

Preliminary Arboricultural Assessment Report



Prepared 17th July 2023

Site Location

O'Connell and Neville Street
Smithfield NSW

Client

The Leo-McCarthy Memorial
Smithfield R.S.L. Sub-Branch Club Limited

DISCLAIMER

The author and Tree & Landscape Consultants take no responsibility for actions taken and their consequences, contrary to those expert and professional instructions given as recommendations pertaining to safety by way of exercising our responsibility to our client and the public as our duty of care commitment, to mitigate or prevent hazards from arising, from a failure moment in full or part, from a structurally deficient or unsound tree or a tree likely to be rendered thus by its retention and subsequent modification/s to its growing environment either above or below ground contrary to our advice.

Peter Richards

Tree & Landscape Consultants

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SUMMARY

The site The Leo-McCarthy Memorial RSL cnr O'Connell & Neville Street Smithfield NSW is located within Fairfield City Council LGA.

This report states of the 22 trees individually assessed that numbers:

- 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12, 13 ,15,17,18,19,20,21,22 &23 are fair in condition.
- 14 is good in condition.
- 16 is poor condition.
(See table 1).

Any trees proposed for retention with any development on the land should adhere to the *Australian Standard AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites*, as a point of reference for the recommended minimum clearances from the centre of tree trunks to development works. Table 2 prescribes setback from all trees assessed for retention consideration. This system is utilized as a general benchmark and the distances may be increased or decreased by the Arboriculturist as a result of other factors providing mitigating circumstances or constraints as indicated by but not restricted to the following:

- *Tolerance of individual species to disturbance,*
- *Geology e.g., physical barriers in soil, floaters, bedrock to surface*
- *Topography e.g., slope, drainage,*
- *Soil e.g., depth, drainage, fertility, structure,*
- *Microclimate e.g., due to landform, exposure to dominant wind,*
- *Engineering e.g., techniques to ameliorate impact on trees such as structural soil, lateral boring,*
- *Construction e.g., techniques to ameliorate impact on trees such as pier and beam, bridge footings, suspended slabs*
- *Arboriculture e.g., exploration trenches to map location of roots,*
- *Physical limitations - existing modifications to the environment and any impact to tree/s by development e.g., property boundaries, road reserves, previous impact by excavation in other directions, soil level changes by cutting or filling, existing landscaping works within close proximity, modified drainage patterns.*



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17th July 2023

**The Leo-McCarthy Memorial
Smithfield R.S.L. Sub-Branch Club Limited**

Our reference: PAA- Smithfield

Preliminary Arboricultural Assessment Report:

O'Connell and Neville Street

Smithfield NSW

1. INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared by Tree & Landscape Consultants for The Leo-McCarthy Memorial Smithfield R.S.L. Sub-Branch Club Limited. The site was inspected by Tree & Landscape Consultants and the subject trees, and their general growing environment evaluated on the 28th June 2023 as part of an initial site brief and for preparation of this report.

The site is to be subject to a Development Application and the aims and objectives of this report are to provide initial assessment of site vegetation as a guide for use with the design process. The tree locations are indicated in Appendix D and this report details their current health & condition and provides Tree Significance and Retention Appraisal ratings.

An Arboricultural Impact Assessment (AIA) will be required as part of the development process to determine the impact of development upon tree/s to be retained provide specifications for protection of tree/s to be retained and provide recommendations for replacement tree/s where appropriate.

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The method of assessment of tree/s is applied from the ongoing knowledge and development of the author and considers but is not confined to:
- Tree health and subsequent stability, both long and short term
 - Sustainable Retention Index Value (S.R.I.V.)© IACA 2009)
 - Amenity values
 - Significance – Rating System for Tree Significance - IACA (2009) ©
 - TPZ (Tree Protection Zone) & SRZ (Structural Root Zone) – AS4970
- 2.2 This assessment is undertaken using a standard tree assessment criteria for each tree based on the values above and is implemented as a result of at least one comprehensive and detailed site inspection.
- 2.3 In this report the dimensions of the tree recorded by the author for the trunk *diameter at breast height* (DBH) measurement is calculated at 1.4m above ground from the base of the tree. Where a tree is trunkless or branches at or near ground such as a mallee formed tree, an average diameter is determined by recording the radial extent of the stem mass at its narrowest and widest dimensions, adding the two dimensions together and dividing them by 2 to record an average.
- 2.4 Crown spreads are expressed as length by breadth measurements to accurately record their dimensions. Where appropriate, *crown spread orientation* is described along the length of the crown spread e.g. North/South, or as *radial* if the crown is distributed at an approximately even radius from the trunk e.g. 6x6m.
- 2.5 ***Pruning/Removal Guidelines***
- Any pruning recommended in this report is to be to the Australian Standard® AS4373 'Pruning of amenity trees', and conducted in accordance with the NSW Work Cover Authority Code of Practice for the Amenity Tree Industry, 1998
 - All pruning or removal works are to be in accordance with the appropriate Tree Management Policy where applicable, or Tree Management Order (TMO), or Tree Preservation Order (TPO), or applicable consent conditions.
 - Tree maintenance work is specialised and in order to be undertaken safely and to ensure the works carried out are not detrimental to the survival of the tree or surrounding vegetation, all works should be undertaken by a qualified Arboriculturist with appropriate competencies recognised within the Australian Qualification Framework, with a minimum of 5 years of continual experience within the industry of operational amenity arboriculture, and covered by appropriate and current types of insurance to undertake such works.
 - Any pruning near electricity wires should be undertaken in accordance with relative Electrical Safety Rules and be performed by persons individually authorised by Energy Australia

3. TREE ASSESSMENTS

Table 1 : Site- O'Connell & Neville Street Smithfield NSW

 = Medium Priority Trees

 = Low Priority Trees

Tree No.	Genus & Species Common Name	Age Y – Young M-Mature O- Overmature	Condition G- Good F- Fair P- Poor D- Dead	Branch Bark Included	Canopy Orientation Sy- Symmetrical Asy- Asymmetrical	Trunk Diameter (DBH- 1.4 m above ground level in mm)	Height X Spread (Metres Radius/Spreads represented N/W x E/W)	Tree Vigour L- Low G- Good D- Dormant	SRIV Sustainable Retention Index Value
1	Chamaecyparis obtusa Cypress	M	F	No	Sy	100	3.5 x 3	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Smaller insignificant specimen appearing free of insect predation and disease.							
2	Chamaecyparis obtusa Cypress	M	F	No	Sy	100	3x1	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Smaller insignificant specimen appearing free of insect predation and disease.							
3	Chamaecyparis obtusa Cypress	M	F	No	Sy	100	2x2	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Single street tree located on Yule Street in fair condition							
4	Syagrus romanzoffiana Cocos Palm	M	F	No	Sy	300	12x 5	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree appearing free of insect predation and disease listed as exempt under Fairfield City Council Tree exemptions list							
5	Ligustrum lucidum Broad Leaf Privet	M	F	No	Sy	100	5x4	G	MGVF9
		Undesirable species listed as exempt under Fairfield City Council Tree exemptions list							
6	Jacaranda mimosifolia Jacaranda	M	F	No	Sy	430	10 6x7	G	MGVF9
		Crown partially lopped to clear overhead wires							
7	Lophostemon confertus Brush Box	M	F	No	Asy	550	10 6x7	G	MGVF9
		Crown partially lopped to clear overhead wires							
8	Chamaecyparis obtusa Cypress	M	F	No	Sy	100	6.5x 4.4	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree appearing free of insect predation and disease							
9	Jacaranda mimosifolia Jacaranda	M	F	No	Sy	400	9 7x7	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree appearing free of insect predation and disease							
10	Morus nigra Black Mulberry	M	F	No	Sy	200	5 4	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Multi leader fruit tree exempt under the LGA regulations							
11	Citrus sp.	M	F	No	Sy	100	4 3	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Multi leader fruit tree exempt under the LGA regulations							
12	Ligustrum sinense Small Leaf Privet	M	F	No	Sy	100	4 2	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Multi leader undesirable tree exempt under the LGA regulations							
13	Chamaecyparis obtusa Cypress	M	F	No	Sy	280	8 4	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree appeared free of insect predation and disease.							
14	Olea europaea Common Olive	M	G	No	Sy	250	8 6	G	MGVF10
		Comments: Tree appeared free of insect predation and disease.							
15	Eriobotya japonica Loquat	M	F	No	Asy	100	4 3	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Fruit tree appeared free of insect predation and disease. Tree exempt.							
16	Syzygium australe Lilly Pilly	M	p	No	Asy	280	7 2	G	MGVP6
		Comments: Tree previously heavily lopped							
17	Syzygium australe Lilly Pilly	M	F	No	Asy	300	8 4	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Crown co-dominant with tree 18. Tree enters the ground at 1 metre higher than within development site and is separated by a log retaining wall.							

Tree No.	Genus & Species Common Name	Age Y – Young M-Mature O- Overmature	Condition G- Good F- Fair P- Poor D- Dead	Branch Bark Included	Canopy Orientation Sy- Symmetrical Asy- Asymmetrical	Trunk Diameter (DBH- 1.4 m above ground level in mm)	Height X Spread (Metres Radius/Spreads represented N/W x E/W)	Tree Vigour L- Low G- Good D- Dormant	SRIV Sustainable Retention Index Value
18	Syzygium australe Lilly Pilly	M	F	No	Asy	290	7 3	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Crown co-dominant with tree 17. Tree enters the ground at 1 metre higher then within development site and is separated by a log retaining wall.							
19	Robinea pseudocacia Robinia	M	F	No	Sy	250	7.5x5.5	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree enters the ground at 1 metre higher then within development site and is separated by a log retaining wall.							
20	Lagerstroemia indica Crepe Myrtle	M	F	No	Sy	200	5.5 x 5	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree enters the ground at 1 metre higher then within the development site and is separated by a log retaining wall.							
21	Nyssa sylvatica Tupelo	M	F	No	Sy	250	7.5x 5 .5	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree enters the ground at 1 metre higher then within development site and is separated by a log retaining wall.							
22	Nyssa sylvatica Tupelo	M	F	No	Sy	250	7x5	G	MGVF9
		Comments: Tree enters the ground at 1 metre higher then within development site and is separated by a log retaining wall.							
23	Jacaranda mimosifolia Jacaranda	Y	F	No	Sy	110	6 x 4	G	YGVF8
		Comments: Young specimen fair condition, located at front of 150 Brenan Street.							

Table 2
Tree Protection Zones & Structural Root Zones

3.1 See Appendix D for TPZ- Tree Protection Zones

TPZ- Tree Protection Zone & SRZ- Structural Root Zone- calculated in accordance with
AS4970/2009- Protection of trees on development sites

Tree No	Botanical Name	TPZ- Tree Protection Zone: (Radius metres)	SRZ- Structural Root Zone: (Radius metres)
1	Chamaecyparis obtusa	1.5	1.5
2	Chamaecyparis obtusa	1.5	1.5
3	Chamaecyparis obtusa	1.5	1.5
4	Syagrus romanzoffiana	3.6	2.1
5	Ligustrum lucidum	1.5	1.5
6	Jacaranda mimosifolia	5.16	2.4
7	Lophostemon confertus	6.6	2.7
8	Chamaecyparis obtusa	1.5	1.5
9	Jacaranda mimosifolia	4.8	2.3
10	Morus nigra	2.4	1.8
11	Citrus sp.	1.5	1.5
12	Ligustrum sinense	1.5	1.5
13	Chamaecyparis obtusa	3.4	2.2
14	Olea europaea	3.0	2.1
15	Eriobotya japonica	1.5	1.5
16	Syzygium australe	3.4	2.2
17	Syzygium australe	3.6	2.3
18	Syzygium australe	3.5	2.2
19	Robinea pseudocacia	3.0	2.2
20	Lagerstroemia indica	2.4	2.0
21	Nyssa sylvatica	3.0	2.2
22	Nyssa sylvatica	3.0	2.2
23	Jacaranda mimosifolia	2.0	1.5

TPZ- encroachment

General- It may be possible to encroach into or make variations to the standard TPZ. Encroachment includes excavation, compacted fill and machine trenching.

Minor encroachment- Is less than 10% of the area of the TPZ and outside the SRZ.

Major encroachment – Is greater than 10% of the area of the TPZ or inside the SRZ.

Tree Significance

3.2 See Appendix C for Assessment Criteria (IACA, 2009).

Significant Trees as established by the Rating System for Tree Significance – (IACA, 2009), Appendix C.

Lot A

Significance Scale	1	2	3
TALC Tree No. / stand No.		1,2,3,6,7,8,9,13,14,16,17,18,19,20,21,22,23	4,5,10,11,12,15

Significant Scale

- 1 – High**
- 2 – Medium**
- 3 – Low**

Tree Retention Value

3.3 Determined by using the Retention Value - Priority Matrix of the *IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS)* © (IACA, 2010), Appendix C.

Retention Value.	High Priority for Retention	Medium Consider for Retention	Low Consider for Removal	Remove Priority for Removal
TALC Tree No. / Stand No.		1,2,3,6,7,8,9,13,14,16,17, 18,19,20,21,22	4,5,10,11,12,15,23	

High – Priority for Retention

Medium – Consider for Retention

Low – Consider for Removal

Remove - Priority for Removal

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. That any trees internal to the site or within the neighbouring property which are to be retained with any proposed development for the land be scrutinized utilising the Australian Standard AS 4970-2009 "Protection of trees on development sites "as a guide for their preservation and protection. Table 2 indicates setbacks from all trees as a point of reference.
- b. Trees 1,2,3,6,7,8,9,13,14,16,17 ,18,19,20,21,22 & 23 warrant a *Medium Priority* retention rating with any proposed development for the site.
- c. Trees 4 ,5,10,11,12,15 warrant a *Low Priority* retention. The trees may not be impacted by the proposed development of the site and are either undesirable or exempt under council regulations.



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Appendix A

Matrix - Sustainable Retention Index Value (S.R.I.V.)©

Developed by IACA – Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists www.iaca.org.au (2009)

To be used with the values defined in the Glossary.
An Index value as indicated where ten (10) is the highest value.

Age Class	Vigour Class and Condition Class					
	Good Vigour & Good Condition (GVG)	Good Vigour & Fair Condition (GVF)	Good Vigour & Poor Condition (GVP)	Low Vigour & Good Condition (LVG)	Low Vigour & Fair Condition (LVF)	Low Vigour & Poor Condition (LVP)
	Able to be retained if sufficient space available above and below ground for future growth. No remedial work or improvement to growing environment required. May be subject to high vigour. Retention potential - Medium – Long Term.	Able to be retained if sufficient space available above and below ground for future growth. Remedial work may be required or improvement to growing environment may assist. Retention potential - Medium Term. Potential for longer with remediation or favourable environmental conditions.	Able to be retained if sufficient space available above and below ground for future growth. Remedial work unlikely to assist condition, improvement to growing environment may assist. Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with remediation or favourable environmental conditions.	May be able to be retained if sufficient space available above and below ground for future growth. No remedial work required, but improvement to growing environment may assist vigour. Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with remediation or favourable environmental conditions.	May be able to be retained if sufficient space available above and below ground for future growth. Remedial work or improvement to growing environment may assist condition and vigour. Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with remediation or favourable environmental conditions.	Unlikely to be able to be retained if sufficient space available above and below ground for future growth. Remedial work or improvement to growing environment unlikely to assist condition or vigour. Retention potential - Likely to be removed immediately or retained for Short Term. Potential for longer with remediation or favourable environmental conditions.
Young (Y)	Index Value 9 Retention potential - Long Term. Likely to provide minimal contribution to local amenity if height <5m. High potential for future growth and adaptability. Retain, move or replace.	Index Value 8 Retention potential - Short – Medium Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions. Likely to provide minimal contribution to local amenity if height <5m. Medium-high potential for future growth and adaptability. Retain, move or replace.	Index Value 5 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions. Likely to provide minimal contribution to local amenity if height <5m. Low-medium potential for future growth and adaptability. Retain, move or replace.	Index Value 4 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions. Likely to provide minimal contribution to local amenity if height <5m. Medium potential for future growth and adaptability. Retain, move or replace.	Index Value 3 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions. Likely to provide minimal contribution to local amenity if height <5m. Low-medium potential for future growth and adaptability. Retain, move or replace.	Index Value 1 Retention potential - Likely to be removed immediately or retained for Short Term. Likely to provide minimal contribution to local amenity if height <5m. Low potential for future growth and adaptability.
Mature (M)	Index Value 10 Retention potential - Medium - Long Term.	Index Value 9 Retention potential - Medium Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions.	Index Value 6 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions.	Index Value 5 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions.	Index Value 4 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions.	Index Value 2 Retention potential - Likely to be removed immediately or retained for Short Term.
Over-mature (O)	Index Value 6 Retention potential - Medium - Long Term.	Index Value 5 Retention potential - Medium Term.	Index Value 4 Retention potential - Short Term.	Index Value 3 Retention potential - Short Term. Potential for longer with improved growing conditions.	Index Value 2 Retention potential - Short Term.	Index Value 0 Retention potential - Likely to be removed immediately or retained for Short Term.

Appendix B

Definitions & Terminology

From
Dictionary for Managing Trees in Urban Environments
Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists (IACA) 2009.

Condition of trees

Condition A tree's *crown form* and growth habit, as modified by its *environment* (aspect, suppression by other trees, soils), the *stability* and *viability* of the *root plate*, trunk and structural branches (first (1st) and possibly second (2nd) order branches), including structural defects such as wounds, cavities or hollows, *crooked* trunk or weak trunk/branch junctions and the effects of predation by pests and diseases. These may not be directly connected with *vigour* and it is possible for a tree to be of *normal vigour* but in *poor condition*. Condition can be categorized as *Good Condition*, *Fair Condition*, *Poor Condition* and *Dead*.

Good Condition Tree is of good habit, with *crown form* not severely restricted for space and light, physically free from the adverse effects of *predation* by pests and diseases, obvious instability or structural weaknesses, fungal, bacterial or insect infestation and is expected to continue to live in much the same condition as at the time of inspection provided conditions around it for its basic survival do not alter greatly. This may be independent from, or contributed to by *vigour*.

Fair Condition Tree is of good habit or *misshapen*, a form not severely restricted for space and light, has some physical indication of *decline* due to the early effects of *predation* by pests and diseases, fungal, bacterial, or insect infestation, or has suffered physical injury to itself that may be contributing to instability or structural weaknesses, or is faltering due to the modification of the *environment* essential for its basic survival. Such a tree may recover with remedial works where appropriate, or without intervention may stabilise or improve over time, or in response to the implementation of beneficial changes to its local environment. This may be independent from, or contributed to by *vigour*.

Poor Condition Tree is of good habit or *misshapen*, a form that may be severely restricted for space and light, exhibits symptoms of advanced and *irreversible decline* such as fungal, or bacterial infestation, major die-back in the branch and *foliage crown*, *structural deterioration* from insect damage e.g. termite infestation, or storm damage or lightning strike, ring barking from borer activity in the trunk, root damage or instability of the tree, or damage from physical wounding impacts or abrasion, or from altered local environmental conditions and has been unable to adapt to such changes and may decline further to death regardless of remedial works or other modifications to the local *environment* that would normally be sufficient to provide for its basic survival if in *good to fair* condition. Deterioration physically, often characterised by a gradual and continuous reduction in *vigour* but may be independent of a change in *vigour*, but characterised by a proportionate increase in susceptibility to, and *predation* by pests and diseases against which the tree cannot be sustained. Such conditions may also be evident in trees of advanced senescence due to normal phenological processes, without modifications to the growing environment or physical damage having been inflicted upon the tree. This may be independent from, or contributed to by *vigour*..

Dead Tree is no longer capable of performing any of the following processes or is exhibiting any of the following symptoms;

Processes

Photosynthesis via its foliage crown (as indicated by the presence of moist, green or other coloured leaves);

Osmosis (the ability of the root system to take up water);

Turgidity (the ability of the plant to sustain moisture pressure in its cells);

Epicormic shoots or *epicormic strands* in Eucalypts (the production of new shoots as a response to stress, generated from latent or adventitious buds or from a *lignotuber*);

Symptoms

Permanent leaf loss;

Permanent wilting (the loss of turgidity which is marked by desiccation of stems leaves and roots);

Abscission of the *epidermis* (bark desiccates and peels off to the beginning of the sapwood).

Removed No longer present, or tree not able to be located or having been cut down and retained on a site, or having been taken away from a site prior to site inspection.

Description of Tree Dimensions

Height The distance measured vertically between the horizontal plane at the lowest point at the base of a tree, which is immediately above ground, and the horizontal plane immediately above the uppermost point of a tree.

Spread The furthest expanse of the crown when measured horizontally from one side of the tree to the other, generally through the centre of the trunk. Where the crown is not circular a measurement should be an average of the narrowest and widest diameters and this is dependent upon crown form and to a lesser extent its symmetry.

Crown Cover Percent of the homogenous distribution of foliage across the entire crown based upon that expected for a specimen of that species in good condition and of normal *vigour*, depending on form in situ, e.g. this may be influenced by crown die-back, proximity to other trees or structures, moisture stress, or overshadowing.

Vigour

Vigour Ability of a tree to sustain its life processes. This is independent of the *condition* of a tree but may impact upon it. *Vigour* can appear to alter rapidly with change of seasons (seasonality) e.g. *dormant*, deciduous or semi-deciduous trees. *Vigour* can be categorized as *Normal Vigour*, *High Vigour*, *Low Vigour* and *Dormant Tree Vigour*.

Normal Vigour Ability of a tree to maintain and sustain its life processes. This may be evident by the typical growth of leaves, crown cover and crown density, branches, roots and trunk and resistance to predation. This is independent of the condition of a tree but may impact upon it, and especially the ability of a tree to sustain itself against predation.

High Vigour *Accelerated growth* of a tree due to incidental or deliberate artificial changes to its growing *environment* that are seemingly beneficial, but may result in *premature aging* or failure if the favourable conditions cease, or promote *prolonged senescence* if the favourable conditions remain, e.g. water from a leaking pipe; water and nutrients from a leaking or disrupted sewer pipe; nutrients from animal waste, a tree growing next to a chicken coop, or a stock feed lot, or a regularly used stockyard; a tree subject to a stringent watering and fertilising program; or some trees may achieve an extended lifespan from continuous *pollarding* practices over the life of the tree.

Low Vigour Reduced ability of a tree to sustain its life processes. This may be evident by the atypical growth of leaves, reduced crown cover and reduced crown density, branches, roots and trunk, and a deterioration of their functions with reduced resistance to predation. This is independent of the condition of a tree but may impact upon it, and especially the ability of a tree to sustain itself against predation.

Dormant Tree Vigour Determined by existing turgidity in lowest order branches in the outer extremity of the crown, with good bud set and formation, and where the last extension growth is distinct from those most recently preceding it, evident by bud scale scars. Normal vigour during dormancy is achieved when such growth is evident on a majority of branches throughout the crown.

Poor Vigour See low vigour

Good Vigour See Normal Vigour

Age of Trees

Age of Trees Most trees have a stable biomass for the major proportion of their life. The estimation of the age of a tree is based on the knowledge of the expected lifespan of the taxa in situ divided into three distinct stages of measurable biomass, when the exact age of the tree from its date of cultivation or planting is unknown. These increments are Young, Mature and Overmature.

Young Tree aged less than 20% of life expectancy.

Mature Tree aged 20-80% of life expectancy.

Over-mature Tree aged greater than 80% of life expectancy tending to senescent with or without reduced vigour, and declining gradually or rapidly but irreversibly to death.

Sapling A young tree, early in its development with small dimensions.

Senescent Advanced old age, over-mature.

General Terms

Significant Important, weighty or more than ordinary.

Significant Tree A tree considered important, weighty or more than ordinary. Example: due to prominence of location, or in situ, or contribution as a component of the overall landscape for *amenity* or aesthetic qualities, or *curtilage* to structures, or importance due to uniqueness of taxa for species, subspecies, variety, form, or as an historical or cultural planting, or for age, or substantial dimensions, or habit, or as remnant vegetation, or habitat potential, or a rare or threatened species, or uncommon in cultivation, or of aboriginal cultural importance, or is a commemorative planting.

Substantial A tree with large dimensions or proportions in relation to its place in the landscape.

Excurrent Tree where the crown is comprised of one (1) dominant first order structural branch which is usually an extension of the trunk, erect, straight and continuous, tapering gradually, with the main *axis* clear from base to apex, e.g. *Araucaria heterophylla* - Norfolk Island Pine. Note: some tree species of *typical* excurrent habit may be altered to deliquescent by physical damage of the *apical meristem*, or from top lopping, or from the propagation of inferior quality stock. However, *formative pruning* may be able to correct a *crown* to excurrent if undertaken when a tree is *young*.

Sustainable Retention Index Value (SRIV) A visual method of rating the viability of urban trees for development sites and management, based on general tree and landscape assessment criteria. SRIV© is for the professional manager of urban trees to consider the tree in situ with an assumed knowledge of the taxa and its growing environment and is based on the physical attributes of the tree and its response to its environment considering its age class, vigour class, condition class and its sustainable retention with regard to the safety of people or damage to property and the ability to retain the tree with remedial work or beneficial modifications to its growing environment or removal and replacement. (IACA 2005)

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) Measurement of trunk width calculated at a given distance above ground from the base of the tree often measured at 1.4 m. The trunk of a tree is usually not a circle when viewed in cross section, due to the presence of *reaction wood* or *adaptive wood*, therefore an average diameter is determined with a *diameter tape* or by recording the trunk along its narrowest and widest axes, adding the two dimensions together and dividing them by 2 to record an average and allowing the orientation of the longest axis of the trunk to also be recorded. Where a tree is growing on a lean the distance along the top of the trunk is measured to 1.4m and the diameter then recorded from that point perpendicular to the edge of the trunk. Where a *leaning* trunk is *crooked* a vertical distance of 1.4m is measured from the ground. Where a tree branches from a trunk that is less than 1.4m above ground, the trunk diameter is recorded perpendicular to the length of the *trunk* from the point immediately below the base of the flange of the *branch collar* extending the furthest down the trunk, and the distance of this point above ground recorded as *trunk* length. Where a tree is located on sloping ground the DBH should be measured at half way along the side of the tree to average out the angle of slope. Where a tree is *acaulescent* or *trunkless* branching at or near ground an average diameter is determined by recording the radial extent of the trunk at or near ground and noting where the measurement was recorded e.g. at ground.

Tree Management Planned protection, conservation, maintenance and enhancement of a population of trees. Usually achieved by recognizing trees as a dynamic natural resource and, through professional arboricultural personnel and a multidisciplinary approach, gaining an ongoing understanding of diverse aspects of the population: age class; maintenance, removal/replacement cycles and costs; additional new planting opportunities and costs; sustainability; safety constraints; community concerns; budgetary constraints; ecological, *amenity* and utility values; suitability and appropriateness of tree maintenance, removal and replacement or retention. See also *Tree Preservation*, *Appropriate Tree Management* and *Inappropriate Tree Management*.

Appropriate Tree Management The management of trees as a resource based on sound professional judgement and a competent understanding of what tree to plant where and when, or when to remove or retain a tree. Examples: 1. The planting or retention of a tree in a position that causes minimal or no conflict with people or property or disturbance of the built environment, or services or infrastructure, due to such a decision having been founded upon a competent knowledge of the characteristics of the trees growth pattern and ultimate dimensions above and below ground at maturity, and the suitability of the space available into which it will develop. 2. The removal of a tree that will grow to be in conflict with the constraints of its growing *environment* either above or below ground at its ultimate dimensions at maturity, and especially where replanting could be undertaken with an advanced specimen of a species of more suitable growth characteristics and mature dimensions. 3. The removal of a vigorous tree in a *poor* condition, in a prominent position where its potential failure in full or part poses a risk of hazard to the safety of people, or damage to property. See also *Inappropriate Tree Management* and *Tree Management*.

Inappropriate Tree Management The planting or retention of a tree where it is known that the tree will outgrow the space available for its growth above or below ground before or at maturity, and is likely to cause disruption or damage to built structures, or retention of a tree when it is known to be potentially hazardous to people or property. See also *Appropriate Tree Management*, *Tree Preservation* and *Tree Management*.

Appendix C

IACA Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS) © (IACA 2010)©

In the development of this document IACA acknowledges the contribution and original concept of the Footprint Green Tree Significance & Retention Value Matrix, developed by Footprint Green Pty Ltd in June 2001.

The landscape significance of a tree is an essential criterion to establish the importance that a particular tree may have on a site. However, rating the significance of a tree becomes subjective and difficult to ascertain in a consistent and repetitive fashion due to assessor bias. It is therefore necessary to have a rating system utilising structured qualitative criteria to assist in determining the retention value for a tree. To assist this process all definitions for terms used in the *Tree Significance - Assessment Criteria* and *Tree Retention Value - Priority Matrix*, are taken from the IACA Dictionary for Managing Trees in Urban Environments 2009.

This rating system will assist in the planning processes for proposed works, above and below ground where trees are to be retained on or adjacent a development site. The system uses a scale of *High*, *Medium* and *Low* significance in the landscape. Once the landscape significance of an individual tree has been defined, the retention value can be determined.

Tree Significance - Assessment Criteria



1. High Significance in landscape

- The tree is in good condition and good vigour;
- The tree has a form typical for the species;
- The tree is a remnant or is a planted locally indigenous specimen and/or is rare or uncommon in the local area or of botanical interest or of substantial age;
- The tree is listed as a Heritage Item, Threatened Species or part of an Endangered ecological community or listed on Councils significant Tree Register;
- The tree is visually prominent and visible from a considerable distance when viewed from most directions within the landscape due to its size and scale and makes a positive contribution to the local amenity;
- The tree supports social and cultural sentiments or spiritual associations, reflected by the broader population or community group or has commemorative values;
- The tree's growth is unrestricted by above and below ground influences, supporting its ability to reach dimensions typical for the taxa *in situ* - tree is appropriate to the site conditions.

2. Medium Significance in landscape

- The tree is in fair-good condition and good or low vigour;
- The tree has form typical or atypical of the species;
- The tree is a planted locally indigenous or a common species with its taxa commonly planted in the local area
- The tree is visible from surrounding properties, although not visually prominent as partially obstructed by other vegetation or buildings when viewed from the street,
- The tree provides a fair contribution to the visual character and amenity of the local area,
- The tree's growth is moderately restricted by above or below ground influences, reducing its ability to reach dimensions typical for the taxa *in situ*.

3. Low Significance in landscape

- The tree is in fair-poor condition and good or low vigour;
- The tree has form atypical of the species;
- The tree is not visible or is partly visible from surrounding properties as obstructed by other vegetation or buildings,
- The tree provides a minor contribution or has a negative impact on the visual character and amenity of the local area,
- The tree is a young specimen which may or may not have reached dimension to be protected by local Tree Preservation orders or similar protection mechanisms and can easily be replaced with a suitable specimen,
- The tree's growth is severely restricted by above or below ground influences, unlikely to reach dimensions typical for the taxa *in situ* - tree is inappropriate to the site conditions,
- The tree is listed as exempt under the provisions of the local Council Tree Preservation Order or similar protection mechanisms,
- The tree has a wound or defect that has potential to become structurally unsound.

Environmental Pest / Noxious Weed Species

- The tree is an Environmental Pest Species due to its invasiveness or poisonous/ allergenic properties,
- The tree is a declared noxious weed by legislation.

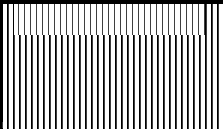
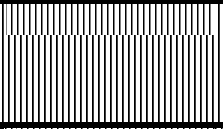
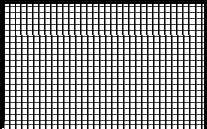
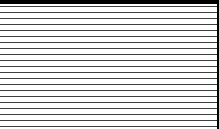
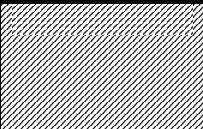
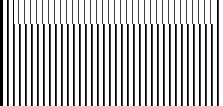
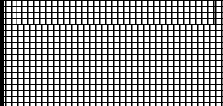
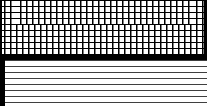
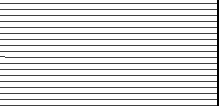
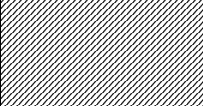
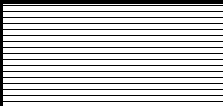
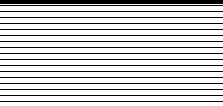
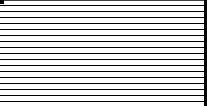
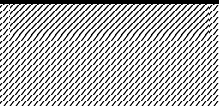
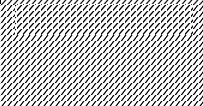
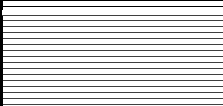
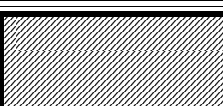
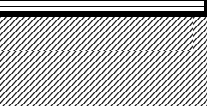
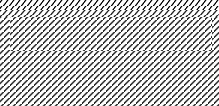
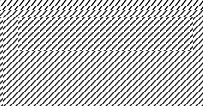
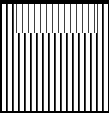
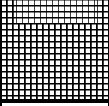
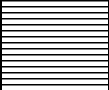
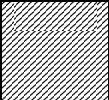
Hazardous/Irreversible Decline

- The tree is structurally unsound and/or unstable and is considered potentially dangerous,
- The tree is dead, or is in irreversible decline, or has the potential to fail or collapse in full or part in the immediate to short term.

The tree is to have a minimum of three (3) criteria in a category to be classified in that group.

Note: The assessment criteria are for individual trees only, however, can be applied to a monocultural stand in its entirety e.g. hedge.

Table 1.0 Tree Retention Value - Priority Matrix.

		Significance				
		1. High	2. Medium	3. Low		
		Significance in Landscape	Significance in Landscape	Significance in Landscape	Environmental Pest / Noxious Weed Species	Hazardous / Irreversible Decline
Estimated Life Expectancy	1. Long >40 years					
	2. Medium 15-40 Years					
	3. Short <1-15 Years					
	Dead					
<u>Legend for Matrix Assessment</u>  INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN CONSULTING ARBORICULTURISTS MANAGING URBAN TREES®						
	Priority for Retention (High) - These trees are considered important for retention and should be retained and protected. Design modification or re-location of building/s should be considered to accommodate the setbacks as prescribed by the Australian Standard AS4970 <i>Protection of trees on development sites</i> . Tree sensitive construction measures must be implemented e.g. pier and beam etc if works are to proceed within the Tree Protection Zone.					
	Consider for Retention (Medium) - These trees may be retained and protected. These are considered less critical; however their retention should remain priority with removal considered only if adversely affecting the proposed building/works and all other alternatives have been considered and exhausted.					
	Consider for Removal (Low) - These trees are not considered important for retention, nor require special works or design modification to be implemented for their retention.					
	Priority for Removal - These trees are considered hazardous, or in irreversible decline, or weeds and should be removed irrespective of development.					

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Australia ICOMOS Inc. 1999, *The Burra Charter – The Australian ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance*, International Council of Monuments and Sites, www.icomos.org/australia

Draper BD and Richards PA 2009, *Dictionary for Managing Trees in Urban Environments*, Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists (IACA), CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Victoria, Australia.

Footprint Green Pty Ltd 2001, *Footprint Green Tree Significance & Retention Value Matrix*, Avalon, NSW Australia, www.footprintgreen.com.au

Appendix D

Tree Locations/Photos

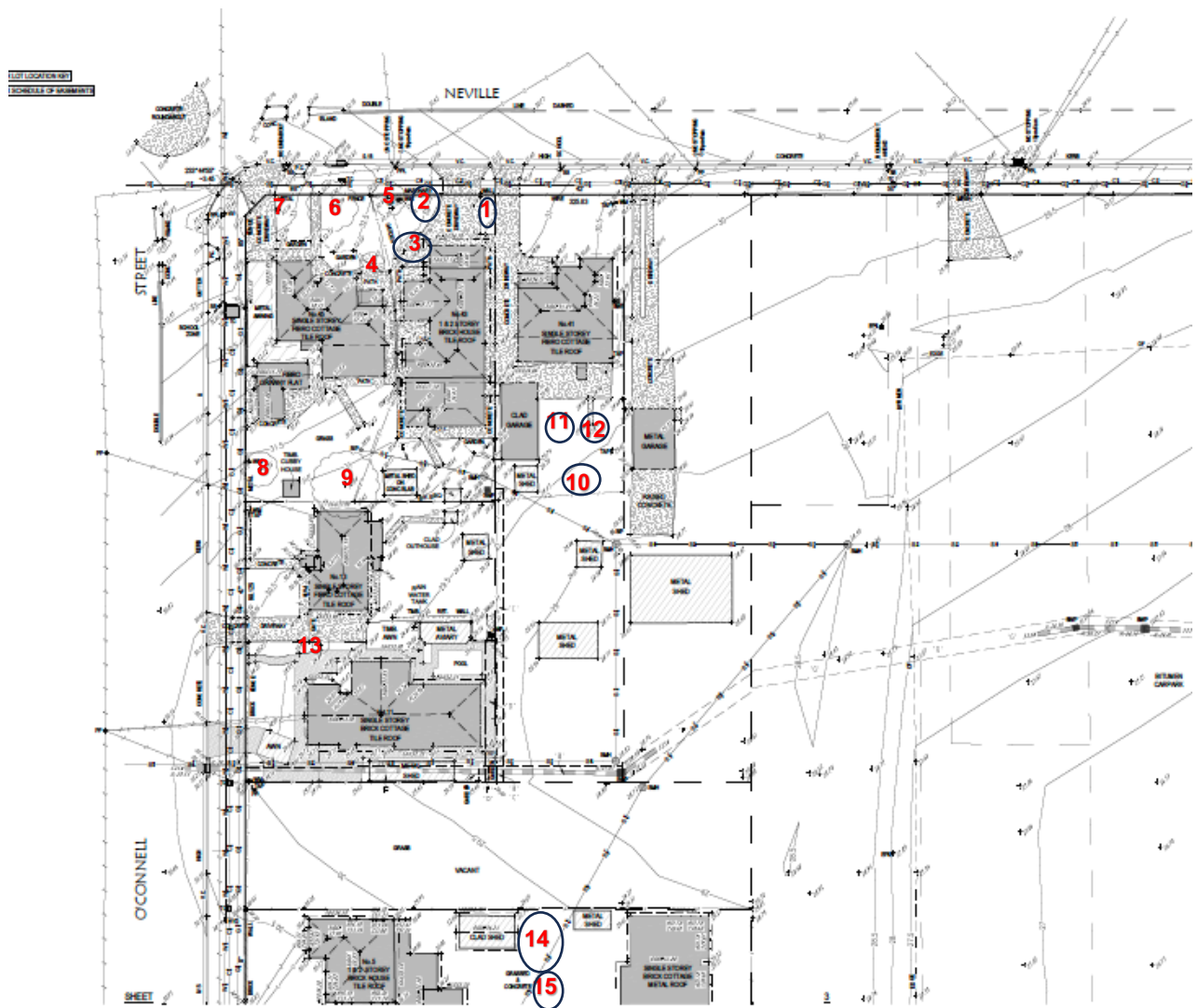


Fig 1: Tree Locations No 1- 15

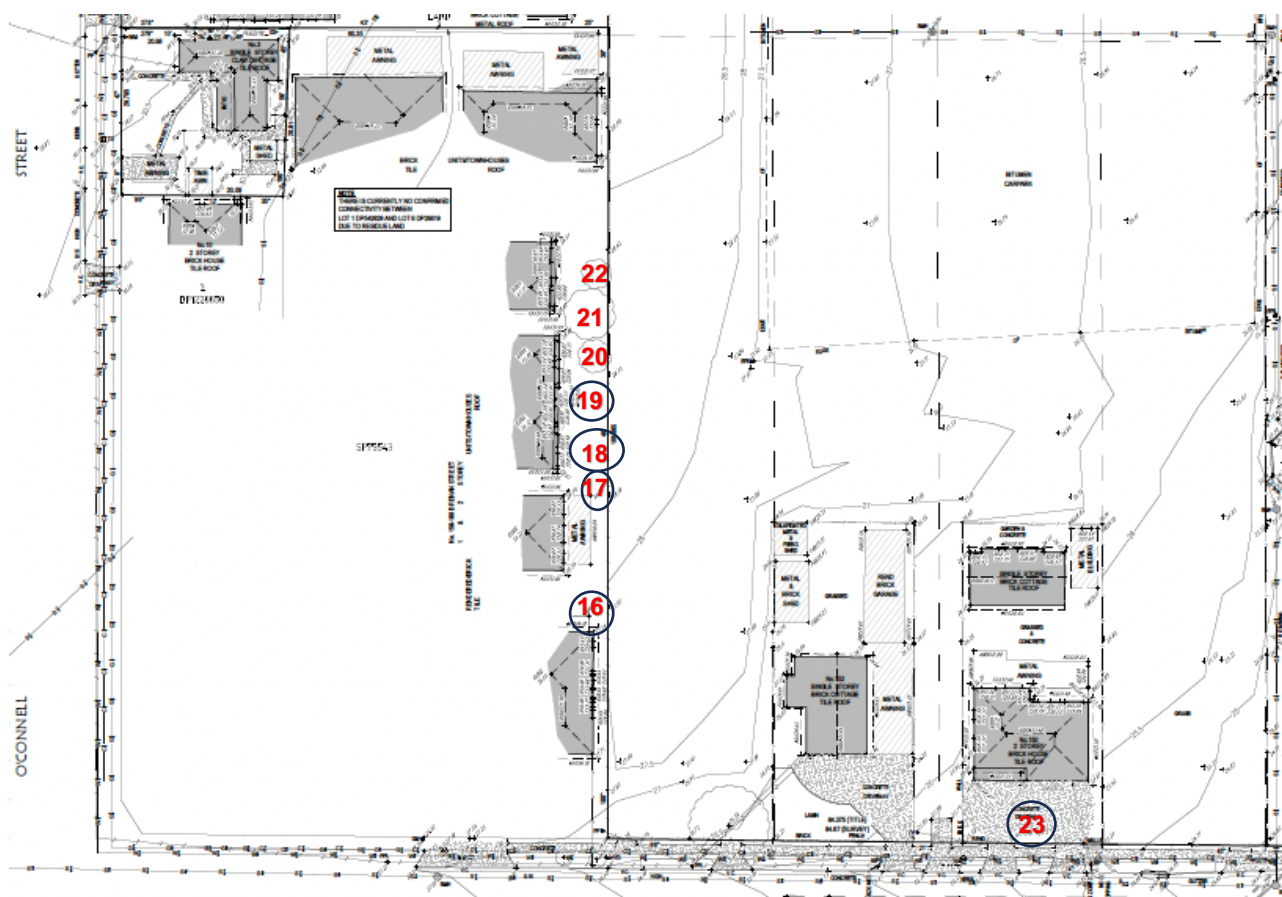


Fig 1: Tree Locations No 16-23

Tree Photos



Fig 3: Tree 1



Fig 4 : Tree 5



Fig 5: Tree 3 and 4



Fig 6: Tree 6 and 7



Fig 7: Tree 7



Fig 8: Tree 9



Fig 9: Tree 13



Fig 10: Tree 10



Fig 11: Tree 14



Fig 12: Tree 16



Fig 13: Tree 17, 18 and 19



Fig 14: Trees 19,20,21 and 22



Fig 15: Tree 23

Appendix E

Extract from Australian Standard AS4970 2009 Protection of trees on development sites

Section 3, Determining the tree protection zones of the selected trees

3.1 Tree protection zone (TPZ)

"The tree protection zone (TPZ) is the principal 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) (refer to Clause 3.3.5)."

3.2 Determining the TPZ

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

Appendix E

Extract from Australian Standard AS4970 2009 Protection of trees on development sites

Section 3, Determining the protection zones of the selected trees

3.3.5 Structural root zone (SRZ)

"The SRZ is the area required for tree stability. A larger area is required to maintain a viable tree. The SRZ only needs to be calculated when a major encroachment into a TPZ is proposed. Root investigation may provide more information on the extent of these roots."

Determining the SRZ

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

SRZ radius expressed by the curve is calculated by the following formula,

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

where

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

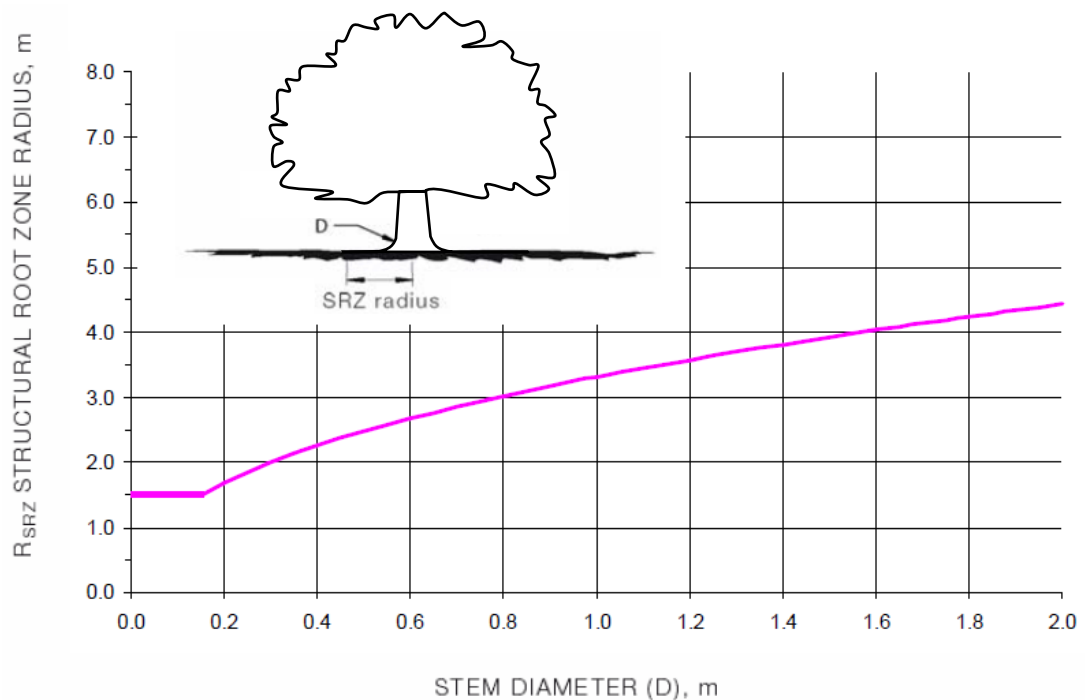


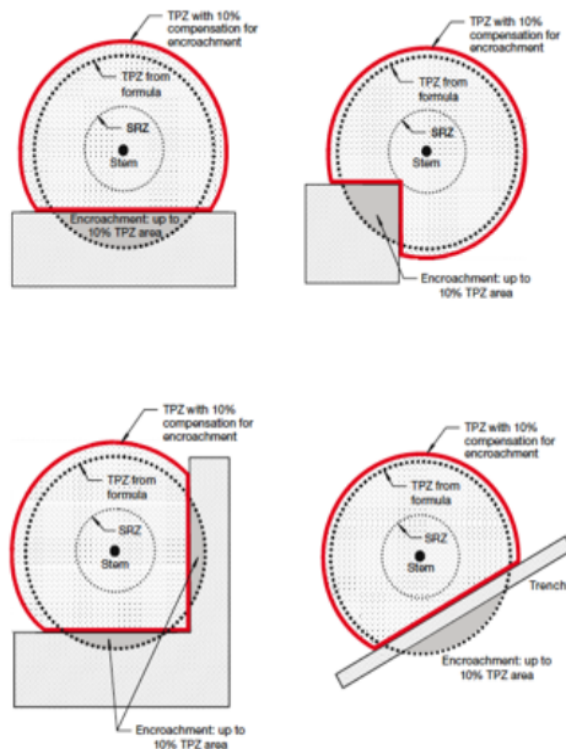
FIGURE 1 STRUCTURAL ROOT ZONE CALCULATION
(AS 4970 – 2009, Amendment No. 1 March 2010)

NOTES:

- 1 R_{SRZ} is the calculated structural root zone radius (SRZ radius).
- 2 D is the stem diameter measured immediately above root buttress.
- 3 The R_{SRZ} for trees less than 0.15 m diameter is 1.5 m.
- 4 The R_{SRZ} formula and graph do not apply to palms, other monocots, cycads and tree ferns.
- 5 This does not apply to trees with an asymmetrical root plate.

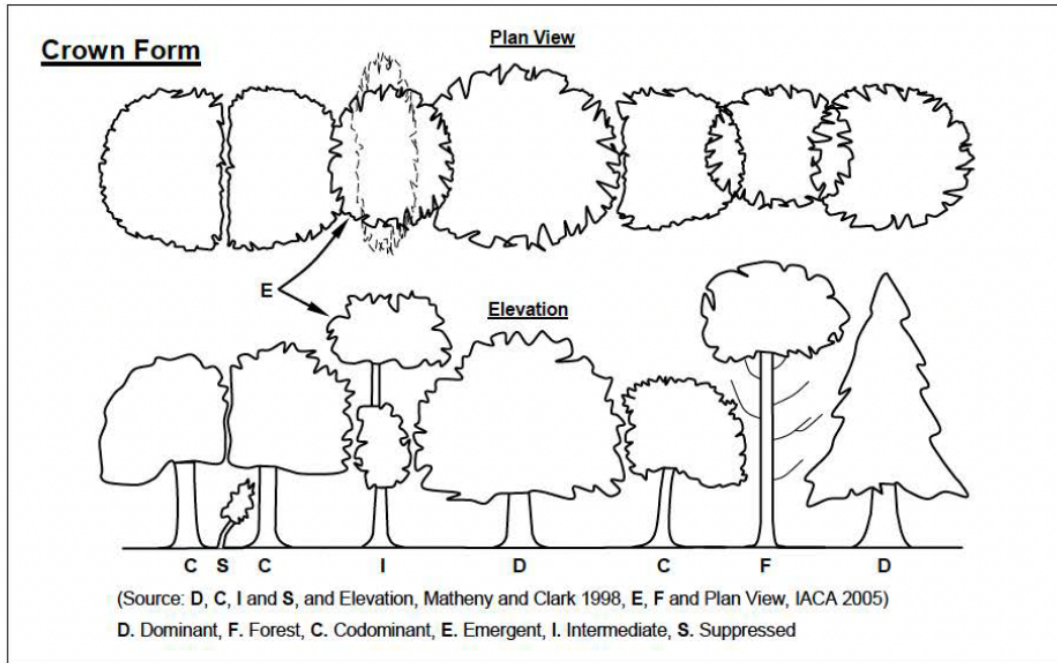
Appendix E

Extract from Australian Standard AS4970 2009 Protection of trees on development sites Encroachment into TPZ (Tree Protection Zone)



Appendix F

Crown Form



Symmetry Balance within a crown, or root plate, above or below the axis of the trunk of branch and foliage, and root distribution respectively and can be categorized as Asymmetrical and Symmetrical.

Asymmetrical Imbalance within a crown, where there is an uneven distribution of branches and the foliage crown or root plate around the vertical axis of the trunk. This may be due to Crown Form Codominant or Crown Form Suppressed as a result of natural restrictions e.g. from buildings, or from competition for space and light with other trees, or from exposure to wind, or artificially caused by pruning for clearance of roads, buildings or power lines. An example of an expression of this may be, crown asymmetrical, bias to west.

Symmetrical Balance within a crown, where there is an even distribution of branches and the foliage crown around the vertical axis of the trunk. This usually applies to trees of Crown Form Dominant or Crown Form Forest. An example of an expression of this may be crown symmetrical.

Appendix G

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