

Tree Root Investigations

The trip pits must be carried out by hand and under the supervision of the site manager and the Arboricultural Consultant.

The design of the trial pits are to be no larger than 1000mm wide and 1500mm long and to a depth of 1000mm or to heavy clay (whichever is first). The pits must be carried out by hand digging and no mechanical vehicles are to be on site.

To mark out the areas as identified on the Tree Roots Investigation Plan. These should be drawn on the ground with a reference to each trail pit.

Each trial pit is to be opened up one at a time and a cover is to be placed to the side of the pit for soil to be located.

The top layer is to be removed by hand. For gravel this is to be raked back if possible to loaded in to a wheelbarrow.

Grass is to be cut into manageable sizes and undercut by a spade about 25mm below the grass root layer. This is to be placed upside down and covered.

Soil is to be placed on the cover to the side to ensure soil does not run off on to the grass area or the gravel.

There are two methods to be taken to excavate:

AIR SPADE:

The air spade is to be used to clean out the soil around the tree roots. This should be done by starting at one end of the trench. The soil should be lifted and disturbed by the lance and air to a depth of about 300mm. Once this is disturbed then it can be lifted out of the trial pit by use of a spade or similar hand tools. The lance work should then proceed backwards to the other end of the trial pit. Once completed it should start again on the next level down. This should proceed to a depth of 1000mm or where heavy clay is discovered.

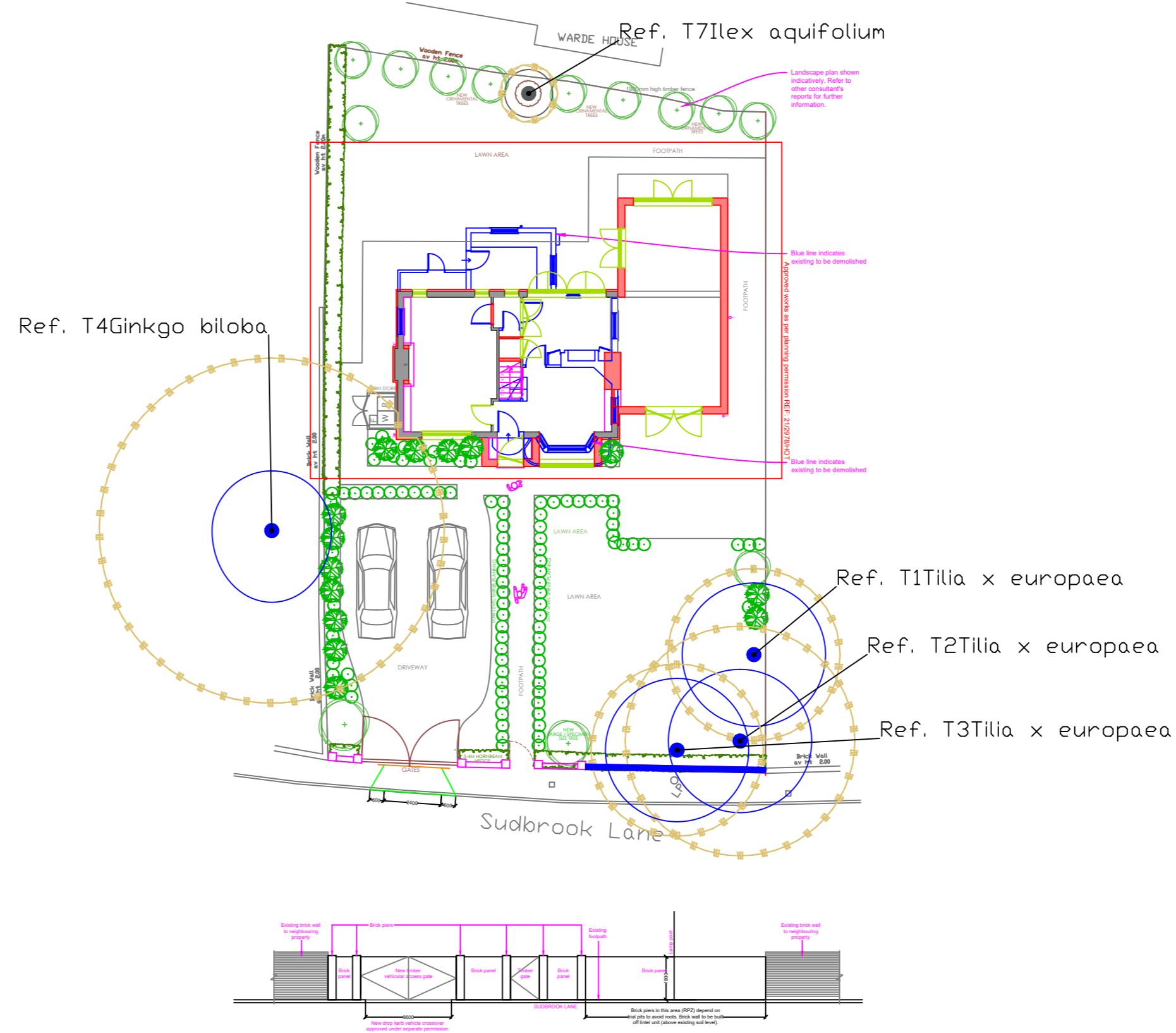
HAND DIGGING:

By use of a fork and spade, the soil is to be lightly lifted by use of the fork and moving from one end to the other to dislodge the soil. Once completed, the spade can be used to lift the loose soils. Once lifted then work again from the same location to lift the next layer of soil. Soil dislodging depth should be no more than 100mm at each time. This should proceed to a depth of 1000mm or where heavy clay is discovered.

GENERAL ADVICE:

Any roots within the trail area of less than 25mm can only be cut using secateurs in one clean motion. This should be carried out under the supervision of the Arboricultural Consultant. During the trail pits any exposed tree roots greater than 25mm must be wrapped in wet hessian material while the works carry on. Once the trail pit has been created and exposed roots photographed, measured and drawn on the plan then the pit can be closed off. This will be to remove any hessian wrapping and back fill the trail pits with soil. Every 200mm depth should be gently tamped back down. The top layer should then be placed over the top.

covered over with soil and the pit closed off. Where it is not possible to cover the tree roots in soil for any extended period (such as a tree root on the edge of a pit), then the roots. This must be for a limited time only and the pit must be closed by the end of the working day.



Notes :

This drawing has been prepared in accordance with BS 5837:2012.

This drawing is intended to be printed and used in colour only, and for no purpose other than the consideration of trees in accordance with BS 5837.

BS5837:2012 Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category & Definition	Criteria (Including subcategories where appropriate)	Identification (on plan)
Trees unsuitable for retention		
Category U		
U1: Trees in such a condition that they cannot be retained for any length of time.	U2: Trees that have a serious, irreparable structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to instability. U3: Trees that are all become unstable either through or other category U3 trees that are, for example, showing signs of serious decay, or very old trees with extensive hollowing, or very old trees with extensive decay of their trunk, or very old trees with extensive decay of their trunk.	Red on plan RGB 127,0,0
Trees to be considered for retention		
Category A		
A1: Trees of high quality with high potential remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years.	A2: Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, or have a high degree of amenity value, or are of high amenity value, or are of high amenity value, or are of high amenity value.	Light Green RGB 9,255,9
Category B		
B1: Trees of moderate quality with an expected remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years.	B2: Trees that are good examples of their species, or have a high degree of amenity value, or are of high amenity value, or are of high amenity value.	Blue RGB 0,0,255
Category C		
C1: Trees of low quality with an expected remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 100mm.	C2: Trees that are good examples of their species, or have a high degree of amenity value, or are of high amenity value, or are of high amenity value.	Grey RGB 091,091,091

KEY

- Root Protection Area (RPA)
- Tree Stem
- T1 Tree No.
- Tree Root Investigation Trial Pits

Rev Details	Date	Checked By
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Client **O Hill-Mathieson**

Project **The Cottage, Sudbrook Lane**

Title **Tree Root Investigation Plan**

Scale	Date	Drawn By	Checked By	Drawing Number	Revision
1:200	01/09/2022	RJH			A

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