

Modified RPAs

Existing site features such as dwellings, retaining walls, roads, service routes, etc., are likely to be partial or complete barriers to root development. Where existing site features are believed to be significant enough to be considered barriers to root development, the RPAs affected have been modified to appropriately reflect these barriers.

Where RPAs have been modified, they have been done so to equal distances in all directions (with the exception of any identified root barrier) from the trunk of the tree. The RPAs are increased in size (radius) across both the 'left' and 'adjacent' land to maintain the area (m²) as per the original un-modified (circular) RPA.

Hard Surfacing

Trees can be affected by construction within the RPAs either through the direct damage caused by the removal of roots or compaction of the rooting environment; or through secondary damage such as poisoning through leaks and spills (oils, fuels, etc.) including such activities as de-icing (road salt, etc.)

Proposed hard surfacing within the RPAs of retained trees is therefore to be designed so that it can be constructed above the existing soil level and minimise any adverse impacts upon the trees RPAs. As the use of traditional foundations and sub-bases can result in excessive root loss through the direct removal of roots during excavations and by compaction of the soil beneath the excavation, as such the 'traditional' methodology must be avoided.

When designing hard surfacing that is to be situated within the RPAs of retained trees, the design team need to pay particular attention to the proposed usage (pedestrian, domestic traffic, delivery vans, emergency services, HGVs, etc.), the existing and proposed levels of hard surfacing and finished floor levels, edging types and details, proximity to tree trunks and surface rooting, contamination capture and SUDs, etc.

Possible sub-bases (foundation systems) for new hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of retained trees could include:
-- A proprietary system such as a multi-dimensional confinement system (ColliWeb 'Nir' or similar);
-- Engineered solution such as a road deck, bridge, etc.,.

An engineered solution is likely to require a level of excavation for site specific investigations to locate roots to aid in foundation design so that a suitable foundation can be designed to avoid roots and for the installation of the structure.

NB: The use of a multi-dimensional confinement system and/or engineered solution will affect the finished levels of the hard surfacing by raising the levels and needs to be considered when designing foundations and setting the finished floor levels of adjoining buildings.

Fencing

Fence posts are to be located so that they will not damage or require the removal of roots in excess of 25mm diameter. This may require individual posts to be relocated which will increase or decrease the spacing between the bay lengths. All posts within the RPAs of retained trees are to be excavated manually under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist, using hand-held tools (spade, shovel, robbing spade, post hole digger) only. No mechanical equipment (handheld or plant-mounted post borer) is to be used.

Arboricultural Method Statement

All tree work must be undertaken in accordance with British Standards. Please refer to the Tree Schedule, Arboricultural Method Statement & Tree Protection Plan, for full details of all surveyed trees and how the development maybe implemented without detriment to retained trees.

Indicative only

Description: Hard surface replacement located within the RPA of retained tree T3, T7 and T15 will have no additional impact on the trees. The existing sub-base will be retained and re-used where feasible. Hard surface replacement will be installed with arboricultural supervision.

Impact: Proposed fencing situated within the RPAs of trees T3 and T7.
Mitigation: Excavation of post holes within the RPAs of retained trees are to be undertaken manually and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist; posts will be relocated to avoid roots in excess of 25mm diameter.

Impact: Proposed fencing situated within the RPAs of trees T18 and T17.
Mitigation: Excavation of post holes within the RPAs of retained trees are to be undertaken manually and under the direct supervision of the Project Arboriculturist; posts will be relocated to avoid roots in excess of 25mm diameter.

Impact: Proposed hard surfacing situated within the RPAs of trees T7 and T17.
Mitigation: Hard surfacing located within the RPAs of retained trees is to utilise a 'no dig' sub-base designed to an engineering specification in conjunction with the advice of the Project Engineer and Arboriculturist, so that it can be constructed entirely above the existing soil level.

Arboricultural Impacts

Impacts	No. of Trees
Trees to be removed	1
Groups / Hedges to be removed (Partial removal)	1 (0)
Trees with proposed incursions into the RPAs	4
Groups / Hedges with proposed incursions into the RPAs	1
Trees that require pruning	3
Groups / Hedges that require pruning	2
Trees to be transplanted	0
Groups / Hedges to be transplanted	0

Arboricultural Impacts

Ref.	Species	Proposed Structure	Insurance (%)
T3	Pedunculate oak	Fence	Insignificant
T7	Goat willow	New Hard Surfacing	8.6
T7	Goat willow	Fence	Insignificant
T18	Cherry plum 'Pissardi'	Fence	Insignificant
T17	Not identified	New Hard Surfacing	11.6
T17	Not identified	Fence	Insignificant

Tree Work Schedule

Ref.	Species	Works	Category
T3	Pedunculate oak	Prune: Crown lift to 4 m for new parking spaces clearance	B1
T7	Goat willow	Prune: Crown lifting for a 0.5 m clearance from new fence line	C1
T12	Common beech	Prune: Crown lifting to 2 m and selective branch reduction pruning for clearance from fence line	C1
T13	Common beech	Fell: Remove tree to ground level and remove stump	C1
H1	Osier	Fell: Remove hedge to ground level and remove stumps	C2
H2	Common hawthorn	Prune: Selective pruning / removal for a 0.5 m clearance from fence line and car parking area	B2

No. Individual Trees Removed

U	A	B	C	V
0	0	0	1	0

No. Groups/Hedges/Woodlands Removed (%) = Partial

U	A	B	C	V
0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	1 (0)	0 (0)

Referenced Documents

Title	Originator	Drawing Number	Key
Existing Ground Floor Plan	Footprint Architects	2425-FTP-XX-M50C-DR-A-1004	
Proposed Site Plan	Footprint Architects	2425-FTP-XX-M50X-DR-A-1005	

Rev.

Date

Notes

01	24/04/2026	Initial assessment.
02	15/07/2026	Updated tree work schedule.

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Client:

Stepnell

Drawing:

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

Project No:

43495568

Drawing No:

AIA01

Revision No.:

02

Date:

July 2026

Scale:

1:250 A1

Drawn:

FG

Tree Key:

Tree/Group Number:	1T	Tree Canopies:		Trunks:	
Root Protection Area:		Ancient / Veteran Tree Buffer Zone:		Ancient woodland Extent:	
Category 'U' Tree Stems:		Category 'U' Tree Groups:		Category 'A' Tree Stems:	
Category 'A' Tree Groups:		Category 'B' Tree Groups:		Category 'B' Tree Groups:	
Category 'C' Tree Stems:		Category 'C' Tree Groups:		Category 'V' Tree Stems:	
Category 'V' Groups:		Basic Shading Arc:		Trees to be Removed:	
Proposed Pruning:					

All dimensions should be checked on site. No dimensions are to be scaled from this drawing. Please refer to any description sheet. Arbrex Consulting Ltd cannot be held responsible for inaccuracies in the base drawing which this plan is based. This drawing is designed to reflect the principles of the layout or design only, and release only to the protection of the project. It is not to be used as a definitive part of the engineering or construction design or method statement. An arboricultural or structural engineer should be consulted and any details of construction, detailing or specification and for any standards or regulatory requirements relating to proposed structures, hard surfacing or underground services. All other trees are protected in situ - a microclimate cap should not be relied upon.

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