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ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT

45 Hillview Street
WOY WOY NSW 2256

requested by
Doug Sneddon Planning Pty Ltd

prepared by
Russell Kingdom
Qualified AQF5

20/09/2018

Principal: Russell Kingdom
Fully Insured: Public Liability $20M, Professional Indemnity $5M & Personal Accident.
Advanced Treescape Consulting is committed to providing a safe working environment for its employees in accordance with The Occupational Health & Safety Act NSW 2000.

INSTITUTE OF AUSTRALIAN CONSULTING ARBORICULTURISTS
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Proposal

Doug Sneddon Planning Pty Ltd has commissioned Advanced Treescape Consulting to prepare an Arboricultural Assessment of 1 tree, an *Endiandra sieberi* (Hard Corkwood), located in the middle of the property.

Method of Assessment

An objective visual inspection was made from the ground of the health and condition of the trees based on the Levels of Visual Assessment method (Appendix 4a) – 'Level 2: Basic Assessment Process' (Dunster, et al., 2013) as well as the *Visual Tree Assessment* (VTA) technique described by Mattheck and Breloer (Mattheck, et al., 1994) (Appendix 4b). The Tree Schedule (provided in '5.0 Assessment of VTA, Recommendations of Impact & Tree Protection Measures required by Proposed Plans') was based upon:

- Estimation of tree heights by Silva Clinomaster/Heightmeter™ plus visual estimates of canopy spreads.
- Distances of trees, etc. are measured using a Leica Disto™ D2 Laser Distance Meter.
- All photographs that appear in this report are unaltered originals which were taken during site inspection (see Appendix 2).
- Hazard ratings for all trees (see Appendix 3) refer to Failure Potential, Size of Defective Part & Target Rating = Hazard Rating is out of 12.
- Significance (Appendix 5).
- Glossary (see Appendix 7).
- Code Explanations (Appendix 3).

It should be noted that this objective assessment and related VTA assessments are based upon health and condition that were observed at the time of inspection.

The recommendations of this report regarding retention, works or removal are based upon Safe & Useful Life Expectancy (SULE – see Appendix 6) and hazard ratings being applied.

This assessment has been carried out by Russell Kingdom: Diploma in Arboriculture (AQF5), Graduate Diploma of Horticulture (AQF8) - Australian Qualification Framework (AQF)[i] (Department of Education and Training, Australian Government) (see Appendix 8). This information has guided the conclusions in this report.

Site Inspection

The site was inspected on 31/08/2018.

The property faces the east and is an undeveloped block. The land is basically flat.

This site has not been previously developed. There has been an approved DA issued on the site which allowed for the clearing of specified areas within the development site. Within this area there was previously large eucalypt trees that formed into locking canopy. This site was cleared as allowed within the approved DA. The site conditions now are significantly different to what they were prior to clearing. There are remnant trees surrounding the boundaries and an area of cleared land towards the centre of the site. This is the location of the hard corkwood tree

The soil texture was observed to be sand-based Woy Woy soils[1]. *Woy Woy soil limitations are* permanently high-water tables, localised flooding, periodic waterlogging in depressions, very low to low soil fertility and localised areas of high soil erosion hazard. Drainage characteristics are considered good.

[1] [Murphy, 1993]

Assessment of Tree

Species:	*Endiandra sieberi* (Hard Corkwood)		
DBH (mm):	Co-dominant - 750 & 520 = (910)	*DGL (mm):*	1015
Height (m):	18	*Spread (m):*	N-8, S-11, E-12, W-11.
Form:	Dominant.	*Crown Class:*	Stag-headed.
Live crown ratio:	33% live.	*Age Class:*	Over-mature.
Lean:	Nil.	*Direction:*	East.
Remnant/Planted/ Self Sewn:	Remnant.	*Pruning History:*	None.
SULE:	3B	*Significance:*	High.
Special value:	Uncommon species in local area.	*Services/Adjacent Structures:*	None.

Tree Health

Foliage Colour:	Good.	*Foliage Density:*	Only bottom 1/3 has viable foliage.
Epicormics:	Yes, 50% are now dead	*Twig/Tip Dieback:*	Yes
Leaf Size:	Small.	*Annual Shoot Growth:*	New growth all epicormic.
Callus Development:	No wounds.	*Vigour Class:*	Very poor
Structural Condition:	Fair	*Dripline:*	To the west, cleared of all vegetation.
Wind Affected:	yes, all winds.	*Major Pests/Diseases:*	None seen.

Tree Defects

Roots evident at root crown:	None.	*Root defects:*	None visible.
Root Damage:	None.	*Suspect root rot:*	No.
Soil heaving:	No.	*Buttress wounded:*	No.
Exposed roots:	None.	*Undermined:*	No.
Restricted root area:	No.	*Potential for root failure:*	Low.
Roots pruned:	None.	*Roots paved/fill/lowered:*	No.
Root area affected:	None.		

DEFECT SEVERITY RATING:	4= Extreme	3= High	2= Moderate	1= Low

DEFECT	ROOTS/BUTTRESS	TRUNK	SCAFFOLDS	BRANCHES
Poor Taper:				
Multiple Attachments:				
Inclusive bark union(s):				
Excessive end weight:				
Cracks:				
Splits:				
Girdling:				
Wound(s):				
Decay:				
Cavity:				
Conk(s):				
Mushroom(s):				
Kino/Resin:				
Deadwood:			√	√
Hanger(s):				
Borers/termites/ants:				
Cankers/galls:				
Previous failure sites:			√	√
Crossed branch:				

DEFECT SEVERITY RATING: 4= Extreme 3= High 2= Moderate 1= Low

Hazard Assessment

	Current Use in Target Zone:	The site is unused. Site management: Mowing only.
	Frequency of Use:	Low.
	Part most likely to fail:	Branch.
A	*Size of Part:*	<300mm/ **2**
B	*Failure Potential:*	Low/ **1**
C	*Target Rating:*	Low/ **1**
	***Hazard* Rating:**	**(A+B+C=) 4 out of 12 - Low**

HAZARD SEVERITY RATING: 12= High hazard 3= Low hazard

Adapted from (Matheny, et al., 1994).

Discussion

The subject site has previously been undeveloped. I have been a resident in the area for over 30 years and I can state that on this site there was previously an interlocking canopy of large eucalypts covering the site.

The approved development application for this site has been acted upon. A large area of vegetation, including trees, has been removed from the centre of the site. Currently there are trees located on the boundary of the site which have not been touched. Towards the centre of the site is a small area of untouched vegetation which contains the hard corkwood tree. The subject tree is now a dominant tree in the centre of the site.

The subject tree is a temperate rainforest species [(Williams, et al., 1984), page 114].

Before any clearing on the site this tree was previously a mid-story canopy tree with large eucalypt providing adequate shade for the species. Since the clearing the tree has now become the dominant tree on the site.

The crown of this tree has visibly declining since the last site inspection (03/08/2017). On that date all scaffold branches had extensive epicormic shoot growth indicating that this tree had suffered from tip dieback. This was probably due to the extreme high temperatures of the previous summer as well as the fact that this tree is now dominant tree in the landscape. The crown of the tree was sunburnt, this is the reason why it has suffered tip dieback.

The most recent visit to the site shows that the majority of the epicormic shoots have died and there is now is a large amount of dysfunctional timber in the upper crown of this tree. This tree is stag-headed.

Based on the observations of two assessments that are approximately one year apart, this tree has clearly declined and is now senescent.

The useful life expectancy of this tree has been impacted by the cultural management of the site and is unlikely to survive more than five years.

Impact of Approved Plans

The approved plans include an underground car park and a building constructed around the perimeter of the tree. An assessment of the canopy spread of the tree was conducted at the time of the assessment and would require a significant amount of canopy to be removed to accommodate the building. Removal of more than 10% of the canopy is not recommended in AS 4373-2007 Pruning of amenity trees (Australian Standard®, 2007). There will have to be a 26% (90.1m^2) removal of canopy to accommodate the approved building.

The excavation works for the below ground carpark would also impact the root plate of this tree.

The cumulative impact of the completed clearing works has already been a significant impact on this tree. The construction of the approved buildings and carpark will further impact this tree. AS 4970-2009 Protection of trees on development sites (Australian Standard®, 2007) states that an acceptable in-ground impact should be <10% of the tree protection zone. There will be a 35.9% (134m^2) intrusion into the full TPZ of the subject tree.

Impact of Amended Plans

There would be a similar impact on this tree if the amended plans were approved. This tree is currently senescent, with a short useful life expectancy.

Environment Impact Checklist

Refer to the Ecologist report by Conacher Consulting.

Tree Work

Remove the tree.

Replacement Tree

Yes.

Planting Instructions

See Appendix 4.

Recommendations

Remove the tree.

Conclusions

The approved development application works has already had a significant impact on this tree. Its useful life expectancy has been dramatically reduced.

The construction of the approved development, or amended development plans will increase the impact on this tree and will contribute to the senescent state it is already in.

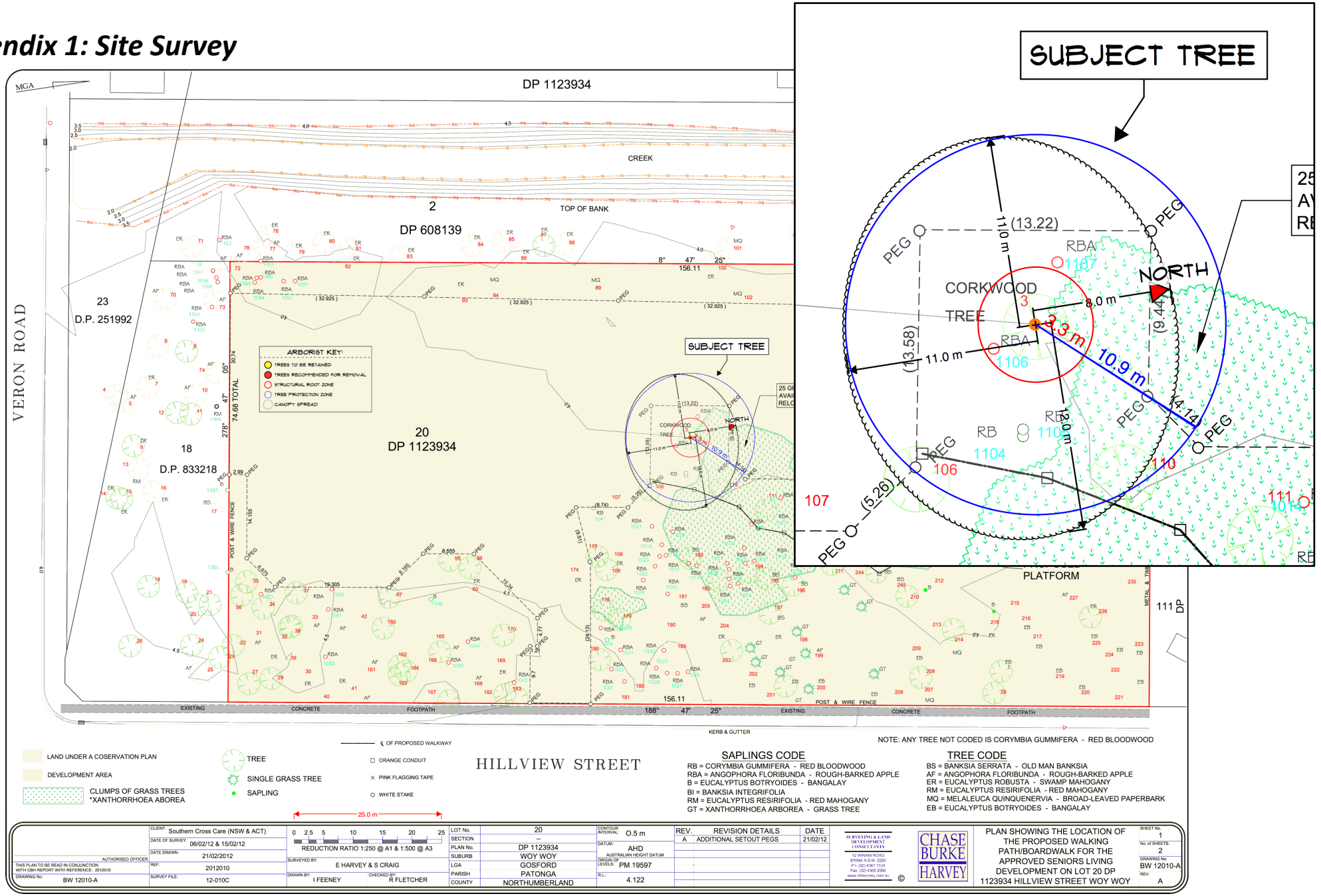
The removal of this tree and replacement with a similar species (if possible) is the only option available.

The decision to approve or refuse the amended plans should not be based on tree issues as the tree is already senescent.

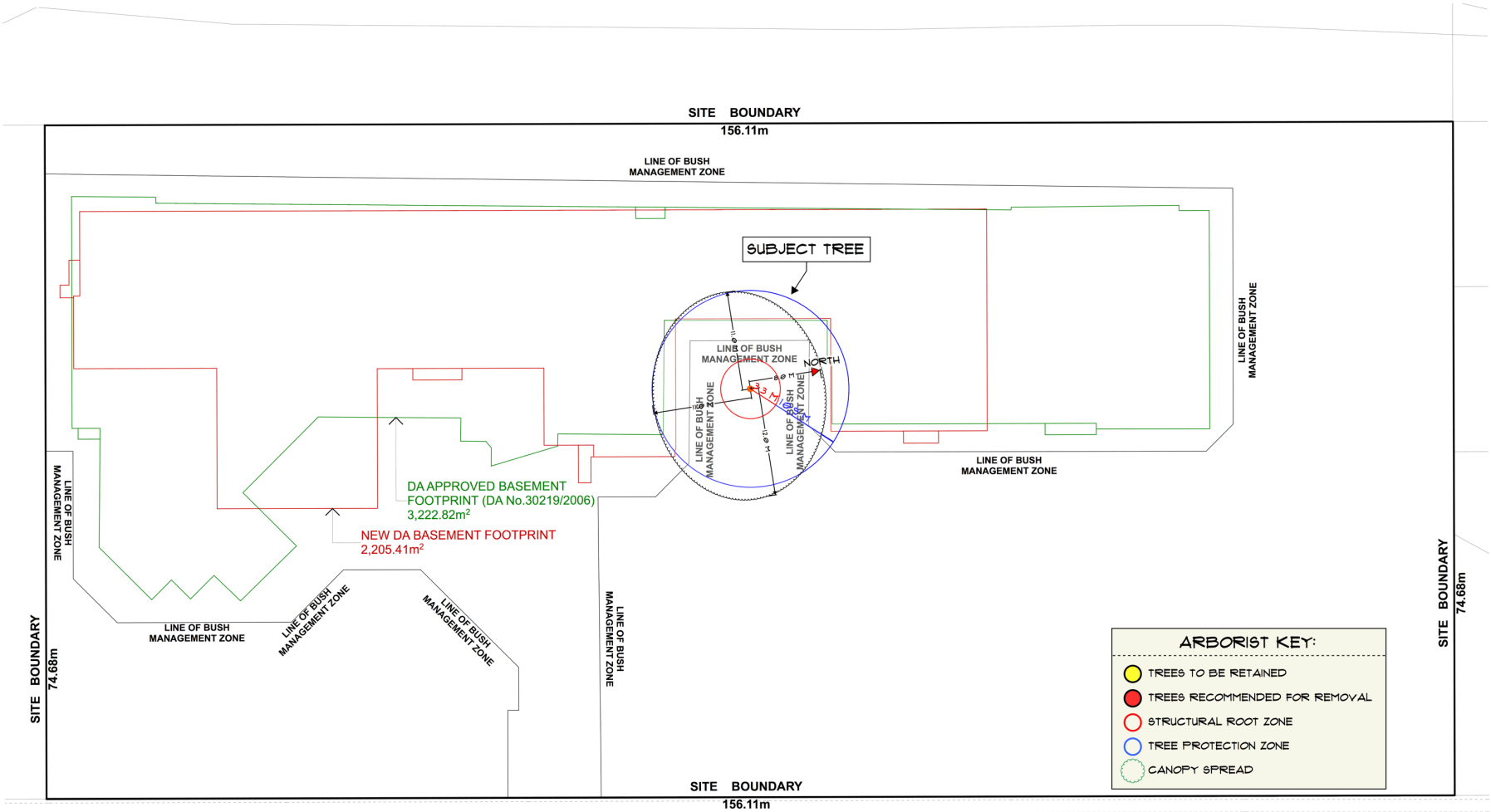
Russell Kingdom
Arboriculturist & Horticulturist

MIACA MAIH MAA
Diploma of Arboriculture (AQF5) | Graduate Diploma of Horticulture (AQF8)

Appendix 1: Site Survey



Appendix 1a: Site Plan with Subject Tree (Basement)



BASEMENT FOOTPRINT COMPARISON
SCALE 1:200

HILLVIEW STREET

NOTE:
THIS DIAGRAM SHOWS THE EXTENT OF REDUCTION IN SIZE OF THE BASEMENT LEVEL BY THE 2017 DA APPLICATION

(NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION)

Client: THOMPSON HEALTH CARE	MULTI-LEVEL NURSING HOME FACILITY 45 HILLVIEW STREET WOY WOY, NSW		BASEMENT FOOTPRINT COMPARISON	16017
			Scale: @ A1 — Wednesday, 20 December 2017	DA-021 rev B

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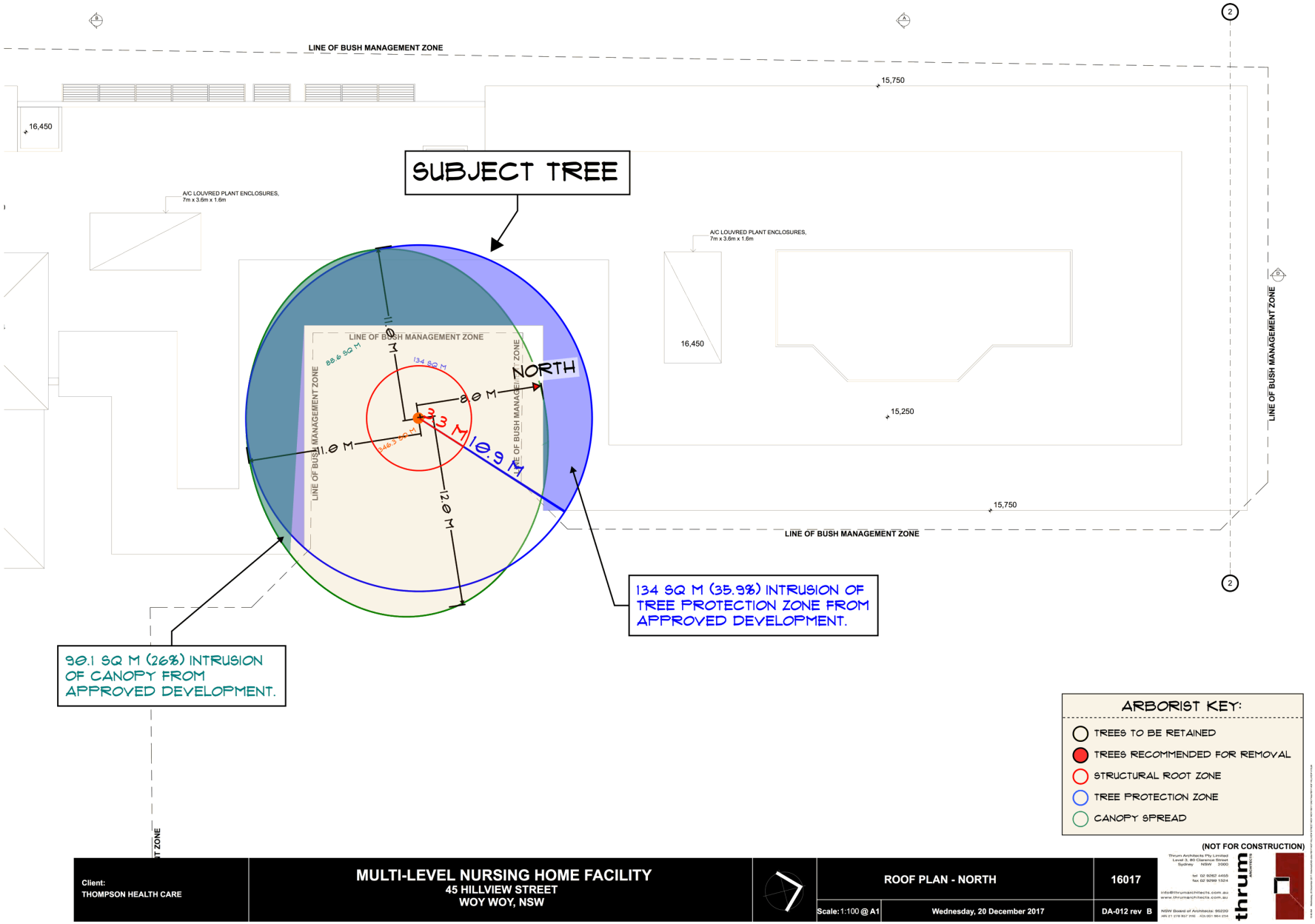
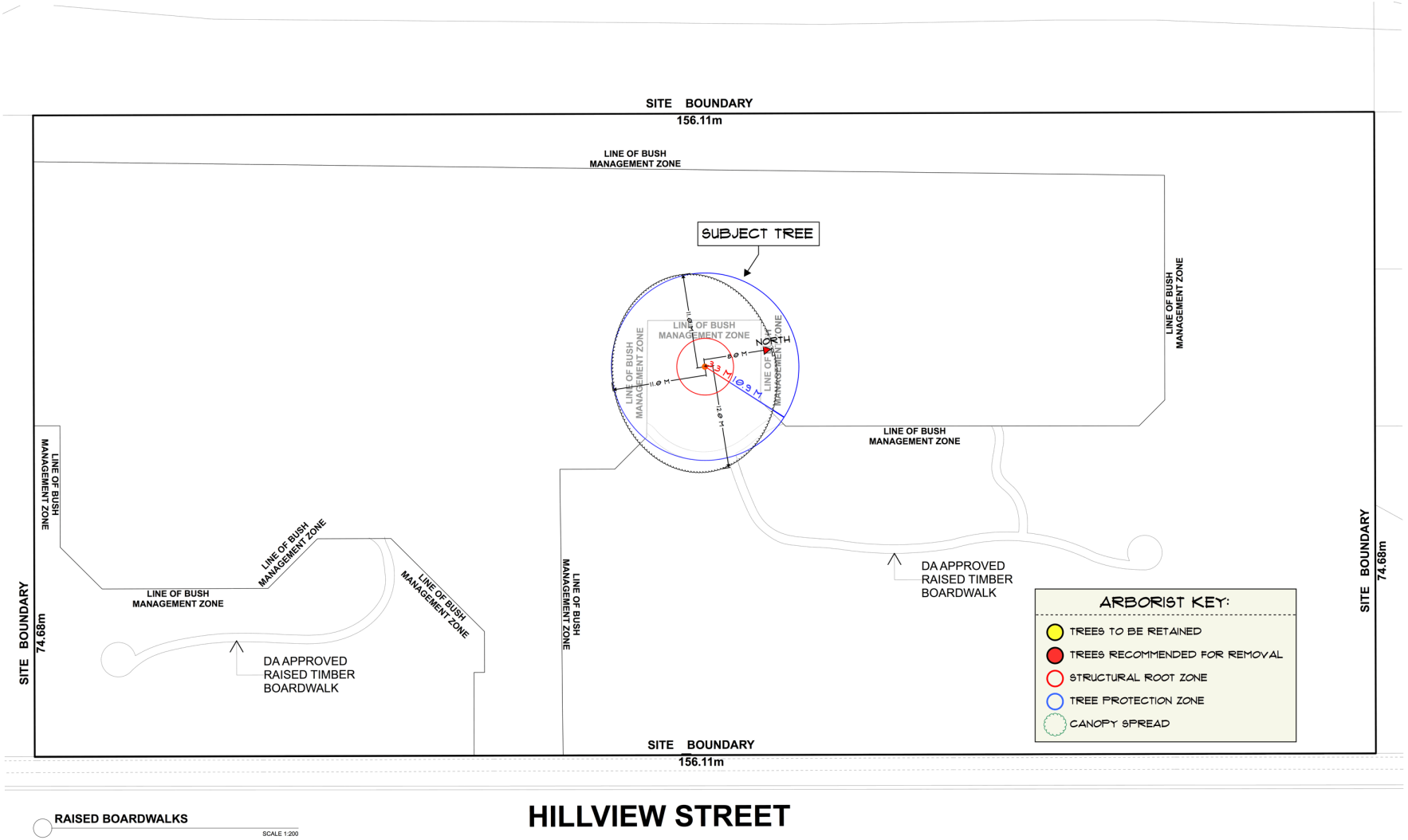
Appendix 1b: Site Plan with Subject Tree (Roof)



Appendix 1c: Site Plan with Subject Tree (Raised Boardwalk)



Appendix 2: Photographs

Figure 1: Crown with epicormic shoots.

Figure 2: Crown with epicormic shoots.

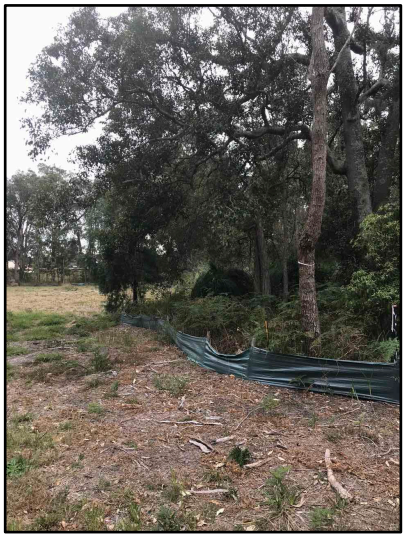


Figure 3: Trunk of subject tree and cleared land in tree protection zone.

Figure 4: Showing cleared land.

Figure 5: Crown with epicormic shoots and cleared land to the north.

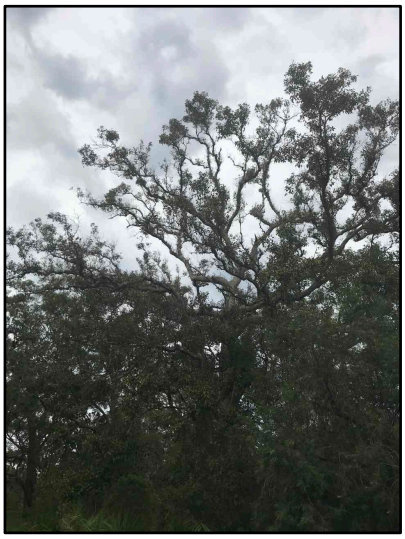


Figure 6: Crown with epicormic shoots.

Appendix 3: Notes on Tree Assessment

Key	Criteria	Comments
Tree No	Must relate to the number on your site diagram	
Species	Botanical name and common name of Tree	
Diameter of trunk	DBH Diameter at Breast Height (1.4 metres) DGL Diameter at Ground Level	
Height	In metres	
Spread	Average diameter of canopy in metres	
Crown Condition	Overall vigour and vitality 0 Dead 1 Severe decline (<20% canopy; major dead wood) 2 Declining (20-60% canopy density; twig and branch dieback) 3 Average/low vigour (60-90% canopy density; twig dieback) 4 Good (90-100% crown cover; little or no dieback or other problems) 5 Excellent (100% crown cover, no deadwood or other problems)	This requires knowledge of species.
Age class	Y Young = recently planted S Semi-mature (< 20% of life expectancy) M Mature (20-80% of life expectancy) O Over-mature (> 80% of life expectancy)	
Special Significance	A Aboriginal C Commemorative Ha Habitat Hi Historic M Memorial R Rare U Unique form O Other	This may require specialist knowledge.
Services/adjacent structures	Bs Bus stop Bu Building within 3m HVo High voltage open-wire construction HVb High Voltage bundled (ABC) LVo Low Voltage open-wire construction LVb Low Voltage bundled (ABC) Na No services above Nb No services below ground Si Signage Sl Street light T Transmission lines (>33KV) U Underground services O Other	More than one of these may apply.
Defects	B Borers C Cavity D Decay dw Deadwood E Epicormics FA Forest Architecture H/D Height/Diameter ratio I Inclusions L Lopped LDCMP Leaf damage by chewing mouthpiece insects M Mistletoe/Parasites MBA Multiple Branch Attachments PD Parrot Damage PFS Previous Failure Sites S Splits/cracks T Termites TL Trunk Lean TW Trunk Wound O Other	More than one of these may apply. H/D if ratio is higher than 50:1 then tree is defective (Mattheck, et al., 1994).

Key	Criteria	Comments
Root zone	C Compaction D Damaged/wounded roots (e.g. by mowers) E Exposed roots Ga Tree in garden bed Gi Girdled roots Gr Grass Kb Kerb close to tree L+ Raised soil level L- Lowered soil level M Mulched Pa Paving/concrete/bitumen Pr Roots pruned O Other	More than one of these may apply.
Failure Potential	Identifies the most likely failure and rates the likelihood that the structural defect(s) will result in failure within the inspection period. 1. Low – defects are minor (e.g. dieback of twigs, small wounds with good wound wood development) 2. Medium – defects are present and obvious (e.g. cavity encompassing 10-25% of the circumference of the trunk) 3. High – numerous and or significant defects present (e.g. cavity encompassing 30-50% of the circumference of the trunk, major bark inclusions) 4. Severe – defects are very severe (e.g. heart rot fruiting bodies, cavity encompassing more than 50% of the trunk)	This requires specialist knowledge
Size of defective part	Rates the size of the part most likely to fail. The larger the part that fails, the greater the potential for damage. 1. Most likely failure less than 150mm in diameter 2. Most likely failure 150-450mm in diameter 3. Most likely failure 450-750mm in diameter 4. Most likely failure more than 750mm in diameter	
Target Rating*	Rates the use and occupancy of the area that would be struck by the defective part 1. Occasional use (e.g. jogging/cycle track) 2. Intermittent use (e.g. picnic area, day use parking) 3. Frequent use, secondary structure (e.g. seasonal camping area, storage facilities) 4. Constant use, structures (e.g. year-round use for a number of hours each day, residences)	
Hazard rating*	Failure potential + size of part + target rating Add each of the above sections for a number out of 12	The final number identifies the degree of risk. The next step is to determine a management strategy. A rating in this column does not condemn a tree but may indicate the need for more investigation and a risk management strategy.

Appendix 4: Planting Instructions

Protective fencing would assist the trees to become established.

Specifying timing of initial timeout, stock selection, the expected standard and size of stock

The trees should not be planted until the Landscaping Phase of the development when all construction activity has ceased, and all services will be connected. The trees should be planted during the Autumn, so they can establish themselves through the cooler part of the year. Trees planted in spring, particularly late spring, are trying to establish as they enter the harshest time of the year. In the case of spring or summer plantings, longer nursing and greater vigilance are essential.

Trees selected should be grown to Natspecs. The standard of the trees and the size of the plant is addressed within the Natspec specifications. The following table gives the height of the tree, container volume and calliper at 300mm.

I would recommend a tree 1.5 metres high with a single leader, in a 30-40 litre container with a calliper of 40mm.

Rootball volume (litres)	**Calliper (mm)**																	
	20	**25**	**30**	**35**	**40**	**45**	**50**	**60**	**70**	**80**	**90**	**100**	**110**	**120**	**140**	**160**	**180**	**200**
20	1.5	1.2																
25	1.9	1.5	1.3															
30		1.8	1.5	1.3														
35			1.8	1.5	1.3													
40			2.0	1.7	1.5													
45			2.3	1.9	1.7	1.5												
50				2.1	1.9	1.7												
60				2.2	2.0	1.7	1.6											
75					2.4	2.2	2.0	1.6										
90					2.9	2.6	2.3	2.0										
100						2.7	2.4	2.0	1.7	1.5								
125						3.4	3.0	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.7							
150						3.8	3.4	2.9	2.4	2.1	1.9							
200							4.3	3.6	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.1						
250								4.5	3.8	3.3	3.0	2.7						
300								4.9	4.2	3.6	3.2	2.9	2.6					
400									5.5	4.9	4.3	3.9	3.5	3.2				
500										6.1	5.4	4.9	4.4	4.0				
600											6.2	5.6	5.1	4.7	4.0	3.5		
800												7.4	6.8	6.2	5.3	4.7	4.1	
1000														7.5	6.4	5.6	5.0	4.5

Height (m)

Height, given container and calliper at 300mm

Figures in the body of the table are tree height (metres) (tolerances of ± 10% are not shown).

Required watering/fertilising programs for the first 2 years of the trees development.

EXCAVATION OF PLANTING HOLES

The holes should be dug with a diameter of no less than 3 times the diameter of the root ball or root spread. The hole should be dug with sloping sides and have a shape not dissimilar to that of a wok. This provides for greater volume of loose cultivated soil in which rapid shoot initiation can occur and as vigorous roots generally proliferate closer to the soil surface. The shape is ideal and eliminates the need to dig a full depth of the root ball for the diameter of the hole. (Clark 2003) The depth of the hole shall be equivalent to the depth of the root ball (or roots) or in circumstances where water logging may be an issue, the depth of the hole may be 2/3 of the depth of the root ball. This situation should not occur on each site as they are free draining soils.

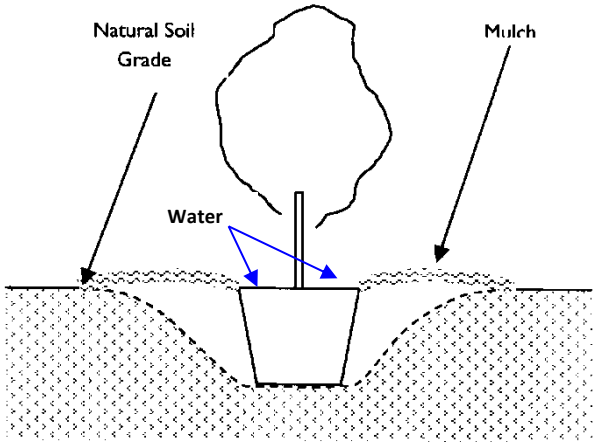


Diagram 1 – Typical planting pit cross section in well drained soils. Note that the root ball is set to the same level as natural surrounding soil.

ROOT BALL PREPARATION

Ensure that the plants that are purchased to be placed in the ground are grown to Australian Natspecs. If these trees are sourced from a Natspec grower you will have no problems with poorly developed root balls, ensuring that the trees will have a vigorous and long life expectancy.

SETTING OF THE TREES

The hole should be thoroughly tamped and watered prior to the setting of the trees so as to prevent settlement following planting. Plants should be placed at such a level so that the top of the root ball is level with the existing grade on a well-drained site.

WATERING BASIN

The watering basin in the top of the trees needs to be constructed with the mulches and the soils. A 50-100mm high saucer shaped basin should be formed around the root ball to receive and hold water.

IRRIGATION

Watering to comply with your local council's water restriction usage policy.

The best and simplest way to deliver moisture into the rootball is via drippers placed directly on top of the rootball and connected to an automatic irrigation system.

Should an irrigation system not be available then supplementary watering should be carried out by watering cans and moveable hoses. Trees should be watered twice a week for the first 3 months, then once a week for the next 6 months or to the start of Autumn. Supplementary watering should be given to established or planted trees after no rain for a month for the next 2 years.

MAINTENANCE OF THE TREE

Maintain mulch covering at 50-75mm throughout the establishment period increasing the size of the ring as the tree becomes established.

Note: No turfgrasses are to be grown in the drip zone of the tree.

FERTILIZING

Tree fertilisation generally provides benefits in establishment especially in poor soils. It has been my experience that good quality mulches and suitable fertilizers assist the trees establishment and maintenance. Fertilizers used need to be formulated specifically for native trees. The type of fertilizer is unimportant, what is important is that the manufacturers' directions must be complied with accurately. This includes volume, positioning and frequency of the product used.

WEED CONTROL

Maintain the root ball and the mulched area around the tree planting free of all weeds for the duration of the establishment period. Weeds will compete for precious water and nutrient resources. Manual removal of weeds is recommended. **Do not use herbicides on weeds** that are found to be within the mulch zone.

Appendix 5: Significance of a Tree, Assessment Rating System (STARS) (IACA)

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 (Draper, et al., 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.

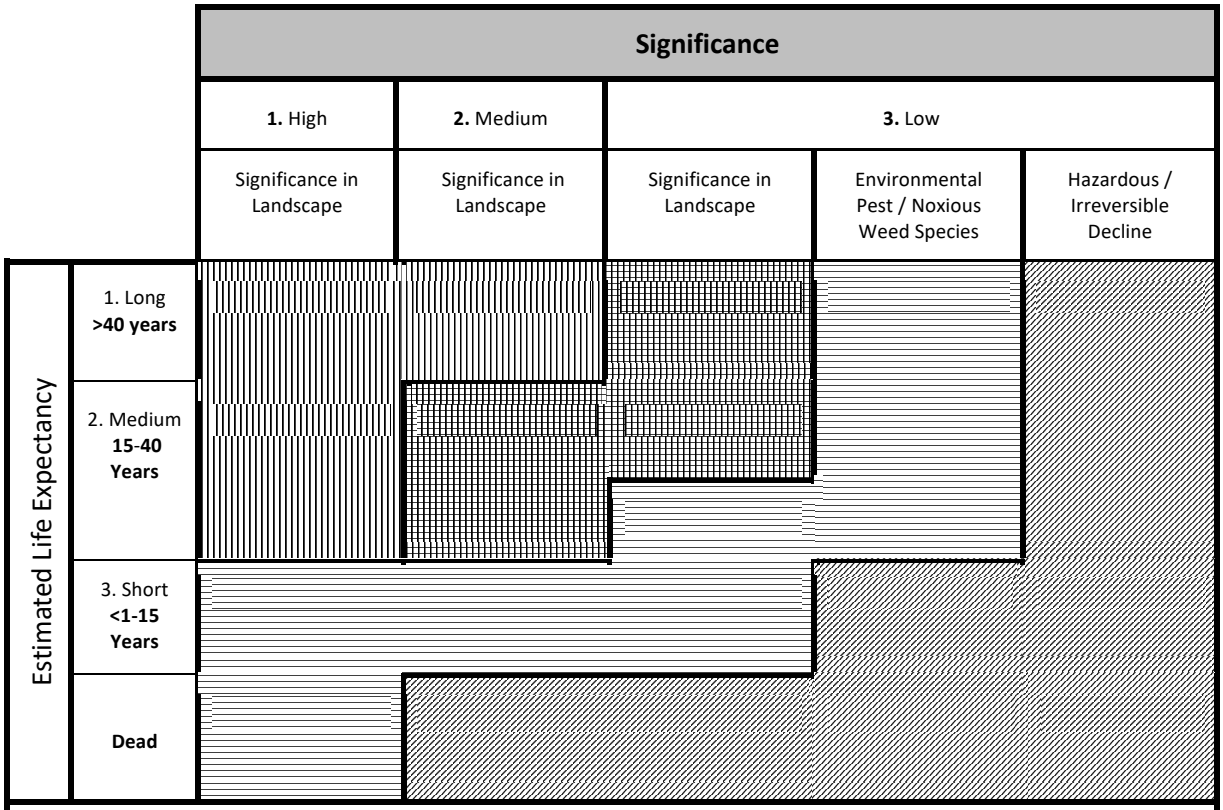
TREE SIGNIFICANCE - ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

1. **High Significance in landscape**
   - The tree is in good condition, or normal vigour and form typical of 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 grand age.
   - The tree is listed as a Heritage Item, Threatened Species or part of a Threatened Community or listed on council's significant tree register.
   - The tree is visually prominent and visible from a considerable distance when viewed from most directions within the landscape by bulk and scale and makes a positive contribution to the local amenity.
   - The tree has been influenced by historic figures, events or part of the heritage development of the place.
   - The tree supports social and cultural sentiments or spiritual associations, reflected by the broader population or community group or has commemorative values. (ICOMOS)
   - The growing environment supports the tree to its full dimensions above and below ground without conflict or constraint.
2. **Medium Significance in landscape**
   - The tree is in fair-good condition, or normal or low vigour and form typical or atypical of the species.
   - The tree is a planted locally indigenous or a common species with its taxa readily 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 area.
   - The tree is moderately constrained by above or below ground influences of the built environment to reach full dimensions.
3. **Low Significance in landscape**
   - The tree is in fair-poor condition, or normal or low vigour and form typical or atypical of the species,
   - The tree is not visible or is partly 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 area.
   - The tree is severely constrained by above or below ground by influences of the built environment and therefore will not reach full dimensions; the tree is inappropriate to the site conditions.
   - The tree is listed as exempt under the provisions of the local Council Tree Preservation Order.
   - The tree has a wound or defect that has the potential to become structurally unsound.

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.



Legend for Matrix Assessment

Priority for Retention (High) - These trees are considered important for retention and should be retained and protected. Design modification or relocation of building/s should be considered to accommodate the setbacks as detailed in Table 2. Special construction works 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 a 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.

Appendix 5a: Levels of Visual Assessment

The following Visual Assessment information is from 'Tree Risk Assessment Manual', published by International Society of Arboriculture (Dunster, et al., 2013).

The level of assessment used in this report is specified in '4.0 Method of Assessment' (Page 4).

LEVEL I: LIMITED VISUAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- Identify the location and/or selection criteria of trees to be assessed.
- Determine the most efficient route for assessing large populations of trees and documenting the route taken.
- Assess the tree(s) of concern from the defined perspective (for example, walk-by, drive-by).
- Record information about the tree as specified in the scope of work (for example, significant defects or other conditions of concern), and identify locations of trees that need a higher level of assessment and/or prompt action.
- Evaluate the risk of trees that meet the selection criteria (a risk rating is optional).
- Submit a report indicating risk level and mitigation options and/or recommendations.

LEVEL 2: BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS

- Locate and identify the tree or trees to be assessed.
- Determine the targets and target zone for the tree or branches of concern.
- Review site history, conditions, and species failure profile.
- Assess potential loads on the tree and its parts.
- Assess general tree health.
- Inspect the tree visually—using binoculars, mallet, probes, or shovels, as desired by the arborist or as specified in the scope of work.
- Record observations of site conditions, defects, and outward signs of possible internal defects and response growth.
- If necessary, recommend an advanced assessment.
- Analyse data to determine the likelihood and consequences of failure in order to evaluate the degree of risk.
- Develop mitigation options and estimate residual risk for each option.
- Develop and submit the report/documentation, including, when appropriate, advice on reinspection intervals.

LEVEL 3: ADVANCED TECHNIQUES

There are many techniques that can be considered for advanced risk assessment. *Some situations may be assessed with several techniques. Advanced assessment techniques include the following:

- Aerial inspection and evaluation of structural defects in branches
  - Visual inspection; Decay testing; Load testing.
- Detailed target analysis
- Detailed site evaluation
- Decay testing
  - Increment boring; Drilling with small-diameter bit; Resistance-recording drilling; Single-path sonic (stress) wave; Sonic tomography; Electrical impedance tomography; Radiation (radar, X-ray, and gamma ray)
- Health evaluation
  - Tree ring analysis (in temperate trees); Shoot length measurement; Detailed health/vigour analysis; Starch assessment
- Storm/wind load analysis
  - Detailed assessment of tree exposure and protection; Computer-based estimations according to engineering standards; Wind reaction monitoring over a defined interval
- Measuring and assessing the change in trunk lean
- Load testing
  - Hand pull; Measured static pull

*Inclusion of specific techniques in this list should not be considered an endorsement of the use of that technique.

Appendix 5b: Visual Tree Assessment

The Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) methods as described in 'The Body Language of Trees. A Handbook for Failure Analysis. Research for Amenity Trees' by Mattheck and Breloer (Mattheck, et al., 1994), is used in association with the International Society of Arboriculture's guidelines in this report.

196 THE BODY LANGUAGE OF TREES

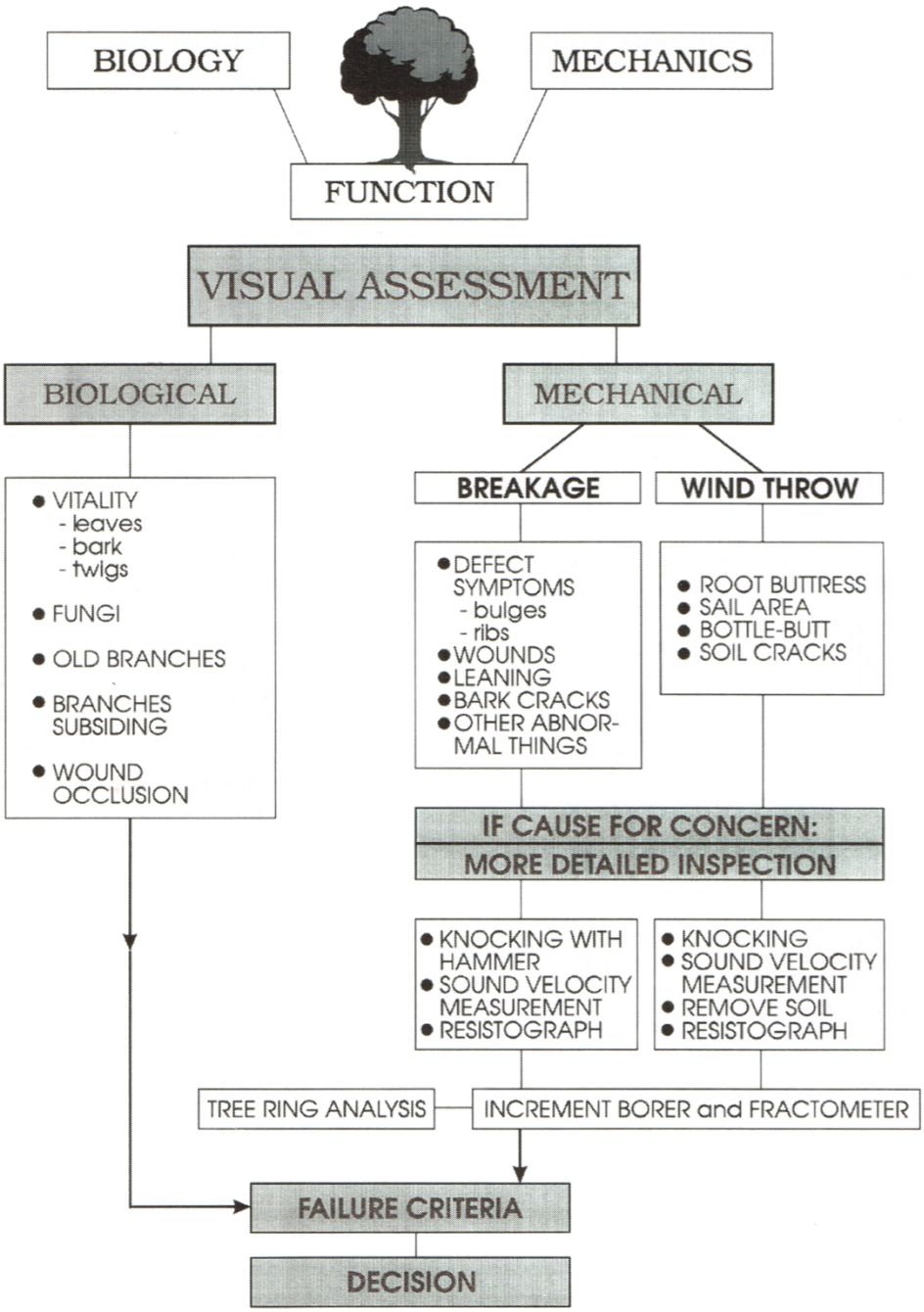


Fig 120. The Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) procedure for assessing trees. As the suspicion increases that defects are present, the examination becomes more thorough and searching.

Appendix 6: SULE

SULE (an acronym for **Safe** & **Useful Life Expectancy**). There are a number of SULE categories that indicate the safe useful life anticipated for each tree. Factors such as the location, age, condition and health of the tree are significant to determining this rating. Other influences such as the tree's effect on better specimens and the economics of managing the tree successfully in its location are also relevant to SULE (Barrell, 1993 - 2009).

SULE Categories and Subgroups

1 = Long SULE OF > 40 years

A	**B**	**C**
Structurally sound trees located in positions that can accommodate future growth.	Storm damaged or defective trees that could be made suitable for retention in the long term by remedial tree surgery.	Trees of special significance for historical, commemorative or rarity reasons that would warrant extraordinary efforts to secure their long-term retention.

2 = Medium SULE of 15-40 years

A	**B**	**C**	**D**
Trees that may only live between 15 and 40 more years.	Trees that may live for more than 40 years but would be removed to allow the safe development of more suitable individuals.	Trees that may live for more than 40 years but would be removed during the course of normal management for safety or nuisance reasons.	Storm damaged or defective trees that can be made suitable for retention in the medium term by remedial work.

3 = Short SULE of 1-15 years

A	**B**	**C**	**D**
Trees that may only live between 1 and 15 more years.	Trees that may live for more than 15 years but would be removed to allow the safe development of more suitable individuals.	Trees that may live for more than 15 years but would be removed during the course of normal management for safety or nuisance reasons.	Storm damaged or defective trees that require substantial remedial work to make safe, and are only suitable for retention in the short term.

Dead

A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**
Dead trees.	Dying or suppressed and declining trees through disease or inhospitable conditions.	Dangerous trees through instability or recent loss of adjacent trees.	Dangerous trees through structural defects including cavities, decay, included bark, wounds or poor form.	Damaged trees that are considered unsafe to retain.	Trees that will become dangerous after removal of other trees for the reasons given in (a) to (e).

The SULE rating given to any tree in this report assumes that reasonable maintenance will be provided by a qualified Arboriculturist (AQF 3) using the correct and acknowledged techniques. Retained trees are to be protected from root damage. Incorrect tree work practices can significantly accelerate tree decline and increase hazard potential.

Appendix 7: Glossary

All Glossary items adapted from Dictionary for Managing Trees in Urban Environments, Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists (IACA) 2009. (Draper, et al., 2009), unless otherwise cited.

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 and can be categorized as Young, Mature and Over-mature (British Standard®, 1991) p.13 & (Harris, et al., 2004) p.262.

Young Tree aged less than <20% of life expectancy, in situ.

Mature Tree aged 20-80% of life expectancy, in situ.

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

CONDITION OF TREES

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*. The condition can be categorised 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 of 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 of 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 of or contributed to by vigour.

Senescent / Moribund The advanced state of decline, dying or nearly dead.

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

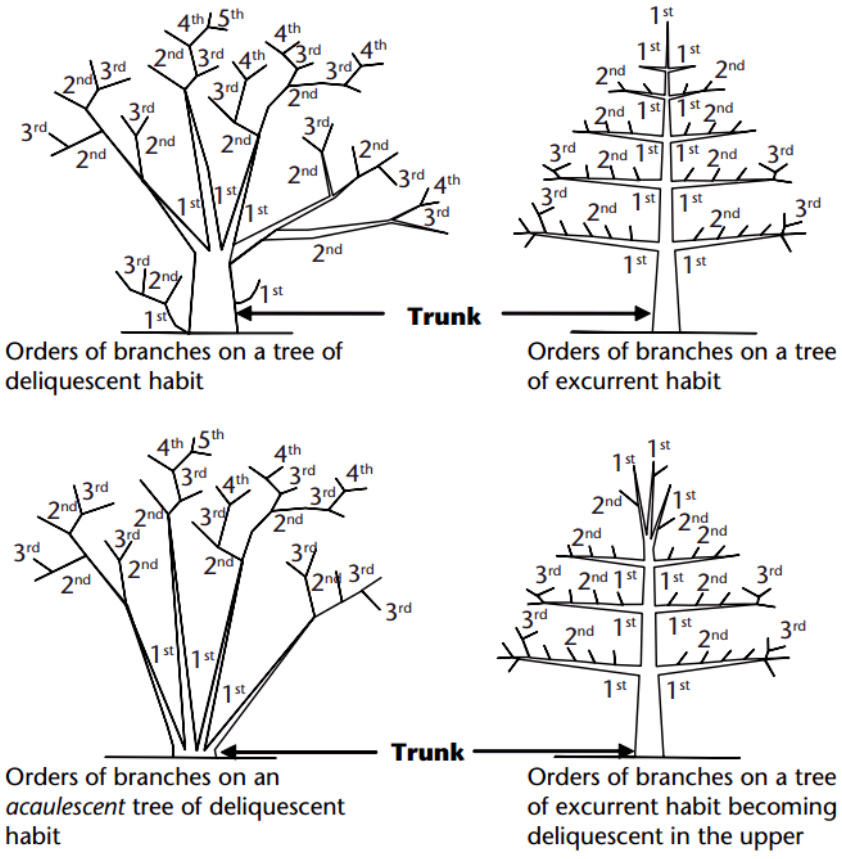
Processes Photosynthesis via its foliage crown (as indicated by the presence of moist, green or other coloured leaves); Osmosis (the ability of the root system to take up water); Turgidity (the ability of the plant to sustain moisture pressure in its cells); Epicormic shoots or epicormic strands in Eucalypts (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.

BRANCH

An elongated woody structure arising initially from the trunk to support leaves, flowers, fruit and the development of other branches. A branch may itself fork and continue to divide many times as successive orders of branches with the length and taper decreasing incrementally to the outer extremity of the crown. These may develop initially as a gradually tapering continuation of the trunk with minimal division as in a young tree or a tree of excurrent habit, or in a sapling, or may arise where the trunk terminates at or some distance from the root crown, dividing into first order branches to form and support the foliage crown. In an acaulescent tree, branches arise at or near the root crown. Similarly, branches may arise from a sprout mass from damaged roots, branches or trunk.



Orders of branches on a tree of deliquescent habit

Orders of branches on a tree of excurrent habit

Orders of branches on an *acaulescent* tree of deliquescent habit

Orders of branches on a tree of excurrent habit becoming deliquescent in the upper

Figure 21 Orders of branches.

Orders of Branches The marked divisions between successively smaller branches (James, 2003)p. 168, commencing at the initial division where the trunk terminates on a deliquescent tree or from lateral branches on an excurrent tree. Successive branching is generally characterised by a gradual reduction in branch diameters at each division, and each gradation from the trunk can be categorised numerically, e.g. first order, second order, third order etc. (See Figure 21.)

Branch tear out Dislodging of a branch from its point of attachment where it is torn away from the branch collar snapping the branch tail causing a laceration, usually to the underside of the branch union of the branch or trunk to which it was attached forming a tear out wound.

Sudden branch drop The failure and collapse of live, usually horizontal branches, seemingly without any noticeable cause in calm hot, dry weather conditions generally after rain. Theorised to be caused by altered moisture content in the branch disturbing the longitudinal pre-stressing of the wood that normally helps support the load as formed by reaction wood in branches tending to horizontal (Lonsdale, 1999)p. 30, or incipient failure from the lengthening of existing internal cracks as the wood cools (Shigo, 1986) p. 248, or influenced by branch creep under its own weight and by wind (Mattheck, et al., 1994) p. 126, or fractures to vascular rays if pulled at right angles to their longitudinal orientation forming from subsidence cracks (Mattheck, et al., 1994) p. 169, or a combination of these factors. Such branch breakages usually occur at some distance from the branch collar leaving a stub. See also *Branch tear out*.

Canopy

1. Of multiple trees, the convergence, or merging in full or part, of the crowns of two or more trees due to their proximity, or where competition for light and space available in a forest environment is limited as each tree develops forming a continuous layer of foliage.
2. Used as a plural for the crown.
3. Sometimes synonymously used for the crown (USA).

Crown Of an individual tree all the parts arising above the trunk where it terminates by its division forming branches, e.g. the branches, leaves, flowers and fruit; or the total amount of foliage supported by the branches. The crown of any tree can be divided vertically into three sections and can be categorised as lower crown, mid crown and upper crown (Figure 8). For a leaning tree these can be divided evenly into crown sections of one-third from the base to apex. The volume of a crown can be categorised as the inner crown, outer crown and outer extremity of the crown.

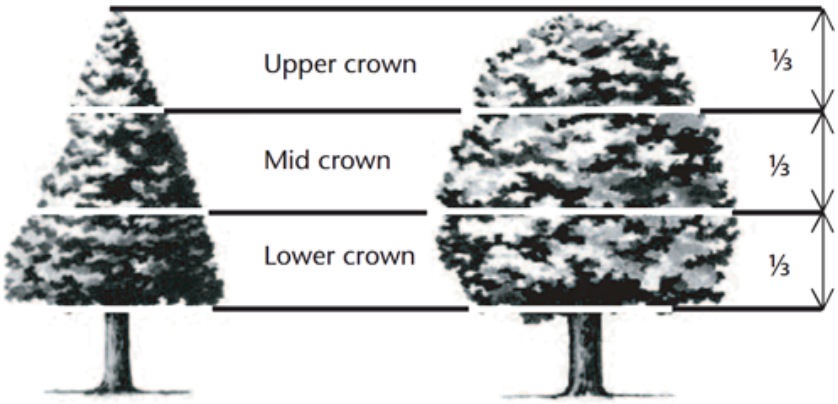


Figure 8 Crown sections.

Lower Crown The proximal or lowest section of a crown when divided vertically into one-third (⅓) increments.

Mid Crown The middle section of a crown when divided vertically into one-third (⅓) increments.

Upper Crown The distal or highest section of a crown when divided vertically into one-third (⅓) increments.

Crown Projection (CP) Area within the dripline or beneath the lateral extent of the crown (Geiger, 2004) p.2.

Dripline A line formed around the edge of a tree by the lateral extent of the crown. Such a line may be evident on the ground with some trees when exposed soil is displaced by rain shed from the crown.

CROWN FORM OF TREES

The shape of the crown of a tree as influenced by the availability or restriction of space and light, or other contributing factors within its growing environment. Crown Form may be determined for tree shape and habit generally as Dominant, Codominant, Intermediate, Emergent, Forest and Suppressed. The habit and shape of a crown may also be considered qualitatively and can be categorised as Good Form or Poor Form.

Good Form Tree of typical crown shape and habit with proportions representative of the taxa considering constraints such as origin e.g. indigenous or exotic but does not appear to have been adversely influenced in its development by environmental factors in situ such as soil water availability, prevailing wind, or cultural practices such as lopping and competition for space and light.

Poor Form Tree of atypical crown shape and habit with proportions not representative of the species considering constraints and appears to have been adversely influenced in its development by environmental factors in situ such as soil water availability, prevailing wind, cultural practices such as lopping and competition for space and light; causing it to be misshapen or disfigured by disease or vandalism.

Crown Form Codominant Crowns of trees restricted for space and light on one or more sides and receiving light primarily from above e.g. constrained by another tree/s or a building.

Crown Form Dominant Crowns of trees generally not restricted for space and light receiving light from above and all sides.

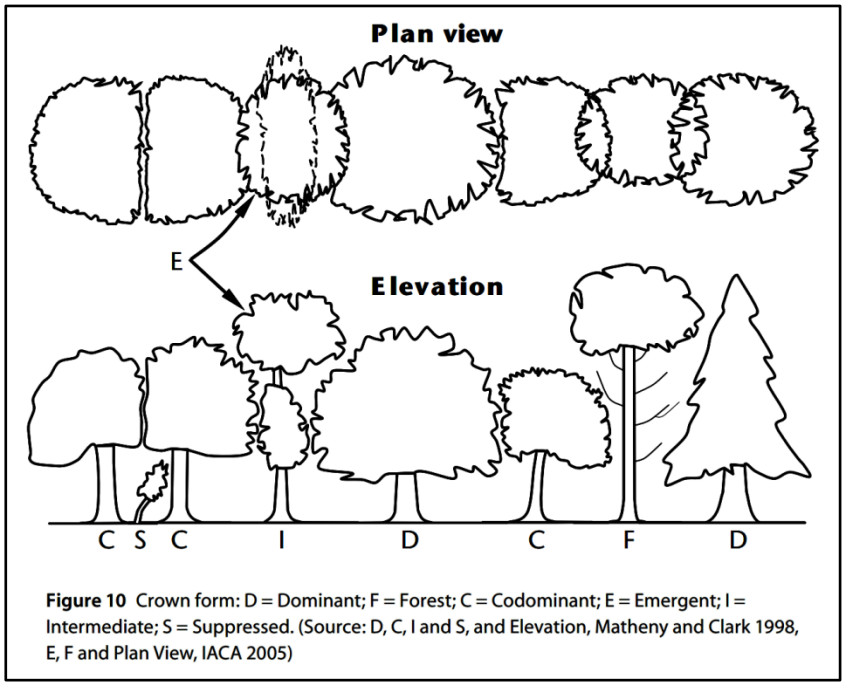


Figure 10 Crown form: D = Dominant; F = Forest; C = Codominant; E = Emergent; I = Intermediate; S = Suppressed. (Source: D, C, I and S, and Elevation, Matheny and Clark 1998, E, F and Plan View, IACA 2005)

Crown Form Emergent Crowns of trees restricted for space on most sides receiving most light from above until the upper crown grows to protrude above the canopy in a stand or forest environment. Such trees may be crown form dominant or transitional from crown form intermediate to crown form forest asserting both apical dominance and axillary dominance once free of constraints for space and light.

Crown Form Forest Crowns of trees restricted for space and light except from above forming tall trees with narrow spreading crowns with foliage restricted generally to the top of the tree. The trunk is usually erect, straight and continuous, tapering gradually, crown often excurrent, with first order branches becoming structural, supporting the live crown concentrated towards the top of the tree, and below this point other first order branches arising radially with each inferior and usually temporary, divergent and ranging from horizontal to ascending, often with internodes exaggerated due to competition for space and light in the lower crown.

Crown Form Intermediate Crowns of trees restricted for space on most sides with light primarily from above and on some sides only.

Crown Form Suppressed Crowns of trees generally not restricted for space but restricted for light by being overtopped by other trees and occupying an understorey position in the canopy and growing slowly.

DEADWOOD

Dead branches within a tree's crown and considered quantitatively as separate to crown cover and can be categorised as Small Deadwood and Large Deadwood according to diameter, length and subsequent risk potential. The amount of dead branches on a tree can be categorised as Low Volume Deadwood, Medium Volume Deadwood and High Volume Deadwood. See also Dieback.

Deadwooding Removing of dead branches by pruning. Such pruning may assist in the prevention of the spread of decay from dieback or for reasons of safety near an identifiable target.

Small Deadwood - dw A dead branch up to 10mm diameter and usually <2 metres long, generally considered of low-risk potential.

Large Deadwood - DW A dead branch >10mm diameter and usually >2 metres long, generally considered of high-risk potential.

DIEBACK

The death of some areas of the crown. Symptoms are leaf drop, bare twigs, dead branches and tree death, respectively. This can be caused by root damage, root disease, bacterial or fungal canker, severe bark damage, intensive grazing by insects, abrupt changes in growth conditions, drought, water-logging or over-maturity. Dieback often implies reduced resistance, stress or decline which may be temporary. Dieback can be categorised as Low Volume Dieback, Medium Volume Dieback and
High Volume Dieback.

High Volume Dieback Where >50% of the crown cover has died.

Medium Volume Dieback Where 10-50% of the crown cover has died.

Low Volume Dieback Where <10% of the crown cover has died. See also Dieback, High Volume Dieback and Medium Volume Dieback.

EPICORMIC SHOOTS

Juvenile shoots produced at branches or trunk from epicormic strands in some Eucalypts (Burrows, 2002) pp. 111-131, or sprouts produced from dormant or latent buds concealed beneath the bark in some trees. Production can be triggered by fire, pruning, wounding, or root damage but may also be as a result of stress or decline. Epicormic shoots can be categorised as Low Volume Epicormic Shoots, Medium Volume Epicormic Shoots and High Volume Epicormic Shoots.

High Volume Epicormic Shoots Where >50% of the crown cover is comprised of live epicormic shoots.

Medium Volume Epicormic Shoots Where 10-50% of the crown cover is comprised of live epicormic shoots.

Low Volume Epicormic Shoots Where <10% of the crown cover is comprised of live epicormic shoots.

GENERAL TERMS

Cavity A usually shallow void often localised initiated by a wound and subsequent decay within the trunk, branches or roots, or beneath bark, and may be enclosed or have one or more opening.

Decay The process of degradation of wood by microorganisms (Australian Standard®, 2007) p. 6, and fungus.

Hazard The threat of danger to people or property from a tree or tree part resulting from changes in the physical condition, growing environment, or existing physical attributes of the tree, e.g. included bark, soil erosion, or thorns or poisonous parts, respectively.

Included Bark The bark on the inner side of the branch union, or is within a concave crotch that is unable to be lost from the tree and accumulates or is trapped by acutely divergent branches forming a compression fork. The growth of bark at the interface of two or more branches on the inner side of a branch union or in the crotch where each branch forms a branch collar and the collars roll past one another without forming a graft where no one collar is able to subsume the other. The risk of failure is worsened in some taxa where branching is acutely divergent or acutely convergent and ascending or erect.

Hollow A large void initiated by a wound forming a cavity in the trunk, branches or roots and usually increased over time by decay or other contributing factors, e.g. fire, or fauna such as birds or insects e.g. ants or termites. A hollow can be categorised as an Ascending Hollow or a Descending Hollow.

Kino The extractive polyphenols (tannins) formed in veins in the cambial zone as a defence in response to wounding in eucalypts. Often visible as an exudate when the kino veins rupture or are injured (Boland, et al., 2006) p. 691.

Occupancy Rating The frequency of use of a likely target and possibility that people will be present when tree failure or collapse occurs.

Risk The random or potentially foreseeable possibility of an episode causing harm or damage.

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, crown 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.

Sustainable Retention Index Value (SRIV) A visual tree assessment method to determine a qualitative and numerical rating for the viability of urban trees for development sites and management purposes, based on general tree and landscape assessment criteria using classes of age, condition and vigour. SRIV is for the professional manager of urban trees to consider the tree in situ with an assumed knowledge of the taxon and its growing environment. It is based on the physical attributes of the tree and its response to its environment considering its position in a matrix for age class, vigour class, condition class and its sustainable retention with regard to the safety of people or damage to property. This also factors the ability to retain the tree with remedial work or beneficial modifications to its growing environment or removal and replacement. SRIV is supplementary to the decision made by a tree management professional as to whether a tree is retained or removed (IACA).

Structural Root Zone (SRZ) The minimum radial distance around the base of a tree and its root plate required for its stability in the ground against windthrow and applied only to trees with a circular root plate (Mattheck, et al., 1994) pp. 77-87.

Target People or property likely to be harmed or damaged, respectively, by being struck by a failed or collapsed tree in full or part.

Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) A combination of the root protection zone (RPZ) and crown protection zone (CPZ) as an area around a tree set aside for the protection of a tree and a sufficient proportion of its growing environment above and below ground established prior to demolition or construction and maintained until the completion of works to allow for its viable retention including stability.

Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) A visual inspection of a tree from the ground based on the principle that, when a tree exhibits apparently superfluous material in its shape, this represents repair structures to rectify defects or to reinforce weak areas in accordance with the Axiom of Uniform Stress (Mattheck, et al., 1994) pp. 12-13, 145). Such assessments should only be undertaken by suitably competent practitioners.

LEANING TREES

A tree where the trunk grows or moves away from upright. A lean may occur anywhere along the trunk influenced by a number of contributing factors e.g. genetically predetermined characteristics, competition for space or light, prevailing winds, aspect, slope, or other factors. A leaning tree may maintain a static lean or display an increasingly progressive lean over time and may be hazardous and prone to failure and collapse. The degrees of leaning can be categorised as Slightly Leaning, Moderately Leaning, Severely Leaning and Critically Leaning.

Slightly Leaning A leaning tree where the trunk is growing at an angle within 0°-15° from upright. - Low Risk.

Moderately Leaning A leaning tree where the trunk is growing at an angle within 15°-30° from upright. - Medium Risk.

Severely Leaning A leaning tree where the trunk is growing at an angle within 30°-45° from upright. - High Risk.

Critically Leaning A leaning tree where the trunk is growing at an angle greater than >45° from upright. - Very High Risk.

Progressively Leaning A tree where the degree of leaning appears to be increasing over time. - Lodging.

Static Leaning A leaning tree whose lean appears to have stabilised over time.

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 categorised 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 the 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 the 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.

ROOTS

First Order Roots (FOR) Initial woody roots arising from the root crown at the base of the trunk, or as an adventitious root mass for structural support and stability. Woody roots may be buttressed and divided as a marked gradation, gradually tapering and continuous or tapering rapidly at a short distance from the root crown. Depending on soil type these roots may descend initially and not be evident at the root crown or become buried by changes in soil levels. Trees may develop 4-11 (Perry, 1982) pp. 197- 221, or more first order roots which may radiate from the trunk with a relatively even distribution, or be prominent on a particular aspect, dependent upon physical characteristics e.g. leaning trunk, asymmetrical crown; and constraints within the growing environment from topography e.g. slope, soil depth, rocky outcrops, exposure to predominant wind, soil moisture, depth of water table etc.

Orders of Roots The marked divisions between woody roots, commencing at the initial division from the base of the trunk, at the root crown where successive branching is generally characterised by a gradual reduction in root diameters and each gradation from the trunk and can be categorized numerically, e.g. first order roots, second order roots, third order roots etc. Roots may not always be evident at the root crown and this may be dependent on species, age class and the growing environment. Palms at maturity may form an adventitious root mass.

Root Plate The entire root system of a tree generally occupying the top 300-600mm of soil including roots at or above ground and may extend laterally for distances exceeding twice the height of the tree (Perry, 1982) pp. 197-221. Development and extent is dependent on water availability, soil type, soil depth and the physical characteristics of the surrounding landscape.

Root Crown Roots arising at the base of a trunk.

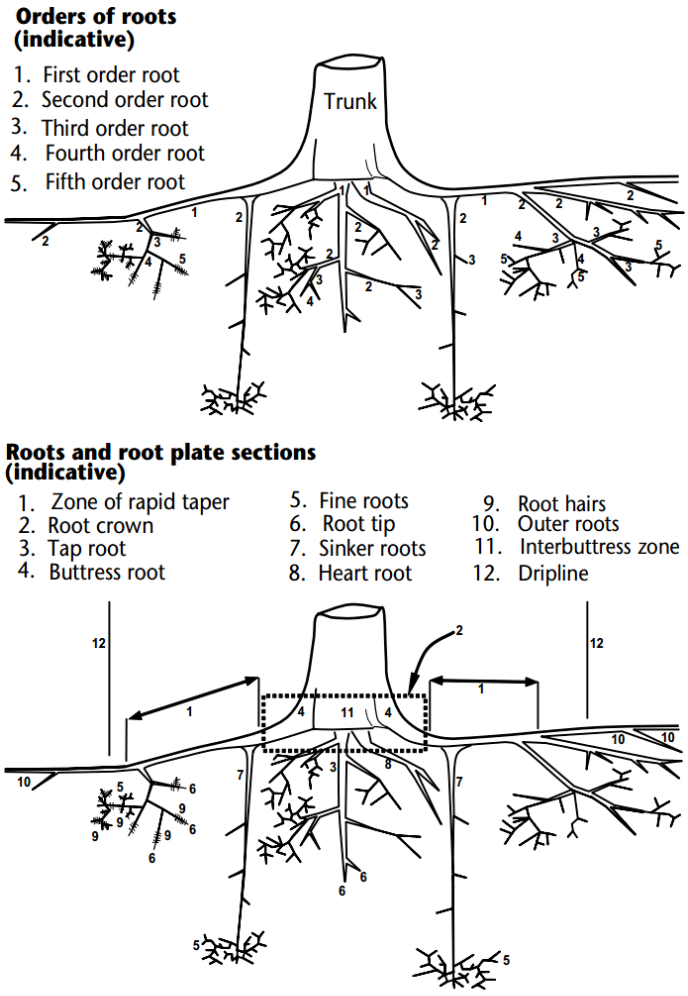


Figure 22 Orders of roots.

Zone of Rapid Taper The area in the root plate where the diameter of structural roots reduces substantially over a short distance from the trunk. Considered to be the minimum radial distance to provide structural support and root plate stability. See also Structural Root Zone (SRZ).

Structural Roots Roots supporting the infrastructure of the root plate providing strength and stability to the tree. Such roots may taper rapidly at short distances from the root crown or become large and woody as with gymnosperms and dicotyledonous angiosperms and are usually 1st and 2nd order roots, or form an adventitious root mass in monocotyledonous angiosperms (palms). Such roots may be crossed and grafted and are usually contained within the area of crown projection or extend just beyond the dripline.

TRUNK

A single stem extending from the root crown to support or elevate the crown, terminating where it divides into separate stems forming first order branches. A trunk may be evident at near the ground or be absent in acaulescent tr deliquescent habit or may be continuous in tr excurrent habit. The trunk of any caulescent tr be divided vertically into three (3) sections and be categorised as Lower Trunk, Mid Trunk and Upper Trunk. For a leaning tree, these may b divided evenly into sections of one-third along t trunk (Figure 28).

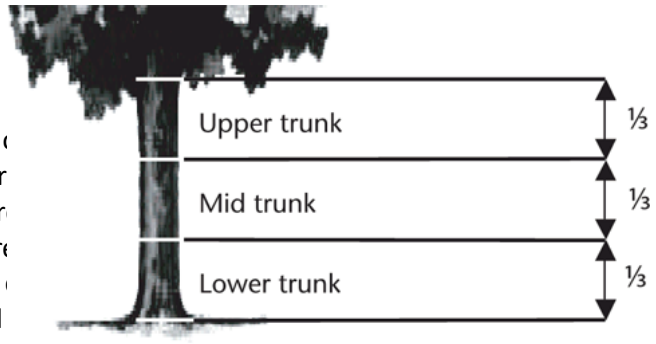


Figure 28 Trunk sections.

Co-Dominant Equal in size and relative importance, usually associated with either trunk/stems or scaffold limbs/branches in the crown; in the context of crown class, trees whose crowns form the bulk of the upper layer of the canopy but which are crowded by adjacent trees (Matheny, et al., 1994).

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 axis, 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 the ground and noting where the measurement was recorded e.g. at ground.

Dominant One of four types of crown class; tree whose crown extends above the height of nearby trees in the stand, receiving light from above and he side

Leader The top most portion of the tree trunk (stem) that is able to grow more than the laterals below. (Harris, et al., 2004)

VIGOUR

The 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 categorised as Normal Vigour, High Vigour, Low Vigour and Dormant Tree Vigour.

Normal Vigour The 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, eg 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 feedlot, 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.

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DISCLAIMER

The author and Advanced Treescape Consulting take no responsibility for actions taken and their consequence if contrary to those expert and professional instructions are given as recommendations pertaining to safety. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report refer to the tree(s) condition on the inspection day. All care has been taken using the most up-to-date Arboricultural information in the preparation of this report. The report is based on a visual inspection only. Tree health and environmental conditions can change irreversibly at any time due to unforeseen circumstances or events. Due to *Myrtaceae* family hybridisation, some tree species are difficult to accurately identify. Unless trees are in full flower identification is only probable.

Appendix 8: Curriculum Vitae

U W S (Hawkesbury)	Graduate Diploma in Horticulture (AQF8) Diploma in Horticulture (AQF5)
Hortus Australia	Diploma of Arboriculture (AQF5) (RTF50203-6522-6/12/2005)
Ryde School of Horticulture	Tree Surgery Arboriculture Techniques
Central Coast Community College	Excel Module 1 and 2 Excel – Advanced
Workcover	OHS General Induction for Construction Work in NSW (CGI00871464SEQ1) St Johns Ambulance First Aid Certificate

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE & TRAINING

2016	IACA Root Mapping Seminar - Ryde TAFE IACA Report Writing Seminar - Ryde TAFE IML Resistograph® Users Course - Belmont TAFE
2015	Quantified Tree Risk Assessment System - Estimating Probability of Failure Aboriginal Scar Trees: Significance Conservation and Management of Veteran Eucalypts in the Landscape - Griffith University
2012	Australian Institute of Horticulture Inc. - 'Don Burke Field Day' Professional Development Workshop
2011	Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists (IACA) AS 4970 Forum Ecological Consultants Association of NSW - Impacts of Invasive Species
2010	Root Barrier Field Day
2009	Matheny & Clark: Arboriculture
2008	Quantified Tree Risk Assessment System - Principals and Application
2007	Quantified Tree Risk Assessment System - Principals and Application Quantified Tree Risk Assessment System - A Practitioners Guide to Visual Tree Assessment
2006	Barrell Tree A-Z 2 Day Workshop IML Resistograph® F500S Training Course
2005	Urban Tree Forum – Sydney City Council Urban Tree Risk Management – Treelogic DA Workshop Preparing Development Applications for Local Council –AIH Urban Forest – The New Imperative – Parks and Leisure Australia
2004	Visual Tree Assessment Workshop – Professor Doctor Claus Mattheck
2003	Urban Trees - Our Urban Urgency – Parks and Leisure Australia
1999	Tree Hazard Assessment – Parramatta Park – NAAA
1990	Aero Advanced Climbers Seminar NSW

INDUSTRY BACKGROUND

20th June 2001 to present	*Proprietor* **Advanced Treescape Consulting** (formerly known as RJK Consulting)
2002 - 2005	*Part Time Horticulturist* **Acorn/Bushlands Nursery/Aquarium Centre, Erina Heights**
1997 to present	*Consultant* **Horticulturist**
1997 to present	*Public Speaker* **Horticulturist/Arboriculturist Topics**
1997 - 2001	*Part Time Horticulturist* **Flower Power, Glenhaven**
1991 - 1995	*Proprietor* **KAC Peninsula Firewood** Assembled team to clear backlog of firewood
1990 - 1996	*Proprietor/Climber* **Kingdom's Arbor Care** (until its sale)
1986 - 1990	*Tree Worker* **Arbor 2000 Pro-Climb, Sydney**
1972 to present	*Bonsai enthusiast*

BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT

Finalist in Central Coast Advocate Community Business Awards 2005 for Specialised Business category.

MEMBERSHIPS

- Institute of Australian Consulting Arboriculturists
- Australian Institute of Horticulture
- Arboriculture Australia
- Gosford City Council Tree Protection Committee - Committee Member - August 1998 to June 2004.

[i] Australian Qualification Framework - https://www.aqf.edu.au