

Tree Report @ 49, 51 and 53 Rowden Hill, Chippenham, SN15 2AJ

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Survey carried out by James Thomas (director)

Tree survey notes

This tree survey has been undertaken within the recommendations of British standards 5837-2012 and current arboriculture best practice.

- Each tree has been numbered using tags
- Due to variations of existing ground all heights dimensions have been estimated
- Trunk and stem diameters have been measured using standard measuring tape
- Estimated branch spread is taken from the centre of the trunk

An assessment of the trees age, in terms of maturity within the sites landscape, defined as:

Y = Young tree

SM = Semi Mature tree

EM = Early Mature tree

M = Mature tree

OM = Over mature tree

The assessment of the trees physiological condition (physio condition) is defined as

Good – Fully functioning biological system, showing normal vitality

Fair – Fully functioning biological system, showing below average vitality

Poor – limited biological system, showing significantly below average vitality

Dead – Dead

The assessment of the trees structural condition is defined as

Good – No significant issues

Fair – Some structural issues that can easily be resolved

Poor – structural issues that cannot be simply resolved and will either need removal or serious work completing

Dead – Dead

Tree no.	Species	H (m)	Dia. (mm)	Branch Spread (m)	Age	Physio Condition	Structural Condition and Comments	Recommendations
530	Western Red Cedar	10	780	6	M	Good	Ivy on Stem, Leans and weighted East, Low hanging branches, dead wood in crown	No works required at time of survey
531	Leyland Cypress	13	830	7	EM	Good	Underpinned on bank, Dead wood in crown	Remove any major dead wood
35	Holm Oak	15	510	10	M	Fair	Poor, Roadside stem forks, with larger stems pushing on power lines. Large fruiting body at base of stem	Speak with power supply company, recommend removal
532	Common Lime	7	95	3	SM	Good	Good	No works required at time of survey
533	Birch	7	95	3	SM	Good	Good	No works required at time of survey
34	Turkey Oak	14	620	8	EM	Good	Ivy on Stem, epicormic growth in crown, signs of previous work	Raise crown, sever ivy and general thin
534	Common Lime	10	340	7	SM	Fair	Some dead wood, Heavily weighted south Unbalanced due to group pressures	Remove tree
Grp 1	Cherry Laurel, Common Hazel, Common Ash, Buddliea	6	70	/	SM	Fair	Very overgrown and out of control, growing approx 2m over lawn edge lots of brambles growing throughout group	Cut back to Lawn edge, carry out height reduction and remove brambles

Grp 2	Holm Oak, Common Hazel, Portuguese Laurel, Common Yew, Privet	6	95	/	SM	Fair	Crown Shapes distorted due to group pressures, understory is mature and dominant trees, lots of low hanging branches	General thin out of overall area
Grp 3	Cherry Laurel, Hawthorn, Hazel, Holm Oak, Norway maple, spotted laurel	12	180	/	SM	Fair	Crown shapes distorted due to group pressures, Understory is mature and dominant trees	General thin out of overall area
535	Common Lime	11	300	6	SM	Good	Unbalanced due to group pressures, lots of ivy on stem	Sever ivy at base
536	Silver Maple	15	480	6	EM	Fair	Dead	Remove tree
537	Silver Maple	14	400	6	EM	Fair	Ivy on stem, lots of dead wood in crown due to group pressures	Sever ivy, rebalance crown and remove any large dead wood
538	Silver Maple	15	430	8	EM	Fair	Ivy on stem, lots of dead wood in crown, unbalanced due to group pressures	Sever Ivy, rebalance crown and remove and large dead wood
H1	Viburnum	6	10	/	SM	Good	Grows along site boundary, small dead areas	Trim sides and top
539	Purple Leafed Norway Maple	11	205	4	SM	Good	Small amount of dead wood	Remove large dead wood
541	Horse Chestnut	7	120	4	SM	Fair	Strangled by wire fence, Signs of Guignardia	Remove tree
542 (no Tag)	Lawson Cypress	6	170	4	SM	Fair	Two trees growing together, no access	Gain access and reassess
543 (no Tag)	Common Elder	7	220	5	EM	Good	Offsite, no access, leans and is weighted south	Gain Access and reassess
544	Horse chestnut	12	/	9	EM	Good	Off Site, low hanging branches leaning south	Gain access and reassess

545	False Acacia	12	680	9	EM	Poor	Large wound at ground level union, lots of dead wood in crown, very poor condition	Remove tree
546	False Acacia	17	570	6	EM	Poor	Very unbalanced crown, very large tear in stem, evidence that it has lost large limbs previously, very poor condition	Remove tree
547	Hawthorn	8	340	5	M	Good	Low hanging branches, Hazel growing inside, Fair condition	Remove Hazel and raise crown
548	False Acacia	15	710	5	M	Fair	Elder growing inside, large cavity at base, ivy on stem, unbalanced crown	Remove tree
786	Norway Spruce	20	400	7	M	Good	Poor Condition, very sparse, Heavy lean, lots of dead wood	Remove dead wood and reassess in 18 months
549	Common Ash	/	/	/	/	Dead	Tree has been previously felled and is laying on the ground	Remove tree from site
550	Silver Birch	14	350	5	EM	Good	Good Condition, minor deadwood	No works required at time of survey
551	Silver Birch	14	340	5	EM	Good	Good condition, Deadwood in crown	Remove dead wood
552	Silver Birch	15	330	5	EM	Good	Good Condition	No works required at time of survey
553	Silver Birch	14	340	5	EM	Good	Good Condition, Dead wood in crown	Remove Dead wood
554	Silver Birch	15	350	5	EM	Good	Good condition, Dead wood in crown	Remove dead wood
555	Silver Birch	15	300	5	EM	Good	Good Condition	No work required at time of survey

556	Silver Birch	15	250	5	EM	Good	Good Condition small wound at ground level, small amount of dead in crown	No works required at time of survey
557	Silver Birch	15	360	5	EM	Good	Good condition	No works required at time of survey
558	Silver Birch	16	500	5	EM	Good	Good Condition	No works required at time of survey
559	Buddleia	6	135	4	SM	Fair	Low hanging branches, weighted east, west side dead	No works required at time of survey
560	Pedunculate Oak	11	310	6	SM	Good	Minor Dead wood in crown	Remove dead wood
Grp 5	Balsam Poplar	12	180	/	SM	Good	Fair Condition, tall and etiolated due to group pressures low hanging branches, minor dead wood in crown	No works required at time of survey
561	Silver birch	16	430	7	M	Good	Ivy on stem, Wound at approx. 4m, very unbalanced, Fair condition	Rebalance and hard reduction
562`	Hawthorn	7	240	4	EM	Poor	Poor Condition, lots of dead wood	Remove tree
563	Amelanchier	6	200	5	EM	Good	Basal suckers, ivy on stem Minor dead wood, low hanging branches	Sever ivy at base and remove low branches
564`	Common Yew	10	720	8	EM	Good	Multi stemmed, ivy on stem and in crown, lots of undergrowth	Sever ivy at base, remove all undergrowth
565	Buddleia	4	110	5	SM	Fair	Poor quality tree, heavy lean to SW	Remove tree

566	Austrian Pine	22	1000	12	M	Good	Ivy on stem, growing on bank, weighted east, wounds on stem, dead wood in crown, very close to building	Remove tree
Grp 6	Holm Oak, Cherry Laurel	6	/	/	SM	Good	Growing on bank, multi stemmed at ground level, low hanging branches, crown shape distorted due to group pressures, minor dead wood in crown	Remove dead wood and low branches
568	Balsam Poplar	13	670	7	M	Fair	Mechanical damage to surface roots, epicormic in crown and stem, old wounds on stem and crown	No works required at time of survey
569	Balsam poplar	15	590	4	M	Fair	Epicormics on stem and crown, major dead wood in crown, mechanical damage to surface roots old pruning wounds on stem and crown	Remove dead wood
570	Goat Willow	12	630	5	EM	Good	Lots of dead wood in crown, heavy lean into car park	Remove major limbs over car park and remove dead wood
571	Goat Willow	12	450	5	EM	Good	Leaning over building, ivy on stem, dead wood in crown	Remove dead wood and sever ivy
572	Goat Willow	12	360	5	EM	Good	Very poor condition, lots of dead wood	Remove tree
573	Goat willow	12	760	5	EM	Good	Limb snapped off onto roof of building, poor condition	Remove tree
574	Sycamore	12	310	5	EM	Good	Close to building	Remove weight from building side
575	Goat Willow	12	260	5	EM	Good	Fair condition, large crossing and rubbing stems	No work required at time of survey

576	Goat Willow	12	350	5	EM	Good	Fair condition	No work required at time of survey
577	Portuguese Laurel	12	380	5	EM	Good	Unbalanced crown due to group pressures, fair condition	Crown raise and rebalance
578	Lawson Cypress	12	150	5	EM	Good	Good Condition	No work required at time of survey
579	Western Red Cedar	12	370	5	EM	Good	Overcrowded by Hornbeams, too tall for its current location	Height reduction
580	Hornbeam	11	330	/	M	Good	Low epicormic growth wrapping to low stems, estate fencing tangled up to stem, ivy on stems Fair condition	Tidy up base of stem, sever ivy and remove low growth
581	Hornbeam	12	430	/	M	Good	Ivy on stem, widespread at low union, estate fencing through stem	Sever ivy and remove low branches
582	Hornbeam	12	360	/	M	Good	Ivy on stem, lots of dead wood, estate fencing through stem	Sever ivy at base, remove dead wood
583	Hornbeam	12	420	/	M	Good	Ivy on stem, lots of dead wood, estate fencing through stem, leaning at base	Sever ivy and remove dead wood
584	Hornbeam	12	220	/	M	Good	Ivy clad, lots of dead wood, estate fencing through stem	Sever ivy and remove dead wood
585	Hornbeam	12	520	/	M	Good	Ivy clad, lots of dead wood, estate fencing through stem	Sever ivy and remove dead wood
586	Hornbeam	12	460	/	M	Good	Ivy clad, twin stem, low hanging branches	Sever ivy and crown raise

587	Hornbeam	12	410	/	M	Poor	Ivy clad throughout stem and crown, tree in poor condition	Remove tree
588	Hornbeam	12	420	/	M	Good	Ivy clad, estate fencing through main stem, low well occluded cavity, low hanging branches	Crown raise and thin and sever ivy
570-588 (understory)	Lots of insignificant trees	/	/	/	/	/	Lots of understory between the large established trees, nothing of any concern but would benefit from reducing the amount of trees	Thinning and pruning

Root Protection Area Schedule

This is an assessment of the root protection area required, based on the individual tree data collected and section 4.6.1 of BS5837:2012

For all single stem trees with stem diameter greater than 1250mm and multi stem trees with a diameter greater than 1500mm the calculated RPA has been capped at 707m² in accordance with section 4.6.1 of BS5837:2012

Tree no.	Species	Single (s)/ Multi (m) stemmed	Dia. (mm)	Initial linear root protection distance (radius M)	Root protection area (m ²)
530	Western Red Cedar	S	780	9.4	275
531	Leyland Cypress	MS>6	830	9.7	297
532	Common lime	MS<5	95	1.1	4
533	Birch	MS<5	95	1.1	4
34	Turkey Oak	S	620	7.2	163
534	Common Lime	MS<5	340	3.8	46
Grp 1	Cherry Laurel, Common Hazel, Common Ash, Buddleia	MS<6	70	0.8	2
Grp 2	Holm Oak, Common Hazel, Portuguese Laurel, Common Yew, Privet	S	95	1.1	4
Grp 3	Cherry Laurel, Hawthorn, Hazel, Holm Oak, Norway Maple, Spotted Laurel	S	180	1.8	10
535	Common Lime	MS<5	300	3.0	28

537	Silver Maple	S	400	4.7	69
538	Silver Maple	S	430	4.9	76
H1	Viburnum	MS>6	100	1.1	4
539	Purple Leafed Norway Maple	S	205	2.2	15
541	Horse Chestnut	S	120	1.2	5
542 (no Tag)	Lawson Cypress	MS>6	170	2.0	13
543 (no Tag)	Common Elder	S	220	2.2	15
544	Horse Chestnut	MS<5	610	7.3	168
547	Hawthorn	S	340	3.7	43
786	Norway Spruce	S	400	4.7	69
550	Silver Birch	S	350	3.4	35
551	Silver Birch	S	340	4.1	52
552	Silver Birch	S	330	3.1	31
553	Silver Birch	S	340	3.6	41
554	Silver Birch	S	350	3.6	41
555	Silver Birch	S	300	3.2	33
556	Silver birch	S	250	2.8	24
557	Silver Birch	S	360	4.1	52
558	Silver Birch	S	500	5.9	109
559	Buddleia	MS>6	135	1.4	7

560	Pedunculate Oak	MS<5	310	3.6	41
Grp 5	Balsam Poplar	S	180	1.8	10
561	Silver birch	S	430	4.8	72
562`	Hawthorn	S	240	2.9	26
563	Amelanchier	MS<5	200	2.4	18
564`	Common yew	MS<5	720	8.5	228
565	Buddleia	MS>6	110	1.2	5
566	Austrian Pine	S	1000	11.8	435
Grp 6	Holm Oak, Cherry Laurel	MS>6	180	2.2	15
568	Balsam Poplar	S	670	8	203
569	Balsam Poplar	S	590	7	152
570	Goat willow	MS>6	630	7.6	180
571	Goat Willow	MS<5	450	5.4	92
572	Goat Willow	MS<5	360	4.3	59
573	Goat willow	MS>6	760	9.1	261
574	Sycamore	MS<5	310	3.6	41
575	Goat Willow	MS<5	260	3.0	28
576	Goat willow	MS<5	350	4.1	52
577	Portuguese Laurel	MS<5	380	4.3	59
578	Lawson Cypress	S	150	1.7	9

579	Western Red Cedar	MS<5	370	4.2	55
580	Hornbeam	MS<5	330	4.0	49
581	Hornbeam	MS<5	430	5.2	84
582	Hornbeam	S	360	4.3	59
583	Hornbeam	S	420	5.0	80
584	Hornbeam	MS<5	220	3.2	33
585	Hornbeam	S	520	6.2	122
586	Hornbeam	MS<5	460	6.7	142
587	Hornbeam	S	410	4.9	76
588	Hornbeam	S	420	5.0	80

Arboricultural Assessment

1. Introduction

This Arboricultural Assessment and Assent has been prepared to support a proposed residential development at 49,51 and 53 Rowden Hill, Chippenham SN15 2AJ

The purpose of this document is to assess the existing tree resource on and adjacent to the site, identify arboricultural constraints, and provide professional arboricultural assent to the proposed development in accordance with best practice and current guidance.

This report has been prepared with reference to:

- BS5837:2012 – *Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction*
- Wiltshire Council planning requirements
- Accepted arboricultural standards and guidance

2. Site Overview

The site contains approximately **60-80 trees**, located both internally and along site boundaries. The trees vary in age class, species, and condition and make a positive contribution to local amenity.

The dominant tree species present include:

- Oak (*Quercus spp.*)
- Hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*)
- Birch (*Betula spp.*)
- Mixed conifer species

Trees are present as individual specimens, groups, and boundary planting.

3. Arboricultural Survey Summary

A visual assessment of the trees has been undertaken from ground level, with trees assessed in accordance with **BS5837:2012**.

- Several trees are of **high arboricultural value** and are considered suitable for long-term retention.
- A number of other specimens are of **moderate to lower value**, with some offering limited long-term contribution due to form, condition, or species characteristics.
- Certain trees may require removal to facilitate development, access, and infrastructure works.

A detailed **Tree Schedule** accompanies this assessment identifying species, dimensions, condition, and BS5837 category classifications.

4. Tree Constraints and Root Protection Areas

Root Protection Areas (RPAs) have been calculated in accordance with **BS5837:2012**. These RPAs represent the minimum area around each retained tree that should be protected from disturbance.

Where development works are proposed close to retained trees, suitable mitigation measures will be required, which may include:

- No-dig construction techniques
- Cellular confinement systems
- Reduced dig foundations
- Arboricultural supervision during construction

5. Tree Protection Measures

All trees identified for retention shall be protected for the duration of development works.

Tree protection measures shall include:

- Installation of protective fencing in accordance with BS5837
- Ground protection where access within RPAs is unavoidable
- Clear signage and exclusion zones

6. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

The proposed development has been designed to balance development objectives with the retention of significant trees wherever possible.

The assessment concludes that:

- High-value trees can be retained and integrated into the development layout
- Tree removals are limited to those that are necessary and justified
- The overall arboricultural impact is acceptable

Where tree removal is unavoidable, appropriate **replacement planting** is recommended.

7. Arboricultural Assent

Based on the findings of this assessment, it is concluded that the proposed development:

- Is acceptable from an arboricultural perspective
- Can proceed without undue harm to retained trees
- Is compliant with BS5837:2012 and local planning policy

Subject to the implementation of the recommendations contained within this report, **arboricultural assent is granted** for the proposed development.

8. Recommendations

- Appointment of a qualified arboricultural consultant during works
- Replacement planting using appropriate native or locally suitable species
- Ongoing management and maintenance of retained and newly planted trees

Tree Protection Plan

1. Purpose of the Tree Protection Plan

This Tree Protection Plan (TPP) has been prepared to ensure the protection of retained trees during the demolition, construction, and landscaping phases of the proposed development.

The plan forms part of the Arboricultural Assessment and Assent and shall be implemented in full to safeguard retained trees in accordance with **BS5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction**.

2. Trees to be Retained

Trees identified for retention include selected specimens of **oak, hornbeam, birch, and conifer species**, as identified in the accompanying Tree Schedule and Tree Constraints Plan.

Retention trees are considered to have sufficient arboricultural value and life expectancy to justify their protection and integration into the proposed development.

3. Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

Root Protection Areas (RPAs) have been calculated in accordance with **BS5837:2012** and represent the minimum area around each retained tree that must remain free from disturbance.

Within RPAs, the following activities are **strictly prohibited** unless specifically approved by the project arboricultural consultant:

- Excavation or ground level changes
- Storage of materials or spoil
- Movement or parking of vehicles and machinery
- Mixing of cement or chemicals
- Fires or discharge of fuels or contaminants

4. Tree Protection Fencing

4.1 Specification

Protective fencing shall be installed prior to the commencement of any demolition or construction works and shall comply with **Figure 2 of BS5837:2012**.

The fencing shall comprise:

- Weldmesh panels (minimum 2.0m high)
- Mounted on a scaffold or rubber block framework

- Joined using anti-tamper couplers
- Clearly signed with “Tree Protection Area – No Entry” signage

4.2 Location

Tree protection fencing shall be positioned at the outer edge of the calculated RPA unless otherwise agreed in writing by the arboricultural consultant.

Once installed, fencing shall remain in place and intact for the duration of construction works.

5. Ground Protection Measures

Where temporary access within an RPA is unavoidable, ground protection shall be installed to prevent soil compaction and root damage.

Acceptable ground protection measures include:

- Cellular confinement systems filled with angular stone
- Temporary load-spreading boards
- A geotextile membrane overlaid with scaffold boards

All ground protection proposals shall be agreed in advance with the arboricultural consultant.

6. Construction Within or Adjacent to RPAs

Where development works encroach into RPAs, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented:

- Use of **no-dig construction techniques**
- Hand-digging of service trenches under arboricultural supervision
- Retention of existing soil profiles
- Use of permeable surfacing materials

All such works shall be supervised by a qualified arboricultural consultant.

7. Arboricultural Supervision

An arboricultural consultant shall be appointed to provide site supervision at key stages of development, including:

- Installation of tree protection fencing
- Any excavation works near RPAs
- Construction of foundations within influencing distance of retained trees
- Final removal of tree protection measures

A written record of site visits shall be maintained and made available to the Local Planning Authority upon request.

8. Site Storage and Contractor Facilities

All site compounds, welfare facilities, storage areas, and material stockpiles shall be located **outside of RPAs and tree protection zones**.

Under no circumstances shall these be placed within fenced tree protection areas.

9. Landscaping and Final Works

Tree protection fencing shall only be removed once all heavy construction works have been completed.

Final landscaping within RPAs shall be carried out using hand tools or low-impact methods, under arboricultural supervision where required.

10. Compliance and Enforcement

Failure to comply with this Tree Protection Plan may result in irreversible damage to retained trees and potential enforcement action by the Local Planning Authority.

All contractors and site personnel shall be made aware of the requirements of this Tree Protection Plan prior to commencing works on site.

Tree Protection Method Statement

1. Introduction

This Tree Protection Method Statement has been prepared to set out the procedures and working methods required to protect retained trees during all phases of the proposed development.

The method statement should be read in conjunction with the Arboricultural Assessment and Assent and the Tree Protection Plan (TPP) and is to be implemented in full to ensure compliance with **BS5837:2012 – Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction**.

2. Scope of Works

This method statement applies to all demolition, construction, service installation, access works, and landscaping operations carried out on the site.

All contractors, subcontractors, and site personnel shall comply with the requirements contained within this document.

3. Responsibilities

3.1 Developer / Principal Contractor

The developer and principal contractor are responsible for ensuring that all site operatives are informed of, and comply with, this method statement.

3.2 Arboricultural Consultant

A qualified arboricultural consultant shall be appointed to:

- Advise on tree protection measures
- Undertake site supervision at key stages

- Approve any works within or adjacent to Root Protection Areas (RPAs)

4. Pre-Commencement Procedures

Prior to the commencement of any works on site, the following shall be undertaken:

- A site induction shall be provided to all contractors outlining tree protection requirements
- Tree protection fencing shall be installed in accordance with the approved Tree Protection Plan
- Protective signage shall be erected and maintained
- The arboricultural consultant shall inspect and approve tree protection measures

No works shall commence until written or recorded approval has been given.

5. Tree Protection Fencing Installation

Tree protection fencing shall be installed prior to any demolition, site clearance, or construction activities.

The fencing shall:

- Be positioned at the edge of the approved Root Protection Areas

- Comprise 2.0m high weldmesh panels fixed to a scaffold framework
- Remain intact and unmoved for the duration of the construction phase

Any damage to fencing shall be repaired immediately.

6. Working Within Root Protection Areas

6.1 General Restrictions

Within RPAs, the following are prohibited:

- Excavation or soil disturbance

- Storage of materials or spoil
- Vehicle access or parking
- Mixing of concrete or chemicals
- Fires or discharge of pollutants

6.2 Approved Works Within RPAs

Where works within RPAs are unavoidable, they shall be undertaken as follows:

- All excavations shall be carried out by hand or using an air spade
- Exposed roots over 25mm diameter shall be retained and protected
- Any necessary root pruning shall be carried out by the arboricultural consultant
- Excavations shall be backfilled as soon as practicable using appropriate materials

7. Service Installation

Service routes shall be located outside RPAs wherever possible.

Where services must pass through RPAs: • Trenches shall be hand-dug under arboricultural supervision

- Directional drilling or thrust boring shall be used where appropriate
- Roots shall not be cut unless absolutely necessary and approved

8. Construction of Hard Surfaces and Foundations

Where construction occurs adjacent to RPAs, the following techniques shall be used:

- No-dig construction methods
- Cellular confinement systems
- Permeable surfacing materials
- Retention of existing soil levels

All construction methods shall be agreed with the arboricultural consultant prior to works commencing.

9. Ground Protection Measures

Temporary ground protection shall be installed where machinery or pedestrian access is required near RPAs.

Ground protection shall include: • Geotextile membranes

- Scaffold boards or proprietary load-spreading systems
- Cellular confinement systems where required

10. Arboricultural Supervision

The arboricultural consultant shall attend site at the following stages:

- Installation of tree protection fencing
- Excavations within or near RPAs
- Construction of foundations or hard surfaces near retained trees
- Removal of tree protection measures

Written records of visits shall be maintained.

11. Landscaping and Completion

Final landscaping works within RPAs shall: • Be undertaken using hand tools only

- Avoid changes in soil levels
- Use appropriate soil and mulch materials

Tree protection fencing shall only be removed following approval from the arboricultural consultant.

12. Emergency Procedures

If damage occurs to a retained tree: • Works shall cease immediately

- The arboricultural consultant shall be contacted
- Remedial works shall be agreed before works recommence