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## **Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report**

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<b><u>Site Address:</u></b>	Lot 8, 18 Alexander Avenue, Collaroy NSW
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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Hugh The Arborist Pty Ltd has been instructed by Brendan Waights to provide an Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report for trees located on and adjoining the site that may be affected by a proposed development.
- 1.2 The subject site has been divided into two lots, 8 and 9. This report assesses the impact of a proposed development on Lot 8 only.
- 1.3 The following table contains all documents and information provided to me by the client.

**Table 1: documents provided.**

Title	Author	Date created	Plan/Doc. Ref.
Survey Plan	C&A Surveyors	31/1/19	15-2252 DET V3
Architectural Drawings	Walsh <sup>2</sup> Architects	7/2/20	DA 000,010,101,102,111,112,113,123, 200,300,401,500,502,503,511,512, 513,800,901 (REV A)

- 1.4 One site inspection was carried out on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2019. All tree data was collected during this time. Access was available to the subject site and adjoining public areas only.
- 1.5 A second site inspection was carried out on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 to review the condition of the assessed trees prior to this report preparation.

## 2. SCOPE OF THE REPORT

- 2.1 **This report has been undertaken to meet the following objectives;**
  - 2.1.1 Conduct a visual assessment from ground level of trees located on and adjoining the site.
  - 2.1.2 For the purpose of this report, a 'tree' is taken to have a height equal to or greater than 5 metres that is not listed under the Councils exemptions for protection.
  - 2.1.3 Trees less than 5 metres in height are excluded from this assessment.
  - 2.1.4 Determine the trees estimated contribution years and remaining, useful life expectancy and award the trees a retention value.

- 2.1.5 Provide an assessment of the potential impact the proposed development is likely to cause to the condition of the subject trees in accordance with AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009).
- 2.1.6 Provide pragmatic recommendations for the management of trees and mitigation of construction impacts on retained trees.
- 2.1.7 Specify tree protection measures for trees to be retained in accordance with AS 4970-2009.

### **3. LIMITATIONS**

- 3.1 The findings of this report are based on the observations and site conditions at the time of inspection.
- 3.2 Trees located at the rear of the site have been incorrectly located on the survey plans provided. This has been corrected based on setbacks taken during the site inspection.
- 3.3 Where access was limited due to trespass issues, measurements have been estimated.
- 3.4 All of the observations were carried out from ground level. The accuracy of the assessment of the subject trees structural condition and health is limited to the visibility of the tree at the time of inspection.
- 3.5 The tree inspections were visual from ground level only. No soil or tissue testing was carried out as part of the tree inspection. None of the surrounding surfaces adjacent to trees were lifted or removed during the tree inspections.
- 3.6 Root decay can sometimes be present with no visual indication above ground. It is also impossible to know the extent of any root damage caused by mechanical damage such as underground root cutting during the installation of services without undertaking detailed root investigation. Any form of tree failure due to these activities is beyond the scope of this assessment.
- 3.7 The report reflects the subject tree(s) as found on the day of inspection. Any changes to the growing environment of the subject tree, or tree management works beyond those recommended in this report may alter the findings of the report. There is no warranty, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies relating to the subject tree, or subject site may not arise in the future.
- 3.8 Tree identification is based on accessible visual characteristics at the time of inspection. As key identifying features are not always available the accuracy of identification is not guaranteed. Where tree species is unknown, it is indicated with a spp.



- 3.9 All diagrams, plans and photographs included in this report are visual aids only, and are not to scale unless otherwise indicated.
- 3.10 Hugh The Arborist neither guarantees, nor is responsible for, the accuracy of information provided by others that is contained within this report.
- 3.11 While an assessment of the subject trees estimated useful life expectancy is included in this report, no specific tree risk assessment has been undertaken for any of trees at the site.
- 3.12 The ultimate safety of any tree cannot be categorically guaranteed. Even trees apparently free of defects can collapse or partially collapse in extreme weather conditions. Trees are dynamic, biological entities subject to changes in their environment, the presence of pathogens and the effects of ageing. These factors reinforce the need for regular inspections. It is generally accepted that hazards can only be identified from distinct defects or from other failure-prone characteristics of a tree or its locality.
- 3.13 Alteration of this report invalidates the entire report.

## 4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 The following information was collected during the assessment of the subject tree(s).
  - 4.1.1 Tree common name
  - 4.1.2 Tree botanical name
  - 4.1.3 Tree age class
  - 4.1.4 DBH (Trunk/Stem diameter at breast height/1.4m above ground level) - millimetres.
  - 4.1.5 Estimated height - metres
  - 4.1.6 Estimated crown spread (Radius of crown) - metres
  - 4.1.7 Health
  - 4.1.8 Structural condition
  - 4.1.9 Amenity value
  - 4.1.10 Estimated remaining contribution years (SULE)<sup>1</sup>
  - 4.1.11 Retention value (Tree AZ)<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Barrell Tree Consultancy, *SULE: Its use and status into the New Millennium*, TreeAZ/03/2001, <http://www.treeaz.com/>.

<sup>2</sup> Barrell Tree Consultancy, *Tree AZ version 10.10-ANZ*, <http://www.treeaz.com/>.

#### 4.1.12 Notes/comments

- 4.2 An assessment of the trees condition was made using the visual tree assessment (VTA) model (Mattheck & Breloer, 1994).<sup>3</sup>
- 4.3 Tree diameter was measured using a DBH tape or in some cases estimated. All other measurements were estimations unless otherwise stated. The other tools I used during the assessment were a digital camera, Japanese made 170mm blade digging knife and a Leica DistoD410 digital laser tape.
- 4.4 All DBH measurements, tree protection zones, and structural root zones were calculated in accordance with methods set out in AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009). See appendices for more information.
- 4.5 Details of how the observations in this report have been assessed are listed in the appendices.

## 5. SITE LOCATION AND PROPOSAL

- 5.1 The site is located in the in the Northern Beaches Council suburb of Collaroy. All trees at the site are managed under the following policy and legislation;
  - 5.1.1 Warringah Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011<sup>4</sup>
  - 5.1.2 Warringah Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011
  - 5.1.3 Northern Beaches Tree Management Controls
  - 5.1.4 State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas 2017).
- 5.2 Lot 8 is orientated north (front) to south (rear). The site increases in grade from front to rear with two significant level changes, one before the existing deck measuring approximately 1.2 metres and the second on the rear boundary raising approximately 1.4 metres to the property/easement behind the site.
- 5.3 The site is densely vegetated at the front with a dominance of species that are listed on Councils list of species exempt from protection. The rear of the site contains no vegetation, three mature trees are located off the rear boundary of the site.

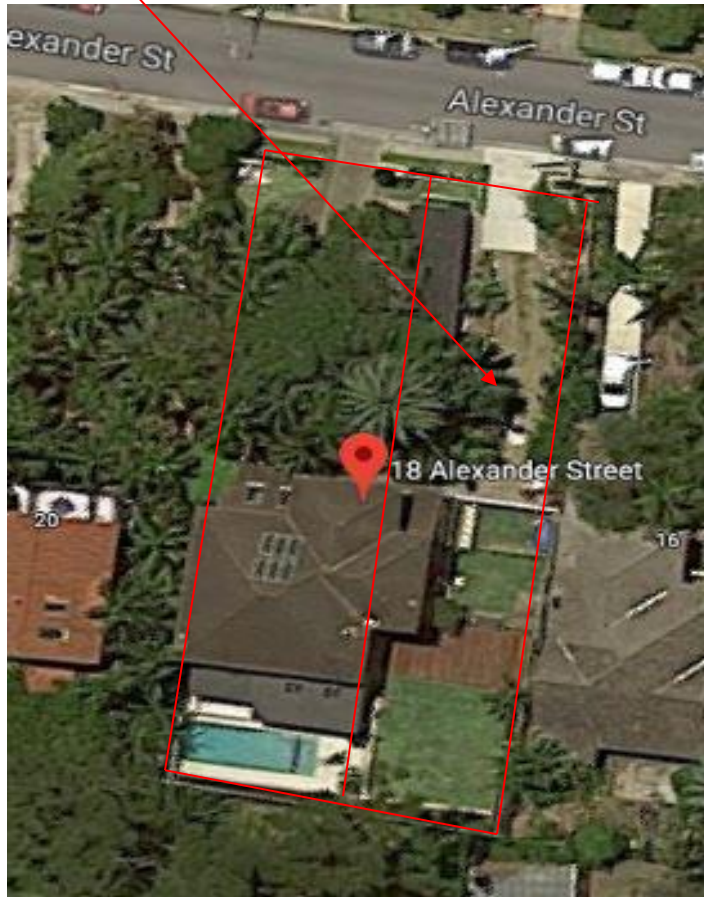
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<sup>3</sup> Mattheck, C. & Breloer, H., *The body language of trees - A handbook for failure analysis*, The Stationary Office, London, England (1994).

<sup>4</sup> <https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/Public/XC.Track/SearchProperty.aspx?id=128235>

- 5.4 The site is not located within a heritage conservation area, does not contain terrestrial biodiversity and does not form part of a wildlife corridor.<sup>5</sup>
- 5.5 The development consists of the demolition of the existing structures on site and the development of a boarding house with garages and associated ancillary structures.

**Tile 1: Site Location Lot 8**<sup>6</sup>



<sup>5</sup> <https://services.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/icongis/index.html>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.google.com.au/maps/place/33A+Central+Rd,+Avalon+Beach+NSW+2107>

## 6. OBSERVATIONS AND GENERAL INFORMATION IN RELATION TO PROTECTING TREES ON DEVELOPMENT SITES

- 6.1 **Tree information:** Details of each individual tree assessed, including the observations taken during the site inspection, can be found in the tree inspection schedule in appendix 2, where the indicative tree protection zone (TPZ) and Structural Root Zone (SRZ) has been calculated for each of the subject trees. The TPZ and SRZ should be measured in radius from the centre of the trunk. Each of the subject trees have been awarded a retention value based on the observations using the Tree AZ method. Tree AZ is used to identify higher value trees worthy of being a constraint to development and lower value trees that should generally not be a constraint to the development. The Tree AZ categories sheet (Barrell Tree Consultancy) has been included in appendix 3 to assist with understanding the retention values. The retention value that has been allocated to the subject trees in this report is not definitive and should only be used as a guideline.
- 6.2 **Site plan:** In appendix 1 a site plan has been prepared based on the survey plan, where the tree information including canopy spread, TPZ, SRZ and tree protection advice have been overlaid. Appendix 1A and 1B contains the same tree information overlaid on the proposed site plans.
- 6.3 **Tree protection zone (TPZ):** The TPZ is the principle means of protecting trees on development sites and is an area required to maintain the viability of trees during development. It is commonly observed that tree roots will extend significantly further than the indicative TPZ, however the TPZ is an area identified in AS4970-2009 to be the area where root loss or disturbance will generally impact the viability of the tree. The TPZ is identified as a restricted area to prevent damage to trees either above or below ground during a development. Where trees are intended to be retained proposed developments must provide an adequate TPZ around trees. The TPZ is set aside for the tree's root zone, trunk and crown and it is essential for the stability and longevity of the tree. The TPZ also incorporates the SRZ (see below for more information about the SRZ). The TPZ is calculated by multiplying the DBH by twelve, with the exception of palms, other monocots, cycads and tree ferns, the TPZ of which have been calculated at one metre outside the crown projection. Additional information about the TPZ is included in appendix 3.

- 6.4 **Structural Root Zone (SRZ):** This is the area around the base of a tree required for the trees stability in the ground. An area larger than the SRZ always needs to be maintained to preserve a viable tree. The SRZ is calculated using the following formula;  $(DAB \times 50)^{0.42} \times 0.64$ . There are several factors that can vary the SRZ which include height, crown area, soil type and soil moisture. It can also be influenced by other factors such as natural or built structures. Generally, work within the SRZ should be avoided. Soil level changes should also generally be avoided inside the SRZ of trees to be retained. Palms, other monocots, cycads and tree ferns do not have an SRZ. See the appendices for more information about the SRZ.
- 6.5 **Minor encroachment into TPZ:** Sometimes encroachment into the TPZ is unavoidable. Encroachment includes but is not limited to activities such as excavation, compacted fill and machine trenching. Minor encroachment of up to 10% of the overall TPZ area is normally considered acceptable, providing there is space adjacent to the TPZ for the tree to compensate and the tree is displaying adequate vigour/health to tolerate changes to its growing environment.

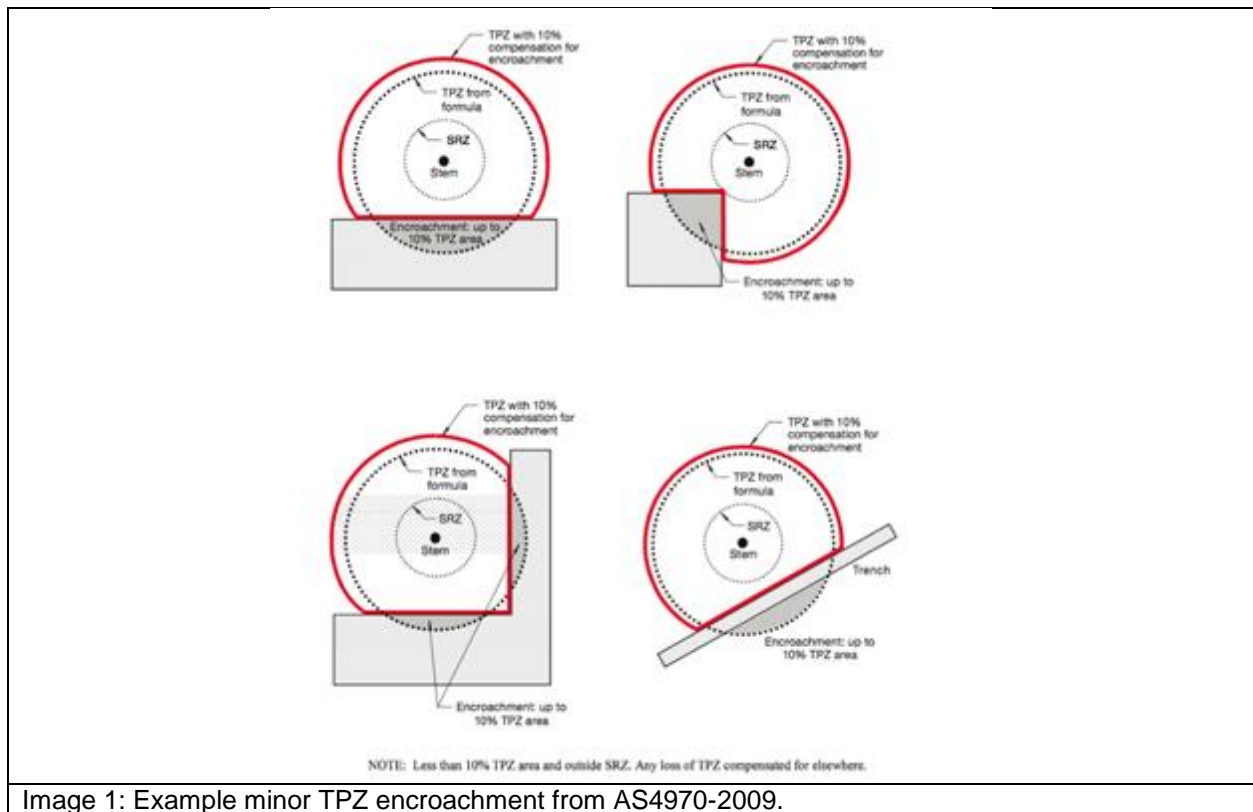


Image 1: Example minor TPZ encroachment from AS4970-2009.

- 6.6 **Major encroachment into TPZ:** Where encroachment of more than 10% of the overall TPZ area is proposed the project Arborist must investigate and demonstrate that the tree will remain in a viable condition. In some cases, tree sensitive construction methods such as pier and beam footings, suspended slabs, or cantilevered sections, can be utilised to allow additional encroachment into the TPZ by bridging over roots and minimising root disturbance. Major encroachment is only possible if it can be undertaken without severing significant size roots, or if it can be demonstrated that significant roots will not be impacted. Root investigations may be required to identify roots that will be impacted during major TPZ encroachment (see appendix 3 for more information in relation to root investigations).

## 7. ASSESSEMENT OF CONSTRUCTION IMPACTS

7.1 **Table 2:** In the table below the impact of proposed development impact to all trees included in the report has been assessed.

Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
1	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> (Port Jackson Fig) And <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	A2	5	2	Major	<p>Tree 1 has self-seeded onto the trunk of a Phoenix Palm (<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>) at approximately 1.5 meters from the ground. The Ficus has subsequently developed into a 'strangler Fig' form whereby it extends aerial roots down a structure, in this case the Palm tree, and into the soil to form structural woody prop roots above ground.</p> <p>The base of the Ficus is situated 1.5 meters above the ground level and wraps around the trunk of the palm giving it a narrow and curved form. The typical measurements required to calculate TPZ areas taken at 1.4m on the trunk and above the root flare at base were not achievable due to the reasons noted above.</p> <p>This provides a certain degree of ambiguity with calculations used to obtain the Tree Protection Zone and Structural Root Zone radius in accordance with AS4970 Protection of Trees on Development Sites (2009).</p> <p>The TPZ and SRZ measurements stated for tree 1 used to discuss the potential development impacts have been based on the minimum TPZ area of the Palm tree (one meter outside of the crown radius) and an allowance of a 2 meter radius SRZ for the Ficus, noting the minimum SRZ in accordance with AS4970-2009 is 1.5 meters radius.</p> <p>The proposed residences and walkway will be raised above grade on the first floor providing no encroachment into the TPZ area with the exception of a two meter section of wall, most of which is already occupied by the existing structure proposed for demolition. Canopy pruning will be required on the eastern side of the Ficus to allow for the suspended walkway clearance. One primary limb</p>	Retain and protect





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Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
						<p>measuring approximately 300 millimeters in diameter will require removal. This is not considered to detract from the trees existing amenity value or adversely impact the trees health.</p> <p>The proposed driveway and car parking space (7) will encroach into the TPZ area and the notional SRZ area by up to 37.3%. This is considered to be a major encroachment and the severance of structural roots may lead to the destabilization of the tree. The driveway has been designed to be constructed above the existing soil grade and involve minimal excavations for piers. It is possible to utilize permeable or semi permeable surfaces to allow the filtration of rain runoff to penetrate to the roots below. Given the ground floor parking area is open between the raised walkway and the tree it is anticipated this will be effective in providing some irrigation. In addition, downpipes from guttering can be redirected toward the base of the tree providing further irrigation.</p> <p>The proposed small car space (7) will not increase the level of encroachment proposed by the driveway as it is included within the driveway slab. On the provision there is no piers located within the notional 2 meter SRZ of the Ficus the impact may be managed at a sustainable level.</p> <p>The combined encroachment from Lot 8 and associated pruning works is likely to have a low to moderate combined impact on the health of the trees in the short term only. This may be mitigated by providing appropriate care during and post construction.</p>	





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Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
						No structural roots to the south of the tree have been proposed to be disturbed, the Project Arborist is to assess any additional works proposed within 2 meters of the Ficus tree. The development currently under assessment for lot 9 will also impact the subject trees. Lot 9 has been designed so no excavations will be carried out within the TPZ of retained trees and will also be of sustainable impact to the tree.	
2	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	Z3	4	-	Major	The proposed driveway will encroach into the TPZ area by up to 50%. As discussed with tree number 1 the surface is proposed to be raised above the existing grade and require minimal excavations. Tree 2 is an early mature Palm tree that is considered to be capable of acclimatizing to development impacts as it reaches maturity, providing the development is constructed using tree sensitive methods. The recommendations to mitigate development impact for tree 1 will also mitigate the impacts proposed on tree 2. Unlike tree 1, the trunk of tree 2 is closer to the proposed slab. It will be recommended that a 300mm grate is incorporated into the slab to allow a greater setback to be provided for the trunk as the tree matures.	Retain and Protect
3	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	Z3	4	-	-	Tree has been removed since the assessment was carried out, the species is not protected in NBLGA.	-

Report on trees at: Lot 8, 18 Alexander Avenue, Collaroy NSW  
Prepared for: Brendan Waights  
Prepared by: Hugh Millington hugh@hughtheArborist.com.au  
Date prepared: 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
4	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	A1	10.3	3.2	Minor	<p>Less than 5% TPZ encroachment from the proposed building. The trees calculated TPZ does extend within the proposed landscaping area at the rear of the building however the trees are situated approximately 1.4 meters above the existing site behind a retaining wall.</p> <p>On the provision all fencing for private open space is constructed using timber lap and cap materials the impact will remain low and acceptable.</p>	Retain and protect
5	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	A1	6.5	2.6	Minor	<p>Less than 5% TPZ encroachment from the proposed building. The trees calculated TPZ does extend within the proposed landscaping area at the rear of the building however the trees are situated approximately 1.4 meters above the existing site behind a retaining wall.</p> <p>On the provision all fencing for private open space is constructed using timber lap and cap materials the impact will remain low and acceptable.</p>	Retain and protect
6	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	A2	11.5	3.4	Minor	<p>Less than 5% TPZ encroachment from the proposed building. The trees calculated TPZ does extend within the proposed landscaping area at the rear of the building however the trees are situated approximately 1.4 meters above the existing site behind a retaining wall. The impact on tree 6 is likely to be further reduced by the existing swimming pool having reduced the spread of roots within the proposed landscape area.</p>	Retain and protect



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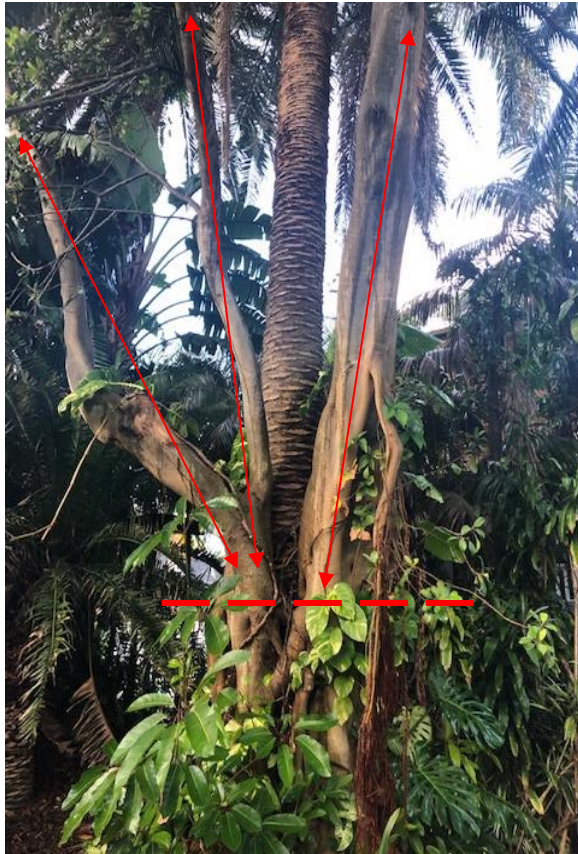
Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
						On the provision all fencing for private open space is constructed using timber lap and cap materials the impact will remain low and acceptable.	

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

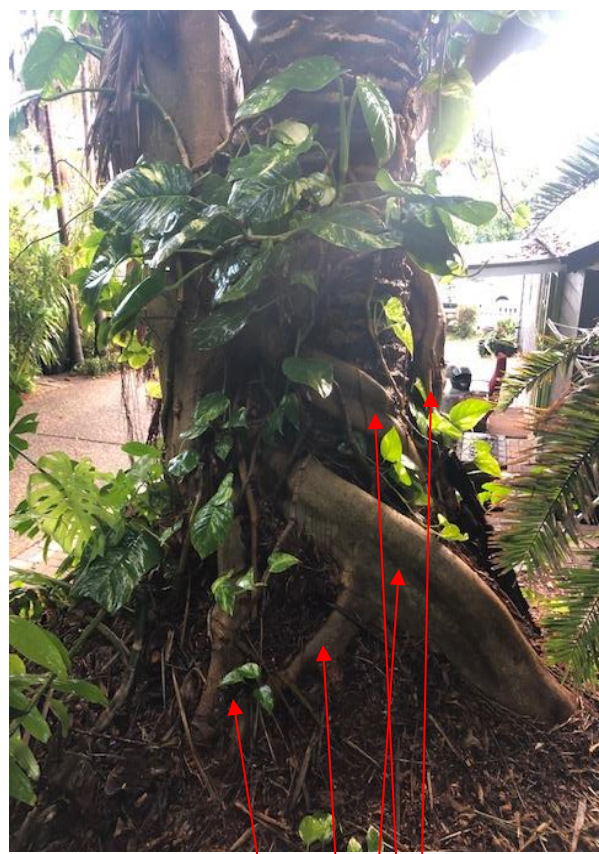
8.1 **Table 3:** Summary of the impact to trees during the development;

Impact	Reason	Category A	Category Z
		A	Z
Trees to be removed	Building/landscape construction, new surfacing and/or proximity, or trees in poor condition.	None	None
Retained trees subject to TPZ encroachment	Removal of existing surfacing/structures and/or installation of new surfacing/structures will not significantly impact the tree	1,4,5,6 (Four Trees)	2 (One Tree)
Retained trees subject to no TPZ encroachment	Located outside of the construction area	None	None

## 9. PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo A:** Tree 1 base above ground level.



**Photo B:** Tree 1 southern tension roots (structural)





**Photo C:** Rear of property and trees 4, 5 and 6.



**Photo D:** Rear of site, existing structures and tree 4.



**Photo E:** Rear of site, existing level changes and tree 4.

## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10.1 This report assesses the impact of a proposed development on six trees located on and adjoining the property.
- 10.2 Trees 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 will be subject to TPZ encroachment and are retainable under the current proposal.
- 10.3 Tree number 3 was removed during the preparation of this report and will not feature in the recommendations. The species is listed as exempt from protection in Northern Beaches LGA and was removed under Council list of permit exemptions.
- 10.4 The proposed driveway is recommended to be constructed above the existing grade on piers. No piers are to be situated within two metres radius of the centre of the tree (T1) to avoid the disturbance of structural roots.
- 10.5 The driveway is recommended to be of a porous or semi porous nature to allow for the filtration of water to roots below. Downpipes are recommended to be aligned to deliver water to the base of the tree.
- 10.6 All piers are to be excavated manually or via Hydrovac under the supervision of the Project Arborist who is to prune and document tree roots.
- 10.7 A metal grate is to be installed at the edge of the driveway to allow a 400 millimetre setback from the slab to the tree. Its purpose is to be cut as the tree grows in diameter with maturity to maintain the setback from trunk to slab.
- 10.8 Trees 4, 5 and 6 will be subject to low or negligible levels of impact and are recommended for retention and protection.
- 10.9 All fencing proposed within the TPZ areas of retained trees is to be constricted of timber lap and cap style.
- 10.10 Soil conditioner and Fertiliser is to be applied to all trees and Palms, particularly trees 1 and 2 one month prior to any works carried out on site. They are to be provided the same management throughout construction by the Project Arborist. Upon completion of the development, the Project Arborist is to prepare a 12 month management plan to continue managing trees 1 and 2 to assist with their recovery.
- 10.11 All works within the TPZ and SRZ of retained trees are to be overseen by an AQF5 Consulting Arborist to assist with minimising development impact.

- 10.12 No services plan has been assessed in this report, all services plans should be subject to review by a consulting Arborist. Where possible underground services should be located outside the TPZ of trees to be retained. All underground services located inside the TPZ of any tree to be retained must be installed via tree sensitive techniques. This should include either directional drilling methods or manual excavations to minimise the impact to trees identified for retention.
- 10.13 No landscape plan has been assessed in this report. See section 11 for general guidance in relation to minimising the impact of proposed landscaping to retained trees.

## **11. ARBORICULTURAL WORK METHOD STATEMENT (AMS) AND TREE PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS**

- 11.1 **Use of this report:** All contractors must be made aware of the tree protection requirements prior to commencing works at the site and be provided a copy of this report.
- 11.2 **Project Arborist:** Prior to any works commencing at the site a project Arborist should be appointed. The project Arborist should be qualified to a minimum AQF level 5 and/or equivalent qualifications and experience, and should assist with any development issues relating to trees that may arise. If at any time it is not feasible to carryout works in accordance with this, an alternative must be agreed in writing with the project Arborist.
- 11.3 **Tree work:** All tree work must be carried out by a qualified and experienced Arborist with a minimum of AQF level 3 in arboriculture, in accordance with NSW Work Cover Code of Practice for the Amenity Tree Industry (1998) and AS4373 Pruning of amenity trees (2007).
- 11.4 **Initial site meeting/on-going regular inspections:** The project Arborist is to hold a pre-construction site meeting with principle contractor to discuss methods and importance of tree protection measures and resolve any issues in relation to tree protection that may arise. In accordance with AS4970-2009, the project Arborist should carryout regular site inspections to ensure works are carried out in accordance with this document throughout the development process. I recommend regular site inspections on a frequency based on the longevity of the project, this is to be agreed in the initial meeting.



### 11.5 Site Specific Tree Protection Recommendations:

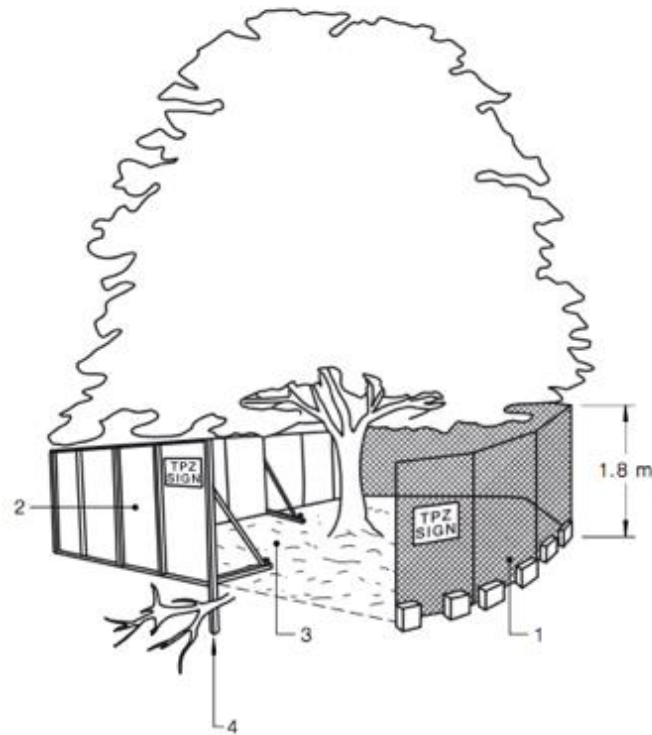
**Table 4: Protection Requirements:** See appendix 1 for indicative protection location.

Tree Number	Protection Specification
1 and 2	- Trunk Protection
4, 5 and 6	- Trees located on raised level and set back between 5.3m and 4.3m of the rear boundary, also separated by an existing structures. Perimeter fencing will provide sufficient protection.

**11.6 Tree protection Specifications:** See sections below for site/tree specific requirements. It is the responsibility of the principle contractor to install tree protection prior to works commencing at the site (prior to demolition works) and to ensure that the tree protection remains in adequate condition for the duration of the development. The tree protection must not be moved without prior agreement of the project Arborist. The project Arborist must inspect that the tree protection has been installed in accordance with this document and AS4970-2009 prior to works commencing.

**11.7 Protective fencing:** Where it is not feasible to install fencing at the specified location due to factors such restricting access to areas of the site or for constructing new structures, an alternative location and protection specification must be agreed with the project Arborist. Where the installation of fencing in unfeasible due to restrictions on space, trunk and branch protection will be required (see below). The protective fencing must be constructed of 1.8 metre 'cyclone chainmesh fence'. The fencing must only be removed for the landscaping phase and must be authorised by the project Arborist. Any modifications to the fencing locations must be approved by the project Arborist.

- 11.8 **TPZ signage:** Tree protection signage is to be attached to the protective fencing, displayed in a prominent position and the sign repeated at 10 metres intervals or closer where the fence changes direction. Each sign shall contain in a clearly legible form, the following information:
- Tree protection zone/No access.
  - This fence has been installed to prevent damage to the tree/s and their growing environment both above and below ground. Do not move fencing or enter TPZ without the agreement of the project Arborist.
  - The name, address, and telephone number of the developer/builder and project Arborist
- 11.9 **Trunk and Branch Protection:** The trunk must be protected by wrapped hessian or similar material to limit damage. Timber planks (50mm x 100mm or similar) should then be placed around tree trunk. The timber planks should be spaced at 100mm intervals, and must be fixed against the trunk with tie wire, or strapping and connections finished or covered to protect pedestrians from injury. The hessian and timber planks must not be fixed to the tree in any instance. The trunk and branch protection shall be installed prior to any work commencing on site and shall be maintained in good condition for the entire development period.
- 11.10 **Mulch:** Any areas of the TPZ located inside the subject site (only trees to be retained directly adjacent to site works must be mulched to a depth of 75mm with good quality composted wood chip/leaf mulch.
- 11.11 **Ground Protection:** Ground protection is required to protect the underlying soil structure and root system in areas where it is not practical to restrict access to whole TPZ, while allowing space for construction. Ground protection must consist of good quality composted wood chip/leaf mulch to a depth of between 150-300mm, laid on top of geo textile fabric, overlaid with durable timber boards/plywood. If vehicles are to be using the area, additional protection will be required such as rumble boards or track mats to spread the weight of the vehicle and avoid load points. Ground protection is to be specified by the project Arborist as required.

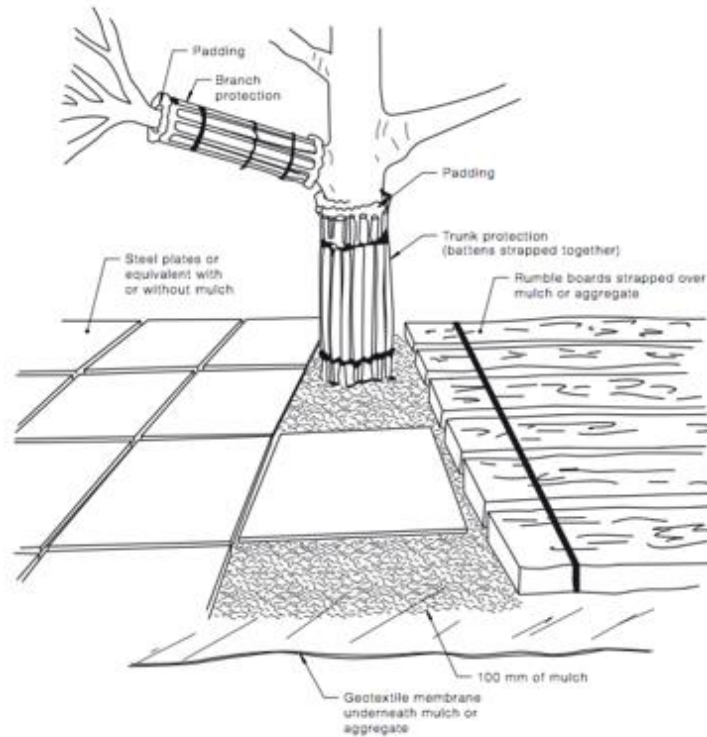


**LEGEND:**

- 1 Chain wire mesh panels with shade cloth (if required) attached, held in place with concrete feet.
- 2 Alternative plywood or wooden paling fence panels. This fencing material also prevents building materials or soil entering the TPZ.
- 3 Mulch installation across surface of TPZ (at the discretion of the project arborist). No excavation, construction activity, grade changes, surface treatment or storage of materials of any kind is permitted within the TPZ.
- 4 Bracing is permissible within the TPZ. Installation of supports should avoid damaging roots.

An image from AS4970-2009,<sup>7</sup> with example tree protection.

<sup>7</sup> Council of Standards Australia, *AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites* (2009), page 16.



**NOTES:**

- 1 For trunk and branch protection use boards and padding that will prevent damage to bark. Boards are to be strapped to trees, not nailed or screwed.
- 2 Rumble boards should be of a suitable thickness to prevent soil compaction and root damage.

An image from AS4970-2009,<sup>8</sup> with example tree protection.

**11.12 Restricted activities inside TPZ:** The following activities must be avoided inside the TPZ of all trees to be retained unless approved by the project Arborist. If at any time these activities cannot be avoided an alternative must be agreed in writing with the project Arborist to minimise the impact to the tree.

- A) Machine excavation.
- B) Ripping or cultivation of soil.
- C) Storage of spoil, soil or any such materials
- D) Preparation of chemicals, including preparation of cement products.
- E) Refueling.
- F) Dumping of waste.

<sup>8</sup> Council of Standards Australia, *AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites* (2009), page 17.

- G) Wash down and cleaning of equipment.
  - H) Placement of fill.
  - I) Lighting of fires.
  - J) Soil level changes.
  - K) Any physical damage to the crown, trunk, or root system.
  - L) Parking of vehicles.
- 11.13 **Demolition:** The demolition of all existing structures inside or directly adjacent to the TPZ of trees to be retained must be undertaken in consultation with the project Arborist. Any machinery is to work from inside the footprint of the existing structures or outside the TPZ, reaching in to minimise soil disturbance and compaction. If it is not feasible to locate demolition machinery outside the TPZ of trees to be retained, ground protection will be required. The demolition should be undertaken inwards into the footprint of the existing structures, sometimes referred to as the 'top down, pull back' method.
- 11.14 **Excavations:** The project Arborist must supervise and certify that all excavations and root pruning are in accordance with AS4373-2007 and AS4970-2009. For continuous strip footings, first manual excavation is required along the edge of the structures closest to the subject trees. Manual excavation should be a depth of 1 metre (or to unfavourable root growth conditions such as bed rock or heavy clay, if agreed by project Arborist). Next roots must be pruned back in accordance with AS4373-2007. After all root pruning is completed, machine excavation is permitted within the footprint of the structure. For tree sensitive footings, such as pier and beam, all excavations inside the TPZ must be manual. Manual excavation may include the use of pneumatic and hydraulic tools, high-pressure air or a combination of high-pressure water and a vacuum device. No pruning of roots greater 30mm in diameter is to be carried out without approval of the project arborist. All pruning of roots greater than 10mm in diameter must be carried out by a qualified Arborist/Horticulturalist with a minimum AQF level 3. Root pruning is to be a clean cut with a sharp tool in accordance with AS4373 Pruning of amenity trees (2007).<sup>9</sup> The tree root is to be pruned back to a branch root if possible. Make a clean cut and leave as small a wound as possible.
- 11.15 **Landscaping:** All landscaping works within the TPZ of trees to be retained are to be undertaken in consultation with a consulting Arborist to minimize the impact to trees. General guidance is provided below to minimise the impact of new landscaping to trees to be retained.

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<sup>9</sup> Council Of Standards Australia, AS 4373 *Pruning of amenity trees* (2007) page 18

- 11.16 **Landscaping:** All landscaping works within the TPZ of trees to be retained are to be undertaken in consultation with a consulting Arborist to minimize the impact to trees. General guidance is provided below to minimise the impact of new landscaping to trees to be retained.
- Level changes should be minimised. The existing ground levels within the landscape areas should not be lowered by more than 50mm or increased by more than 100mm without assessment by a consulting Arborist.
  - New retaining walls should be avoided. Where new retaining walls are proposed inside the TPZ of trees to be retained, they should be constructed from tree sensitive material, such as timber sleepers, that require minimal footings/excavations. If brick retaining walls are proposed inside the TPZ, consider pier and beam type footings to bridge significant roots that are critical to the trees condition. Retaining walls must be located outside the SRZ and sleepers/beams located above existing soil grades.
  - New footpaths and hard surfaces should be minimised, as they can limit the availability of water, nutrients and air to the trees root system. Where they are proposed, they should be constructed on or above existing soil grades to minimise root disturbance and consider using a permeable surface. Footpath should be located outside the SRZ.
  - Where fill/sub base is used inside the TPZ, fill material should be a coarse granular material that does not restrict the flow of water and air to the root system below. This type of material will also reduce the impact of soil compaction during construction.
  - The location of new plantings inside the TPZ of trees to be retained should be flexible to avoid unnecessary damage to tree roots greater than 30mm in diameter.
- 11.17 **Sediment and Contamination:** All contamination run off from the development such as but not limited to concrete, sediment and toxic wastes must be prevented from entering the TPZ at all times.
- 11.18 **Tree Wounding/Injury:** Any wounding or injury that occurs to a tree during the construction process will require the project Arborist to be contacted for an assessment of the injury and provide mitigation/remediation advice. It is generally accepted that trees may take many years to decline and eventually die from root damage. All repair work is to be carried out by the project Arborist, at the contractor's expense.

- 11.19 **Completion of Development Works:** After all construction works are complete the project Arborist should assess that the subject trees have been retained in the same condition and vigour. If changes to condition are identified the project Arborist should provide recommendations for remediation.

## 12. HOLD POINTS

- 12.1 **Hold Points:** Below is a sequence of hold points requiring project Arborist certification throughout the development process. It provides a list of hold points that must be checked and certified. All certification must be provided in written format upon completion of the development. The final certification must include details of any instructions for remediation undertaken during the development.

- 12.2 **Hold points applicable to the development have been shaded in grey.**

Hold Point	Stage	Responsibility	Certification	Complete Y/N and date
Project Arborist to hold pre construction site meeting with principle contractor to discuss methods and importance of tree protection measures and resolve any issues in relation to feasibility of tree protection requirements that may arise.	Prior to work commencing.	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
Project Arborist to assess and certify that tree protection has been installed in accordance with section 12 and AS4970-2009 prior to works commencing at site.	Prior to development work commencing.	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
In accordance with AS4970-2009 the project arborist should carryout regular site inspections to ensure works are carried out in accordance with the recommendations. I recommend site inspections on a monthly frequency.	Ongoing throughout the development	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	



Project Arborist to oversee all manual excavations and demolition inside the TPZ of any tree to be retained.	Construction	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
Project Arborist to certify that all pruning of roots greater than 50mm in diameter has been carried out in accordance with AS4373-2007. All root pruning must be carried out by a qualified Arborist/Horticulturalist with a minimum AQF level 3.	Construction	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
Project Arborist to certify that all underground services including storm water inside TPZ of any tree to be retained have been installed in accordance with AS4970-2009.	Construction	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
Project arborist to approve relocation of tree protection for landscaping. All landscaping works within the TPZ of trees to be retained are to be undertaken in consultation with the project Arborist to minimize the impact to trees.	Landscape	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
After all construction works are complete the project Arborist should assess that the subject trees have been retained in the same condition and vigor and authorize the removal of protective fencing. If changes to condition are identified the project Arborist should provide recommendations for remediation.	Upon completion of construction	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
Any wounding or injury that occurs to a tree during the demolition/construction process will require the project arborist to be contacted for an assessment of	Ongoing throughout the development	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	



the injury and provide mitigation/remediation advice. All remediation work is to be carried out by the project arborist, at the contractor's expense.

### 13. BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES

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- State Environmental Planning Policy (Vegetation in Non-Rural Areas 2017)
- *Warringah Local Environmental Plan 2011*
- *Warringah Development Control Plan 2011*
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- *Northern Beaches Council - Removing and Pruning Trees on Private Land*, <https://www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/planning-development/tree-management/private-land>

## 14. LIST OF APPENDICES

The following are included in the appendices:

- Appendix 1 – Existing Site Plan
- Appendix 1A – Proposed Site Plan Ground Floor
- Appendix 1B – Proposed Site Plan Level 1
- Appendix 2 - Tree inspection schedule
- Appendix 3 - Health
- Appendix 4 – Tree Protection Zone
- Appendix 5 – Structural Root Zone
- Appendix 6 – Amenity Value
- Appendix 7 – Age Class
- Appendix 8 – Structural Condition
- Appendix 9 – SULE Categories
- Appendix 10 – Retention Values
- Appendix 11 – Trees AZ

Hugh Millington



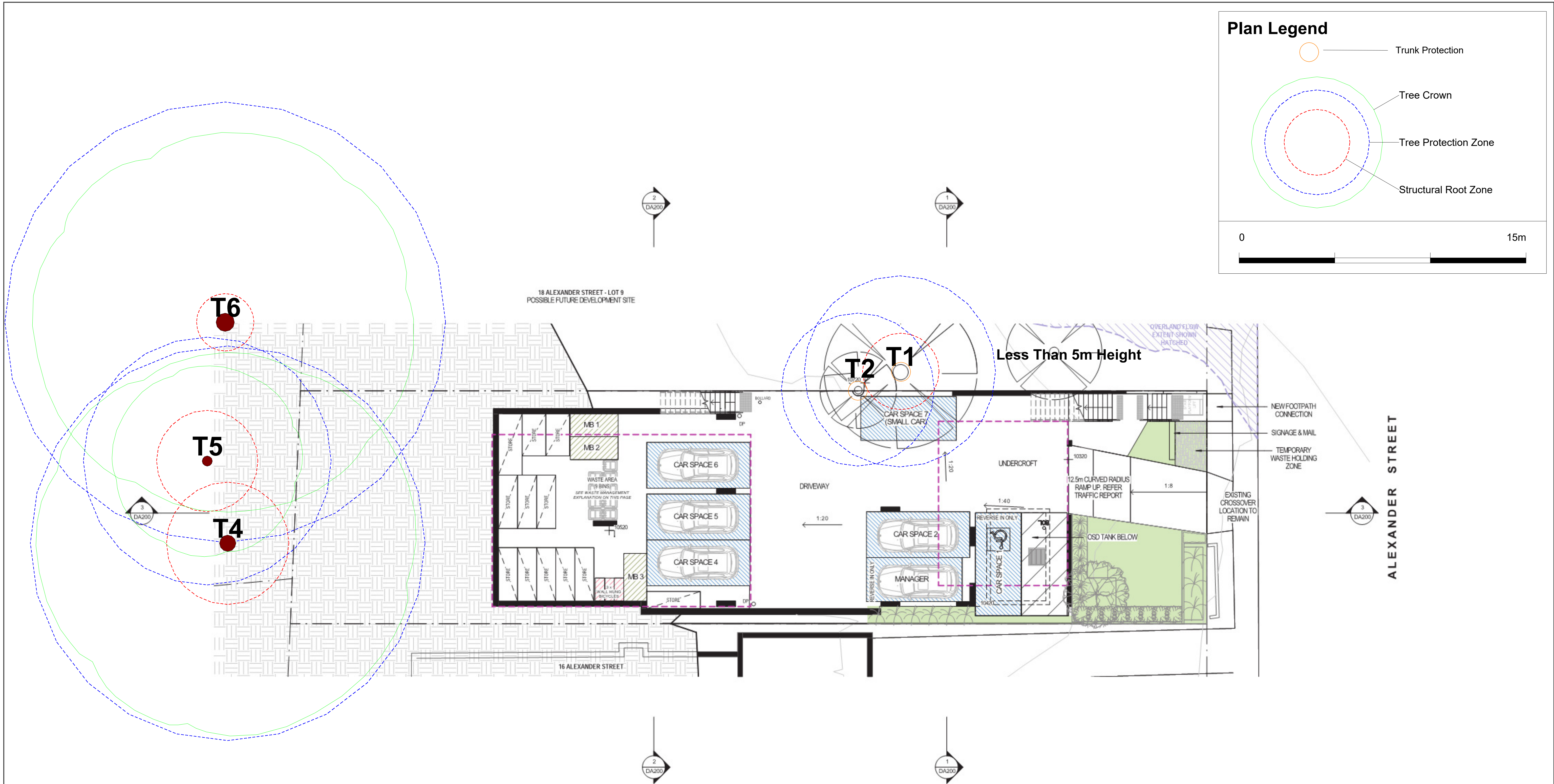
Diploma of Arboriculture (AQF5)  
NC Forestry and Arboriculture III (UK)  
RFS Tech. Cert. II (UK)  
QTRA Registered User  
ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification

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## Lot 8, 18 Alexander Street, Collaroy NSW

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DATE :  
9/03/2020

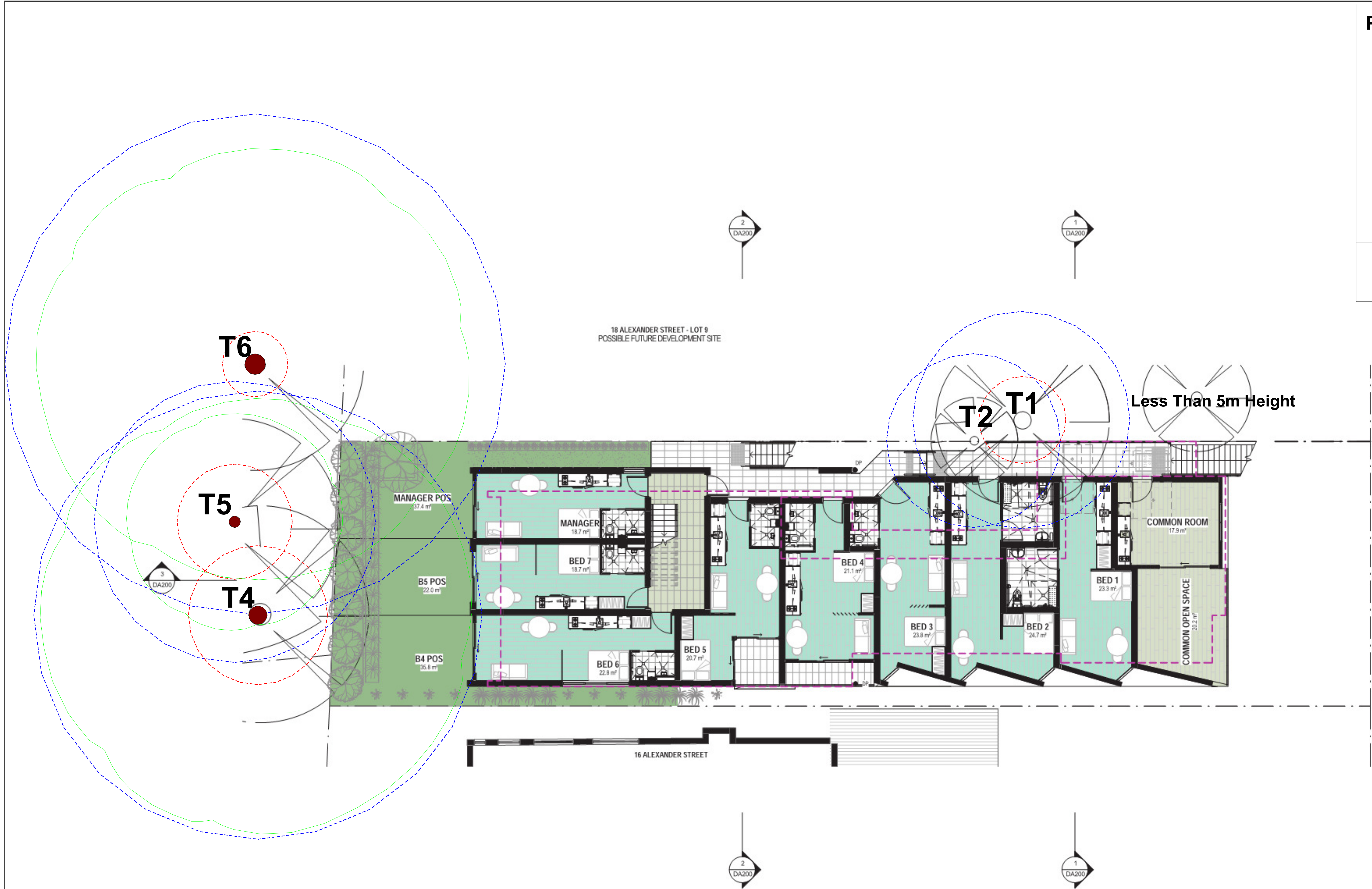
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Appendix 1A - Proposed Ground Floor Plan  
and Tree Protection Plan

Prepared by Hugh Millington  
for B. Waights

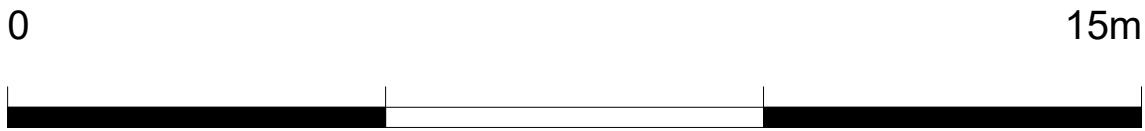
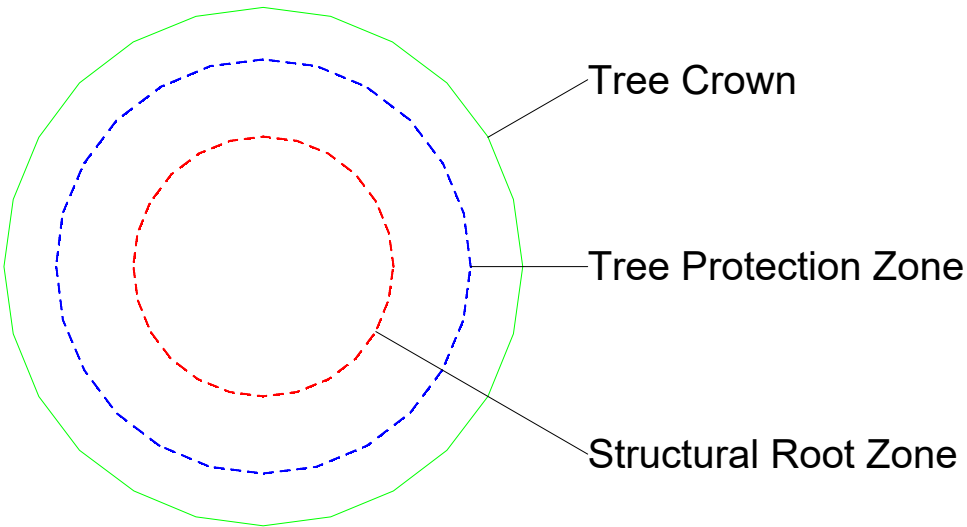


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Plan Legend



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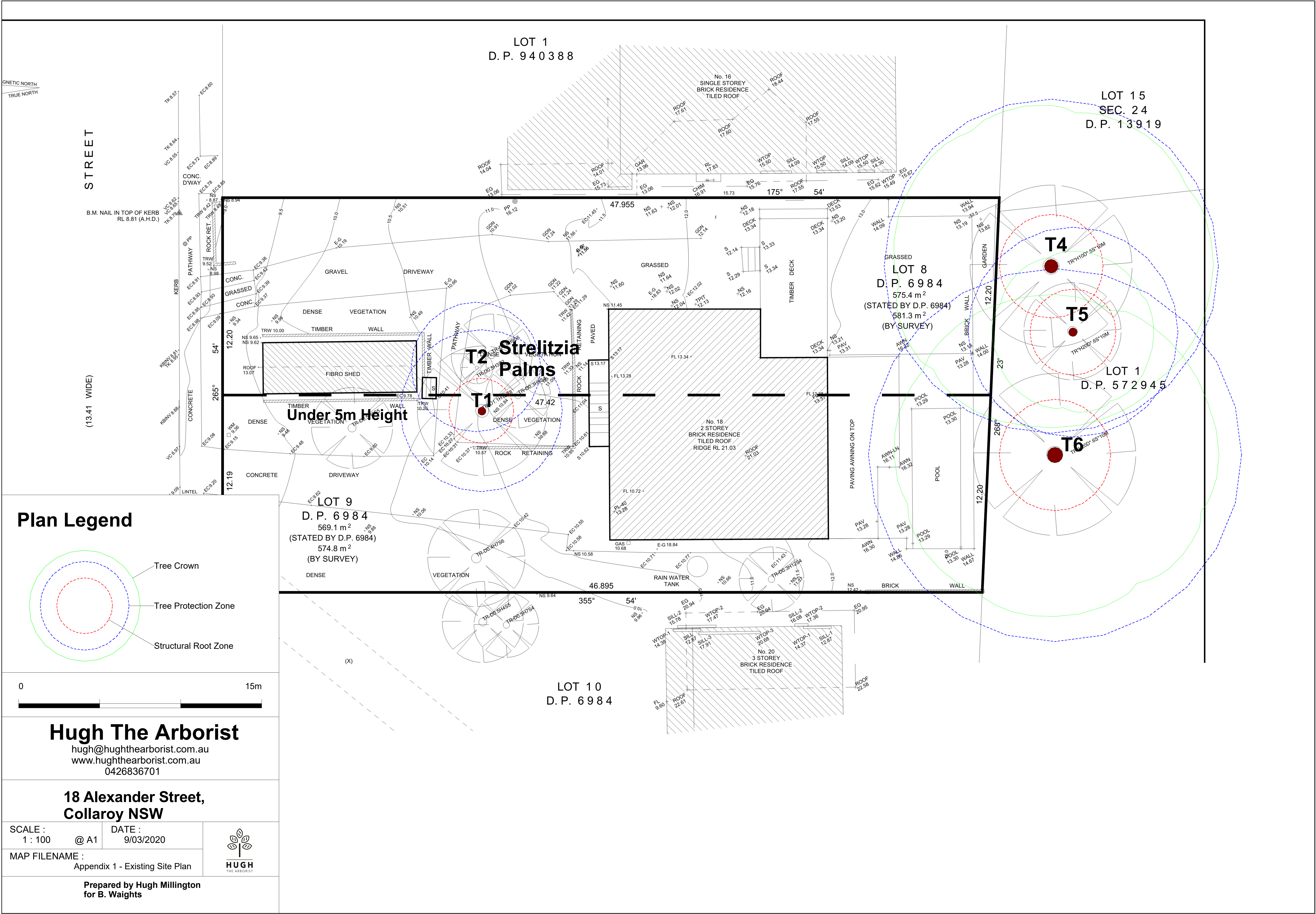
**Lot 8, 18 Alexander Street,  
Collaroy NSW**

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MAP FILENAME : Appendix 1B - Proposed Level 1 Site Plan	

**Prepared by Hugh Millington  
for B. Waights**

**HUGH**  
THE ARBORIST







## Appendix 2 - Tree Inspection Schedule

Tree ID	Tree Species	Age Class	DBH (MM)	DAB (MM)	Height (M)	Spread (M)	TPZ radius (M)	SRZ radius (M)	Health	Structure	Amenity Value	SULE	Retention Value	Notes/comments
1	<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i> (Port Jackson Fig) And <i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	M	500	600	10	4	5	2	Good	Fair	High	2.Medium	A2	Self-seeded tree in 'strangler' form. Tree has seeded at 1.5 metres up the trunk of a Palm tree and continued to grow around the Palm. Tree has formed structural roots, predominantly above ground and within the immediate vicinity of the palm tree. Ficus will remain stable providing the Palm is retained. Palm MTPZ has been applied with a 2 metre allowance for the Ficus SRZ.
2	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	E M	500	-	5	3	4	-	Good	Good	Low	1.Long	Z3	Species exempt from protection in NBLGA.
3	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	M	700	-	13	3	4	-	Good	Good	Low	1.Long	Z3	Species exempt from protection in NBLGA.
4	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	M	860	920	17	10	10.3	3.2	Good	Good	High	1.Long	A1	Located to rear of site beyond the boundary. Survey plan incorrectly locates the trees. This has been corrected on the site plans within Arborist report.
5	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	M	540	590	13	5	6.5	2.6	Good	Fair	High	1.Long	A1	Located to rear of site beyond the boundary. Survey plan incorrectly locates the trees. This has been corrected on the site plans within Arborist report.

## Appendix 2 - Tree Inspection Schedule

Tree ID	Tree Species	Age Class	DBH (MM)	DAB (MM)	Height (M)	Spread (M)	TPZ radius (M)	SRZ radius (M)	Health	Structure	Amenity Value	SULE	Retention Value	Notes/comments
6	<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i> (Blackbutt)	M	960	1100	17	10	11.5	3.4	Good	Good	High	2.Medium	A2	Located to rear of site beyond the boundary. Survey plan incorrectly locates the trees. This has been corrected on the site plans within Arborist report.
7	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i> (Jacaranda)	M	340	500	8	5	4	2.5	Good	Good	Medium	1.Long	Z3	Species exempt from protection in NBLGA.
8	<i>Phoenix canariensis</i> (Phoenix Palm)	M	600	-	8	3	4	-	Good	Good	Low	1.Long	Z3	Species exempt from protection in NBLGA.
9	<i>Livistona australis</i> (Cabbage Palm)	M	400	-	10	3	4	-	Good	Good	High	1.Long	A1	Located on neighbouring site.





## Appendix 2 - Tree Inspection Schedule

### Explanatory Notes

**Tree Species** - Botanical name followed by common name in brackets. Where species is unknown it is indicated with an '*spp*'.

**Age Class** - Over mature (OM), Mature (M), Early mature (EM), Semi mature (SM), Young (Y), Dead (D).

**Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)** - Measured with a DBH tape or estimated at approximately 1.4m above ground level. Where DBH has been estimated it is indicated with an 'est'. The (1) indicates the stem number and the (t) indicates the total DBH when calculated in accordance with AS4970-2009 definition.

**Diameter Above root Buttresses (DAB):** Measured with a DBH tape or estimated above root buttresses (DAB) for calculating the SRZ.

**Height** - Height from ground level to top of crown. All heights are estimated unless otherwise indicated.

**Spread** - Radius of crown at widest section. All tree spreads are estimated unless otherwise indicated.

**Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)** -  $DBH \times 12$ . Measured in radius from the centre of the trunk. Rounded to nearest 0.1m. For monocots, the TPZ is set at 1 metre outside the crown projection.

**Structural Root Zone (SRZ)** -  $(DAB \times 50)^{0.42} \times 0.64$ . Measured in radius from the centre of the trunk. Rounded up to nearest 0.1m.

**Health** - Good/Fair/Poor/Dead

**Structure** - Good/Fair/Poor

**Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE)** - 1. Long (40+years), 2. Medium (15 - 40 years), 3. Short (5 - 15 years), 4. Remove (under 5 years), 5. Small/young.

**Amenity Value** - Very High/High/Medium/Low/Very Low.

### **Appendix 3 – Condition/Overall health**

<b><u>Category</u></b>	<b><u>Example condition</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>
Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crown has good foliage density for species.</li> <li>• Tree shows no or minimal signs of pathogens that are unlikely to have an effect on the health of the tree.</li> <li>• Tree is displaying good vigour and reactive growth development.</li> <li>• Branch unions appear to be strong with no sign of defects.</li> <li>• There are no significant cavities.</li> <li>• The tree is unlikely to fail in usual conditions.</li> <li>• The tree has a balanced crown shape and form.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree is in above average health and condition and no remedial works are required.</li> <li>• The tree is considered structurally good with well developed form.</li> </ul>
Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree may be starting to dieback or have over 25% deadwood.</li> <li>• Tree may have slightly reduced crown density or thinning.</li> <li>• There may be some discolouration of foliage.</li> <li>• Average reactive growth development.</li> <li>• There may be early signs of pathogens which may further deteriorate the health of the tree.</li> <li>• There may be epicormic growth indicating increased levels of stress within the tree.</li> <li>• The tree may have minor structural defects within the structure of the crown that could potentially develop into more significant defects.</li> <li>• The tree may a cavity that is currently unlikely to fail but may deteriorate in the future.</li> <li>• The tree is an unbalanced shape or leans significantly.</li> <li>• The tree may have minor damage to its roots.</li> <li>• The root plate may have moved in the past but the tree has now compensated for this.</li> <li>• Branches may be rubbing or crossing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree is in below average health and condition and may require remedial works to improve the trees health.</li> <li>• The identified defects are unlikely cause major failure.</li> <li>• Some branch failure may occur in usual conditions.</li> <li>• Remedial works can be undertaken to alleviate potential defects.</li> </ul>
Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The may be in decline, have extensive dieback or have over 30% deadwood.</li> <li>• The canopy may be sparse or the leaves may be unusually small for species.</li> <li>• Pathogens or pests are having a significant detrimental effect on the tree health.</li> <li>• The tree has significant structural defects.</li> <li>• Branch unions may be poor or weak.</li> <li>• The tree may have a cavity or cavities with excessive levels of decay that could cause catastrophic failure.</li> <li>• The tree may have root damage or is displaying signs of recent movement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree is displaying low levels of health and removal or remedial works may be required.</li> <li>• The identified defects are likely to cause either partial or whole failure of the tree.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree crown may have poor weight distribution which could cause failure.</li> </ul>	
Dangerous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree is dead or almost dead.</li> <li>• The tree is an imminent danger to people or property.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The tree should generally be removed.</li> </ul>

## **Appendix 4 - Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)**

The tree protection zone (TPZ) is the principle means of protecting trees on development sites. The TPZ is a combination of the root area and crown area requiring protection. It is an area isolated from construction disturbance, so that the tree remains viable. The TPZ incorporates the structural root zone (SRZ).

### **Determining the TPZ**

The radius of the TPZ is calculated for each tree by multiplying its DBH × 12.

$$\text{TPZ} = \text{DBH} \times 12$$

Where

DBH = trunk diameter measured at 1.4 m above ground

Radius is measured from the centre of the stem at ground level.

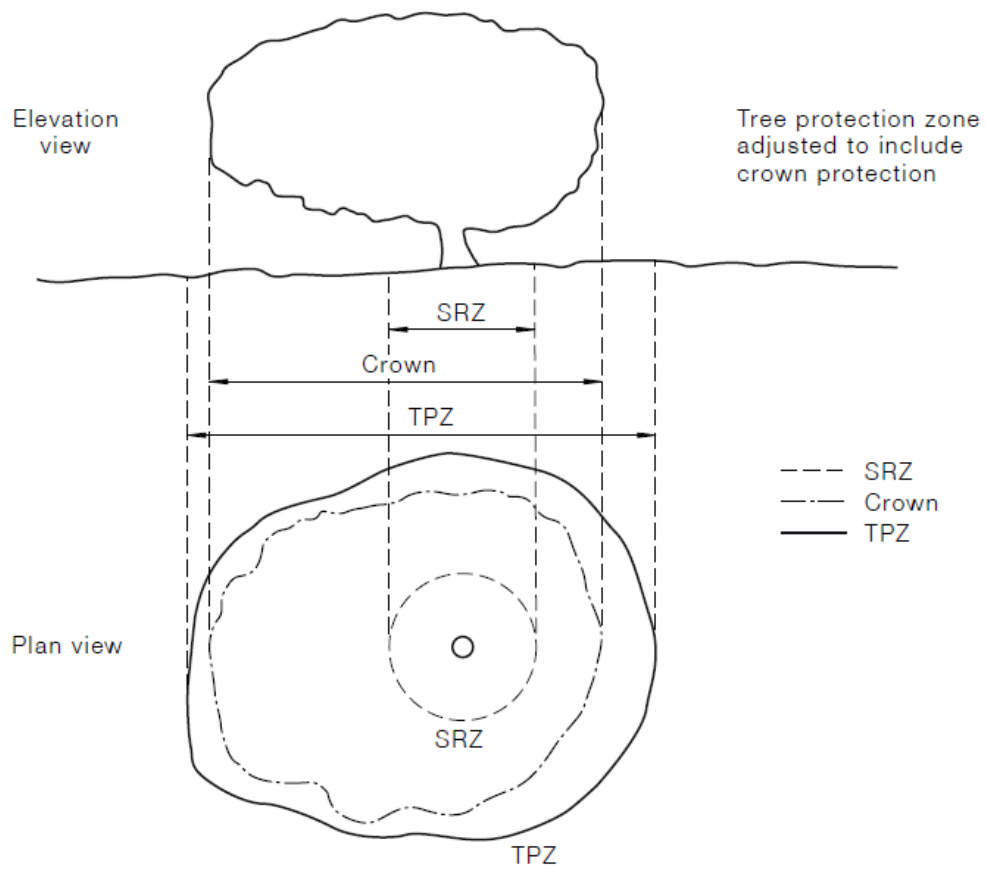
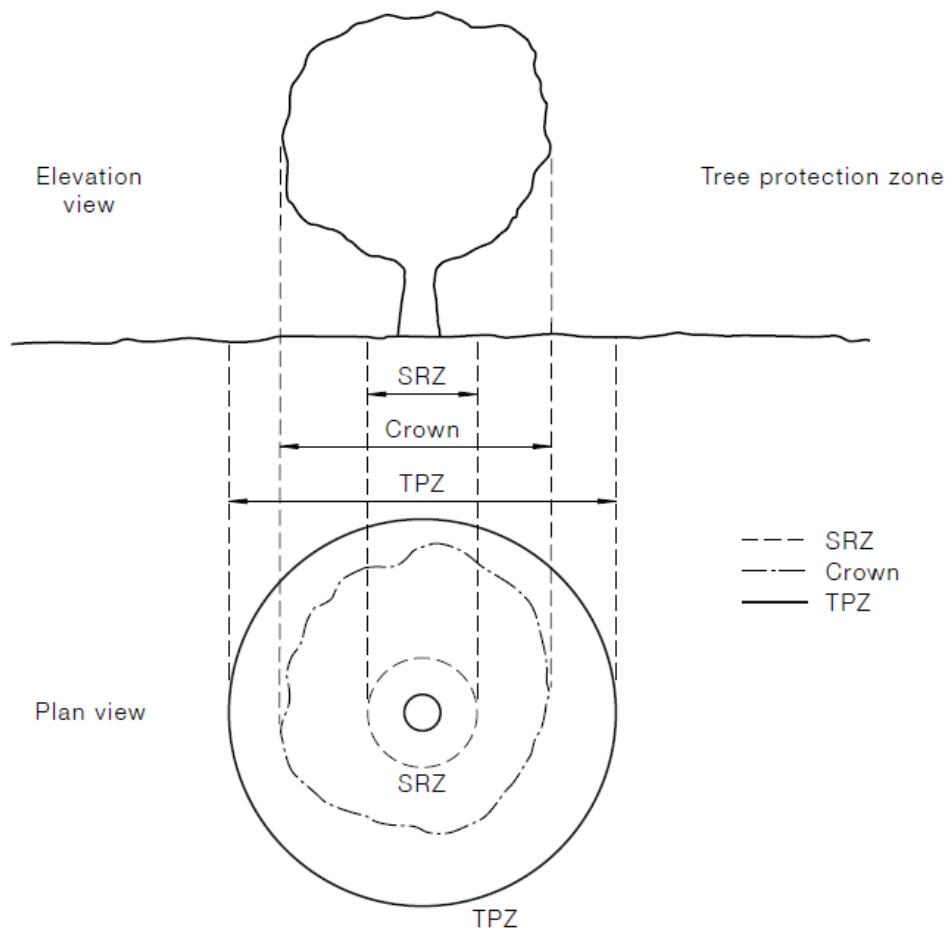
A TPZ should not be less than 2 m nor greater than 15 m (except where crown protection is required).

### **Minor encroachment into the TPZ**

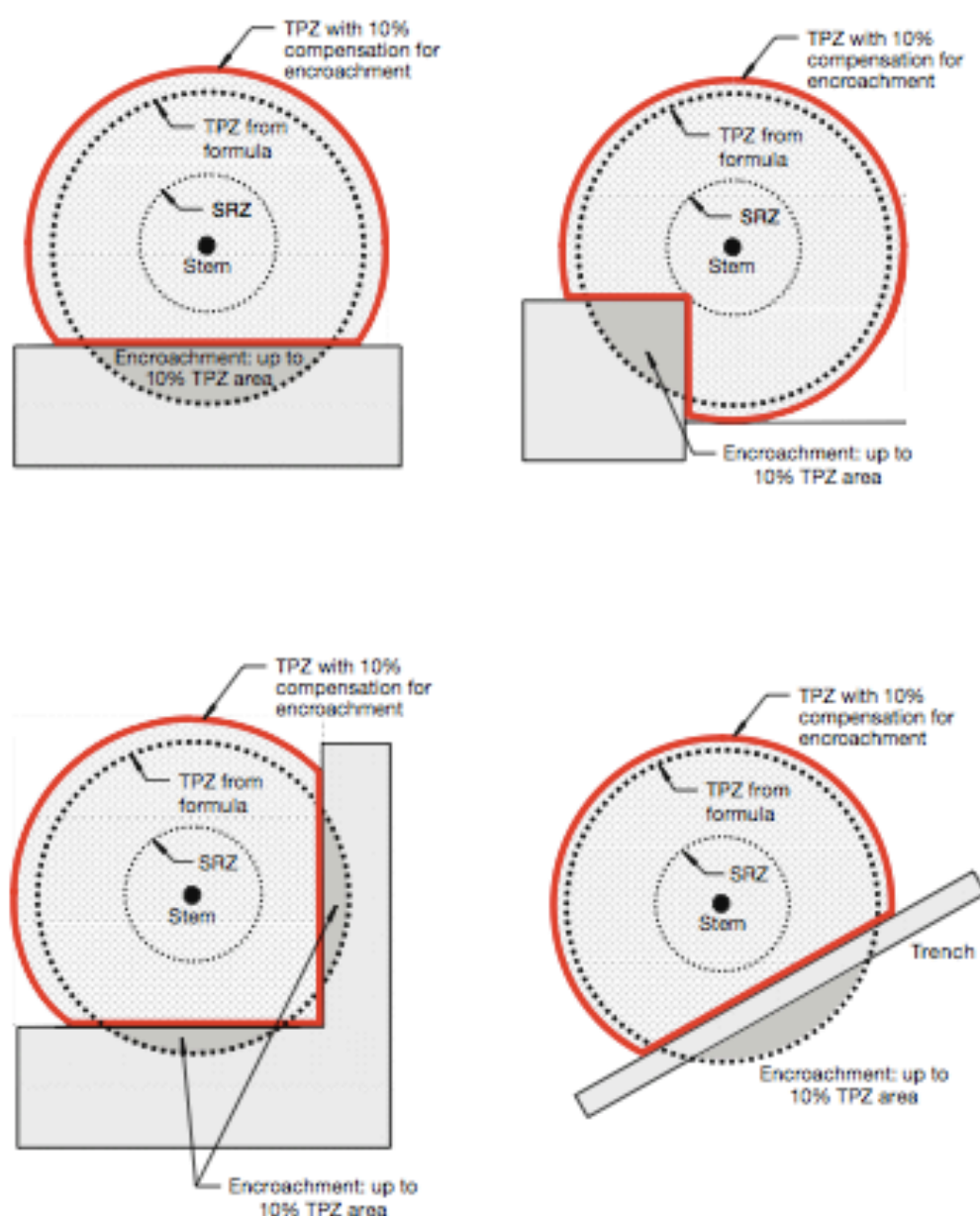
Where encroachment into the TPZ is unavoidable it is generally accepted that encroachment of under 10% of the total TPZ is possible without carrying out detailed root investigations. This minor loss of root area is normally compensated by the roots developing elsewhere.

### **Major encroachment into the TPZ**

If an encroachment of more than 10% is proposed into the TPZ it would be necessary to demonstrate that the tree would remain viable. Non destructive root investigations may be required to determine any potential impact the encroachment may have on the tree.



Encroachment into the tree protection zone (TPZ) is sometimes unavoidable. Figure D1 provides examples of TPZ encroachment by area, to assist in reducing the impact of such incursions.



NOTE: Less than 10% TPZ area and outside SRZ. Any loss of TPZ compensated for elsewhere.



## **Appendix 5 - Structural root zone (SRZ)**

This is the area around the base of a tree required for the trees stability in the ground. An area larger than the SRZ always need to be maintained to preserve a viable tree as it will only have a minor effect on the trees vigour and health. There are several factors that determine the SRZ which include height, crown area, soil type and soil moisture. It can also be influenced by other factors such as natural or built structures. Generally work within the SRZ should be avoided.

### **Determining the SRZ**

An indicative SRZ radius can be determined from the diameter of the trunk measured immediately above the root buttresses. Root investigation could provide more information about the extent of the SRZ. The following formula should be used to calculate the SRZ.

$$\text{SRZ radius} = (D \times 50)^{0.42} \times 0.64$$

where

D = trunk diameter in m, measured above the root buttress.

Note - The SRZ for trees with trunk diameters less than 0.15 will be 1.5m.

## **Appendix 6 - Amenity value**

To determine the amenity value of a tree we assess a number of different factors which include but are not limited to the information below.

- The visibility of the tree to adjacent sites.
- The relationship between the tree and the site.
- Whether the tree is protected by any statutory conditions.
- The habitat value of the tree.
- Whether the tree is considered a noxious weed species.

### **Appendix 7 - Age class**

If can be difficult to determine the age of a tree without carrying out invasive tests that may damage the tree, so we have categorised there likely age class which is defined below.

<b><u>Category</u></b>	<b><u>Description</u></b>
Young/Newly planted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Young or recently planted tree.</li></ul>
Semi Mature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Up to 20% of the usual life expectancy for the species.</li></ul>
Early mature/Mature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Between 20% - 80% of the usual life expectancy for the species.</li></ul>
Over mature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Over 80% of the usual life expectancy for the species.</li></ul>
Dead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tree is dead or almost dead.</li></ul>

## **Appendix 8 - Structural condition**

<b><u>Category</u></b>	<b><u>Example condition</u></b>	<b><u>Summary</u></b>
Good	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Branch unions appear to be strong with no sign of defects.</li><li>• There are no significant cavities.</li><li>• The tree is unlikely to fail in usual conditions.</li><li>• The tree has a balanced crown shape and form.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The tree is considered structurally good with well developed form.</li></ul>
Fair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The tree may have minor structural defects within the structure of the crown that could potentially develop into more significant defects.</li><li>• The tree may have a cavity that is currently unlikely to fail but may deteriorate in the future.</li><li>• The tree is an unbalanced shape or leans significantly.</li><li>• The tree may have minor damage to its roots.</li><li>• The root plate may have moved in the past but the tree has now compensated for this.</li><li>• Branches may be rubbing or crossing.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The identified defects are unlikely cause major failure.</li><li>• Some branch failure may occur in usual conditions.</li><li>• Remedial works can be undertaken to alleviate potential defects.</li></ul>
Poor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The tree has significant structural defects.</li><li>• Branch unions may be poor or weak.</li><li>• The tree may have a cavity or cavities with excessive levels of decay that could cause catastrophic failure.</li><li>• The tree may have root damage or is displaying signs of recent movement.</li><li>• The tree crown may have poor weight distribution which could cause failure.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The identified defects are likely to cause either partial or whole failure of the tree.</li></ul>

## **Appendix 9 - Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE), (Barrel, 2001)**

A trees safe useful life expectancy is determined by assessing a number of different factors including the health and vitality, estimated age in relation to expected life expectancy for the species, structural defects, and remedial works that could allow retention in the existing situation.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>
1. Long - Over 40 years	(a) Structurally sound trees located in positions that can accommodate future growth. (b) Trees that could be made suitable for retention in the long term by remedial tree care. (c) Trees of special significance for historical, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary efforts to secure their long term retention.
2. Medium - 15 to 40 years	(a) Trees that may only live between 15 and 40 more years. (b) Trees that could live for more than 40 years but may be removed for safety or nuisance reasons. (c) Trees that could live for more than 40 years but may be removed to prevent interference with more suitable individuals or to provide space for new planting. (d) Trees that could be made suitable for retention in the medium term by remedial tree care.
3. Short - 5 to 15 years	(a) Trees that may only live between 5 and 15 more years. (b) Trees that could live for more than 15 years but may be removed for safety or nuisance reasons. (c) Trees that could live for more than 15 years but may be removed to prevent interference with more suitable individuals or to provide space for new planting. (d) Trees that require substantial remedial tree care and are only suitable for retention in the short term.
4. Remove - Under 5 years	(a) Dead, dying, suppressed or declining trees because of disease or inhospitable conditions. (b) Dangerous trees because of instability or recent loss of adjacent trees. (c) Dangerous trees because of structural defects including cavities, decay, included bark, wounds or poor form. (d) Damaged trees that are clearly not safe to retain. (e) Trees that could live for more than 5 years but may be removed to prevent interference with more suitable individuals or to provide space for new planting. (f) Trees that are damaging or may cause damage to existing structures within 5 years. (g) Trees that will become dangerous after removal of other trees for the reasons given in (a) to (f). (h) Trees in categories (a) to (g) that have a high wildlife habitat value and, with appropriate treatment, could be retained subject to regular review.

5. Small/Young	(a) Small trees less than 5m in height. (b) Young trees less than 15 years old but over 5m in height. (c) Formal hedges and trees intended for regular pruning to artificially control growth.
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## TreeAZ Categories (Version 10.04-ANZ)

**CAUTION:** TreeAZ assessments must be carried out by a competent person qualified and experienced in arboriculture. The following category descriptions are designed to be a brief field reference and are not intended to be self-explanatory. They must be read in conjunction with the most current explanations published at [www.TreeAZ.com](http://www.TreeAZ.com).

### Category Z: Unimportant trees not worthy of being a material constraint

**Local policy exemptions:** Trees that are unsuitable for legal protection for local policy reasons including size, proximity and species

<b>Z1</b>	Young or insignificant small trees, i.e. below the local size threshold for legal protection, etc
<b>Z2</b>	Too close to a building, i.e. exempt from legal protection because of proximity, etc
<b>Z3</b>	Species that cannot be protected for other reasons, i.e. scheduled noxious weeds, out of character in a setting of acknowledged importance, etc

**High risk of death or failure:** Trees that are likely to be removed within 10 years because of acute health issues or severe structural failure

<b>Z4</b>	Dead, dying, diseased or declining
<b>Z5</b>	Severe damage and/or structural defects where a high risk of failure <u>cannot</u> be satisfactorily reduced by reasonable remedial care, i.e. cavities, decay, included bark, wounds, excessive imbalance, overgrown and vulnerable to adverse weather conditions, etc
<b>Z6</b>	Instability, i.e. poor anchorage, increased exposure, etc

**Excessive nuisance:** Trees that are likely to be removed within 10 years because of unacceptable impact on people

<b>Z7</b>	Excessive, severe and intolerable inconvenience to the extent that a locally recognized court or tribunal would be likely to authorize removal, i.e. dominance, debris, interference, etc
<b>Z8</b>	Excessive, severe and intolerable damage to property to the extent that a locally recognized court or tribunal would be likely to authorize removal, i.e. severe structural damage to surfacing and buildings, etc

**Good management:** Trees that are likely to be removed within 10 years through responsible management of the tree population

<b>Z9</b>	Severe damage and/or structural defects where a high risk of failure can be <u>temporarily</u> reduced by reasonable remedial care, i.e. cavities, decay, included bark, wounds, excessive imbalance, vulnerable to adverse weather conditions, etc
<b>Z10</b>	Poor condition or location with a low potential for recovery or improvement, i.e. dominated by adjacent trees or buildings, poor architectural framework, etc
<b>Z11</b>	Removal would benefit better adjacent trees, i.e. relieve physical interference, suppression, etc
<b>Z12</b>	Unacceptably expensive to retain, i.e. severe defects requiring excessive levels of maintenance, etc

**NOTE:** Z trees with a high risk of death/failure (Z4, Z5 & Z6) or causing severe inconvenience (Z7 & Z8) at the time of assessment and need an urgent risk assessment can be designated as ZZ. ZZ trees are likely to be unsuitable for retention and at the bottom of the categorization hierarchy. In contrast, although Z trees are not worthy of influencing new designs, urgent removal is not essential and they could be retained in the short term, if appropriate.

### Category A: Important trees suitable for retention for more than 10 years and worthy of being a material constraint

<b>A1</b>	No significant defects and could be retained with minimal remedial care
<b>A2</b>	Minor defects that could be addressed by remedial care and/or work to adjacent trees
<b>A3</b>	Special significance for historical, cultural, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary efforts to retain for more than 10 years
<b>A4</b>	Trees that may be worthy of legal protection for ecological reasons (Advisory requiring specialist assessment)

**NOTE:** Category A1 trees that are already large and exceptional, or have the potential to become so with minimal maintenance, can be designated as AA at the discretion of the assessor. Although all A and AA trees are sufficiently important to be material constraints, AA trees are at the top of the categorization hierarchy and should be given the most weight in any selection process.