



Southern Arborists Ltd
Arboricultural Contractor.



Registered Office: Ounces Barn, Halnaker, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 0NP

Registered in England: No.9666651

Tel: +44(0)7544 993490

Email: nathan.blatherwick@ouncesbarn.com

Our Ref: NB/LOVEDEANLANE/WOODLANDPLAN

8th December 2016

**TREES AT: OLD BUILDERS WORKSHOP,
LOVEDEAN LANE, HAMPSHIRE, PO8 9RN**

**Arboricultural Assessment and
Woodland Management Plan**

Client: Mr A Brazil
Old Builders Workshop
Lovedean Lane
Hampshire
PO8 9RN

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- 9 JAN 2017

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Brief: To survey the trees on the above site, comment upon their condition and suitability for retention on the site; detail and indicate the impact and constraints of the proposed Woodland Management.

Inspected by: Nathan Blatherwick

Date of inspection: 22nd November 2016

Report prepared by: Nathan Blatherwick

Date of report: 8th December 2016

Summary and Findings,

The site is the area of woodland to the west of the existing structure Old Builders Workshop, Lovedean Lane, Hampshire. At the time of assessment, we noted that historically the woodland was managed. However, in recent years due to lack of management the woodland has subsequently been colonised by exotic invasive and naturalised species such as Rhododendron (*R. ponticum*) Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laureocerasus*) Birch (*Betula pendula*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). We noted that some of this regeneration was from historically coppiced stands indicating that this was once well managed ground. The presents of the fully mature dominant Oaks (*Quercus robur*) to the far west of the site and the numerous standing deadwood indicate a well-established bio-diversity between flora and fauna. An ecological contribution such as this will be enhanced by this woodland management plan.

In our view, the historic oaks to the far west of the site are the most significant and dominant trees within the woodland. Therefore, their retention and preservation are of the upmost importance. Their presents make an important contribution to not only the character of the woodland but to the urban environment which surrounds it offering a significant public amenity value. The management techniques detailed with this assessment have been recommended to:

- Enhance the amenity value that the woodland offers.
- Manage vegetative competition from invasive exotic species.
- Re-coppice over-stood stands to encourage ground vegetation.
- Enhance ecology by retained stems of dead trees and creating habitat piles.
- Manage trees that may pose a threat to neighbouring properties and third parties.

Assessment of Individual Specimens,

Overall our assessment of the boundary trees raised little cause for concern as a group. However, we have identified specimens that will require immediate attention. T1 is a group of two wild Cherries (*Prunus avium*). Historically these trees have been pollarded at a height of 5 metres. The regeneration growth of this pollard is significantly over-stood and in its current situation poses and unreasonable risk to the adjacent property. There is a significant decay within the existing pollard points. Therefore, pruning will not be a reasonable act of management and these trees will be removed. T2 Oak, this tree is significantly weighted towards the adjacent property. At the time of inspection, we noted that this specimen has been historically reduced and overall was displaying poor vigour. Our assessment of the buttress and rooting environment, revealed evidence of decay and the fungal pathogen *Armillaria mella* (Honey Fungus). The decay strategy of this pathogen will compromise the vascular system of the tree and the structural integrity of the root system. Therefore, the removal of this specimen will be required as its retention would place a disproportionate risk to third parties. Please see images below for photographic evidence,

Compromised Timber



Rhizomorphs of
Armillaria mella

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Site Plan,

Boundary Line of
Woodland Compartment



Location of Trees to
Be Removed



Conclusion,

This woodland will be managed to achieve the objectives detailed above. All trees with a significant contribution and amenity value will be retained and where possible enhanced by remedial management techniques such as pruning. Any trees which present an unreasonable risk to the land owner or third parties will be removed. Where possible ecology and bio-diversity will be promoted. Any invasive non-native species will be removed. The primary objective of this plan is to enhance the character and public amenity value of the woodland.

Nathan Blatherwick
8th December 2016

