

Update 2024

**Tree survey and Categorisation to BS5837:2012
Arboricultural impact Assessment and Tree
Protection Plan.**



Proposed Development at Peterchurch Primary School, Hereford HR2 0RP.

Client: Tilbury Douglas.

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For proposed demolition of existing structures and erection of New School buildings and ancillary facilities /parking.

Introduction

Heritage Environmental Contractors Ltd has been commissioned by Mr K Miners Project Manager for Tilbury Douglas to update a Tree Survey and Categorisation with associated Arboricultural Impact Assessment and Tree Protection Plan at the site known as Peterchurch Primary School, Hereford HR2 0RP.

The identified trees were surveyed with a new Topographical survey Sumo Services Ltd job no. SUMO -18717-1, the previous A.D Horner Ltd Topographical survey 5722-16May 19-01 was also cross referenced.

The purpose of this report is to identify the trees on the subject site, the quality and value of the trees, the possible effect of the development and the significance of such impact in landscape terms. The survey has been carried out in accordance with BS5837:2012 *Trees in relation to construction recommendations*, consult BS for further information. The trees were surveyed at ground level and no climbing inspections were undertaken. No internal decay detection readings have been made. The report is intended for planning purposes only and not a H&S assessment, this remains the responsibility of the current landowner. No liability can be accepted for features obscured or where access was unavailable.

Site Description

The site and ongoing use have not changed from previous survey, it is a village primary school that is in continuous on-going use. The entrance is off the main road through the village and operates an in /out system with drop off for busses located at the front of the buildings, additional carparking is located along both southern and northern boundaries. The rear of the site is a large playing field with mixed hedgerow on margins, ground cover is short amenity grassland with no trees on the central parts of the field. A large electrical substation is on an external boundary and has resulted in a row of trees being removed under H&S reg. prior to original survey, this should be considered in future layout of new planting and high-power overhead cables

No soil samples were taken.

Tree Survey/Categorisation

As part of the survey a total of 29 trees were categorised. Following BS5837:2012 Access was gained to all trees that would be potentially affected by the proposal, trees within neighbouring fence line were assessed, due to dense overgrowth of the hedge along southern boundary and security fencing some of the tree canopies are estimated, this will not affect any results or conclusions made.

There were 29 specimens within the area which have been classified as follows: -

Category A Trees – Features of high quality. BS5837:2012 x1

Category B Trees – Features of moderate quality. BS5837:2012 x13

Category C Trees - Features of low quality. BS5837:2012 x15

Arboricultural Impact Assessment

The majority of the trees are of a similar age and all continue to exhibit a lack of recent and poor historical management, normally associated with these types of establishments.

The planting can be considered in 2 distinctive groups.

Group 1. Village roadside - It is a linear tree line feature containing mature beech, maple, silver birch, cherry, conifer and apple, with the exception of T25 the trees are generally poorly pruned or planted in locations that will not allow the tree to reach maturity without structural damage to buildings or access road. A group of trees T18-T22 are required to be removed, they are close to main structure or located within entrance and unsuitable to be retained long term due to poor quality, poor tree form and unsuitable location. The loss of these trees is to be compensated by the planting of new trees in suitable locations that will be able to reach full maturity and benefit the local landscape and ecology for at least 40 years.

Group 2. Southern Fence line boundary - It is a linear hedge line feature containing mature ash and field maple, hedge species include hazel, hawthorn, sycamore, blackthorn and elm. These trees are external of site boundary and since the original survey this field now has planning permission for 89 new houses, the Tree Survey by Treescene 16/7/24 indicated the trees along this boundary except for (T7) are all to be felled. These trees are to be removed prior to the construction phase and no longer part of the Arboricultural Impact Assessment. (AIA or TPP for this adjacent site not available on LPA website at time of report).

The rear of the site has a poor, thin juvenile mixed hedge line, prior to the previous survey, a linear line of trees was removed due to powerlines, this hedge line now shows signs of recovery from being overshadowed by mature trees.

The survey has identified trees that require further monitoring, these trees may require a further arboricultural inspection in relation to health and safety issues on site during and post construction.

The tree survey plan is based on provided information and all measurements and site boundaries should **not be scaled off** from the drawings.

Design Constraints

The existing features present have allowed the trees and root systems to develop with the linear road feature and associated grass margin. The design is sympathetic to the surrounding landscape. The trees will be protected with root protection areas, tree protection barriers and will utilise existing tarmac areas and access minimising impacts upon trees. The trees /hedge can be protected in groups rather than individual specimens. Should there be any changes these must be agreed in writing and delivered via an arboricultural method statement and the works are to be supervised by the arboriculturist.

Services

At the time of this report details on proposed services were not available, it can be assumed existing services and lines will be used, if any new lines are proposed these will aim to avoid trees, if this is not possible the arboricultural advisor should be contacted.

Post Development Implications

Due to the dynamic nature of trees and their interaction with the environment their health and structural integrity is liable to change over time, because of this it is recommended that all trees on site be inspected regularly.

No internal decay detection has been carried out.

Arboricultural Works

If there is a risk of damage to the canopy from the activities on site to the tree to be retained a suitably qualified arboriculturist should be engaged to assess the canopy to allow clearance. All trees at site entrance should undergo sensitive formative pruning and canopy lifts prior to any construction activity on site.

A qualified tree surgery company will undertake any recommended formative work to BS3998:2010.

Sequenced Methods of Construction and Tree Protection

Phase 1 – Pre-Contract Meeting

An onsite meeting will be held if required, with all relevant parties, including the contractor, appointed arboricultural advisor and local planning authority representative.

Phase 2 - Execute Agreed Tree Work/ Removal

Following consultation with Arboricultural consultant, this will include the removal of T5, T18-T22 & T26. Sensitive canopy pruning at site entrance should also be undertaken at same time.

Phase 3 - Tree Protection Barriers

Fencing is to be erected around the plot with signs attached to the fence at regular intervals prior to any other work commencing on site, the arboricultural advisor is to confirm.

Phase 4 - Construction of Hard Standing / site compound

Exact installation methods are to be confirmed prior to any construction. The site is large and all materials/site compound can easily be accommodated external of all tree RPAs. The Construction Phase Plan ref Tilbury Douglas should be followed in full. The use of existing roadways, hardstanding and tarmac areas for parking and access minimises potential impacts to all trees on site.

Phase 5 - Demolition of Existing Structures and Buildings

Dates and times are to be confirmed in writing with LPA and operate under a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)

Phase 6 - Ground works, Foundations, Drainage and Services

TBC with structural engineer. Exact location and installation method are to be confirmed in writing prior to any construction.

Phase 7 - Supervision, Monitoring and Maintenance

It is the responsibility of the project manager to ensure that the arboricultural implications are taken into full account. An arboricultural advisor shall be appointed to provide advice and monitor the tree protection during the construction phase. During construction if roots become exposed, they should be immediately covered or wrapped in damp hessian. Roots <25mm in dia. can be pruned by hand and covered with topsoil. Roots >25mm should be retained where possible under guidance of the appointed arboricultural supervisor.

Tree Protection Plan

All trees that are to be retained on site are to be protected by barriers before any machinery or materials brought to site, this also includes demolition and soil stripping. The specification for vertical barriers within BS 5837(2012) "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction" are to be used

These barriers and the protected areas are to remain throughout the entire project. Should this not be possible the project arboriculturalist should be contacted and approval from local planning authority sought

Weatherproof tree protection posters should be affixed to the fencing at regular interval all in clear view.

The construction company should

- Identify individual responsibilities and key personnel
- Training/toolbox talk in awareness of Arboricultural matters
- Keep records and dates of installation of fencing and excavation including updates and photographs
- Set up procedures for dealing with variations and incidents within the Construction management plan, this should also include specific method statements for tasks carried out within the vicinity /RPAs of the trees on external margins of site.

Site compound

The protected retained trees are located around the boundaries of the site and the site is large offering options of locations that will not have a detrimental effect upon trees or hedges. The Construction Phase Plan ref Tilbury Douglas identifies clearly- Initial set up, Temp accommodation, Demolition and Newbuild phases of the project and to be initiated in full.

The site is accessed off the main road via a existing access points, should large /wide loads require access and be in close proximity to any canopies a suitably qualified banksman should be engaged.

Excavation within the RPA

To avoid any damage to tree roots, existing ground levels are to be retained within all RPAs. Currently T7, T23, T24, T25, T28 and T29 have tarmac parking within plotted RPAs, it should be noted that these areas are existing and the use of existing hard surfaces will have no effect upon the tree root zones, any changes to these areas should be carried out under an Arboricultural method statement if the surfaces are required to be altered. The trees in these areas have developed with the extensive tarmac in place and utilised other rooting zones asymmetrically, however the canopies have not been pruned as part of ongoing maintenance and sympathetic crown lifting in these areas will ensure the trees that are retained have suitable canopy structures and will ensure longevity of the trees in these locations.

Trees along southern boundary are external of site fence, the root zones within the school area is generally covered by existing tarmac and to be retained reducing any potential impacts to roots in this area. It should be noted that this line of trees is proposed to be removed as part of the planning permission that has been granted for 89 houses ref: P233700/F.

Foundation design/groundworks

Standard installation techniques can be utilised on site and normal construction techniques will be adopted in relation to on site ground conditions as specified by site engineers.

BS 5837(2012) 5.6 states all construction operations in the vicinity of trees need to be planned in advance to avoid the disturbance to the physical protection barriers and the tree itself.

Soft landscaping

Soil compaction within protected areas is to be prevented, this includes tree, hedge and shrub planting and also includes soil preparation for grass seeding, any soil cultivation within an RPA will be carried out carefully by hand to ensure no damage to roots occur. Temporary topsoil storage will be located outside of all RPAs and follow BS4428 handling topsoil and should only be carried out when weather and soil conditions are suitable.

General Precautions

No materials that are likely to have an adverse effect on tree health such as oil and petrol will be stored within 10 metres of the tree canopy that are to be retained. There should be a designated area for storage of petrochemicals and other materials. Upon completion of project all materials should be removed from site. The site contains other habitats that could potentially support protected species and an ecological clerk of works should be appointed with relevant experience.

Legislation

Birds

The Wildlife and Countryside Protection act 1981 (amended) provides the legal protection of wild birds. All nesting birds and their nests, eggs and young are protected from killing, injury, taking or selling.

Bats

All species of bats and their breeding sites or resting places are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation 2010 and the Wildlife and Countryside Protection Act 1981 (amended). The deliberate capture, disturbance, injury or killing of bats is prohibited as is damaging, destroying or obstructing access to any place used by bats for shelter or breeding, whether they are present or not. Reckless disturbance or obstruction of access to a roost are also criminal offences.

Great Crested Newts

The Great Crested Newt is protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Protection act 1981 (amended) and are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation 2010. They are protected from deliberate killing, injury or capture with their habitat, including breeding site, resting place or any structure or place used for shelter or protection also protected against damage or destruction, it is also illegal to disturb great Crested Newts and their eggs are protected from taking or destroying.

Reptiles

Common reptile species are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Protection act 1981(amended). The deliberate capture, killing and injury or being sold. The habitat of these reptiles is not directly protected, however, disturbing or destroying their habitat whilst they are present may lead to an offence.

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Survey Sheet Classification

Key

All tree numbers refer to the attached site plans.
Species given by botanical name followed by common name in brackets.

Age Class

Y- Young trees up to ten years of age.
SM – Semi-mature, trees less than 1/3 life expectancy.
EM – Early mature, trees 1/3 – 2/3 life expectancy.
M – Mature trees, over 2/3 life expectancy.
OM – Over mature, declining or moribund trees of low vigour.
V – Veteran, tree possessing certain attributes relating to veteran trees.

Overall Condition

G - Good: Trees with only a few minor defects and in good overall health needing little if any attention.
F – Fair: Trees with minor, but rectifiable, defects or in the early stages of stress from which it may recover.
P – Poor: Trees with major structural and/or physiological defects that it is unlikely the tree will recover in the long term.
D – Dead: Trees no longer alive. This could also apply to trees that are dying and unlikely to recover.

Codes of retention: BS5837:2012

U- Tree to be removed – in a condition that they cannot be realistically retained in current land use for longer than 10 years.

A- Tree of high quality and value with an estimated remaining life of at least 40 years

B - Tree of moderate quality and value with an estimated remaining life of at least 20 years

C - Tree of low quality and value with an estimated remaining life of at least 10 years or young trees with diameter below 150mm

1 - Mainly of arboricultural value- a good example of species or component of group

2 - Mainly of landscape value –of particular visual importance as arboricultural and or landscape feature

3 - Mainly of cultural or conservation value –of significant conservation, historical or commemorative value

NB: Survey carried out in accordance with BS: 5837: 2012 Trees in relation to construction recommendations. Consult BS for further information.



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Tree Survey & Categorisation - BS5837:2012

Tree No	Species	Diameter (mm)		Tree Height (m)	Lowest Branch M/dir	Branch Spread (m)		Life Stage	General Observations/Justifications	Recommendations	Priority	Life Expect	BS5837 Cat		
		D1	D4			N	E					RPA			
		D2	D5			S	W								
		D3	D Ave	Crown Height (m)											
T1	Quercus r.	200		10	2	2	2	SM	young tree at rear of Polytunnel	unsuitable in location to due to future size		40+	B3		
														2.4	
				2		2	2								
T2	Prunus d.	180	100	8	G	2	2	EM	poor tree grown out of rootstock	replace/remove		10	C1		
		120	100				2					2			3.6
		100		G											
T3	Acer ps.	720		10	3	3	5	M	part of group, poor tree, leaning and historic poor management	reduce/replace		10	C1		
							7					3			8.7
				2											
T4	Corylus a.	90x6	ave	8	G	3	3	M	part of group , dominated by larger specimen within group.	coppice on long cycle		10	C1		
							1					3			2.6
				G											
T5	Acer plat.	670		10	2	3	3	M	poor tree with new faults since previous survey	reduce/ replace		10	C1		
							3					3			8
				3											
T6	Corylus a.	90x6	ave.	6	G	2	2	M	Multistem shrub grown within hedgeline.	coppice on long cycle as part of hedge management		20+	B2		
							2					2			2.6
				G											
T7	Acer c.	620		12	4	5	5	M	part of overgrown hedgerow	Maintain as part of hedge management		20+	B2		
							5					5			7.4
				5											

Site:

Surveyor: Jonathan Fennessy

Date:

Tree No	Species	Diameter (mm)		Tree Height (m)	Lowest Branch M/dir	Branch Spread (m)		Life Stage	General Observations/Justifications	Recommendations	Priority	Life Expect	BS5837 Cat
		D1	D4			N	E					RPA	
		D2	D5			S	W						
		D3	D Ave	Crown Height (m)									
T8	Fraxinus ex.	500		11	5	3	5	M	poor tree , overcrowded within hedgeline, minor deadwood	monitor of ash dieback		10	C2
				5		3	4					6	
T9	Corylus a.	90x6	ave.	6	G	2	2	M	part of hedgeline	coppice on long cycle as part of hedge management		20+	B2
				G		2	1					2.6	
T10	Fraxinus ex.	340		10	4	2	3	M	poor tree , overcrowded within hedgeline, minor deadwood	monitor of ash dieback		10	C2
				4		3	2					4	
T11	Crataegus m.	190		6	2	2	2	M	part of hedge in tree form	maintain in current form		20+	B2
				2		2	2					2.3	
T12	Fraxinus ex.	350		10	3	3	3	M	poor tree , overcrowded within hedgeline, minor deadwood	monitor of ash dieback		10	C2
				4		3	3					4.1	
T13	Fraxinus ex.	400		10	2	3	3	M	poor tree , overcrowded within hedgeline, minor deadwood	monitor of ash dieback		10	C2
				3		2	3					4.8	
T14	Corylus a.	90x6	ave.	6	G	2	3	M	Multistem shrub grown within hedgeline.	maintain in current form		2	B2
				G		2	2					2.6	

Site:

Surveyor: Jonathan Fennessy

Date:

Tree No	Species	Diameter (mm)		Tree Height (m)	Lowest Branch M/dir	Branch Spread (m)		Life Stage	General Observations/Justifications	Recommendations	Priority	Life Expect	BS5837 Cat
		D1	D4			N	E					RPA	
		D2	D5	Crown Height (m)		S	W						
		D3	D Ave										
T15	Fraxinus ex.	600		12	3	4	4	M	part of external hedge line with some dieback present	monitor for ash dieback		10	C2
				2		4	4					7.2	
T16	Corylus a.	90x6	ave	7	G	2	2	M	Multistem shrub grown within hedgeline.	maintain in current form		20+	B2
				G		2	2					2.6	
T17	Fraxinus ex.	240	200	10	1	3	3	M	poor tree with faults and dieback	replace		10	C2
				1		4	4					3.7	
T18	Acer plat	370		9	3	4	4	M	root zone damaged by traffic and unsuitable in location	replace		20	B2
				3		4	4					4.5	
T19	Betula a.	360		11	3	4	4	M	Poor tree , crown removed historically	replace		10	C2
				3		4	4					4.2	
T20	Malus d.	300		8	1	4	4	EM	poor pruning /leaning	replace		10	C2
				1		4	2					3.6	
T21	Cypresuss	160		6	1	2	2	EM	Poor tree, not suitable in location	replace		10	C2
				6		2	2					2	

Site:

Surveyor: Jonathan Fennessy

Date:

Tree No	Species	Diameter (mm)		Tree Height (m)	Lowest Branch M/dir	Branch Spread (m)		Life Stage	General Observations/Justifications	Recommendations	Priority	Life Expect	BS5837 Cat
		D1	D4			N	E					RPA	
		D2	D5	Crown Height (m)		S	W						
		D3	D Ave										
T22	Cypresuss	180x3	ave	6	1	2	2	EM	Poor tree, not suitable in location	replace		10	C2
				2		2	3.7						
				2		2							
T23	Acer p.	420		10	2	5	5	EM	Grown as unit with T24, well balanced	monitor		20+	B2
				2		5	5					5	
				2		5	5						
T24	Acer p.	370		10	2	6	5	EM	grown as pair with T23, well balanced single areodynamic unit	monitor		20+	B2
				2		5	5					4.5	
				2		5	5						
T25	Fagus syl.	660		14	2	8	8	M	well balnce tree at front of site	retain and protect.		40+	A2
				2		8	8					7.9	
				2		8	8						
T26	Cotoneaste r l.	320		7	2	3	3	M	small tree within other planting			20+	B2
				2		3	3					3.8	
				2		3	3						
T27	Malus d.	200		5	1	1	1	Y	small tree in roadside location	retain		20+	B2
				2		1	1					2.4	
				2		1	1						
T28	Prunus a.	400		12	3	5	5	M	Overcrowded , damaging tarmac with roots	monitor/prune		10+	C2
				3		4	5					4.8	

Site:

Surveyor: Jonathan Fennessy

Date:

Tree No	Species	Diameter (mm)		Tree Height (m)	Lowest Branch M/dir	Branch Spread (m)		Life Stage	General Observations/Justifications	Recommendations	Priority	Life Expect	BS5837 Cat
		D1	D4			N	E					RPA	
		D2	D5	Crown Height (m)		S	W						
		D3	D Ave										
T29	Prunus a.	520		12	3	7	6	M	Poor historic pruning, roots damaging tarmac , as a pair with T28	monitor /prune		20+	B2
				3		6	6					6.2	
T30													
T31													
T32													
T33													
T34													
T35													



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Photographs

T5 -located under powerlines with structural faults.

To be removed



Hedge on external margin to be retained and protected.



Trees along external southern margin to be removed as part of adjacent planning application



Trees to be removed at site entrance.



T27-T29 to be retained at site entrance.



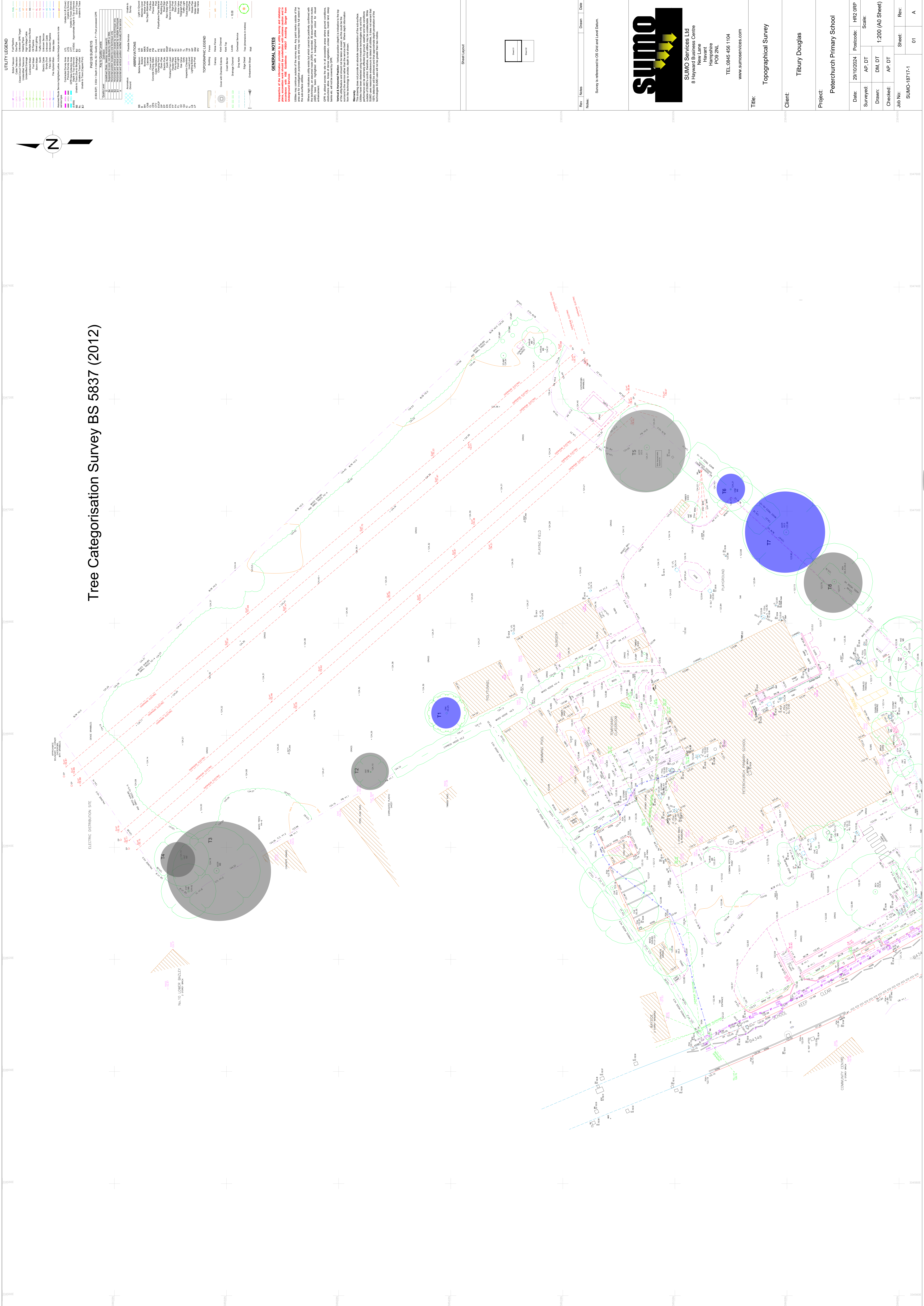
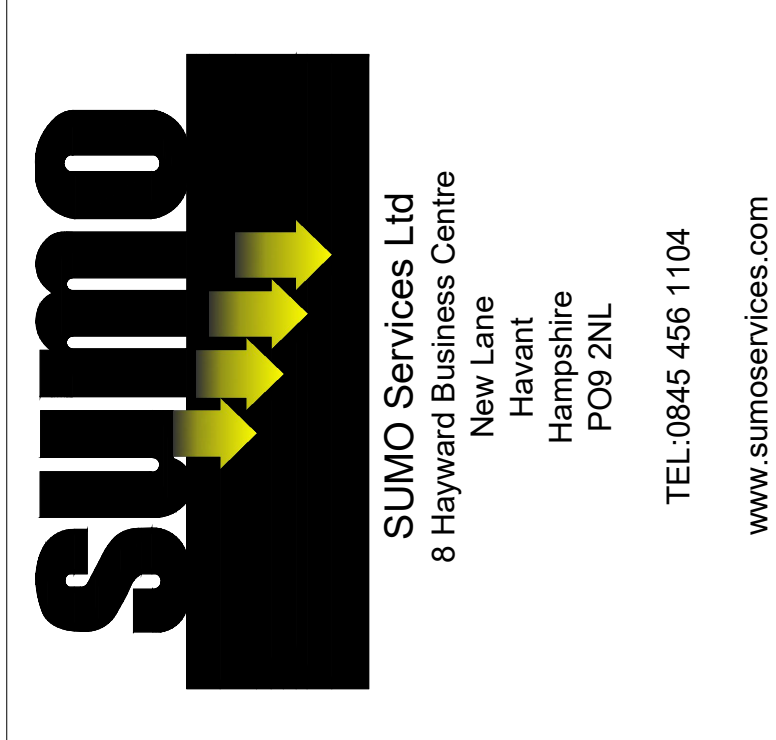
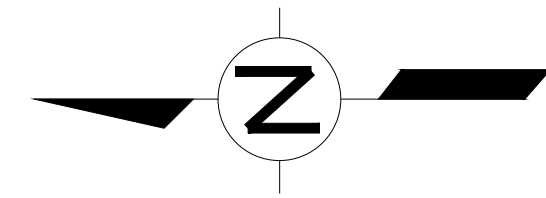
Existing site access and shrubbery

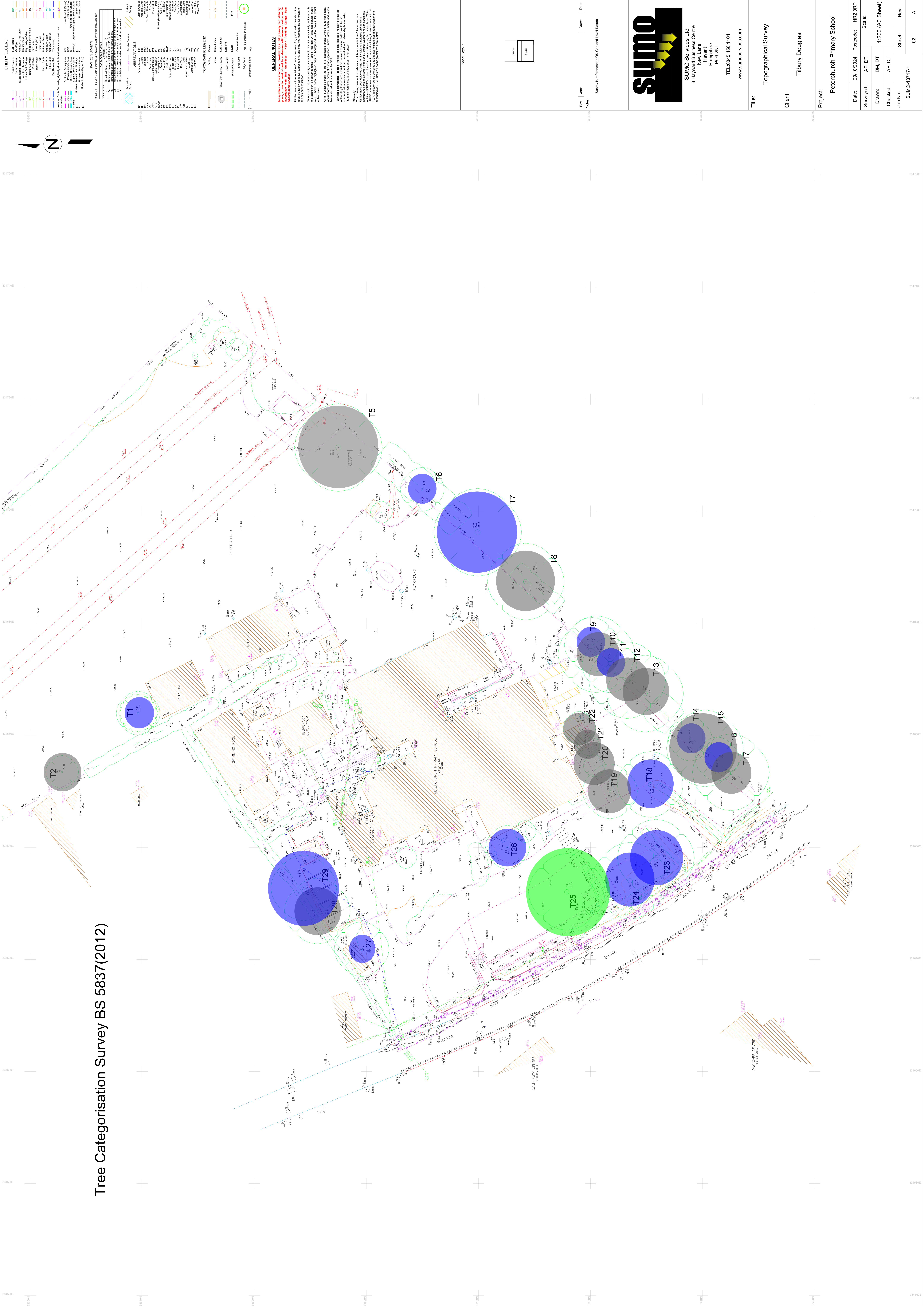


Appendix 1 RPA & Categorisation Drawing

DO NOT SCALE OFF DRAWING.

Tree Categorisation Survey BS 5837 (2012)





Tree Categorisation Survey BS 5837(2012)

[illegible]

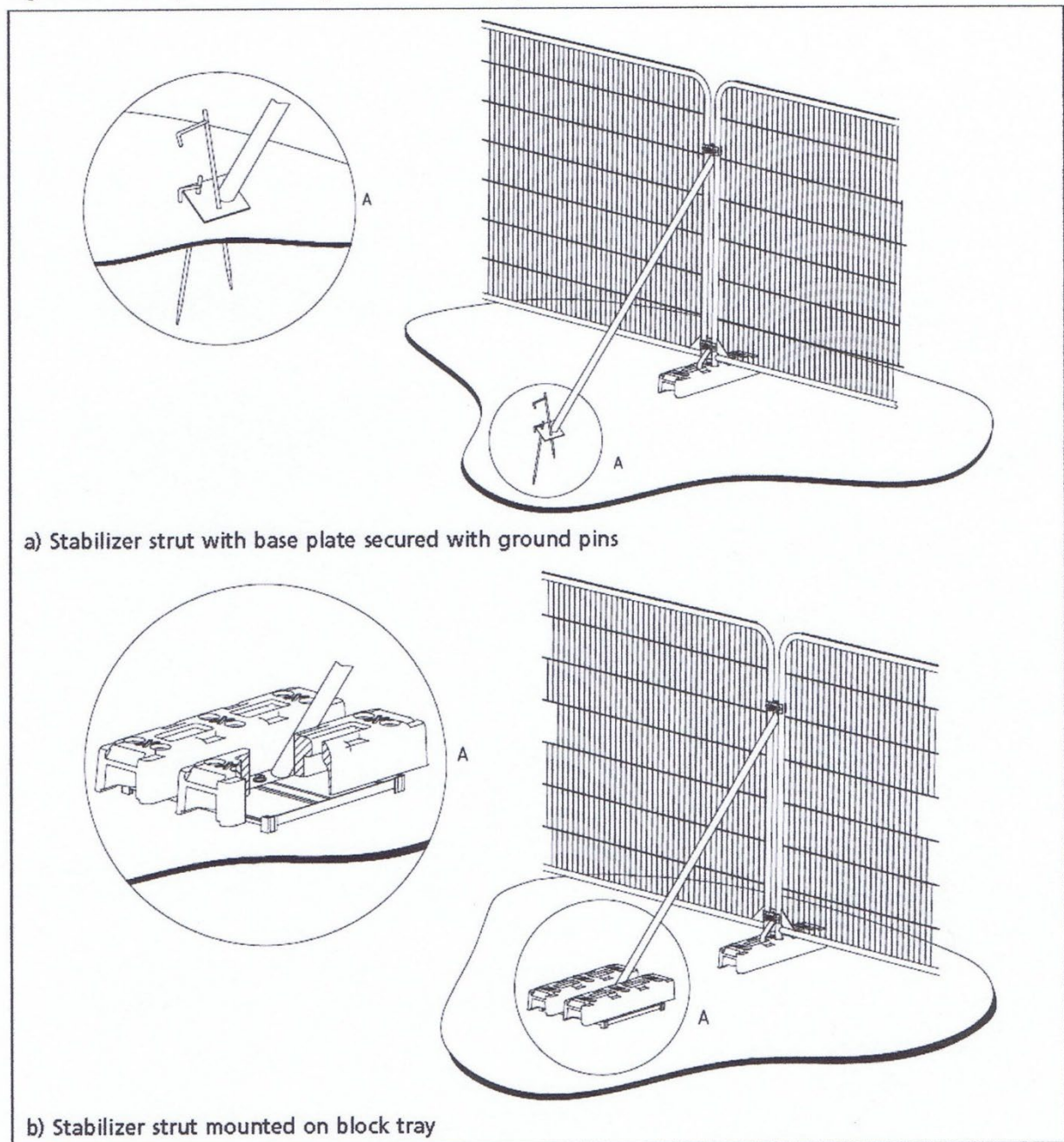
	SUMO Services Ltd 8 Heyward Business Centre New Lane Havant Hampshire PO9 2NL		TEL:0845 456 1104 www.sumoservices.com	
	Topographical Survey			
	Client: Tilbury Douglas			
	Project: Peterchurch Primary School			
Date: 29/10/2024	Postcode: HG2 0RP	Scale		
Surveyed: AP, DT	1:200 (A0 Sheet)			
Drawn: DM, DT				
Checked: AP, DT				
Job No: SUMO-43717-1		Sheet: 02	Rev: A	

BS5837:2012 British Standards Institution 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 <i>NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve; see [BS5837:2012] 4.5.7.</i>			
	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	

Appendix 2: Tree Protection Barrier construction

Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



Tree Protection Plan

Project:
Peterchurch Primary School
Herefordshire County Council

Job Number:
LP2408

Drawing Title:
Landscape Masterplan

Drawing Number:
100583-FIR-EX-XX-D-L-0002

Drawing Status:
PLANNING

First Issue Date:
11/11/2024

Scale:
1:200@A0

Revision:
P 0 1
Authorised:
JP

