

**BS 5837: 2012 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT & METHOD
STATEMENT, LAND AT SPRINGFIELD ACADEMY SCHOOL, CURZON STREET,
CALNE, SN1 10DS**

Clients: CMS ARCHITECTS, Mr. Paul Rogers RIBA Director/Senior Architect.

Issue Date: 20 MAY 2025.



Viewed facing northwest from the easterly boundary of the grassed garden of the 'House Therapy Building', with the dwelling to the left of the camera, Note, T2 and T3 grow just beyond the wooden boundary fence. T2, T3, T4 and T5 are shown as removed (*SAR*) to facilitate the new building, their losses will be mitigated by native replacements such as 'Small Leaved Lime', Yew and Silver Birch, chosen as suitable similar species to trees lost and as a 'nod' to nearby specimens. Their precise planting positions are dealt with elsewhere.

UNDERTAKEN BY

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BS 5837: 2012 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT & METHOD

STATEMENT, LAND AT SPRINGFIELD ACADEMY SCHOOL, CURZON STREET, CALNE, SN1 10DS

Clients: CMS Architects, Mr. Paul Rogers RIBA Director/Senior Architect and Wiltshire Council (WC).

Issue Date: 20 May 2025.

Instructions/Limitations

- 1.1 The clients have requested that I provide arboricultural advice, an Arboricultural Method Statement (*AMS*), **Appendix 2** (AE/29695), tree constraints plan (*TCP*), tree protection plan (*TPP*), **Appendix 1**, and a Standalone Arboricultural Impact Assessment (*AIA*) (AE/29695) regarding trees on a proposed development site.
- 1.2 The proposal is for the construction of temporary modular buildings within the rear green space of the 'House Therapy Building. It requires tree removals and surgery sufficient to raise canopies needed to facilitate construction vehicles. There will be piling work within, or close to, tree root protection areas (*RPAs*). Trees T1-T5 occupy the northerly part of the site, for completeness I have included hedge H6 and T7-T12.
- 1.3 We agreed the work will be carried out in accordance with ¹BS5832: 2012 (*BS*), the work must be in line with the *AMS* (**Appendix 2**) and agreed between the Clients.
- 1.4 To prevent harm to tree trunks and *RPAs*, they will be protected by barriers. It is a modest-scale operation, trunk protection will be robust and guided by BS: 5837 Fig 2, and Fig 3. Temporary ground protection mats will be installed to protect any exposed *RPAs*.
- 1.5 To avoid trenching, all services must be connected to those within the existing building. If needed for new foundations within *RPAs*, the insertion of sleeved piles supporting ground beams set at *existing ground* levels, is

BS compliant. In addition, below ground probing would determine the presence or absence of any roots. I consider it very unlikely roots would be damaged, however, if they are encountered, further assessments and recommendations will be made at that time. Foundations would be an engineer-led, no-dig solution' with an arboricultural watching brief.

Legal Duties

- 1.6 I have made recommendations regarding mitigation tree planting that should reflect the character of the locality. The proposals accord with the Wiltshire Core Strategy Plan 2015.
- 1.7 The trees are not protected by Section 2.11 Conservation Area status, as far as I am aware there are no Tree Preservation Orders on this site or LPA conditions that would prevent the proposed tree work. These facts must be agreed with WC. Any tree works should comply with BS 3998: 2010.
- 1.8 The Environment Act 2021 amends The Town and Country Planning Act, it seeks to strengthen the Bio-Diversity Net Gain (BNG), which includes 'the need to mitigate climate change through restoration and protection of nature, because trees capture CO2 from the atmosphere'.
- 1.9 It is an offence under the Wildlife and Countryside Act to disturb a nesting bird or roosting/breeding bat. Work to trees with the potential for roosting bats is best carried out from mid-September to late October. In addition, due account should be taken of nesting birds, which also (with few exceptions) enjoy statutory protection.

2. The site, visual amenity and Arboricultural Impact Assessment

- 2.1 The Academy is set back on the northerly side of Curzon Street, a busy route through a residential area. The development proposals are within

'The House Therapy Building' grounds and west of the dwellings lining Springfield Drive. The tree cover is mostly prominent mature Sycamore and Pine trees with tall Thuja, skirting the drive. The tops can be seen from most points of the compass.

- 2.2 The locality has a reasonable scattering of similar trees, altogether providing good amenity values. The topography is gently sloping land.
- 2.3 The building proposals show the removals of T2, T3, T4 and T5, they are maturing inner components of the local tree grouping. Their losses would be a reduction in the local visual amenity.

3. Mitigation Tree Planting

- 3.1 WC normally require mitigation planting, the project has a tree planting scheme, and the intention is to plant trees within the school grounds, which will also achieve a biodiversity net gain (*BNG*) on the site.
- 3.2 Where there is suitable space, I recommend planting x11 trees, you may consider my suggested planting species, as a 'nod' to BNG Council's Policies.
- 3.3 The species and precise planting positions should be with the agreement of the clients.
- 3.4 For sustainable, long term tree cover, suitable trees for planting here could be native Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*), 'Small Leaved Lime' (*Tilia cordata*), and Yew (*Taxus baccata*). The species are a consideration of the present arboricultural features, character of the local landscape with links to other tree species, and as good wildlife habitats.

3.4 Deciduous trees to be planted at light standard size, 1.8-2.4m heights, as bare root stock, Yew trees to be container grown. All trees to be good quality and pest and disease free; the planting must be to ³BS 8454 2014 'Trees: From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape: Recommendations.

4. Barrier Tree protection

4.1 BS Fig 2 barrier fence will be used to protect the trunks and RPAs. Any exposed RPA soil surface will always be protected by load bearing mats. Ground-Guards Tel 0113267 6000 can supply the type of barrier mats suitable here. The TPF and temporary mats are shown on the TPP and as described in the AMS below.

Trees/hedges descriptions and management recommendations, Issue Date 22 May 2025.

Site Visit Date 5 May 2025 Weather-Fine, visibility good.

Abbreviations

PHYSIOLOGICAL CONDITION (CON)
G – Good condition
F – Fair condition
P – Poor condition
MD – moribund or dead
Avg-Average
SAR- Shown as removed
 On the supplied plan

Life Stage (age)

OM - Over-mature
M - Mature
Y – Young
TD – Trunk Diameter

(M) – Measured using a Nikon Hypsometer and (or) tape/Distometer measurement

Note, all measurements are subject to the available access around each tree.

BS TREE CATEGORIES (CATS)

U – Unsuitable for retention
A – High quality and value (min 40 years contribution)
B – Moderate quality and value (min 20 years contribution)
C – Low quality and value (min 10 years contribution) Or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm

Note, categories are for identifiable trees within the groups and hedges.

SUB-CATEGORIES (SUB CAT):

1– Mainly arboricultural values, 2– Mainly landscape values, 3 -Mainly cultural values. Tree categories are made without the influence of the development proposals

ROOT PROTECTION AREA (RPA):

(Radius of a nominal circle) The RPA is 12 x the diameter of a single stemmed trunk. For multi-stems (MS) it is the resultant combined diameters taken at 1.5m above ground level.

Note – 'the RPA may change its shape...but not reduce its area...as assessed by an arboriculturist'.

Estimated remaining contribution in years (ERC)

1 <up to 10 years.	3 20+ years
2 10+ years.	4 40 years +

Note all crowns to be 'lifted' 4.5m above ground level to facilitate site traffic.
 NWR-No work required at this time, except the crown lifting

Tree Ref No	Species	Height (m)	Trunk Diameter (mm) RPA (m)	Crown radial spread (Avg) (m)	Age	Condition ERC	Structural Condition & Observations BS Category	Recommendations
T1	Norway Maple	18	500 RPA 6	8.8	M	F ERC 4	An important and prominent tree with good form. Strong buttress development, supporting a dense wide spreading crown. BS B2	Cut back crown spread to clear the roof 2m spatial distance.
T2	Picea abies	12	400 RPA 4.8	3	M	F ERC 4	Average form. SAR BS B2	NWR
T3	Picea abies)	10	300 x2 (600) RPA 7.2	5	M	F ERC 4	DI growing beyond the wooden boundary fence. SAR BS B2	NWR
T4	Acer negundo	5	250 RPA 3	4	M	F ERC 4	Average form. SAR BS B2	NWR
T5	Silver birch	15	400 RPA 4.8	4.5	Y	F ERC 4	Good form SAR BS B2	NWR
H6	Mixed Thorn, Dogwood and Holly	3	250 RPA 3	3	M	ERC 4	Good quality, clipped, excellent part screen and wildlife habitat.	Clip annually at desired height
T7	Scots Pine	10	500 RPA 6	4	M	P ERC 1	Previously topped at 9.5m, deteriorating specimen. BS C1	NWR
G8	X2 Pine	13	450 450 (500) RPA 6	6	M	F ERC 4	One sided crowns weighted southwest. BS B2	NWR
T9	Sycamore	15	800 RPA 9.60	8	M	F ERC 4	DI, heavy southerly lean, recent branch pruning, many occluding wounds. BS B2	NWR
T10	Sycamore	16	650 RPA 7.8	8	M	F ERC 4	Well formed buttress splays, trunk has a slight lean before self-correcting at two thirds height. Very good form. BS B2	NWR
T11	Sycamore	19	250 RPA 3	3	Y	F ERC 4	Small self-seeded end of the row specimen. BS B2	NWR
T12	Sycamore	16	MS 700 RPA 8.4	8	M	F ERC 4	DI Large inner component of the group, dense ivy cover prevents an inspection. Note, T11 & T12 form the internal components of a purpose planted screen of mixed evergreen and deciduous specimens. BS B2	NWR

5. Analysis and Conclusions

- 5.1 The proposed development and tree protection have been properly assessed by the Clients and appointed Arborist. The AMS tree protection methodology must be strictly adhered to, there will be an initial toolbox meeting with the site agent and appointed arborist to agree the positions of tree protection barriers and timing of the periodic tree safety meetings.
- 5.2 Mitigation planting has been reviewed to assist BNG, the landscape design and planners, and could be subject to agreement with the Clients.
- 5.3 I consider the proposals accord with The Wiltshire Core Strategy Plans that seeks to protect, conserve and enhance trees and wildlife.

¹BS 5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction – Recommendations'.

²BS British Standard :3998 'Tree Works Recommendations 2010'

³BS 8454 2014 'Trees: From Nursery to Independence in the Landscape: Recommendations'

Issue Date 20 May 2025

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APPENDIX 11

Standalone (AMS)

BS 5837: 2012 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT, LAND AT

SPRINGFIELD ACADEMY SCHOOL, CURZON STREET, CALNE, SN11 0DS

Clients: CMS Architects, Mr. Paul Rogers RIBA Director/Senior
Architect and Wiltshire Council.

Issue date: 20 May 2025

1. This brief AMS adopts a precautionary approach to tree protection and addresses all activities which have the potential to cause damage to the protected trees. The proposed work requires:
 - A 'toolbox meeting' with the site agent prior to any work being carried out on site, followed by fitting the tree barriers and a second visit to ensure they are sound. In addition, the timing of periodic arboricultural monitoring and when construction is under way or monitored by pictures that can be emailed directly to the appointed arborist.
 - The protection is precautionary; it is to prevent accidental damage; barriers should be based on the ¹BS Fig 2 (see below) or similar robust materials as agreed with the arborist.
 - If working within the RPAs, operative's will use ground mats. **Ground-Guards Tel 0113267 6000** can supply the type of mats suitable for this site. They are mobile and can protect the soil surface from compaction, especially during very wet weather conditions. The load bearing weight is to be engineer led.
 - My contact details are Telephone: 01225 851200
 - Email: alan@engleytrees.co.uk
 - www.engleytrees.co.uk
2. The 'toolbox' meeting will be carried out with the site agent and appointed arborist, needed to establish tree protection methods, timing of site monitoring visits and tree stump removals, by using a power stump cutter, to avoid damage to retained trees.
3. The site agent is responsible for providing the programme of work, the movement of people and site supervision.
4. All roots over 2.5cm diameters are to be retained unless otherwise agreed with the arborist; in the *unlikely event* that roots over 2.5cm diameters need pruning, they must be assessed by the project arborist prior to cutting and must be carried out to ²BS: 3998 standards.

5. All chemicals/mortar/cement mix, to be no closer than 10m from the RPAs. There will be no fires or storage of any other equipment within the RPAs. Storage of builders materials, welfare facilities and site cabin must be beyond the RPAs or on protected ground.
6. All construction work finished site levels and barrier materials must be agreed with the site agent and arborist. Unless otherwise agreed with the arborist, barriers will remain in situ until the final day of construction work.

¹British Standard 5837: 2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition, and construction – Recommendations'.

²BS British Standard :3998 'Tree Works Recommendations 2010'

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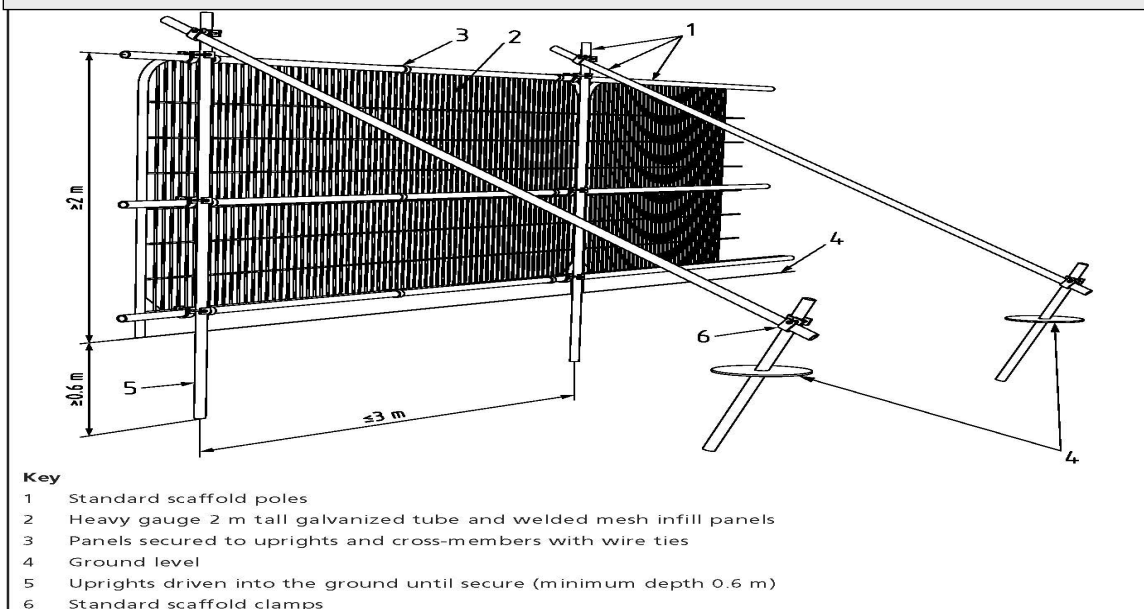
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Fig 2 Default specification for protective barrier fence



Suitable signage to be attached to barrier fences on this site.

