

Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Hugh The Arborist Pty Ltd have been instructed by Walsh Architects on behalf of the client Rohani Investments Pty Ltd to assess trees located on and adjoining the site that may be impacted by a proposed development.
- 1.2 All tree data was collected during one site inspection on 21st May 2025. The weather was clear with average visibility.

Table 1: Documents And Plans Provided

Title	Author	Date Prepared	Plan/Doc. Ref.
Site Survey	Bee and Lethbridge	28/08/2024	23304
Proposed Architectural Plans	Walsh Architects	30/05/2025	Revision A

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 as identified on the plans provided.
- 2.1.2 For the purpose of this report, a tree is taken to have a height equal to or greater than 5 metres.
- 2.1.3 Determine the trees estimated contribution years and remaining, useful life expectancy and award the trees a retention value.
- 2.1.4 Provide an assessment of the impact the proposed development is likely to have on condition of the subject trees in accordance with AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009).
- 2.1.5 Provide pragmatic recommendations for the management of trees and mitigation of construction impacts on protected trees.



3. LIMITATIONS

- 3.1 The findings of this report are based on the observations and site conditions at the time of inspection.
- 3.2 Where access was limited due to trespass issues, measurements have been estimated.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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.
- 3.6 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.
- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 All diagrams, plans and photographs included in this report are visual aids only, and are not to scale unless otherwise indicated.
- 3.9 Hugh The Arborist neither guarantees, nor is responsible for, the accuracy of information provided by others that is contained within this report.
- 3.10 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.



- 3.11 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.
- 3.12 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)¹
 - 4.1.11 Retention value (Tree AZ)²
 - 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).³
- 4.3 Tree diameter was measured using a DBH tape or in some cases estimated. All other measurements were estimations unless otherwise stated.
- 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.

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

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

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



4.5 Details of how the observations in this report have been assessed are listed in the appendices.

5. SITE LOCATION AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSAL

- 5.1 The site is located in the in the Northern Beaches Council suburb of Allambie Heights. All trees at the site are managed under the following policy and legislation.
 - 5.1.1 Warringah Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2011
 - 5.1.2 Warringah Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011
 - 5.1.3 Northern Beaches Tree Management Controls
 - 5.1.4 State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021
- 5.2 The site is east facing and is situated approximately 1.3 metres higher than the public footpath. The front of the site is supported with an existing brick retaining wall. The site is largely flat within the boundary and contains tree and palm species. The species consist predominantly of fruit and nut bearing trees mostly of non-native origin.
- 5.3 The site is not listed as affected by Heritage or within an area containing biodiversity according to the NSW planning Portal Spatial Viewer, accessed 28/05/2025.⁴
- 5.4 The development proposal consists of the demolition of the existing structures and the construction of townhouses with basement parking and new landscaping.

⁴ <u>https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewerhistoric/#/find-a-property/address</u>



Tile 1: Site Location and approximate boundary ⁵



⁵ <u>https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/spatialviewerhistoric/#/find-a-property/address</u>

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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 plans:

- 6.2.1 Appendix 1 Existing Site Plan
- 6.2.2 Appendix 1A Proposed Ground Floor Plan and Tree Protection Plan
- 6.2.3 Appendix 1B Proposed Basement Plan
- 6.2.4 Tree location, Trunk, Canopy spread, TPZ and SRZ information has been overlaid across both 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.



- 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 x 50) ^{0.42} x 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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	Persea gratissima	Z3	2.0	1.6	Major	The tree is located within an existing retaining wall. The proposed works locate a pathway and wall closer to the tree and in contact with the trunk rendering the tree unretainable.	Remove
2	Macadamia tetrophylla	A1	2.2	1.7	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed basement and is not retainable.	Remove
3	Mangifera indica	Z3	4.6	2.4	Major	The tree will be subject to 100% encroachment from the proposed level changes and retaining walls within the front setback of the site and is not retainable.	Remove
4	Howea forsteriana	Z1	2.0	NA	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed driveway ramp and is not retainable.	Remove
5	Citrus x limon	Z1	2.0	1.5	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed driveway ramp and is not retainable.	Remove
6	Citrus x limon	Z1	2.0	1.6	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed driveway ramp and is not retainable.	Remove
7	Mangifera indica	Z1	2.0	1.5	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed basement and is not retainable.	Remove
8	Carya illinoinensis	Z3	6.9	2.8	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed basement and is not retainable. While the tree is the largest tree on site it is an exotic nut producing tree and is listed as exempt from protection in the locality.	Remove
9	Archontophoenix cunninghamiana	Z3	2.5	1.5	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed basement and is not retainable.	Remove
10	Archontophoenix cunninghamiana	Z3	2.5	1.5	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed basement and is not retainable.	Remove
11	Macadamia tetrophylla	A1	3.4	2.0	Major	Tree located within the footprint of the proposed basement and is not retainable.	Remove



Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
12	Persea gratissima	Z3	2.5	1.8	Major	The proposed works retain the existing brick planter in which the tree is located but remove the existing pavers to the east which is a major encroachment. The pavers are proposed to be replaced with landscaping which will not affect the viability of the tree providing there are no significant level changes.	Retain and protect
13	Syagrus romanzoffianum	Z3	2.0	NA	Major	The proposed works retain the existing brick planter in which the tree is located but remove the existing pavers to the east which is a major encroachment. The pavers are proposed to be replaced with landscaping which will not affect the viability of the tree providing there are no significant level changes.	Retain and protect
14	Syagrus romanzoffianum	Z3	2.0	NA	Major	The proposed works retain the existing brick planter in which the tree is located but remove the existing pavers to the east which is a major encroachment. The pavers are proposed to be replaced with landscaping which will not affect the viability of the tree providing there are no significant level changes.	Retain and protect
15	Schefflera actinophylla	Z1	3.1	2.4	Major	Tree located on adjoining land. Up to 25% of the TPZ and the SRZ may extend within the site. The proposed works consist of the removal of the existing paving within the TPZ and the SRZ which is a major encroachment. The proposed section plans show no other level changes and the area proposed for landscaping. If the tree is to be retained in a viable condition the proposed demolition and landscaping should be carried out via tree sensitive construction methods. Refer to section 8.2 for specifications.	Tree sensitive construction
16	Persea gratissima	Z3	4.2	2.3	Major	Tree located on adjoining land. Up to 30% of the TPZ and the SRZ may extend within the site. The proposed works consist of the removal of the existing paving within the TPZ and the SRZ which is a major encroachment. The proposed section plans show no other level changes and the area proposed for landscaping. If the tree is to be retained in a viable condition the proposed	Tree sensitive construction

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Tree ID	Species	Retention value	TPZ radius (m)	SRZ radius (m)	TPZ encroachment	Discussion/ Conclusion	Recommendation
						demolition and landscaping should be carried out via tree sensitive construction methods. Refer to section 8.2 for specifications.	
17	Syagrus romanzoffianum	Z3	2.0	NA	Major	The proposed works retain the existing brick planter in which the tree is located but remove the existing pavers to the east which is a major encroachment. The pavers are proposed to be replaced with landscaping which will not affect the viability of the tree providing there are no significant level changes.	Retain and protect
18	Acer Palmatum	Z10	4.2	2.5	Major	Tree located on adjoining land. Up to 29% of the TPZ and the SRZ may extend within the site. The proposed works consist of the installation of a boundary fence through the TPZ and the SRZ which is a major encroachment. The proposed section plans show no other level changes and the area proposed for landscaping. If the tree is to be retained in a viable condition the proposed fencing and landscaping should be carried out via tree sensitive construction methods. Refer to section 8.2 for specifications.	Tree sensitive construction

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8. CONCLUSIONS

Impact	Reason	Category A	Category Z	Total
		Α	Z	
Trees to be removed	Building/landscape construction, new surfacing and/or proximity, or trees in poor condition.	2,11	1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9, 10	11
Retained trees subject to TPZ encroachment or no encroachment	Removal of existing surfacing/structures and/or installation of new surfacing/structures will not significantly impact the tree	-	12,13,14,17	4
Trees requiring sensitive construction methods to mitigate development impacts	Proposed impacts will result in the severance of roots leading to the decline or destabilization of trees assessed	-	15,16,18	3

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

- 8.2 **Construction Design/Specification Requirements:** The proposed works have the potential to affect the viability of several trees adjoining the rear of the site. To ensure the trees are not adversely impacted by the construction, it must be demonstrated the following design and construction specifications can be implemented within the TPZ of the tree. If the construction cannot be completed in accordance with these specifications, the tree may not be viable for retention.
- 8.2.1 **Demolition (rear paving):** 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.
- 8.2.2 **Tree sensitive Fencing (rear boundary fencing and internal rear fencing):** Any proposed fencing within the TPZ of the trees must be installed using the tree sensitive method of post and rail type construction. To ensure the trees are not



significantly impacted by the works, all post holes must be excavated manually. The post location must be flexible to avoid the severance of significant roots 40mm and greater in diameter. No posts are to be located within the SRZ or root investigations will be required to determine the post location. All rails/horizontal materials are to be located on or above existing soil grades. This will allow for the majority of the root system to be retained between the posts, minimising root loss.

- 8.2.3 **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 200mm 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, considerer 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 40mm in diameter.
- 8.2.4 **Underground Services:** AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009) recommends that all underground services located inside the TPZ of any tree to be retained should 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.



If directional drilling is proposed, section 4.5.5 of AS4970-2009 says that 'The directional drilling bore should be at least 600 mm deep. The project Arborist should assess the likely impacts of boring and bore pits on retained trees'.⁶ If manual excavations are proposed, all excavations for the services should be carried out manually under the supervision of the project Arborist (minimum qualification AQF 5). 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. All roots greater than 40mm in diameter should be retained in the service trench. The service pipe should then be threaded below the retained roots where practical. Roots greater than 40mm within the alignment of the service pipe should only be severed/pruned under the approval of the project Arborist. All root pruning should be in accordance with AS4373 Pruning of amenity trees (2007). Open trenching in the SRZ of trees can be impractical without impacting significant roots, as often dense root growth is present in the SRZ. Open trenching should therefore be avoided in the SRZ. It is recommended that any section of pipe that is located in the SRZ of trees to be retained is installed via sub-surface boring/directional drilling methods only. The feasibility of sub-surface boring/directional drilling will need to be investigated by a sub-surface boring/directional drilling specialist. The project Arborist should provide advice and supervise excavations for bore pits, which must be carried out manually if located within the TPZ. The top of the pipe must be at least 600mm below the existing soil grade. The location of bore pits should be flexible in the TPZ to avoid significant roots, the project Arborist should assess and advise in writing the impact of any significant root severance to the condition of the tree.

⁶ Council Of Standards Australia, AS 4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009) page 18.



9. PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo A: Trees within the site at the rear boundary are proposed to be retained. Neighboring trees behind the fence in the image will be subject to impacts from the removal of the paving but the area is proposed to be replaced with landscaping.

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10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 This report assesses the impact of a proposed development at the site on eighteen trees located on and adjoining the site in accordance with AS4970 Protection of Trees on Development Sites (2009)
- 10.2 A total of eleven trees consisting of two category A trees and nine category Z trees are proposed to be removed as part of the development.
- 10.3 Seven trees are proposed to be retained all of which are category Z trees located at the rear of and adjoining the rear of the site. To retain the trees in a viable condition tree sensitive construction methods have been recommended in section 8.2 of this report to assist with minimising the development impact on trees. Tree sensitive construction consists of advice on landscaping, fencing and demolition as there are minimal structures proposed within the rear setback that will affect the trees.
- 10.4 All retained trees should be protected in accordance with Australian Standard 4970 Protection of Trees on Development Sites (2009).
- 10.5 This report does not provide approval for tree removal or pruning works. All recommendations in this report are subject to approval by the relevant authorities and/or tree owners. This report should be submitted as supporting evidence with any tree removal/pruning or development application.

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 with 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 principal 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 **Table 4:** Site Specific Tree Protection Recommendations

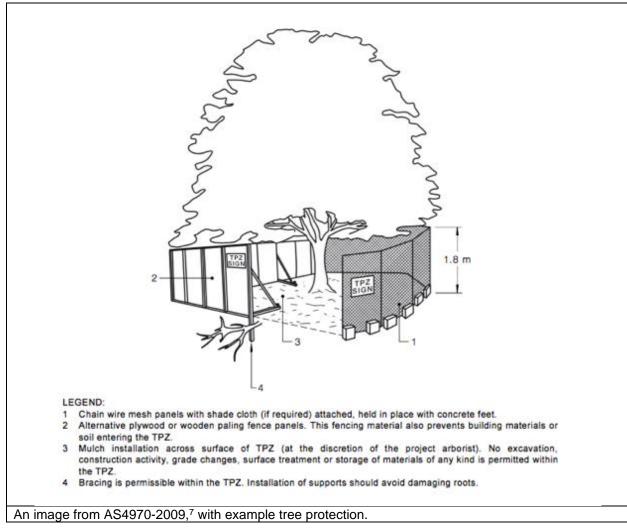
Tree Number	Protection specification
12,13,14,15,16,17 and 18	 Tree sensitive construction and demolition, refer to section 8.2. Post demolition, tree protective fencing is recommended to be installed at the edge of the TPZ area to isolate the tree roots from the works.
All other trees	- Proposed removals.

- 11.6 **Tree protection Specifications:** It is the responsibility of the principal 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.



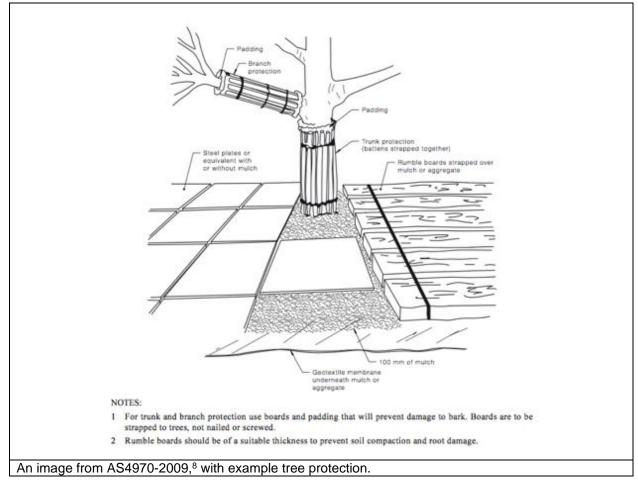
- The name, address, and telephone number of the developer/builder and project Arborist
- 11.9 **Trunk and Branch Protection:** The trunk must be protected by wrapped hessian or similar material to limit damage. Timber planks (50mm x 100mm or similar) should then be placed around tree trunk. The timber 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. 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.





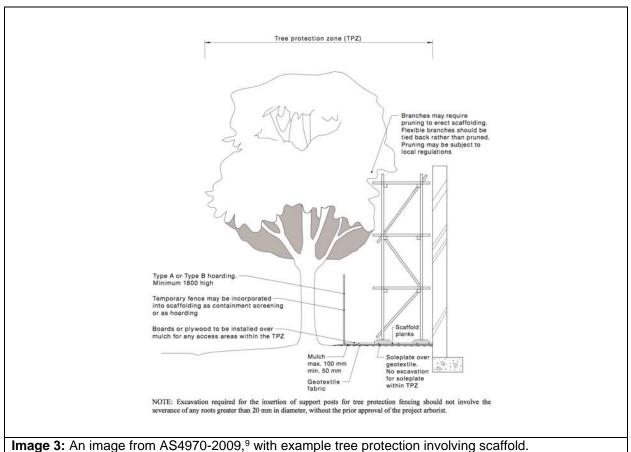
⁷ Council of Standards Australia, AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009), page 16.





⁸ Council of Standards Australia, AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009), page 17.





11.12 **Root investigations:** Where major TPZ encroachments require demonstrating the viability of trees the following method for root investigations is to be used. Non-destructive excavations are to be carried out along the outer edge of proposed or existing structures within the TPZ (excavation methods include the use of pneumatic and hydraulic tools, high-pressure air or a combination of high-pressure water and a vacuum device). Excavations generally consist of a trench to a depth dictated by the location of significant roots, bedrock, unfavourable conditions for root growth, or the required depth for footings up to 1 metre. The investigation is to be carried out by AQF5 consulting Arborist who is to record all roots greater than 30 millimetres in diameter and produce a report discussing the significance of the findings. No roots 30 millimetres in diameter are to be frayed or damaged during excavation and the trench is to be backfilled as soon as possible to reduce the risk of roots drying out. In the event roots must be left exposed, they are to be wrapped in hessian sack and regularly irrigated for the duration of exposure.

Report on trees at: 439 Condamine Street Allambie Heights NSW Prepared for: Rohani Investments Pty Ltd Prepared by: Hugh Millington hugh@hughtheArborist.com.au Date prepared: 29th May 2025

⁹ Council of Standards Australia, AS4970 Protection of trees on development sites (2009), page 19.



- 11.13 **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.
 - 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.
- 11.14 Excavations and root pruning: 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, highpressure air or a combination of high-pressure water and a vacuum device. No pruning of roots greater 40mm 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).¹⁰ 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 **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.

¹⁰ Council of Standards Australia, AS 4373 Pruning of amenity trees (2007) page 18



- 11.16 **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.
- 11.17 **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.

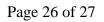
12. HOLD POINTS

12.1 **Hold Points:** Below is a sequence of hold points requiring project Arborist certification throughout the development process. The hold points must be checked and certified. All certifications 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.

Hold Point	Stage	Responsibility	Certification	Complete Y/N and date
Project Arborist to hold pre construction site meeting with principal 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 supervise all pruning works to retained trees.	Prior to works commencing	Principal Contractor	Project Arborist	
Project Arborist to assess and certify that tree protection has been installed in accordance with section 11 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 carry out regular site inspections to ensure works are carried out in accordance with the recommendations. I recommend site inspections on a bi-monthly frequency.	Ongoing throughout the development	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	
Project Arborist to oversee all excavations and demolition inside the TPZ of any tree to be retained.	Construction	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	



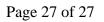
Hold Point	Stage	Responsibility	Certification	Complete Y/N and date
Project Arborist to certify that all pruning of roots greater than 40mm in diameter has been carried out in accordance with AS4373-2007. All root pruning must be carried out by a qualified Arborist/Horticulturalist with a minimum AQF 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	
All landscaping works/boundary walls 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 the injury and provide mitigation/remediation advice. All remediation work is to be carried out by the project arborist, at the contractor's expense.	Ongoing throughout the development	Principle contractor	Project Arborist	





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- Barrell Tree Consultancy, Tree AZ version 10.10-ANZ, http://www.treeaz.com/.
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- <u>https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/pages/plan/book.asp</u> <u>x?exhibit=PDCP.</u>
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14. LIST OF APPENDICES

The following are included in the appendices.

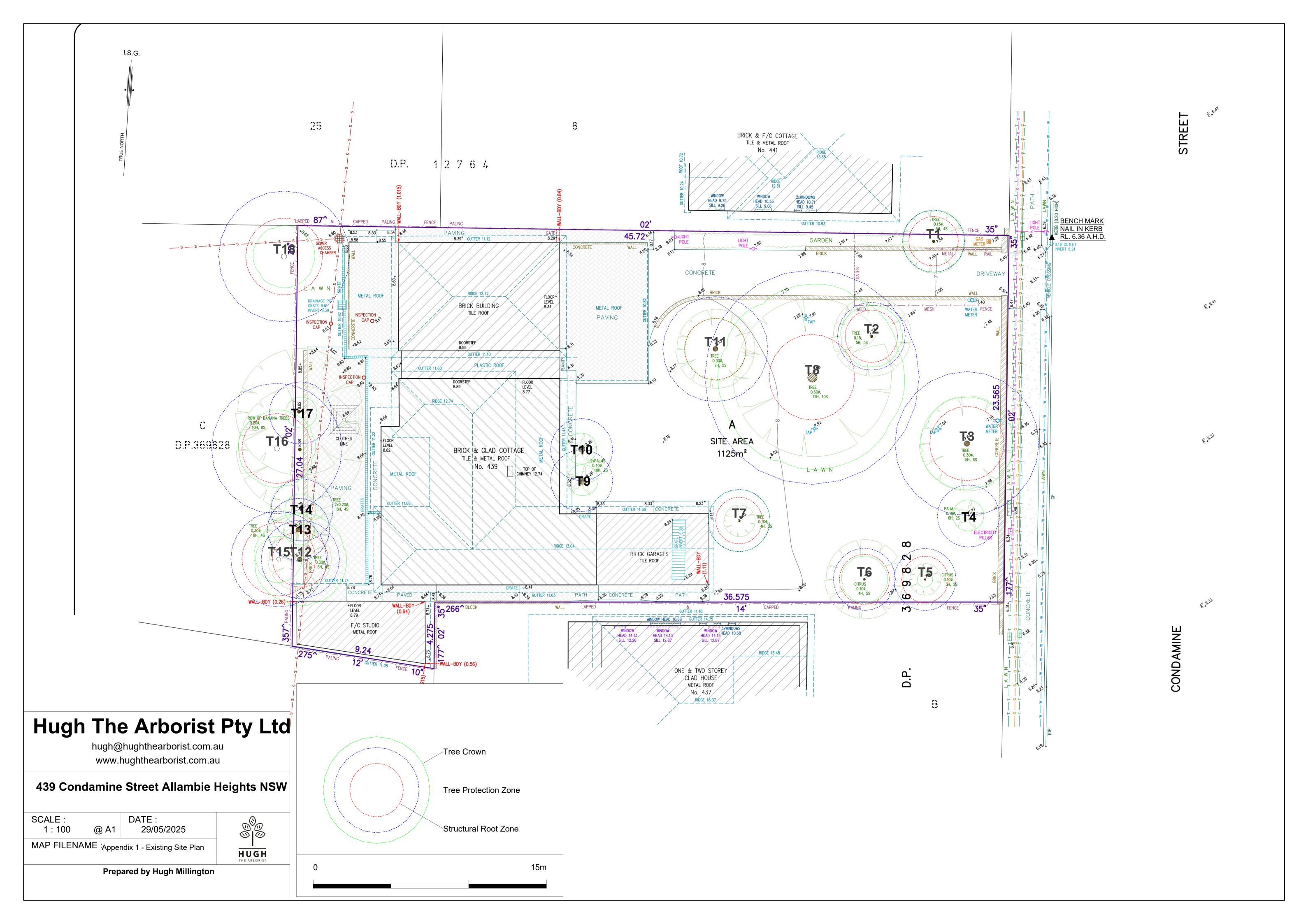
Appendix 1 – Existing Site Plan Appendix 1A – Proposed Ground Floor Plan and Tree Protection Plan Appendix 1B – Proposed Basement Plan Appendix 2 - Tree inspection schedule Appendix 3 – Health Appendix 4 – Amenity Value Appendix 5 – Age Class Appendix 6 – Structural Condition Appendix 7 – SULE Categories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

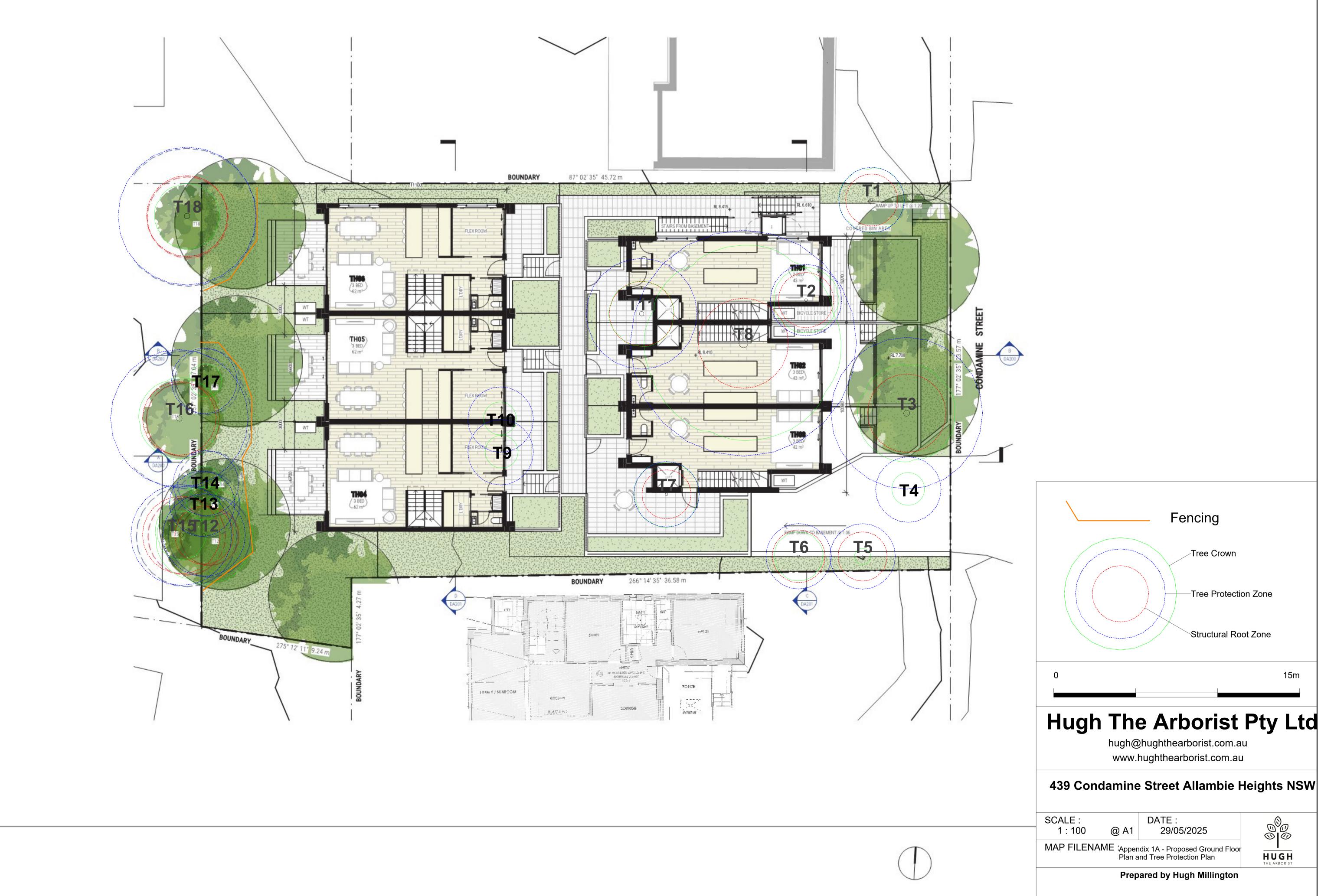
Hugh Millington

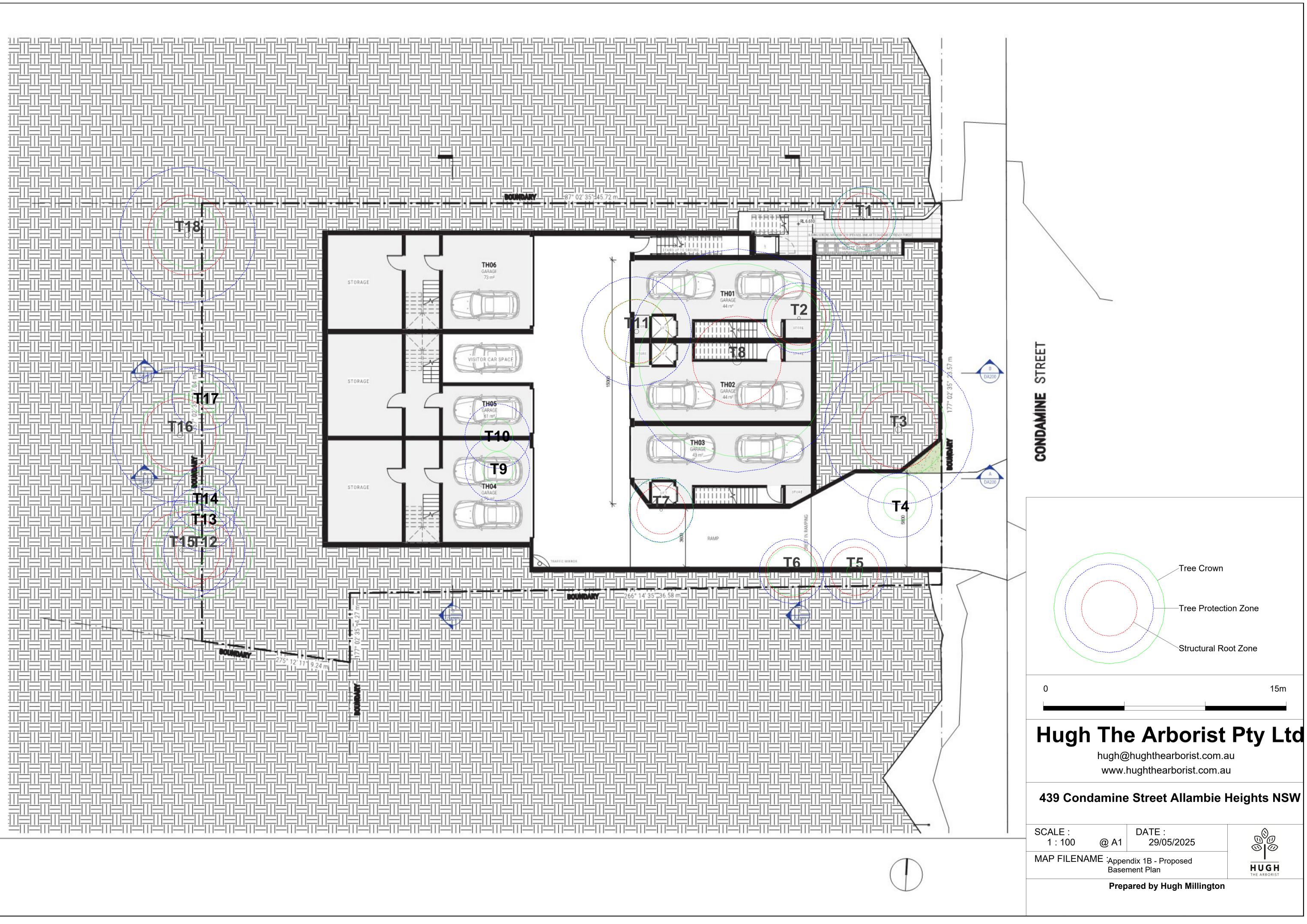
Diploma of Arboriculture (AQF5) NC Forestry and Arboriculture III (UK) RFS Tech. Cert. II (UK) ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification MAA, MISA

0426836701 hugh@hughtheArborist.com.au

> Report on trees at: 439 Condamine Street Allambie Heights NSW Prepared for: Rohani Investments Pty Ltd Prepared by: Hugh Millington hugh@hughtheArborist.com.au Date prepared: 29th May 2025







Appendix 2 - Tree Inspection Schedule

Tree ID	Common Name	Botanical Name	Age Class	Height (m)	Canopy Spread Radius (m)	Stem 1 (mm)	Stem 2 (mm)	Stem 3	Stem 4	Stem 5	Stem 6	DBH (mm)	DAB (mm)	Health	Structure	Landscape Value	SULE	Trees AZ Value	TPZ Radius (m)	SRZ Radius (m)	Notes
1	Avacado	Persea gratissima	Semi-mature	4	2	160						160		Good	Fair	Low	2. Medium		2.0	1.6	
2	Macadamia	Macadamia tetrophylla	Semi-mature	5	2	182						182	201	Good	Good	Medium	1. Long	A1	2.2	1.7	
3	Mango	Mangifera indica	Mature	6	3	386						386	459	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	4.6	2.4	
4	Kentia Palm	Howea forsteriana	Mature	7	1	160						160	NA	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z1	2.0	NA	
5	Lemon	Citrus x limon	Mature	4	0.5	100						100	150	Poor	Fair	Low	3. Short	Z1	2.0	1.5	
6	Lemon	Citrus x limon	Mature	4	1.5	140						140	180	Poor	Fair	Low	3. Short	Z1	2.0	1.6	
7	Mango	Mangifera indica	Mature	4	2	80	90	95				153	150	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z1	2.0	1.5	Neighbors tree estimated
8	Pecan	Carya illinoinensis	Mature	12	6	575						575	645	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	6.9	2.8	
9	Bangalow Palm	Archontophoenix cunninghamiana	Mature	9	1.5	210						210	0	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	2.5	1.5	
10	Bangalow Palm	Archontophoenix cunninghamiana	Mature	9	1.5	210						210	0	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	2.5	1.5	
11	Macadamia	Macadamia tetrophylla	Mature	5	2	282						282	295	Good	Good	Medium	1. Long	A1	3.4	2.0	
12	Avacado	Persea gratissima	Mature	6	3	210						210	230	Good	Fair	Low	2. Medium	Z3	2.5	1.8	
13	Cocos Palm	Syagrus romanzoffianum	Semi-mature	6	1	200						200	NA	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	2.0	NA	
14	Cocos Palm	Syagrus romanzoffianum	Semi-mature	6	1	200						200	NA	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	2.0	NA	
15	Umbrella	Schefflera actinophylla	Mature	6	1.5	100	50	75	160	150		257	450	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z1	3.1	2.4	Neighbors tree not on survey Retaining wall planter
16	Avacado	Persea gratissima	Mature	7	2.5	350						350	400	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	4.2		Neighbors tree not on survey Brick wall
17	Cocos Palm	Syagrus romanzoffianum	Semi-mature	6	1	200						200	NA	Good	Good	Low	1. Long	Z3	2.0	NA	Cluster of stems
18	Japanese Maple	Acer Palmatum	Mature	5	2	235	201	165				351	500	Fair	Poor	Low	3. Short	Z10	4.2	2.5	Neighbors tree not on survey Decay in stems and lopped
	Explanatory Natas												-							-	

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'. 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 x 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 x 50)^{0.42} x 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.

(x) Indicates the measurement taken for the diameter at tree base above the buttress roots.

(E) Indicates estimated measurements.

Appendix 3 – Assessment of Health

Category	Example condition	<u>Summary</u>
Good	 Crown has good foliage density for species. Tree shows no or minimal signs of pathogens that are unlikely to have an effect on the health of the tree. Tree is displaying good vigour and reactive growth development. 	The tree is in above average health and condition and no remedial works are required.
Fair	 The tree may be starting to dieback or have over 25% deadwood. Tree may have slightly reduced crown density or thinning. There may be some discolouration of foliage. Average reactive growth development. There may be early signs of pathogens which may further deteriorate the health of the tree. There may be epicormic growth indicating increased levels of stress within the tree. 	The tree is in below average health and condition and may require remedial works to improve the trees health.
Poor	 The may be in decline, have extensive dieback or have over 30% deadwood. The canopy may be sparse or the leaves may be unusually small for species. Pathogens or pests are having a significant detrimental effect on the tree health. 	The tree is displaying low levels of health and removal or remedial works may be required.
Dead	• The tree is dead or almost dead.	The tree should generally be removed.

RATING	HERITAGE VALUE	HERITAGE VALUE ECOLOGICAL VALUE						
	The subject tree is listed as a Heritage Item under the Local Environment Plan (LEP) with a local, state or national level of significance or is listed on Council's Significant Tree Register	The subject tree is scheduled as a Threatened Species as defined under the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995 (NSW) or the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	The subject tree has a very large live crown size exceeding 300m ² with normal to dense foliage cover, is located in a visually prominent position in the landscape, exhibits very good form and habit typical of the species					
1. SIGNIFICANT	The subject tree forms part of the curtilage of a Heritage Item (building /structure /artefact as defined under the LEP) and has a known or documented association with that item	The tree is a locally indigenous species, representative of the original vegetation of the area and is known as an important food, shelter or nesting tree for endangered or threatened fauna species	The subject tree makes a significant contribution to the amenity and visual character of the area by creating a sense of place or creating a sense of identity					
	The subject tree is a Commemorative Planting having been planted by an important historical person (s) or to Commemorate an important historical event	The subject tree is a Remnant Tree, being a tree in existence prior to development of the area	The tree is visually prominent in view from surrounding areas, being a landmark or visible from a considerable distance					
2. VERY HIGH	The tree has a strong historical association with a heritage item (building/structure/artefact/garden etc) within or adjacent the property and/or exemplifies a particular era or style of landscape design associated with the original development of the site.	The tree is a locally–indigenous species, representative of the original vegetation of the area and is a dominant or associated canopy species of an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) formerly occurring in the area occupied by the site.	The subject tree has a very large live crown size exceeding 200m ² ; a crown density exceeding 70% (normal-dense), is a very good representative of the species in terms of its form and branching habit or is aesthetically distinctive and makes a positive contribution to the visual character and the amenity of the area					
3. High	The tree has a suspected historical association with a heritage item or landscape supported by anecdotal or visual evidence	The tree is a locally–indigenous species and representative of the original vegetation of the area and the tree is located within a defined Vegetation Link / Wildlife Corridor or has known wildlife habitat value	The subject tree has a large live crown size exceeding 100m ² ; The tree is a good representative of the species in terms of its form and branching habit with minor deviations from normal (e.g. crown distortion/suppression) with a crown density of at least 70% normal); The subject tree is visible from the street and surrounding properties and makes a positive contribution to the visual character and the amenity of the area					
4. MODERATE	The tree has no known or suspected historical association, but does not detract or diminish the value of the item and is sympathetic to the original era of planting.	The subject tree is a non-local native or exotic species that is protected under the provisions of this DCP.	The subject tree has a medium live crown size exceeding 40m ² ;The tree is a fair representative of the species, exhibiting moderate deviations from typical form (distortion/suppression etc) with a crowndensity of more than 50% (thinning to normal); and The tree is visible from surrounding properties, but is not visually prominent – view may be partially obscured by other vegetation or built forms. The tree makes a fair contribution to the visual character and amenity of the area.					
5. LOW	The subject tree detracts from heritage values or diminishes the value of a heritage item	The subject tree is scheduled as exempt (not protected) under the provisions of this DCP due to its species, nuisance or position relative to buildings or other structures.	The subject tree has a small live crown size of less than 40m ² and can be replaced within the short term (510 years) with new tree planting					
6. VERY LOW	The subject tree is causing significant damage to a heritage Item.	The subject tree is listed as an Environment Weed Species in the Local Government Area, being invasive, or is a known nuisance species.	The subject tree is not visible from surrounding properties (visibility obscured) and makes a negligible contribution or has a negative impact on the amenity and visual character of the area. The tree is a poor representative of the species, showing significant deviations from the typical form and branching habit with a crown density of less than 50% (sparse).					
7. INSIGNIFICANT	The tree is completely dead and has no visible habitat value	The tree is a declared Noxious Weed under the Noxious Weeds Act (NSW) 1993 within the relevant Local Government Area.	The tree is completely dead and represents a potential hazard.					

Appendix 5 - Age class

Determining the exact age of a tree is difficult without carrying out potentially invasive testing. The age class of the subject tree has been estimated using the definitions below.

<u>Category</u>	<u>Description</u>
Young/Newly planted	• Young or recently planted tree.
Semi Mature	 Up to 20% of the usual life expectancy for the species.
Early mature/Mature	 Between 20% - 80% of the usual life expectancy for the species.
Over mature	 Over 80% of the usual life expectancy for the species.
Dead	• Tree is dead or almost dead.

Appendix 6 - Structural condition

Category	Example condition	<u>Summary</u>
Good	 Branch unions appear to be strong with no sign of defects. There are no significant cavities. The tree is unlikely to fail in usual conditions. The tree has a balanced crown shape and form. 	 The tree is considered structurally good with well developed form.
Fair	 The tree may have minor structural defects within the structure of the crown that could potentially develop into more significant defects. The tree may a cavity that is currently unlikely to fail but may deteriorate in the future. The tree is an unbalanced shape or leans significantly. The tree may have minor damage to its roots. The root plate may have moved in the past but the tree has now compensated for this. Branches may be rubbing or crossing. 	 The identified defects are unlikely cause major failure. Some branch failure may occur in usual conditions. Remedial works can be undertaken to alleviate potential defects.
Poor	 The tree has significant structural defects. Branch unions may be poor or weak. The tree may have a cavity or cavities with excessive levels of decay that could cause catastrophic failure. The tree may have root damage or is displaying signs of recent movement. The tree crown may have poor weight distribution which could cause failure. 	The identified defects are likely to cause either partial or whole failure of the tree.

Appendix 7 - 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.

Category	Description
1. Long	Useful life expectancy over 40 years
2. Medium	Useful life expectancy 15 to 40 years
3. Short	Useful life expectancy 5 to 15 years
4. Remove	Useful life expectancy under 5 years
5. Small/Young	Trees that could be transplanted or replaced with similar specimen.
6. Unstable	Tree has become hazardous or structurally unstable.

TreeAZ Categories (Version 10.04-ANZ)

CAUTION: TreeAZ assessments <u>must</u> 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 <u>not</u> intended to be self-explanatory. They <u>must</u> be read in conjunction with the most current explanations published at www.TreeAZ.com.

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

Local p	Local policy exemptions: Trees that are unsuitable for legal protection for local policy reasons including size, proximity and species	
Z 1	Young or insignificant small trees, i.e. below the local size threshold for legal protection, etc	
Z2	Too close to a building, i.e. exempt from legal protection because of proximity, etc	
Z3	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		
Z4	Dead, dying, diseased or declining	
Z 5	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	
Z6	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	
Z7	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	
Z8	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		
Z 9	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	
Z10	Poor condition or location with a low potential for recovery or improvement, i.e. dominated by adjacent trees or buildings, poor architectural framework, etc	
Z11	Removal would benefit better adjacent trees, i.e. relieve physical interference, suppression, etc	
Z12	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 &	

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

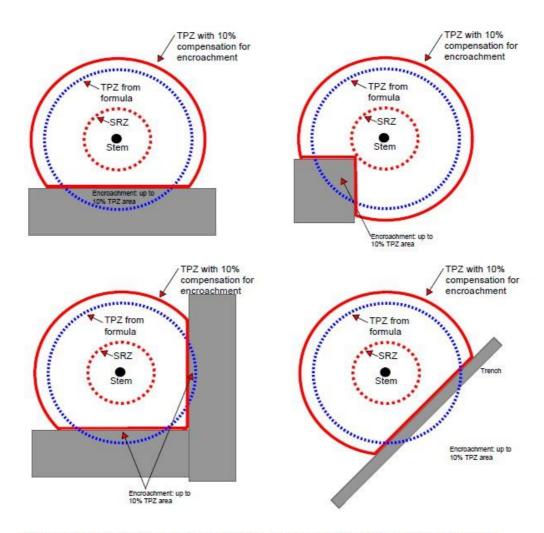
A1	No significant defects and could be retained with minimal remedial care
A2	Minor defects that could be addressed by remedial care and/or work to adjacent trees
A3	Special significance for historical, cultural, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary efforts to retain for more than 10 years
A4	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.

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Appendix 9 – Examples of TPZ Encroachment

Encroachment into the Tree Protection Zone is sometimes unavoidable. The following diagram shows examples of acceptable levels of encroachment and how they may be compensated for by providing additional space contiguous to the TPZ area.



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