
rainTree consulting

Arboricultural Management

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40 BASSETT STREET – MONA VALE, NSW
TEA TREE T14 - ARBORICULTURAL PRUNING PLAN
ref No. 9221

INTRODUCTION

This pruning specification report has been commissioned by Mr. Simon Edwards C/- Gartner Trovato Architects. The reason the report has been commissioned is to provide a detailed pruning plan that allows for suitable building line clearance to accommodate proposed building elevations adjacent part neighbouring tree T14 known as a Melaleuca or Tea Tree (*Melaleuca bracteata*). Within this report recommendations for selective pruning have been provided based on a ground level assessment with pruning requirements taking into consideration the location of the tree to the proposed dwelling roofline, extent of canopy overhang to the west and the significance of the tree within the environment. This report does not include pruning to accommodate temporary scaffold construction however, makes recommendations for managing canopy conflicts during development.

METHODOLOGY

In preparation for this report a ground level visual tree inspection was conducted by the author on Thursday 17th June 2021. The inspection and scope of works included the following activities:

- Observing tree canopy form and branch architecture to determine the likelihood of adequately pruning the tree to accommodate requested works.
- Conducting a visual assessment of tree health, growth habit, tree structure and growing environment to determine the viability of undertaking pruning activities.
- Observing extent and size of extending limbs likely to be affected by the building footprint and estimating the residual effect of reduction pruning on the remaining canopy form.
- Determining the limit of the building footprint adjacent and beneath the canopy to estimate building line clearances based on documentation provided.

Documentation reviewed

Gartner Trovato Architects project No. 2120:

- Ground Floor Plan Dwg No. A.02 rev A dated 16.4.2021
- Elevations Dwg No. A.04 rev A dated 25.3.2021

This report is primarily based on Australian Standards Pruning of Amenity Trees AS4373 2007 and AS4970 – 2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites.

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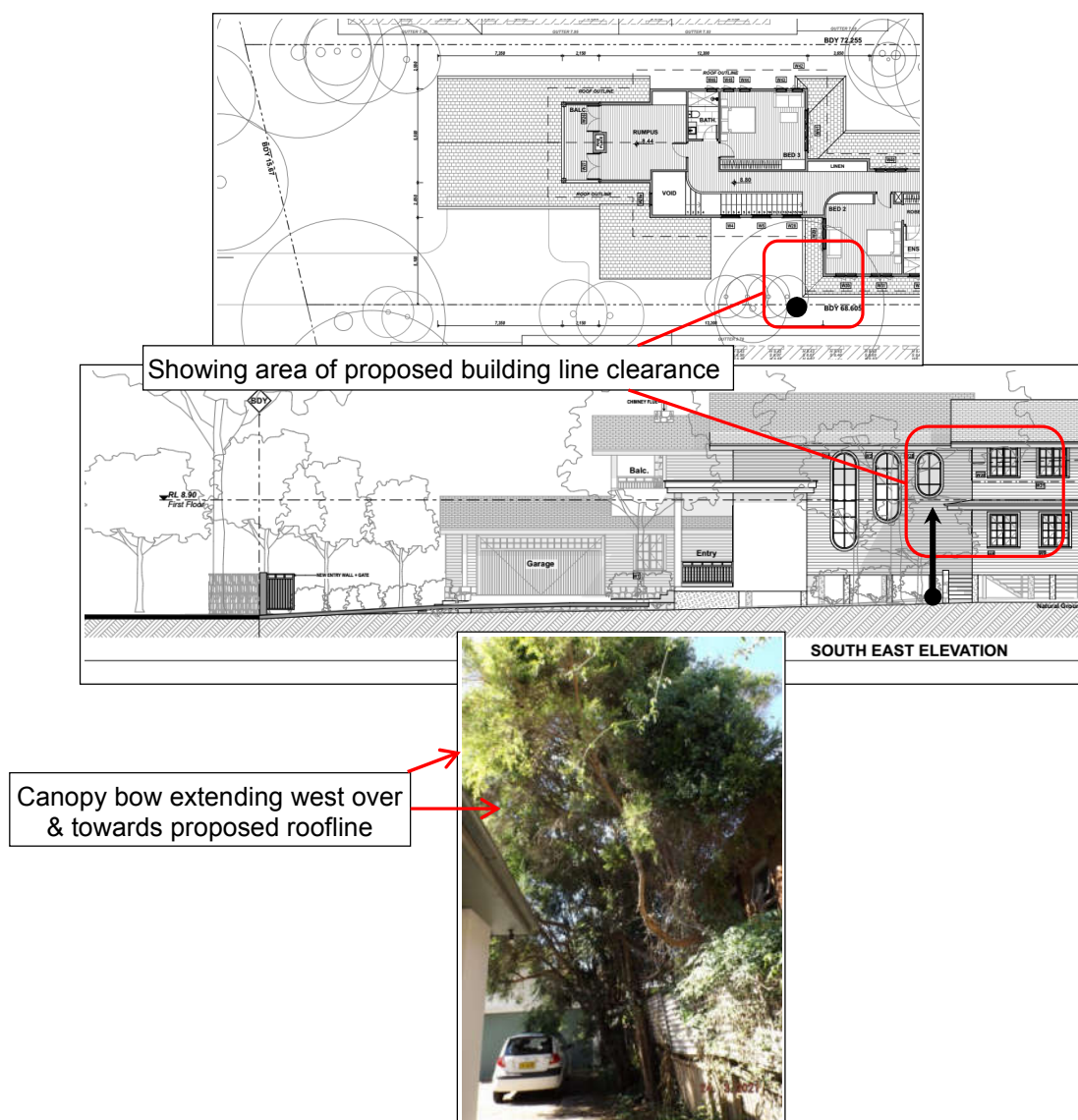
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1. SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT*The subject tree*

- 1.1 The subject tree known as T14 is considered as displaying good vitality, however, average condition where the SE stem had been previously lopped at or near 2.2m. This has resulted in long, lanky multi stem regrowth with average stem junction attachments. The tree is suppressed from sunlight on the E side by the neighbouring building complex, therefore, canopy extension has developed to the west where higher sunlight access occurs. This indicates a large proportion of the canopy mass within the site will be affected by proposed pruning. Given tree location within the environment the residual effect of such pruning is not predictable where regrowth may need to be managed (hedged) along the boundary to maintain property clearances and screening values.

Purpose of reduction pruning

- 1.2 As shown below the purpose of the pruning is to provide suitable building line clearance to accommodate the eastern building elevation.

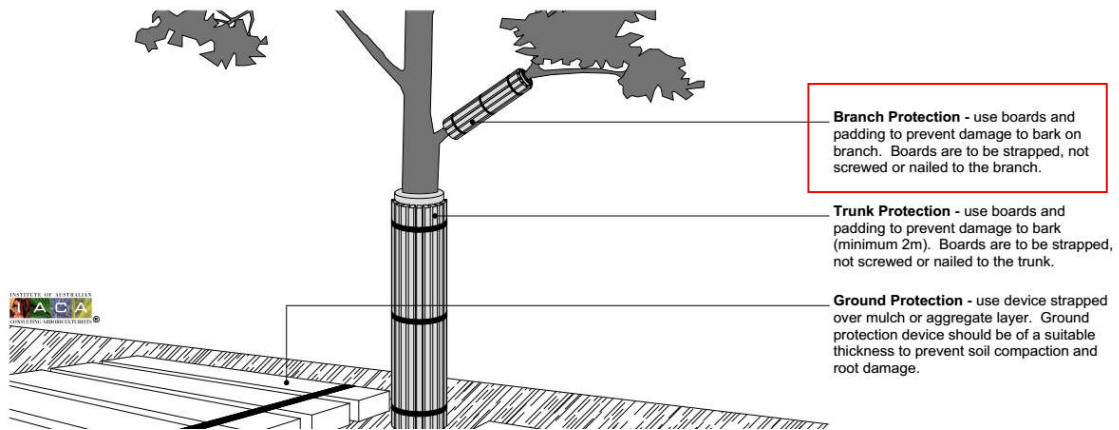


- 1.3 Observations note that approximately four (4) limbs between 80 & 170mm(Ø) at the branch collar require reduction pruning to accommodate building line clearances. Additional formative pruning of smaller exposed stems <40mm(Ø) may likely be required to maintain canopy form, or to remove suddenly exposed, long, horizontal, lanky and canopy end weighted stems that may be subjected to branch snap by sudden exposure.
- Canopy loss is estimated to be at or >35% canopy volume within the site where pruning will be required to lower branch collars removing main outer canopy shaping branches. The selective pruning of stems identified as stems A, B, C & D are identified within Section 3, and summarised below.
- 1.4 Recommended pruning to accommodate building line clearances.
- Stem A: 170mm(Ø) at 2.1m above ground level bowing W over driveway extending from N side of trees multi stems above the fence line.
 - Stem B: 110mm(Ø) at 4.5m above ground level growing upright before bowing westward. Stem forms part of main central multi stem junction SE side of tree.
 - Stem C: 100mm(Ø) at 3.5m above ground level extending from centre upright stem before bowing to NW.
 - Stem D: 80mm(Ø) at 4m above ground level, located above Stem C on S side of canopy extension.
- 1.5 The intention of the pruning identified is to reduce back to the fence line canopy overhang that allows for Lower, First Floor & Roofline clearance. Given the species of tree lopping could be considered to the boundary that will allow for regrowth that can be managed by hedging to maintain screening values.

2. PRUNING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Canopy pruning is to be limited to activities identified within Australian Standards AS 4373 Pruning of Amenity Trees 2007 such as *Selective pruning* (Section 7.2.4) and *Reduction pruning* (Section 7.3.2) where *General pruning* (crown lifting) may be required to achieve the desired outcome.
- The above pruning activities are used to remove branches that are likely to be causing a specific problem *where the size of branch stem is to be specified at the time of assessment* (AS4373). As per AS4373-2007 the proposed stems have been identified within Section 3 Schedule of Recommended Works.
- 2.2 To ensure the tree is not over pruned pruning activities are recommended to be supervised and certified by a minimum Australian Qualification Framework (AQF) Level 5 certified arborist. The supervising arborist is recommended to identify those limbs specified for removal, and after reduction pruning identify smaller stems that require formative pruning to maintain canopy balance or to reduce the risk of limb snap caused by sudden exposure.
- Based on the size of stems requiring removal pruning should be conducted with sharp disinfected hand pruning saws or horticultural loppers. Prior to pruning tools are to be disinfected, be sharp and clean tools to ensure clean cuts to mitigate the risk of wood rot pathogen infection.
- 2.3 Pruning works are to be conducted by a suitably qualified AQF Level 3 certified arborist in accordance with AS4373 Pruning Standards, and specifically be conducted in accordance with Safe Work Australia – Guide to managing risks of tree trimming and removal works 2016 (www.swa.gov.au).

- 2.4 *Scaffolding within the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ):* where scaffolding is required additional branch removal should be minimised. This can be achieved by designing scaffolding to avoid branches or tying back branches. The supervising arborist should identify flexible limbs that can be tied back rather than pruned. Where larger woody stems are in direct contact with scaffolding branch protection is required to protect limbs from damages as detailed below.



Post construction management

- 2.5 The appointed arborist is recommended to assess the exposed canopy form and recommend any additional minor pruning to maintain canopy balance and aesthetic, or to make safe stems that may have been accidentally damaged by works.

Should you require further liaisons in this matter please contact me direct on 0419 250 248

Yours sincerely

Mark A Kokot

AQF Level 5 consulting arborist

Diploma of Hort/Arboriculture (AQF5), Associate Diploma Parks Management (AQF4)

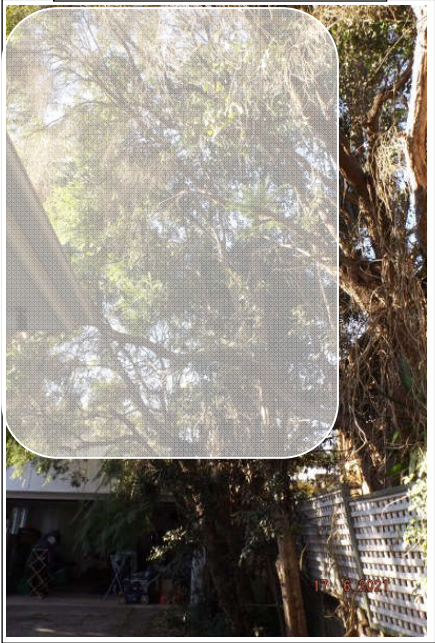
Certified Arborist / Tree Surgeon (AQF3), ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified 2024

Member: ISA, Arboriculture Australia & IACA, Working With Children No: WWC0144637E



3 – SCHEDULE OF RECOMMENDED WORKS – Pruning schedule

Stems A & B: Specified pruning	Pruning location
[A] = At the lower branch collar prune back 1x stem 170mm(Ø) at 2.1m above ground level extending low over driveway to W from main N stem section at fence line. [B] = At the lower branch collar prune back 1x stem 110mm(Ø) at 4.5m above ground level, initially growing upright before bowing westward over driveway. Stem extends from S side main lopped section where multi stems at near 3m exist. Size of stem removal is unlikely to affect tree vitality however, will likely result in a narrow canopy form.	

Stems C & D: Specified pruning	Pruning location
[C] = At the lower branch collar or multi stem area prune back 1x central upright stem 100mm(Ø) at 3.5m above ground level. [D] = On S side of tree located above stem [C] prune out 1x stem 80mm(Ø) at 4m above ground level extending towards the building footprint. Combined pruning to reduce overhang back to fence line 	  END OF SCHEDULE