

Arboricultural Method Statement

**Saltersford Lane, Chippenham,
Wiltshire**

16 July 2025

Ecology
Arboriculture
Land Management



Quality Assurance

Report Title	Arboricultural Method Statement
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Revision Record

Revision	Date	Author	Checked By	Approver	Summary of Changes
Final	11 December 2024	Matt Underwood BSc MArborA CEnv	Adam Earl BSc MArborA MCIEEM	Adam Earl BSc MArborA MCIEEM	N/A
1	17 December 2024	Matt Underwood BSc MArborA CEnv	Adam Earl BSc MArborA MCIEEM	Adam Earl BSc MArborA MCIEEM	Updated to reflect 240208 L 02 01 N.04 Site Layout
2	16 July 2025	Matt Underwood BSc MArborA CEnv	Adam Earl BSc MArborA MCIEEM	Adam Earl BSc MArborA MCIEEM	Updated to reflect 240208 L 02 01 W0.4 Site Layout

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Site Details

Site Name and Location	Saltersford Lane, Chippenham, Wiltshire
Central OS Grid Reference	ST 905 719
Client	Backhouse Housing Ltd.
Boundary	





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1 Introduction

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) for Saltersford Lane, Chippenham, Wiltshire provides a methodology on how retained arboricultural features (and their rooting medium) will be protected during the construction process. The Method Statement was commissioned by Backhouse Housing Ltd.

This method statement has been informed by the Aspect Tree Consultancy Arboricultural Impact Assessment dated August 2022 (ref. 05823). It has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations' based on information available at the time of writing.

The Method Statement includes the production of a Tree Protection Plan which can be found in **Appendix 1**.

This Arboricultural Method Statement has been prepared to discharge Condition 17 of the planning consent (APP/Y3940/W/23/3322502), which states:

'The reserved matters as applied for shall include an Arboricultural Method Statement to provide details of the amount and location of hedgerow required to be removed, details of any no-dig specification, tree protection measures and any other matters which may affect trees and hedgerow on site during the construction process. The development shall be carried out in accordance with the Method Statement as approved.'

This document should be retained on site as a reference document for the duration of the demolition and construction works. Failure to abide by this method statement could be considered a breach of planning and may result in enforcement action being taken by the local planning authority.

2 Arboricultural Method Statement

Section	Work Phase	Relevant Arboricultural Feature(s)	Protection Measure/Methodology	Responsibility
1	Enabling	See Appendix 2	Initial Tree Works – Removals and Pruning - All works to be carried out in accordance with the works specified in Appendix 2 and following BS3998:2010 'Tree Works – Recommendations'. - No bonfires are permitted within 5m of the canopy of any retained tree. - Ground level vegetation and tree stumps should be removed using powered hand tools e.g. brush cutter and stump grinder if it is to be undertaken in the root protection areas of retained trees. Stump grinding should not penetrate further than 100mm below ground level and plant machinery should not be used to scrape vegetation or remove stumps in the root protection areas of retained trees.	Contractor/ Arborist
2	Enabling	All retained trees and hedgerow	Tree Protection Fencing (TPF) - All TPF should be installed in the locations as shown on the Tree Protection Plan in Appendix 1 following completion of the initial tree works prior to the commencement of any groundworks, demolition or construction works on site. - The specification for the TPF can be found in Appendix 3. - Adequate signage denoting the importance of TPF should be affixed to the fencing. Example signage can be found in Appendix 4. - The TPF will denote and form the boundary to the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ). - Fencing to remain in place for duration of construction.	Contractor with sign off from project arboriculturalist.
3	Enabling	All retained trees and hedgerow	Temporary Site Buildings and Materials Storage - All buildings and materials shall be located outside of the CEZ as denoted by the TPF. - Harmful chemicals/materials should be stored on an impermeable membrane and at a sufficient distance from the CEZ so that any potential spillages will not enter the root protection areas of retained trees.	Contractor with sign off from project arboriculturalist.

			 The location of site cabins and materials store should be agreed with the project arboriculturalist during the pre-commencement meeting.	
4	Construction	All retained trees and hedgerow	Installation of Services within Root Protection Areas  No services plans were provided at the time of writing.  When available, the service plans should be reviewed by the project arboriculturalist.  All services should be installed outside of the RPA of retained trees. Where this is not possible, the project arboriculturalist shall provide a methodology for their installation in accordance with NJUG Vol. 4 'Guidelines For The Planning, Installation And Maintenance Of Utility Apparatus In Proximity To Trees' and BS5837:2012.	Review of services plan by project arboriculturalist.
5	Landscape	All retained trees and hedgerow	Fencing within Root Protection Areas  To be undertaken as final phase of development and will require access into the construction exclusion zone.  Fencing should be of a post and rail design with gravel boards installed above ground level. Fencing where trenching is required is prohibited.  The post holes shall be dug by hand and repositioned to accommodate any significant roots should they be encountered during excavation.  If concrete is required to set the posts, then the holes should be sleeved with an impermeable material to prevent chemical damage to roots from uncured cement.  Scaffold boards should be used to transport fencing materials across the RPA to prevent compaction of the rooting medium.	Contractor
6	Landscape	All retained trees and hedgerow	Landscaping within Root Protection Areas  To be undertaken as final phase of development.  The soft landscape proposals have not been finalised at the time of writing but is likely to include turfing and plant/shrub planting.  Where soil preparation is required, this should be done so by raking or light tilling. Use of rotavators is prohibited.  Where top soil is imported it should not increase the ground level by 100mm to prevent root suffocation.	Contractor

			🌿 Scaffold boards should be used to transport planting materials across the RPA to prevent compaction of the rooting medium. 🌿 All planting pits should be dug by hand to accommodate the root and prevent their damage/severance.	
7	All	All retained trees and hedgerow	Unpredictable Tree Impacts 🌿 If, during demolition and/or construction damage is inadvertently caused to the retained trees, the project arboriculturalist should be contacted immediately. The arboriculturalist will be able to assess the impact of the damage and prescribe remedial measures where necessary. 🌿 Inadvertent damage includes significant root severance (roots in excess of 25mm diameter or densely matted fibrous roots), direct strikes to tree stem/limb, chemical spillages in RPA and fire damage.	Contractor
8	All	All retained trees and hedgerow	Site Monitoring 🌿 The project arboriculturalist will undertake regular site visits during the construction phases of development to ensure that the arboricultural features on site are protected in accordance with this arboricultural method statement. 🌿 The visits should include but not be limited to: - o A pre-commencement meeting to discuss the tree protection methodology, the phasing of works and the location of contractor facilities and materials storage areas. - o A further pre-commencement meeting to certify the location and specification of the tree protection fencing (and other tree protection measures, if required). 🌿 In addition to the above, a monitoring regime should also be established by the project arboriculturalist with the frequency of visits discussed during the pre-commencement meeting and agreed with the local authority arboricultural officer. A fully auditable site monitoring log should be prepared following each visit, a copy of which should be retained on site and provided to the local authority arboricultural officer on request.	Project arboriculturalist following appointment by contractor.



Appendix 1 – Tree Protection Plan



Key:

- Root Protection Area
- Tree Canopy
- Tree Protection Fencing
- Construction Exclusion Zone

Tree and Hedgerow To Be Removed

Tree Protection Fencing Specification

Key

- 1 Standard scaffold poles
- 2 Heavy gauge 2m tall galvanized tube and welded mesh infill panels
- 3 Panels secured to uprights and cross-members with wire ties
- 4 Ground level
- 5 Uprights driven into the ground until secure (minimum depth 0.6m)
- 6 Standard scaffold clamps

Example Tree Protection Fencing Signage

PROTECTIVE FENCING. THIS FENCING MUST BE MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED PLANS AND DRAWINGS FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT.

TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT!
(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)
TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY PLANNING CONDITIONS AND ARE THE SUBJECTS OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.
CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER MAY LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION.
ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY.



Scale @ A1: 1:750

Drawing should be viewed in colour.

Location of trees suffixed with PA (position approximate) have been estimated on site.

Drawing Title:
Tree Protection Plan

Project:
Saltersford Lane, Chippenham

Client:
Backhouse Housing Ltd.

Date: 16/07/2025	Drawn: MU
Drawing Number: 2485-TPP-MU	Revision: 3





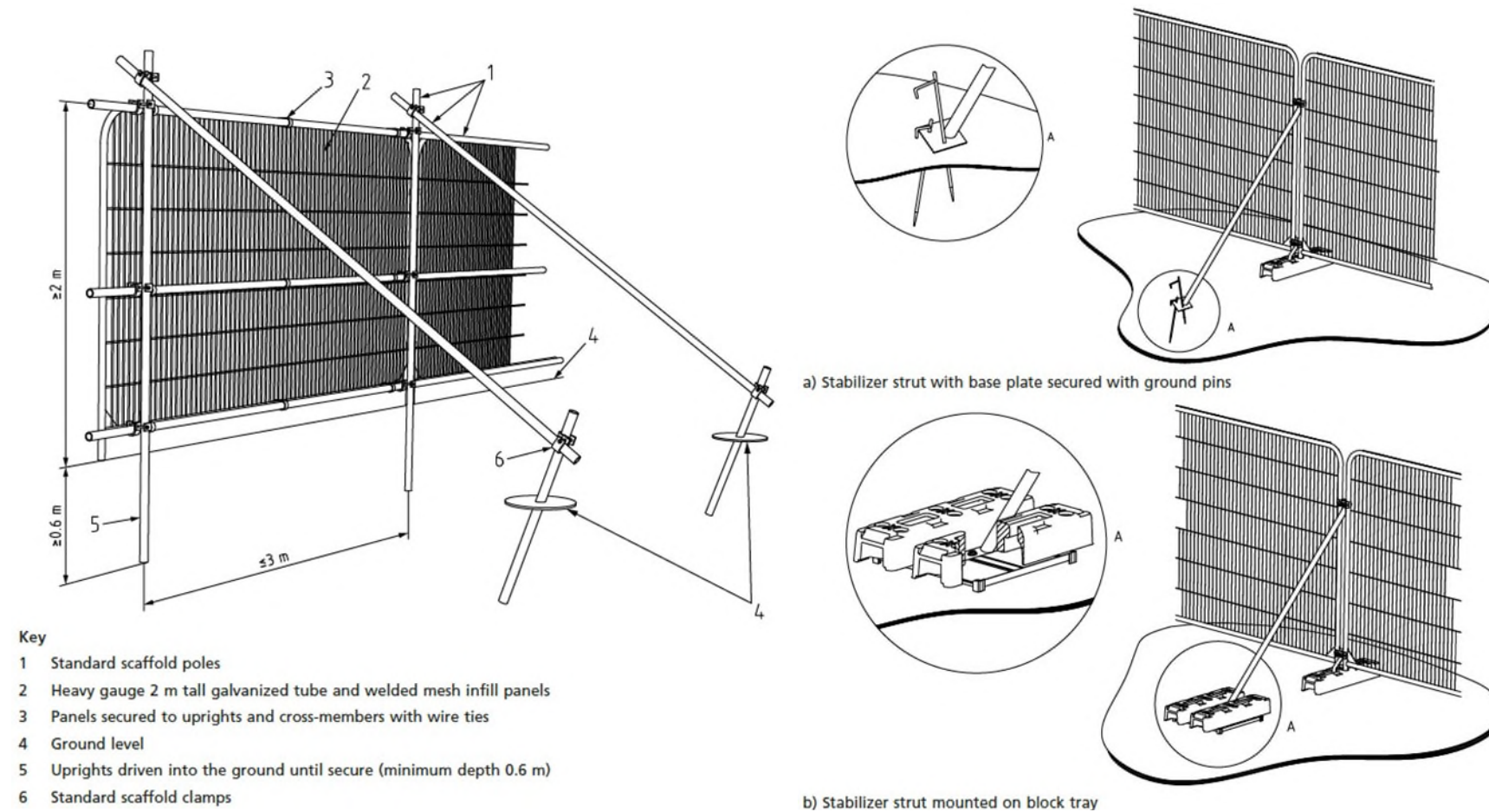
Appendix 2 – Tree Works Specification

Arboricultural Feature	Species	Works Required
H13	Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Ash, Elm, Field maple	Fell two sections as shown on TPP
H18	Hawthorn, Field Maple, Blackthorn	Fell two sections as shown on TPP
H25	Hawthorn, Field Maple, Blackthorn, Ash, Guelder rose	Fell one section as shown on TPP

All works to be carried out in accordance with BS3988:2010 'Tree Work – Recommendations'

All trees should be checked for protected species e.g. roosting bats and nesting birds prior to any works being undertaken.

Appendix 3 – Tree Protection Fencing Specification



Default Specification

Above-ground Stabilising System

(Images extracted from BS5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – Recommendations')

Appendix 4 – Example Tree Protection Fencing Signage



Website: www.ge-consulting.co.uk
Phone: 01647 253652
Email: info@ge-consulting.co.uk

GE Consulting is a trading name for
GE Consulting Services (UK) Ltd
registered number 08435536

Registered office: Unit 11A, Gidleys
Meadow Business Park, Christow,
Devon, EX6 7QB.
VAT Number 160595992

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