



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

Pound Cottage, Plough Lane, Marston

-prepared on behalf of Cherrington Planning –

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 My clients – **Mr & Mrs M Cherrington** – who own **Pound Cottage, Plough Lane, Marston** - seek to replace an existing annex building in their rear garden with another larger building.
- 1.2 There are on and off-site trees of various species which will need to be catered for in this process.
- 1.3 I have been commissioned to prepare a report to satisfy the arboricultural aspects of this project to meet planning requirements.
- 1.4 My work is to be compiled in accordance with the recommendations contained within BS5837:2012.

2.0 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

- I have been provided with a copy of the Topographical plan and the Planning Layout drawing prepared by Mr Cherringtons Architect – **Arquitecto Ltd. Ref: 1804/02A – 1:200 – July 2018.**
- These plans have been provided to me for the purposes of my work and I rely totally on their accuracy for the purposes of tree location; applying crown spreads and setting out RPA's and protective fencing.

3.0 TREE SURVEY & ROOT PROTECTION SCHEDULES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 I visited the site on **18th July 2018** and carried out a tree survey exercise in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations on just those trees which are close to the areas of proposed redevelopment (see explanatory tree survey notes [at appendix BH1](#)).

Tree No.	Species	Ht m	Diam mm	Brch Sprd m	GC m	LS	Comments	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Rem Con yrs	Cat
1	Weeping Willow <i>Salix babylonica</i>	10	480	N 4 E 6 S 7 SW8 W5	3	EM	Bifurcated at 2m-leans southwest-small diameter deadwood-crown lifted to 4m-previously reduced and reshaped-low branching habit.	No works required at this time	>40	B1
2	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	4	370	N 1 E 1 S 1 W1	2	EM	Unable to access as tree is off site-ivy smothering base and trunk-pollarded at 2.5m-approx. 1 years regrowth from trunk/poll head.	No works required at this time	10-20	C1
3	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	3	350	N 1 E 1 S 1 W 1	2	EM	Unable to access as tree is off site-ivy smothering base and trunk-pollarded at 2.5m-approx. 1 years regrowth from trunk/poll head – significant basal decay with a longitudinal cavity to full height.	No works required at this time	<10	U
4	Myrobalan Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	4	170 80 60	N 3 E 6 S 1.5 W 1	2	EM	Unable to access as tree is off site	No works required at this time	<10	U

3.2 A Tree Root Protection Schedule has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations (see Plans BJH 01 & 02 at [appendix BH2](#))

Tree No.	Tree Species	Cat	Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Radial Protect. Zone m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Root Protect. Area m ²	Is An Offset Required To Cater For Existing Rooting Pattern Restrictions
1	Weeping Willow <i>Salix babylonica</i>	B1	480	5.8	104	NO- free rooting to all directions
2	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	C1	370	4.4 Reduced to 2m in view of pollarded state	62 12	NO- free rooting to all directions
3	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	U	350	4.2	55	NO- this tree is of fell grading and does not therefore figure in the planning assessment
4	Myrobalan Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	U	170 80 60	2.4	18	NO- this tree is of fell grading and does not therefore figure in the planning assessment

4.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & TREE PROTECTION MEASURES RECOMMENDED

4.1 The finalised planning layout drawing has been provided to me and an assessment made as to the viability of retaining trees as part of this layout in order that they meet the RPA requirements of BS5837 - the data is presented here in tabular format:-

Key: **NO-RSAM** = Remove for sound arboricultural management reasons **NO-RTFD** = Remove to facilitate development **UF** = under footprint of proposed development

YES = Yes can be retained and fully protected

YES (1) = Yes can be retained subject to mitigation measures being applied

Tree No	Species	Cat	Stem Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Radial Protection Area m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Root Protect. Area m ²	Distance from Site Features (see key above)	Can Tree Be Retained
1	Weeping Willow <i>Salix babylonica</i>	B1	480	5.8	104	4m to pile cap	YES (1)
2	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	C1	370	4.4 Reduced to 2m in view of pollarded state	62 12	2.2m to pile cap	YES (1)
3	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	U	350	4.2	55	2.2m to pile cap	YES (1)
4	Myrobalan Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	U	170 80 60	2.4	18	2.2m to pile cap	YES (1)

4.2 **YES (1)**

All 4 trees fall into this category on this project where they can be retained and protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations (see **Tree Protection Plan BJH.03/04** at [appendix BH3](#)) - subject to adherence to the methodology prescribed in this report – see Section 6 for full details.

5.0 RECOMMENDED TREE WORKS

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Weeping Willow <i>Salix babylonica</i>	Reduce lateral spread by 1m to 1.5m all round to clear building line and re-balance the crown form.
2	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	No works required at this time
3	Crack Willow <i>Salix fragilis</i>	No works required at this time
4	Myrobalan Plum <i>Prunus cerasifera</i>	No works required at this time

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic

- 6.1 All of the recommended tree works should be undertaken by an approved and experienced tree contractor prior to any construction contractors commencing works on site.
- 6.2 Erect the protective fencing as specified and shown on the **Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04** at [appendix BH3](#). Barriers are to be ‘Fit For Purpose’ to exclude construction activity and must be maintained to ensure that they remain rigid and complete and in the original setting out positions. These checks will need to be incorporated into a schedule of site monitoring visits to be agreed with the clients subject to phased development operations and subsequently copies of these site visit reports will need to be copied in to the Council.
- 6.3 A copy of the Tree Protection Plan is to be pinned up in the offices/mess hut on site for all site staff to see. The area within the fenced off exclusion zone is to be regarded as **sacrosanct** and the fencing shall not be taken down or relocated at any time without the prior written approval of the monitoring arboriculturist or local authority tree officer, unless this has already been agreed as part of the planning application consent process and is detailed in writing and shown on a plan.

The following prohibitions shall apply within the area enclosed by the Tree Protection Fencing [**Construction Exclusion Zone**]:-

- **No** mechanical digging or scraping once the initial ground cover vegetation has been cleared and the site fenced off.
- **No** storage of plant, equipment or materials
- **No** vehicular or plant access
- **No** fire lighting
- **No** handling, discharge or spillage of any chemical substance, including cement washings
- **No** action likely to cause localised water-logging
- **No** change in ground levels

6.4 All site works storage areas and compounds/welfare units/toilet blocks and any mixing areas are to be located outside of and well clear of retained tree RPA's.

6.5 All Utility Service connections are to be located outside of tree RPA's and there is adequate space on this site to ensure that retained trees are not placed under pressure by this process.

Site Specific

6.6 T1; T2; T3 & T4

- Lay a geotextile membrane to cover the ground within the RPA of T1 and then lay 100mm of clean woodchip on top of this and then cover this with plywood or scaffold boards butted together to cover the woodchip – this will act as ground protection for the duration of the works and protect the roots from damage.
- The levels and rough ground terrain and garden debris generally prevent the laying of ground protection across this zone but this should not be required as no machinery will need to go around the back of the new annex to effect construction.
- Introduce a Mini Piling rig to the site (via a hole cut in the frontage hedgerow) and auger the holes at strategic locations and then reinforce as required and fill with concrete.
- Form the pile caps with no more than 100mm sunk into the ground.
- The above ground formed reinforced ground beam will then be created to sit atop the pile caps and a suspended floor inserted.
- The alternative to this methodology would be to follow the Abbey-Pynford system of piling (see attached details at appendix BH3).

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION

BS5837 recommends that wherever trees on or adjacent to a site have been identified on the Tree Protection Plan as requiring special protection measures, there should be an auditable system of arboricultural site monitoring. This should extend to direct arboricultural monitoring whenever demolition/construction and development activity is to take place within or adjacent to any RPA.

- 7.1 A Pre-commencement site meeting is to take place between the development teams arboricultural consultant and the site manager and client representative where the protective fencing will be inspected to verify that it is 'Fit For Purpose' and has been erected as shown on the **Tree Protection Plan**.
- 7.2 There will be a further requirement for a site visit by the Arb Expert to monitor the piling works.
- 7.3 Lines of communication will be established with the Site Manager in the event that an incident occurs involving the retained trees that requires urgent advice and guidance from the project Arboricultural Expert.
- 7.4 The details of the PCSM works will be photographed by the Arb Expert and the following reporting procedure will be adopted. This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared. :-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – Pound Cottage, Marston, Devizes

- In accordance with the Arboricultural Method Statement Report - 1018.bjh.Oct 18 & Tree Protection Plan - BJH 03/04

Date of Inspection	Item	In Attendance	Notes/Observations From Inspection	Details Of Any Follow Up Action Required
tba	Pre-Commencement Meeting	• Bernie Harverson - Project Arb Consultant • Project Site Construction Manager	• A joint site inspection was conducted and agreement reached that the protection measures are in place and that everyone understands their responsibilities in respect of protecting the trees.	•
tba	Piling Works	• Bernie Harverson - Project Arb Consultant • Project Site Construction Manager • Ground Workers	•	•

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

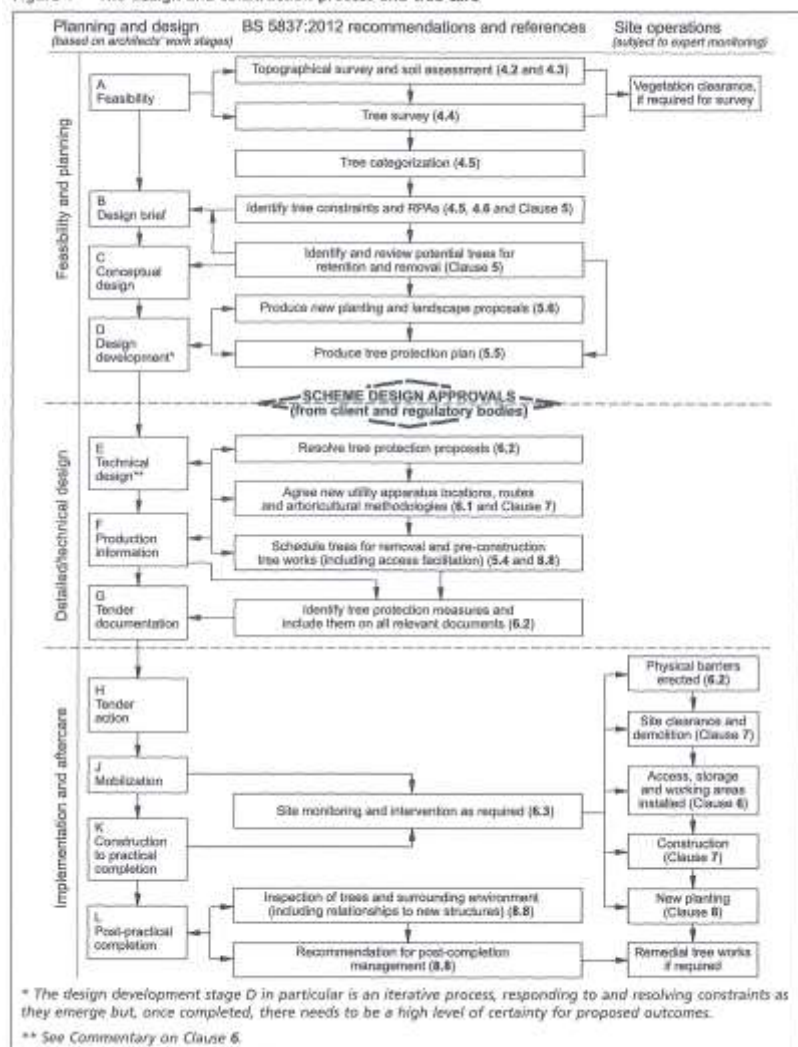
- There will be no tree loss on this site and all retained trees can be adequately protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations.
- Provided that the above methodology is strictly adhered to in the phased manner advocated I would not foresee any detrimental impact taking place that might undermine the health and stability or visual amenity value of those trees shown for retention on this site.



BH 1

Figure 1 - Flow Diagram
& Tree Survey Notes

Figure 1 The design and construction process and tree care



TREE SURVEY NOTES

These Tree Survey Notes have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of **British Standard 5837:2012** and they define the criteria for pre –development tree surveys.

- Each tree/group/hedge/shelterbelt/woodland has been allocated a unique number (**No.**), where specifically requested and appropriate fees are agreed small durable numbered metal tags can be applied to each tree/group surveyed.
- The tree species (**Species**) is provided in both English and Latin name formats.
- Height assessments (**Ht**) are estimated in metres. This will be adequate for the majority of cases, but where accurate heights become a critical issue it may be necessary to return to site, as a separately commissioned exercise, to collect accurate measurements with the aid of optical instruments.
- Trunk/stem diameters (**Diam**) are measured in millimetres at 1.5m above ground level – where the tree is inaccessible the diameter is estimated as indicated by suffix #
- Radial crown spread assessments (**Brch Sprd**) are estimated in metres from the centre of the trunk/group to each of the four primary points of the compass (**N**-north; **E**-east; **S**-south and **W**-west) in order to achieve a representation of the crown shape which will be shown on the accompanying tree survey plan. These provide a general guide as to the main bulk outline of a tree/groups crown but are not tape measured dimensions. These would only be undertaken as part of a separately commissioned exercise, where precise dimensions are critical to the project at hand.
- Both the canopy ground clearance (**GC**) and the height & compass direction of the lowest major branch (**LMB**) are estimated and shown in metres
- An assessment of a tree/groups 'life stage' (**LS**) is made in terms of its site specific maturity as part of the surrounding landscape, taking into account its overall shape and form in that setting, and is recorded thus :-
Y - Young tree/group; **SM** - Semi-Mature tree/group; **EM** - Early-Mature tree/group;
M – Mature tree/group; **OM** - Over – mature tree/group
- Data on the structural condition (**Condition Comments**) of the tree/group is provided to give its visual appearance and any significant health and safety issues.
- Details of any recommended tree works required at the time of survey is given under the heading – **Preliminary Management Recommendations**.
- An estimate of a tree/groups remaining contribution in years (**RC**) is made and is recorded thus :-
0-5; 5-10; 10-20; 20-30; 30-40 or >40 years.

- The category grading (**Cat**) for each tree/group is assessed according to the criteria provided within **BS5837:2012**. The assessment is made of the tree/group in its current condition and within the environment encountered bearing in mind its suitability for retention as part of any future proposed

development; although the exact layout detail of any specific scheme will not be known at the time of surveying. The trees have been classified into one of four categories and colour coded as BS5837 recommends :- **U** (dark red); **A** (light green); **B** (mid-blue) and **C** (grey). Please note that suffixed numerical sub-categories are also applied for guidance only and do not carry any cumulative or increased value for the tree/group. This colour coding scheme will be applied to all drawings provided.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria			Colour on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention				
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.	- Trees that have a 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 (i.e. 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 NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.			Dark Red
Trees to be considered for retention				
	Criteria – Subcategories			
	1	2	3	
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 dominant 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 the category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for 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 life 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 benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	Grey



BH 2

Tree Survey &
Root Protection Plans

BJH 01/02



BH 3

Tree Protection Plan BJH 03/04

- + BS5837:2012 – Figures 2 & 3
- + BS5837:2012 – Section 6.2.3.3 a)
 - + Mini Piling Rig example
 - + Abbey Pynford System

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier

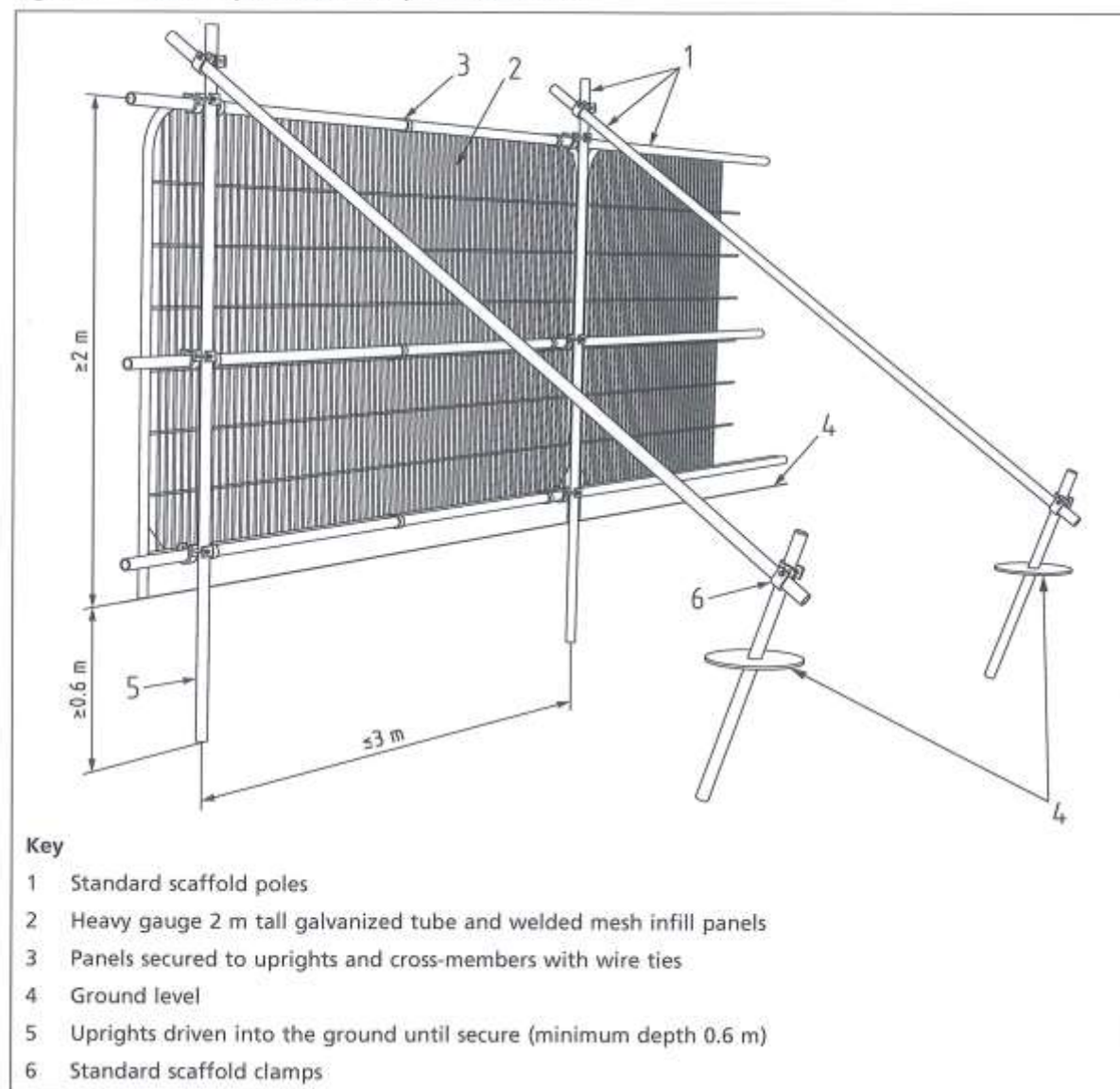
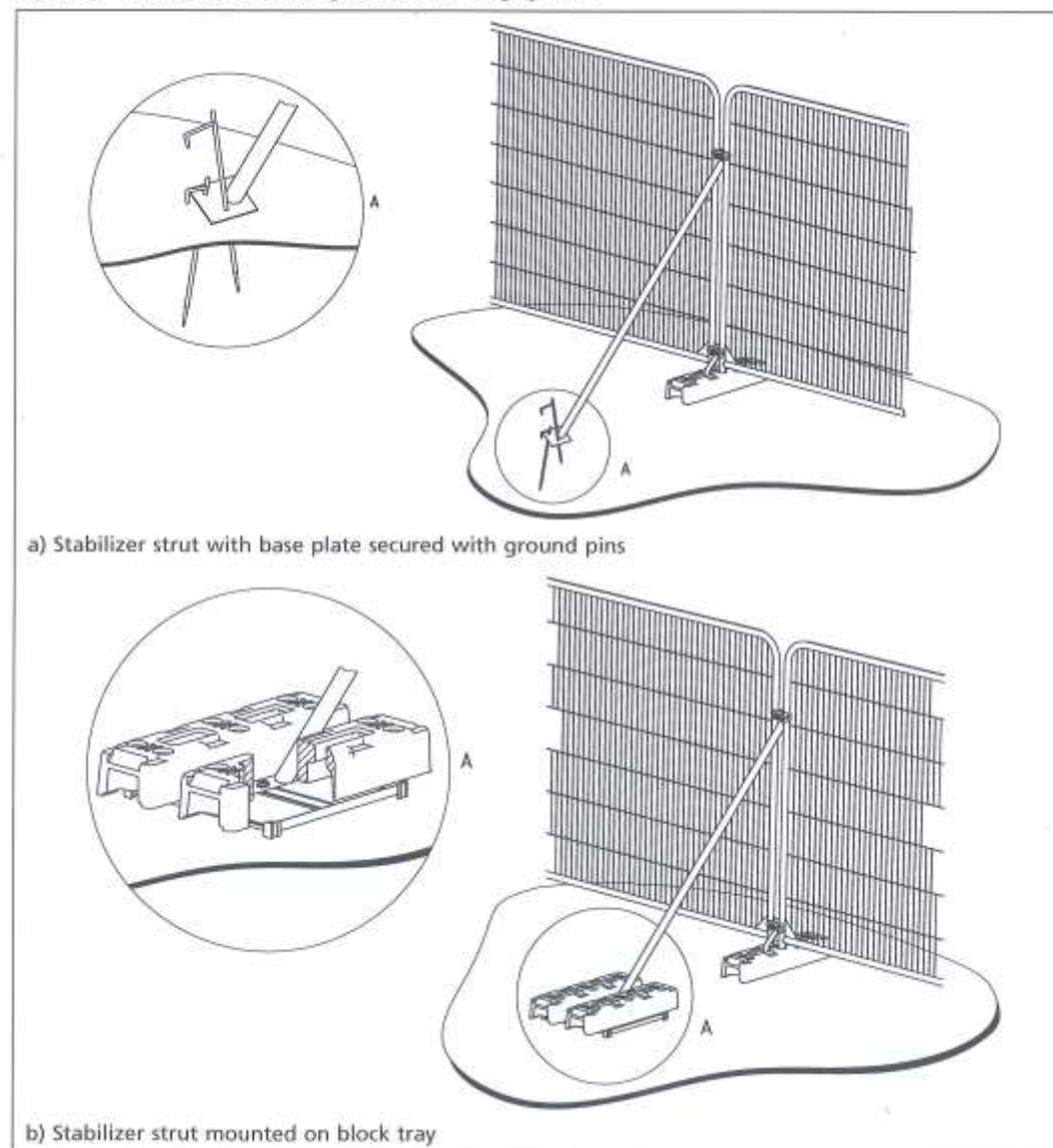


Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



BS5837:2012 – Section 6.2.3.3 - New temporary ground protection should be capable of supporting any traffic entering or using the site without being distorted or causing compaction of underlying soil.

Note The ground protection might comprise one of the following:

a) for pedestrian movements only, a single thickness of scaffold boards placed either on top of a driven scaffold frame, so as to form a suspended walkway, or on top of a compression-resistant layer (e.g. 100mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane;



BH 4

Qualifications & Experience



QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- My name is Bernie Harverson and I am a self employed independent arboricultural consultant in private practice. I take instructions primarily in the South of England but also on occasions work nationwide and abroad and have offices at : –

The Granary, White Chimney Row, Westbourne PO10 8RS

- I hold the following arboricultural qualification – **National Diploma in Arboriculture (Royal Forestry Society – 1976)**
- I have **forty eight** years of practical and managerial experience in the arboricultural industry including periods in both the public and private sectors.
- My Local Government sector experience comprises one year as a tree surgeon with Brighton Parks and nine years spent in Arboricultural Officer posts with both Westminster City Council and Portsmouth City Council.
- My past practical experience in the private sector includes two years at Tilhill Forest Nursery and over ten years for various companies as a Climbing Arborist/Tree Surgeon.
- Managerial work in the private sector includes two years as manager of Beechings Tree Surgeons and twelve years with CBA Trees as Managing Director & Senior Arboricultural Consultant.
- As an independent self employed Arboricultural Consultant I now provide a comprehensive range of services including :-
tree surveys, appraisals, assessments and inspections with particular reference to planning and development and tree safety audits with a service offered as a climber to undertake full climbing inspections to better understand the condition of a given tree before prescribing a management strategy.
- I also undertake litigation work appearing as an Expert Witness in Court Actions and at Planning Appeals, Hearings and Public Local Inquiries.

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