

Woodland & Countryside Management Ltd.

Helping you make the most of your land.



LAND WEST OF NORTH LODGE, CODFORD.

Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Method Statement.

Report by: Steve Russell BSc (Hons).

Date: 19th March 2025.

Office: 01380 831162 **Mobile:** [REDACTED]

Email: steve@woodlandcountrysidemanagement.com

Website: www.woodlandcountrysidemanagement.com

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Woodland & Countryside Management Ltd. was commissioned to carry out a BS5837 (2012) Tree Survey in March 2025 and to provide an Initial Arboriculture Report. Following changes in the proposed layout of the site Woodland & Countryside Management Ltd. were asked to produce an Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) in March 2025. This report provides a Tree Survey Schedule providing details of the trees surveyed, plus detailed plans identifying the location of trees, their calculated Root Protection Areas (RPA's), their Tree Shadows and provides advice/guidance on how the proposed development could be achieved with the minimum of impact on trees on and surrounding the site based on the current proposed layout. The original survey carried out on the 3rd March 2025 has been applied to the current site plans provided by the client.

1.2 Purpose of Report

This report provides analysis of the impact of the proposed development on trees and local amenity, its primary purpose is for the Planning Authority to review the tree information in support of the planning submission and for use as a basis for issuing planning consent or engaging in further discussion towards that end.

The report provides details of the recommendations for tree management as well as protective measures that should be put in place to ensure the retained trees remain in the long term. The report is produced to guide the development in line with good practice and recommends measures for protective fencing, surfacing, scaffolding and removal of existing surfacing, to ensure retained trees are protected during and after the development works. This report is based on my site observations and the information provided; I have interpreted this in the context of my experience.

1.3 Ecological Constraints

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, provide statutory protection for the species that inhabit trees particularly Bats. The site is likely to support Bat habitat, and this will need to be reviewed by an appropriate Bat specialist

1.4 Qualifications and Experience

My Qualifications are a BSc (Hons) in Countryside Management and National Diploma in Forestry. I have 45 years' experience in Forestry, Arboriculture and Countryside management primarily in the local authority sector but also the Forestry Commission. I hold numerous NPTC certificates including tree inspection. I have been running Woodland and Countryside Management Ltd. for 14 years. I have worked for Local Authorities, Forestry Commission, MOD, Environmental Organisations, Estates, Estate Agents, Individual landowners and householders. I am a serving member of the Royal Forestry Society and Confederation of Forest Industries. I have also been a part time lecturer in Arboriculture and Woodland Management at Sparsholt and Lackham Colleges.

Copies of appropriate Certificates and Insurance documents are available on request

2 SITE EVALUATION

2.1 Site Visit

The Tree Survey was carried out on the 3rd of March 2025. All observation was from ground level, observations were confined to what was visible from within the site and adjacent Public Highway. The weather was sunny and cold.

2.2 Site Description

The site consists of an area of land to the west of North Lodge, Codford. The site is bounded by a wall and road to the north, a tree planted bund to the south, a hedge in the garden of North Lodge to the east and trees and open space to the west. There are a number of trees in the northwest corner of the site. A number of trees, scrub and rough vegetation has been removed/cleared in the past. The site is flat.



Photo 1 - View looking East



Photo 2 - View looking North



Photo 3 - View looking South



Photo 4 - View looking West



Photo 5 - Retained trees in northwest of site



Photo 6 - Retained trees in northwest of site

2.3 Collection of Data

The individual trees and hedges potentially impacted by the proposal on the site were surveyed as advocated by BS5837 (2012). Category rating was based on BS5837 (2012) Tree Quality Assessment Chart (Appendix 3). The surveyed trees details are found in the Tree Survey Schedule (Appendix 1) and the Tree Survey Plan (Appendix 2).

2.4 Interpretation of Data

The Root Protection Area (RPA) for individual trees was calculated using the process laid down in section 4.6 of BS5837 (2012). However, this is a simplistic methodology for establishing the minimum distance for protective barriers and consideration should be given to the influencing factors set out in section 4.6.3 of BS5837 (2012) in setting the RPAs on this site. The calculated RPAs of the retained trees are detailed in the Root Protection Area Plan (Appendix 4). The area of the retained trees shadow has also been calculated and is detailed in the Outline Tree Shadow Plan (Appendix 5).

2.5 Root Protection Area

The Root Protection Area (RPA) is the area where ground disturbance must be carefully controlled. In principle, no significant disturbance should occur within the RPA of category A, B or C trees as described in the BS5837 (2012) Tree Quality Assessment Chart (Appendix 3), and high levels of care are needed during any activities authorised within the RPA if the trees are to be successfully retained. Consideration also needs to be given to the space needed for the trees to be successfully retained after development has finished i.e. enabling tree crowns have room to develop. This is more important for trees that fall within Category A or B.

3 ARBORICULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 Impact on Trees

Any development should be made based on the primary assumption that there is no disturbance within the RPAs of the retained trees, particularly those of categories A and B. Careful consideration has been given to the proposed layout so that it has the least impact on trees on the site.

The proposal is to divide the site into three plots, two properties are proposed for the two eastern plots with the plot to the east where the majority of the trees are located being retained by the owner.

There is one Field Maple (Tree 17) that will be removed but currently has a bird nest being constructed, this tree will be retained until the chicks have fledged. All other trees are to be retained. There are no proposals at this stage to carry out any management works.

The RPAs of trees 2 and 3 are close to the proposed dwelling, House 1, and will require Protection Scaffolding to carry out the build. The RPA of tree 16 is impacted by the proposed access/parking but should be OK with care taken and a non-dig solution used.

Although the majority of trees sit outside the site their RPAs extend into the site and will require Temporary Protection Fencing during the development.

3.2 Impact on Local Landscape

Other than the removal of the Field Maple (Tree 17), there will be no impact from the proposals on the remaining tree's visual importance in the local landscape as all other trees are to be retained. Further proposed landscaping will add further to the site.

3.3 Proposals to Mitigate Impact

The trees will require protection during the development of the site. Successful retention of trees depends on the quality of the protection and the administrative procedures in place to ensure that the protective measures remain in place whilst there is any risk of damage. The Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 7) provide details of the areas where there will be impact on the calculated Trees RPAs, by fencing the main areas off and excluding them from any works the trees can be protected during development. Where works are required within the RPAs these will be carried out to have the minimum of impact on the RPAs of the trees using non-dig solutions and protection scaffolding and if required a minimum dig foundation used.

4 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

4.1 Introduction

The Arboricultural Method Statement sets out the protection measures that must be put in place to secure successful tree retention prior to, during and after development. It assumes that the minimum general standards for development issues are those set out in BS5837 (2012). The location and methodology of the protection measures must be approved by the Planning Authority and are subject to a site inspection and approval prior to commencement of works.

4.2 Protection Barriers

The tree protection fencing is to be erected prior to the start of the main development works; this will be retained and maintained for the full duration of the construction works. The area of parking affecting tree 16 will be carried out at the end of the development with the fencing being moved back to allow construction. BS5837 (2012) states that where protective barriers are used these should be fit for purpose; BS5837 (2012) section 6.2.2 sets out the default position, however it also states in 6.2.2.3 that 'where the site circumstances and associated risk do not necessitate the default position, an alternative specification should be prepared and agreed by the local planning authority'. Due to the nature of the site, it is proposed that an above ground stabilising system of protective fence with stabilisers in block trays as per Figure 3b of BS5837 (2012) will be used (Appendix 6). The protective fencing will be erected as per the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 7) and is shown in Orange on the plan. Where meeting the boundary of the site the fencing will link to the existing boundary features to create a fully enclosed protection area.

4.3 Construction of Scaffolding within RPA's

Where the construction of the new building requires scaffolding or access over any RPA, a system of ground protection scaffolding must be put in place and must be erected as per BS5837 (Figure 1). Protection will consist of 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. 100 mm depth of woodchip), laid onto a geotextile membrane. No vehicular access, storage or tipping will be permitted in these areas. The protective scaffolding will be erected as per the Tree Protection Plan (Appendix 7) and is shown in Purple.

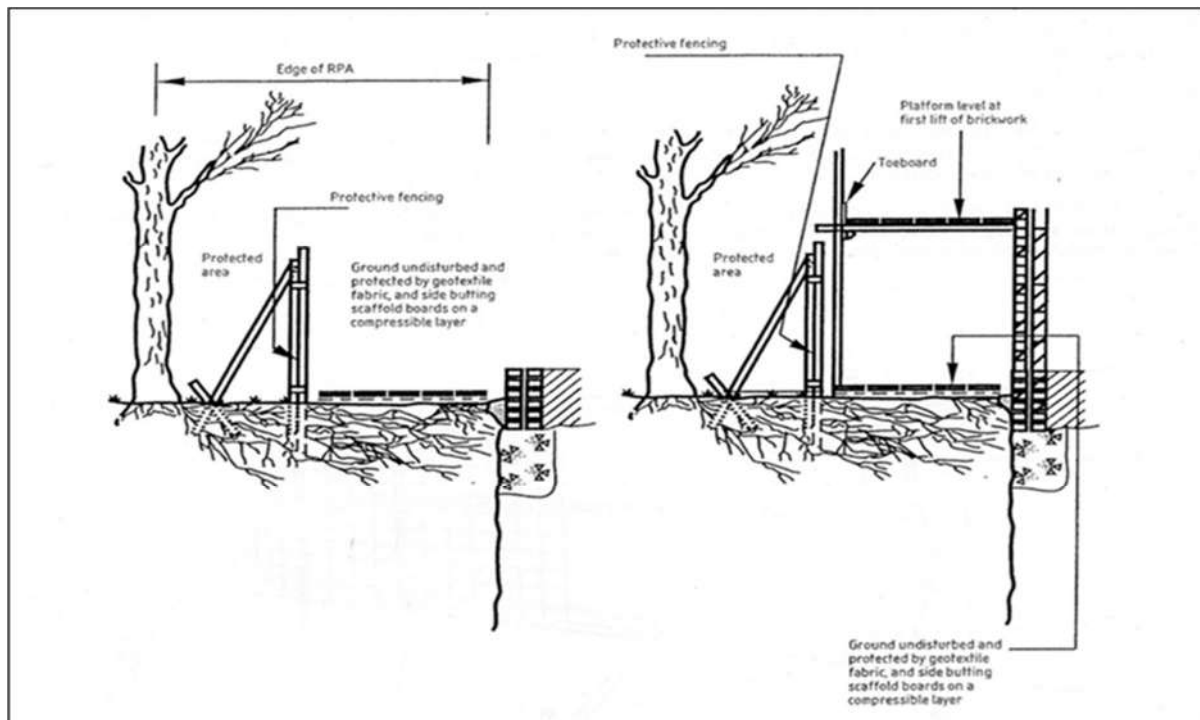


Figure 1 - Protection Scaffolding

4.4 Protective Surfacing

The proposed parking area within the RPA of tree 16 will require the construction of a non-dig protective surface; the area affected is shown on the Protection Plan (Appendix 7) and shown in Blue.

The construction of the surfacing will be in line with BS5837 2012 Section 7.4 and guided by Arboricultural Practice Note No 12 'Through the Trees to Development'. Construction to protect the RPA will be of a proprietary cellular confinement system that will allow water and gas movement, will provide load spreading to avoid compaction and will require no excavation to the existing surface e.g. the Cellweb TRP® Cellular Confinement System. Effective edge retention will be custom designed to avoid any significant excavation into existing soil levels. This will be pre-formed edging secured by metal pins.

Any temporary or new access to allow construction or to service the development within any RPA must be suitable for wheeled or tracked construction traffic exceeding 2 t gross weight and to an engineering specification designed to accommodate the likely loading to which it will be subjected, this can be of a temporary design or a partial construction with the final construction, dressing of the surface etc. being carried out once the main development has been completed.

4.5 General Excavation

All excavation within any of the above working zones (4.3, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6) must be carried out by hand digging and targeted to avoid any roots. Should any roots be exposed and need to be removed, these should be cut 10-20cm behind the final face of excavation. Retained roots must be protected from direct sunlight, drying out and extreme temperatures by an appropriate covering. Roots greater than 25mm should be retained where possible, roots 25 - 100mm should only be cut in exceptional circumstances and following guidance from the Arboricultural Advisor.

4.6 Installation of New Services

There are no details of mains services at this stage; however, as the trees sit outside the development all services can be installed without impacting on any RPAs. There will be Two soakaways installed; these are both located outside of the RPAs.

4.7 Site Storage, Cement mixing and Washing points

Fuel storage, materials storage, handling and mixing areas and washing points for equipment and vehicles must all be located outside the RPA's. Materials will be delivered and stored well away from the RPAs. There will be no burning of waste material on the site; all waste material will be removed from site.

4.8 Tree Protection Supervision

Tree protection will be overseen by the Arboricultural Advisor, who will ensure all the proposed protective measures set out in this Method Statement are implemented and carried out in accordance with the approved details. This will require monitoring visits as set out in section 4.12 below.

4.9 Tree Management Works

Other than the removal of tree 17, there are no tree management works proposed.

4.10 Soft Landscaping

There are no proposed level changes within any RPAs; the area of restoration of the removed buildings will need to be carried out in line with 4.6. Any other re-profiling must be kept outside the RPA's and ground levels should be maintained at original levels where they extend over the RPA's.

4.11 Site Management

It is the developer's responsibility to ensure that the details of the Method Statement and any subsequent details and amendments are fully understood by all site personal. The developer will also be responsible for alerting the Arboricultural Advisor of any unforeseen works that have potential to impact on any RPA and to take advice on the works and implement any recommendations made. The developers will also be responsible for the provision of site visit records and certificates of completion.

4.12 Site Monitoring

The proposal has limited potential to impact on the trees as they sit outside the site, however as the crowns and the RPAs of the trees are impacted, a regular monitoring/watching brief will be required to ensure protection measures are installed and maintained. A number of visits will be required by the Arboricultural Advisor and will be as follows:.

1. When erecting the Protection Fencing.
2. When erecting the Protection Scaffolding/Walkways within the RPAs.
3. On completion of all construction prior to Protection Fencing being removed.

5 CONTACT DETAILS.

5.1 Site Owner

Garr Lewis

Email: [REDACTED]

5.2 Arboricultural Advisor

Steve Russell BSc (Hons)

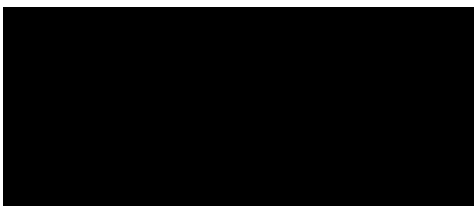
For Ayers Forestry Ltd.

Office: 01380 831162 Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: steve@woodlandcountrysidemanagement.com

6 APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 Tree Survey Schedule
- Appendix 2 Tree Survey Plan
- Appendix 3 BS5837 (2012) Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment
- Appendix 4 Tree RPA Plan
- Appendix 5 Tree Shadow Plan
- Appendix 6 BS5837 (2012) Fencing above Ground
- Appendix 7 Tree Protection Plan



Steve Russell BSc (Hons)
Woodland & Countryside Management Ltd.

Date: 19th March 2025

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TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE (BS5837:2012)

Client: Gary Lewis

Site: Land west of North Lodge, Codford.

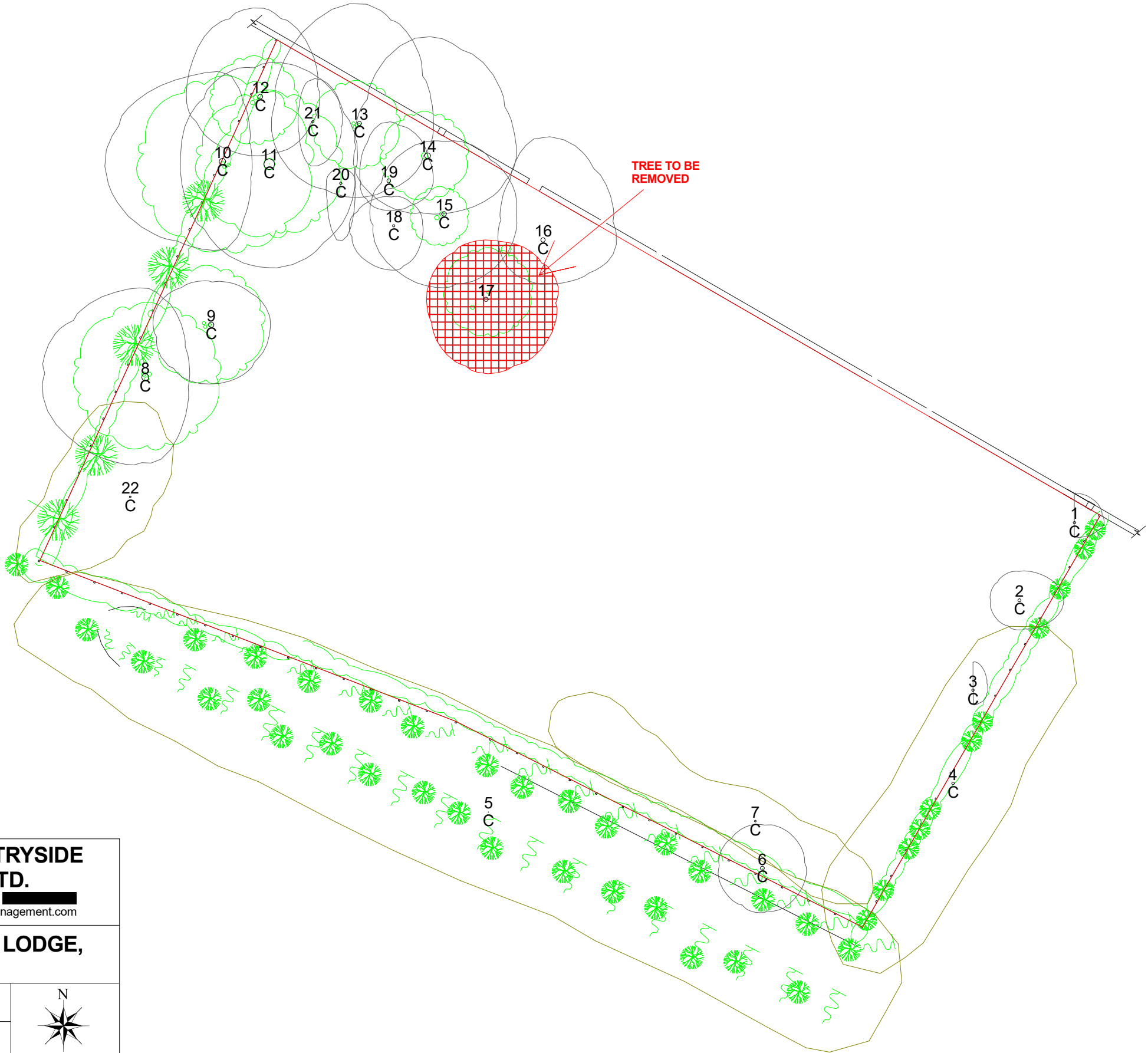
Date of Survey: 3rd March 2025

Surveyor: Steve Russell

Tagged: No

Tree ID	Common Name	Latin Name	Maturity	Height (m)	Number of Stems	Stem 1 (mm)	Stem 2 (mm)	Stem 3 (mm)	Stem 4 (mm)	Stem 5 (mm)	Spread (m)				Canopy Height (m)				Crown	Stem	Basal Area	Category	Life Expectancy	Physiological Condition	Comment
											N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W							
1	English Elm	Ulmus procera	Semi-mature	11	1	150					2	2	1	0	3	3	4	4	Fair	Good	Good	C	10 to 20 yrs	Fair	
2	English Elm	Ulmus procera	Semi-mature	13	1	190					2	3	2	2	9	7	8	9	Fair	Good	Good	C	<10 yrs	Fair	Die back in crown.
3	English Elm	Ulmus procera	Semi-mature	12	1	160					2	1	1		9	9	9	6	Poor	Fair	Good	C	<10 yrs	Poor	50% dead.
4	Lawson Cypress	Chamaecyparis lawsoniana	Mature	15	10+	180					4	4	4	4	2	2	2	2	Fair	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Good	Overgrown hedge at close spacing in adjacent property.
5	Group			15	10+	220					3	3	3	3	10	10	10	10	Good	Good	Good	C	>40 yrs	Good	Mixed belt of roadside planting on a bund. Mainly Beech, Cherry, Ash, Field Maple, Hawthorn and Hazel under.
6	Common Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Mature	17	3	180	150	90			3	3	3	3	10	8	10	8	Fair	Fair	Good	C	<10 yrs	Fair	Dieback in crown.
7	English Elm	Ulmus procera	Semi-mature	15		130					2	2	2	2	8	8	8	5	Poor	Fair	Good	C	<10 yrs	Poor	Group of Elm all in decline.
8	Goat Willow	Salix caprea	Mature	16	4	290	270	240	170		6	3	6	7	3	4	6	4	Fair	Fair	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Crown split out.
9	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	15	4	220	200	180	100		3	4	4	4	7	4	5	5	Good	Good	Good	C	>40 yrs	Good	
10	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	16	3	320	250	200			6	2	6	8	7	11	8	5	Fair	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Growing out and away from adjacent Poplar.
11	Hybrid Black Poplar	Populus x canadensis	Mature	35	1	730					7	6	7	6	14	9	10	8	Fair	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Good	Small Field Maple adjacent.
12	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	14	3	280	130	110			6	4	4	5	5	8	6	5	Fair	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Growing out and away from adjacent Poplar.
13	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	18	3	190	180	110			8	5	5	6	8	10	8	7	Good	Ivy	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Heavy Ivy into crown.
14	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	19	1	400					8	6	4	5	9	9	10	10	Good	Ivy	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Heavy Ivy growth into crown. Weight over road.
15	Common Ash	Fraxinus excelsior	Mature	21	1	320					5	5	5	5	11	14	14	14	Fair	Ivy	Good	C	10 to 20 yrs	Fair	Heavy Ivy growth into crown. Small Field Maple growing from base.
16	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	11	4	190	180	140	100		7	5	3	3	4	4	3	4	Fair	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Good	

Tree ID	Common Name	Latin Name	Maturity	Height (m)	Number of Stems	Stem 1 (mm)	Stem 2 (mm)	Stem 3 (mm)	Stem 4 (mm)	Stem 5 (mm)	Spread (m)				Canopy Height (m)				Crown	Stem	Basal Area	Category	Life Expectancy	Physiological Condition	Comment
											N	E	S	W	N	E	S	W							
17	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	14	3	240	160	90			4	5	5	4	8	3	4	5	Good	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Good	Ivy has been cut. TO BE REMOVED
18	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Semi-mature	12	1	160					2	2	3	3	7	4	4	4	Fair	Ivy	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Heavy Ivy growth into crown.
19	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Mature	13	2	240	100				4	3	2	2	10	9	10	11	Fair	Ivy	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Heavy Ivy growth into crown.
20	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Semi-mature	11	1	150					1	1	4	1	6	5	3	5	Fair	Good	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Growing out and away from adjacent Poplar.
21	Field Maple	Acer campestre	Semi-mature	10	1	150					3	2	3	1	7	7	5	7	Fair	Ivy	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Heavy Ivy growth into crown.
22	Group			12		110					2	2	2	2	5	5	5	5	Fair	Fair	Good	C	20 to 40 yrs	Fair	Group of Ash, Field Maple, Elm, Hawthorn. Goat Willow. Dead Elm and Ash, dying Elm and Ash.



**WOODLAND & COUNTRYSIDE
MANAGEMENT LTD.**
TEL: Office: 01380831162 Mobile: XXXXXXXXXX
Email: steve@woodlandcountrysidemanagement.com

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19/03/2025

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PLAN TITLE: TREE SURVEY
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LEGEND

Crown Spread

Root Protection Area

Shading Arc

Category 'A'

Category 'B'

Category 'C'

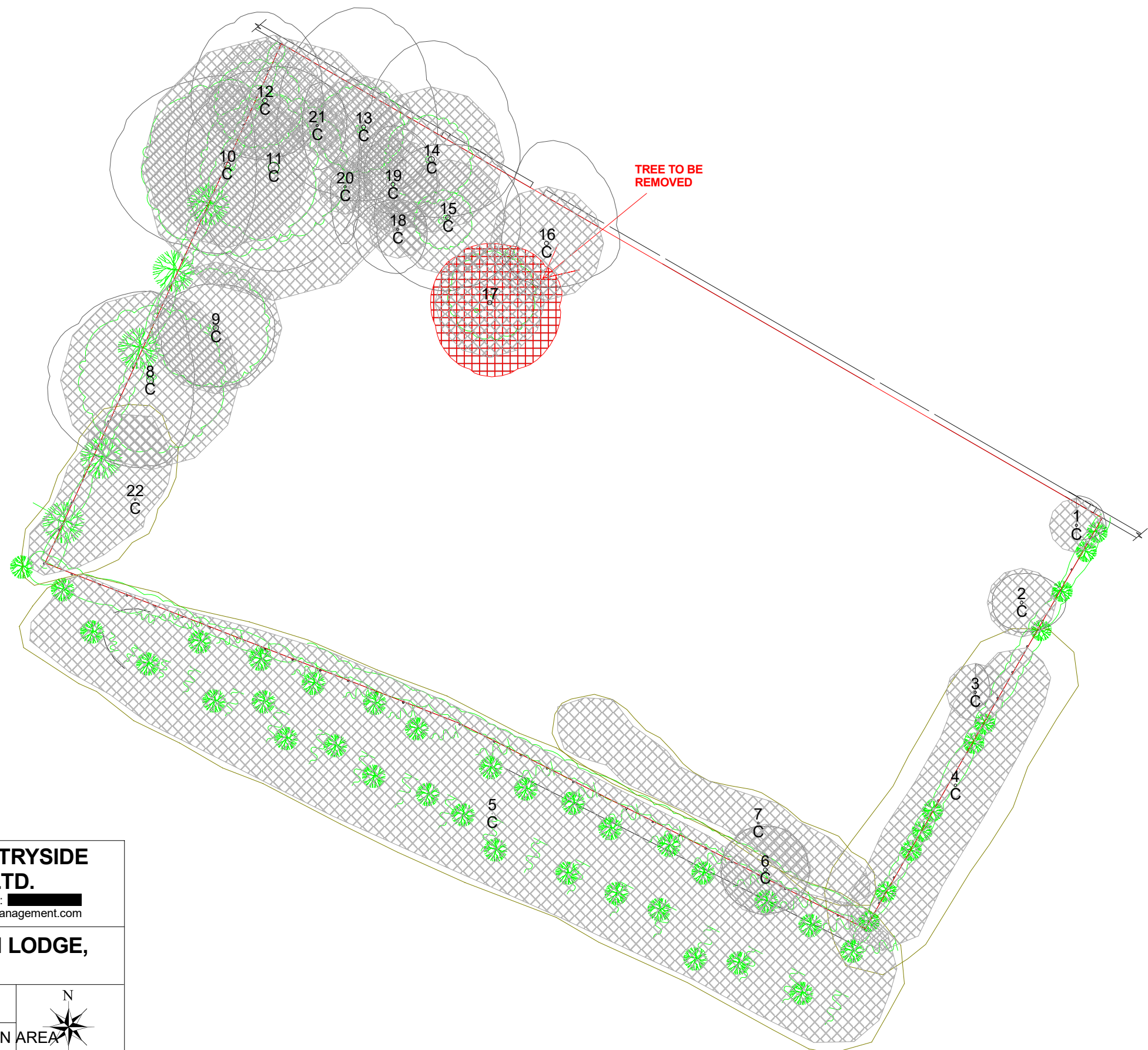
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BS5837:2012 Table 1 - Cascade Chart for Tree Quality Assessment

Category and definition	Criteria (including subcategories where 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	• 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 (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 NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see [BS5837:2012] 4.5.7.			
	1 Mainly arboricultural qualities	2 Mainly landscape qualities	3 Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
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 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)	
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 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	
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 150 mm	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	



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TEL: Office: 01380831162 Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: steve@woodlandcountryside.com

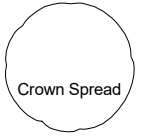
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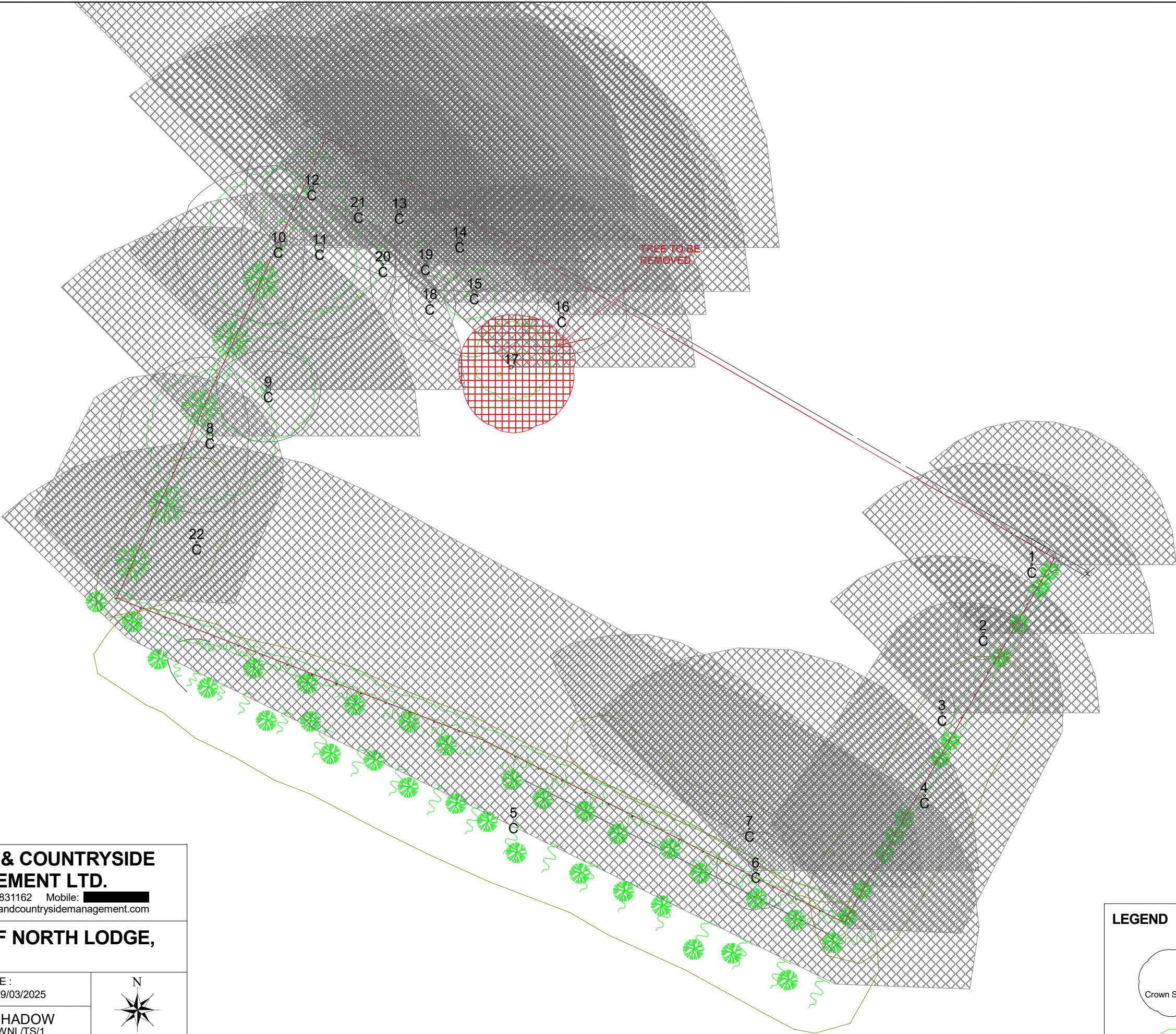
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0 25m

LEGEND

 Crown Spread	 Root Protection Area	 Shading Arc	
 Category 'A'	 Category 'B'	 Category 'C'	 Category 'U'

0 25m



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TEL: Office: 01380831162 Mobile: XXXXXXXXXX
Email: steve@woodlandcountrysidemanagement.com

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19/03/2025

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PLAN TITLE: TREE SHADOW
PLAN REF: WCM/SSR/GL/LWNL/TS/1

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LEGEND

Crown Spread

Root Protection Area

Shading Arc

Category 'A'

Category 'B'

Category 'C'

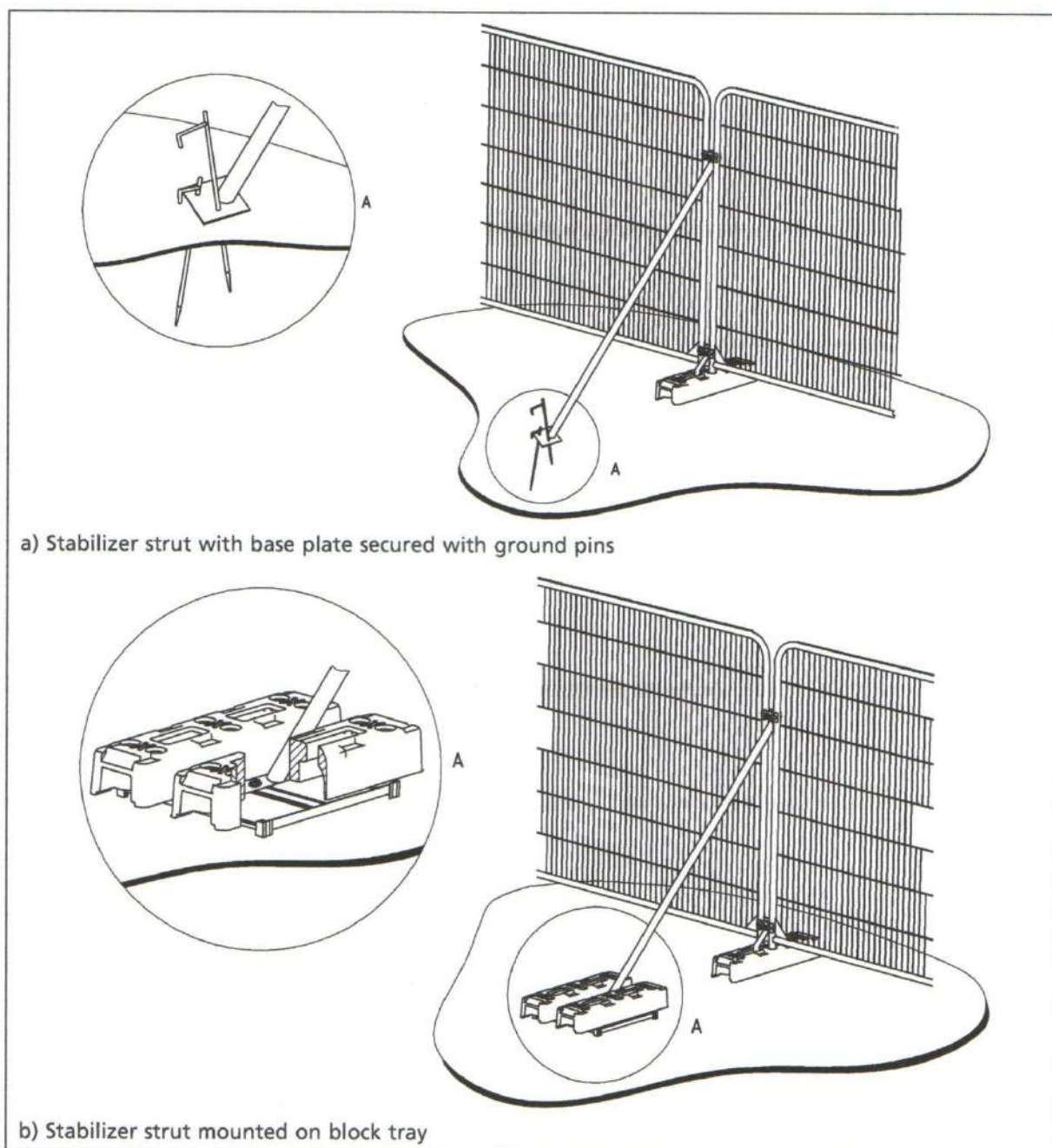
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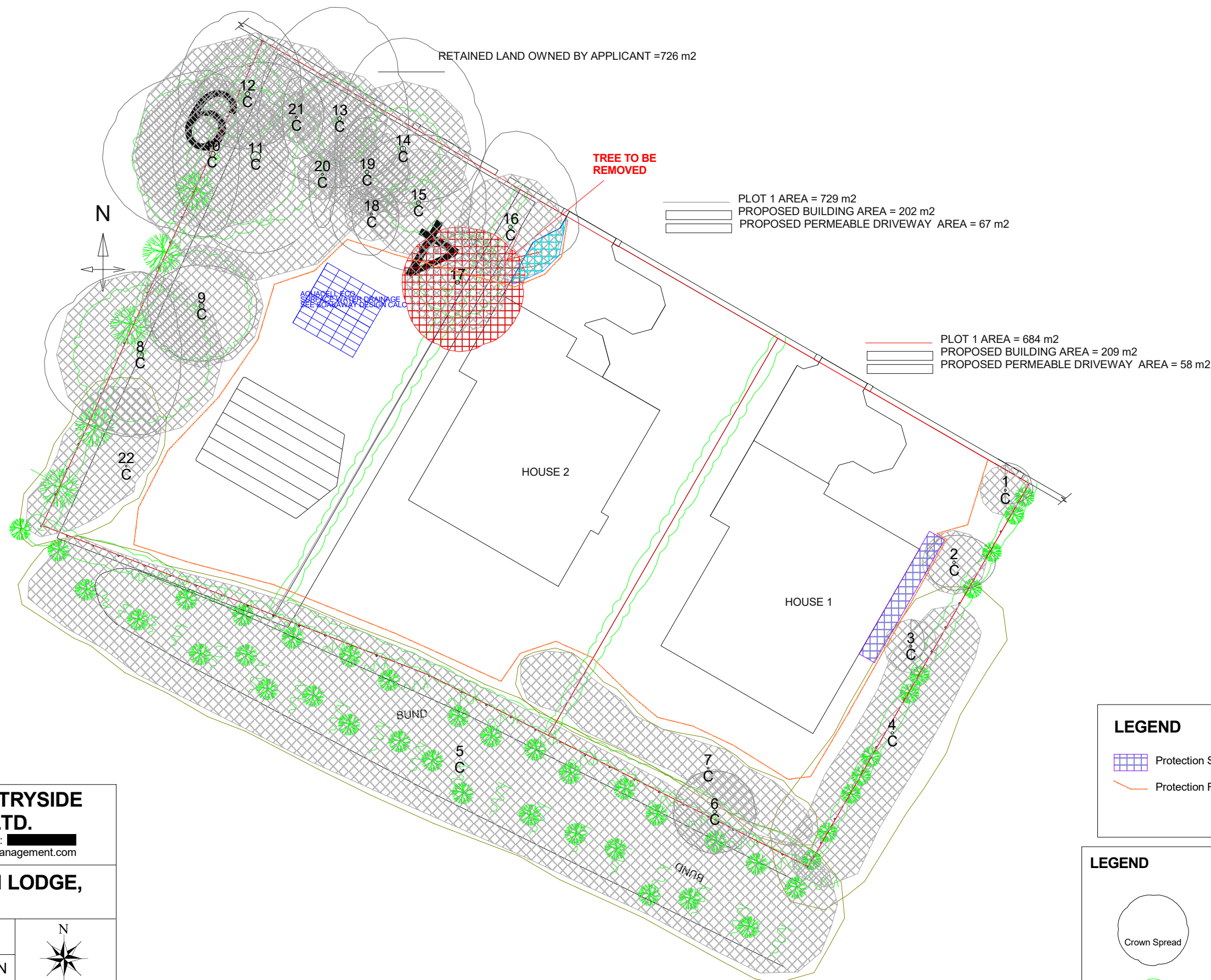
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APPENDIX 6

BS5837 (2012) ABOVE GROUND STABILISING SYSTEMS



Woodland & Countryside Management Ltd. (2012)



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MANAGEMENT LTD.**
TEL: Office: 01380831162 Mobile: XXXXXXXXXX
Email: steve@woodlandcountrysidemangement.com

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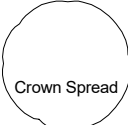
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25m

LEGEND
 Protection Scaffolding  Protection Surfacing
 Protection Fencing

LEGEND
 Crown Spread  Root Protection Area  Shading Arc
 Category 'A'  Category 'B'  Category 'C'  Category 'U'

0



25m