of or damage to a tree. The AMS is likely to include details of an on-site tree protection monitoring regime.

6. Recommendations

With the benefit of making an assessment of your planning proposals, I make the following recommendation to ensure that there are no irrevocable issues to the proposed retained trees and so that no conditions relating to arboriculture are attached to any planning consent secured; obtain an arboricultural report to include:

- a) An arboricultural impact assessment (AIA).
- b) An arboricultural method statement (AMS).
- c) A tree protection plan drawing (TPP).

7. Limitations

Trees were inspected from using visual observation from ground level only. Trees were not climbed or inspected below ground level. Inaccessible trees will have best estimates made about the location, physical dimensions, and characteristics. Trees have been grouped where BS5837 guides us that it is expedient to do so. Trees have been excluded from the survey if they are found by us to be sufficiently far away from the proposed developable area or if they are outside of the red line boundary plan showing the expectations of our client for the extent of the survey. BS5837 does not draw any distinction between trees subject to statutory protection, such as a Tree Preservation Order (“TPO”), and those trees without. This is principally because a detailed planning consent overrides any TPO protection. Consequently, we do not seek to offer any comparison between or infer any difference in the quality or importance of TPO trees and other trees.

This report does not constitute a tree safety survey, nor does it fulfil the stewards/landowners Duty of Care in relation to tree risk.

8. Appendices

The following documents were released to the Client as appendices to this report:

- Survey Schedule (.PDF)
- Tree Constraints Plan drawing (.DWG & .PDF)

If you require clarification of information contained herein, please do not hesitate to contact us via 01244 661170.

Yours Sincerely,



Chris Poplett Dip Arb L4 MArborA
Arboricultural Consultant

07706 350348

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Appendix 1: Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

BS5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations

Table 1 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories when appropriate)			Identification on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention (see Note)				
Category U Those 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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Trees that have serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (e.g. where, for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning).•Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline.•Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality. <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which might be desirable to preserve; see 4.5.7.</i>			Dark red
<div><div>1 Mainly arboricultural qualities</div><div>2 Mainly landscape qualities</div><div>3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation</div></div>				
Trees to be considered for retention				
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.	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 dominate and/or principal trees within an avenue).	Trees, groups, or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features.	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture).	Light green
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remedial defects, including unsympathetic management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention of beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category 'A' designation.	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.	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value.	Mid blue
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm.	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories.	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 value.	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value.	Grey

Appendix 2: Schedule of Trees

BS5837:2012 Tree Survey

Arbtech consulting ltd

Client: Ms Andrea Starns
 Project: Oaklands Stud, Forest Grange, Horsham, RH13 6HX
 Survey Date: 10/09/2025
 Surveyor: Chris Poppett



Unit 3 Well House Barns
 Chester Road
 Chester
 Cheshire
 CH4 0DH
 Phone: 01244661170

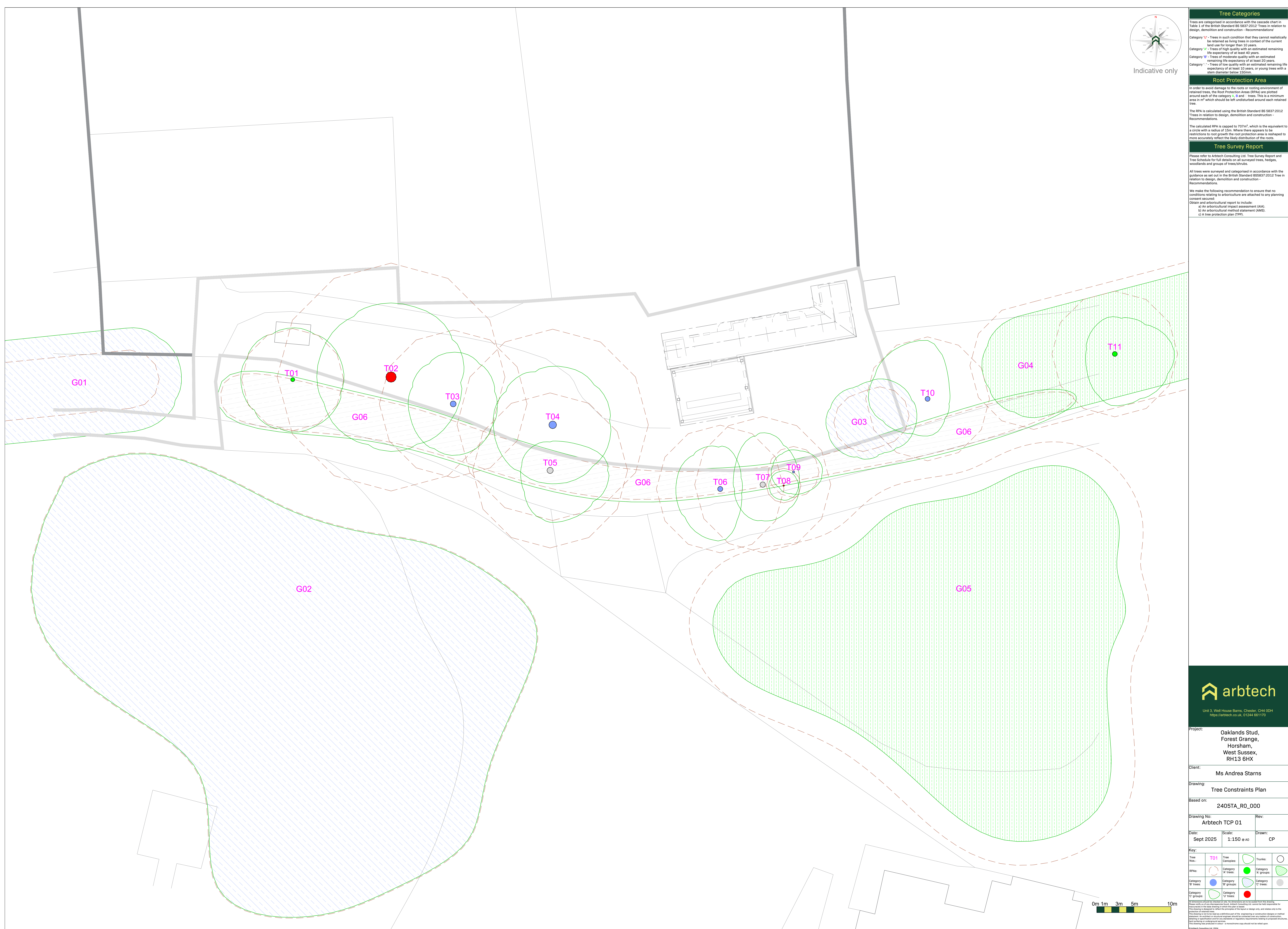
Tree and Tag No Species		Hght (m)	Stems		Crown		Age	RP A (m²) R (m)	Phys Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Recommendations			Cat ERC			
			No	Ø (mm)	Spread (m)	Clear (m)					Survey Comment						
G01											Estimated Measurements						
Silver Birch		15	1	320	N	7	5	M	A: 46.3	Good	C: Good	Group comprising of approximately four individual trees. Understory rhododendron group concealing observations of the stems and bases. Historically pruned to raise the canopy height to its current dimensions. Dimensions recorded are the largest represented within the group.			B.1.2		
Betula pendula					E	7	5		R: 3.83		S: Not visible						
					S	7	5				B: Not visible						
					W	7	5										
G02												Estimated Measurements					
Various		15	1	260	N	3	3	M	A: 30.6	Good	C: Good	Mixed species off site group comprising of silver birch, cherry laurel, rhododendron, common holly and oak. Observations of the group have been made from the northern boundary only. Historically pruned to raise the canopy height on the northern aspect to it's current dimensions. Dimensions recorded are the largest represented within the group. Vegetation obscuring observations of the stems and bases.			B.2		
see comments for details					E	3	3		R: 3.12		S: Not visible						
					S	3	3				B: Not visible						
					W	3	3										
G03												Estimated Measurements					
Common Holly		10	1	320	N	5	0	M	A: 46.3	Good	C: Good	No significant features have been observed.			B.2		
Ilex aquifolium					E	5	0		R: 3.83		S: Good						
					S	5	0				B: Good						
					W	5	0										
Age Classifications:		N	Newly planted	EM	Early Mature			Condition:		C	Crown	Stems:	Ø	Diameter			
		Y	Young	M	Mature					S	Stem		(Eq)	Equivalent stem diameter using BS5837:2012 definition			
		SM	Semi-mature	OM	Over Mature					B	Basal area	ERC:	Estimated Remaining Contributio				

Tree and Tag No Species		Hght (m)	Stems		Crown		Age	RP A (m²) R (m)	Phys Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Recommendations			Cat ERC	
			No	Ø (mm)	Spread (m)	Clear (m)					Survey Comment				
G04												Estimated Measurements			
Various <i>see comments for details</i>		18	1	700	N	7	2	M	A: 221.7 R: 8.4	Good	C: Good S: Not visible B: Not visible	Mixed species group comprising of common oak, holly Scotts pine and common beech. Group has been observed from the northern boundary only. Vegetation obscuring observations of the stems and bases. No significant features have been observed. Dimensions recorded are the largest represented within the group.			A.2 40+ yrs
G05												Estimated Measurements			
Various <i>see comments for details</i>		18	1	850	N	7	2	M	A: 326.9 R: 10.2	Good	C: Good S: Not visible B: Not visible	Mixed species group comprising of common oak, Scotts pine and common beech. Group has been observed from the northern boundary only. Vegetation obscuring observations of the stems and bases. No significant features have been observed. Dimensions recorded are the largest represented within the group.			A.2 40+ yrs
G06												Estimated Measurements			
Various <i>see comments for details</i>		7	1	220	N	3	0	M	A: 21.9 R: 2.64	Good	C: Good S: Not visible B: Not visible	Understory group comprising of rhododendron, cherry laurel, silver birch, sycamore, common holly and beech. Vegetation obscuring observations of the stems and bases. Dimensions recorded are the largest represented within the group. No significant features have been observed.			C.2 20+ yrs
T01															
Small-Leafed Lime <i>Tilia cordata</i>		15	1	560	N	7	2	M	A: 141.9 R: 6.72	Good	C: Good S: Good B: Good	No significant features have been observed.			A.1 40+ yrs
T02												Estimated Measurements			
Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>		20	1	1410	N	10	3	M	A: 707 R: 15	Decline	C: Fair S: Good B: Good	Approximately 40% canopy defoliation concentrated predominantly on the western aspect. Dead wood in the crown up to 200mm diameter X 12m length. Approximately 1m length die back to the outer crown tips.			U <10 yrs
Age Classifications:		N Y SM	Newly planted Young Semi-mature	EM M OM	Early Mature Mature Over Mature	Condition:		C S B	Crown Stem Basal area	Stems:		Ø (Eq)	Diameter Equivalent stem diameter using BS5837:2012 definition		
										ERC:		Estimated Remaining Contributio			

Tree and Tag No Species	Hght (m)	Stems		Crown		Age	RP A (m²) R (m)	Phys Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Recommendations			Cat ERC
		No	Ø (mm)	Spread (m)	Clear (m)					Survey Comment			
T03													
Copper Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> 'Purpurea'	18	1	810	N	7	3	M	A: 296.9 R: 9.72	Good	C: Good S: Good B: Good	Current dimesions of the canopy height on the western aspect due to proximity to partner tree.	B.1 40+ yrs	
T04													
Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	18	1	1050	N	8	5	M	A: 498.8 R: 12.6	Good	C: Good S: Good B: Good	Historical pruning works to raise the canopy height over the site, associated dead stubs and pruning wounds up to 100mm diameter X 2m length.	B.1 40+ yrs	
T05													
Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	12	1	850	N	4	10	M	A: 326.9 R: 10.2	Fair	C: Fair S: Good B: Good	Approximately 30% canopy die back from the top to midd crown. Associated dead wood up to 300mm diameter X 5m length.	C.1 10+ yrs	
T06													
Sweet Chestnut <i>Castanea sativa</i>	16	1	700	N	6	5	M	A: 221.7 R: 8.4	Good	C: Good S: Good B: Good	No significanr features have been observed.	B.1 40+ yrs	
T07													
Sweet Chestnut <i>Castanea sativa</i>	16	3	747 (Eq)	N	7	5	M	A: 252.7 R: 8.96	Good	C: Good S: Fair B: Fair	Phoenix tree has historically collapsed north towards the site and recovered. The tree tree has been topped to a 5m length stem horizontal to the ground. Side branches have regrown forming new canopy. 450mm diameter stem on the southern most aspect has completely died.	C.1 20+ yrs	
T08													
Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	10	1	190	N	2	3	EM	A: 16.3 R: 2.27	Dead	C: Poor S: Poor B: Poor	Dead tree.	U n/a	
Age Classifications:	N Y SM	Newly planted Young Semi-mature	EM M OM	Early Mature Mature Over Mature	Condition:		C S B	Crown Stem Basal area	Stems:	Ø (Eq)	Diameter Equivalent stem diameter using BS5837:2012 definition	ERC:	Estimated Remaining Contributio

Tree and Tag No Species	Hght (m)	Stems		Crown		Age	RP A (m²) R (m)	Phys Condition	Structural Condition	Preliminary Recommendations		Cat ERC
		No	Ø (mm)	Spread (m)	Clear (m)					Survey Comment		
T09												
Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	10	1	280	N E S W	3 4 3 3	3 3 3 3	EM A: 35.5 R: 3.36	Good	C: Good S: Not visible B: Not visible	Understory rhododendron bush at the base of the tree. Vegetation obscuring observations of the stem and base.		B.1 20+ yrs
T10												
Common Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	16	1	680	N E S W	8 3 5 8	2 4 5 12	M A: 209.2 R: 8.16	Good	C: Good S: Not visible B: Not visible	Asymmetrical crown shape due to historical presence of partner tree. Scrap wood pile against the stem obscuring observations.		B.1 40+ yrs
T11												
Common Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	18	1	690	N E S W	5 8 7 4	1 1 1 1	M A: 215.4 R: 8.28	Good	C: Good S: Good B: Good	Asymmetrical crown shape due to historical presence of partner tree.		A.1 40+ yrs

Appendix 3: Tree Constraints Plan



9. Document Production Record

Document number	Editor	Signature	Position	Issue number	Date
Arbtech TSR 01	Chris Poplett	<i>C Poplett</i>	Arboricultural Consultant	01	12/09/25

Limitations

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