



BJH.0981.Feb18



ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

for

The Wolds, Fontwell Avenue, Eastergate

- prepared on behalf of Mr J Charman -

3 Foxcombe Cottages - South Harting - West Sussex GU31 5PL

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1.0 INTRODUCTION & CLIENTS BRIEF

- 1.1 I am instructed on this project by **Jon Charman** who owns the property at :- **The Wolds, Fontwell Avenue.**
- 1.2 This project involves the construction of a new Rehabilitation Unit building to the north side of the existing Hydrotherapy Pool with associated adjustments to the car parking arrangements.
- 1.3 There are trees both on and off this site that could be impacted by these proposals so I have been commissioned to consider and advise on all of the arboricultural aspects of this project and to then prepare a supporting AMS report to satisfy these planning requirements.
- 1.4 As part of this exercise the primary trees on and adjacent to the development site have been surveyed and will be referred to in this report.
- 1.5 In advising my client I am duty bound to comply with 'Best Practice' industry guidelines and to follow the recommendations contained in BS5837:2012 – Tree In Relation To Design, Demolition and Construction Recommendations – adopting the sequential approach illustrated in the *Figure 1 Flow Diagram – The design and construction process and tree care.*

2.0 DOCUMENT DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I have seen and studied the Planning Drawings prepared by **RDV a Design Architects** for this project and my tree survey work has been applied to both the existing accurate base plan and the proposed layout plan – the AMS is based on the following drawing :-

- **Planning Drawing – Site Plan As Proposed - Drawing Number 15047 – 02.01 – Rev B - 1:200 @ A3 – 22.01.18**
- this plan has been provided for the purposes of my work and I place total reliance on its accuracy for tree locations & protective fencing.

3.0 TREE SURVEY & ROOT PROTECTION SCHEDULES & IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 I visited the site on **11th January 2018** and carried out a tree survey in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations.

Tree No.	Species	Ht m	Diam mm	Brch Sprd m	GC m	ES	Condition Comments	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Rem Con yrs	Cat
1	Field Maple <i>Acer campstre</i>	14	550 500 350	N 5 E 7 S 2 W5	2	M	Extensive decay in large open cavities at ground level-two trunks hollowed out-woodpecker holes and small cavities at mid crown height-epicormics-decay in old pruning wounds in upper crown-suppressed to south side by an off site tree-previously heavily topped out and reshaped.	Reduce to hedge height and maintain at this level or fell and grub out for safety reasons	<10	U
Hedge 1	Hazel (<i>Corylus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	1.5	Av 25 x 4	N 0.3 E 0.3 S 0.3 W0.3	0	Y	Formal clipped hedge - recently pruned back topped out and faced up.	No works required at this time	>40	B2
Copse 1	Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i>) Cherry (<i>Prunus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	3	Av 100	N – E – S – W-	0	Y	Set 6m back from boundary line-good shape and form but densely planted.	Will need thinning out if this is to develop into a valuable resource	>40	A2
Group 1	Walnut (<i>Juglans</i>) <i>Griselinia</i> Var.Chinese Privet (<i>Ligustrum</i>) Myrobalan Plum (<i>Prunus</i>)	3	Av 70	N 1.5 E 1.5 S 1.5 W1.5	0	Y	Linear belt of planted trees and shrubs with merged crowns.	No works required at this time	30- 40	B2
2	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	7	180	N 0 E 2 S 2 W0	2	Y	Ivy smothering base and trunk-contorted trunk-suppressed-low crown density and vigour and vitality-poor quality tree.	Recommend severing the ivy	<10	U

3.2 Overview Comments on Tree Stock

- **Trees 1 - Field Maple** – a clump of three mature trees off one common rootstock – they have all been heavily reduced in the past to keep their growth potential under control – the old pruning wounds all have cavities in them and pockets of decay – of greater concern is the extent of fungal decay and

hollowing out of the trunks at ground level – these trees are in a dangerous condition and will require urgent attention to make them safe – advise either coppice to hedge height or remove and replant.

- **Hedge 1 - Hazel/Beech** – a young formal clipped hedge of good shape and form providing low screening and separation.
- **Copse 1 - Oak/Ash/Cherry/Beech** – off site copse of young planted trees that are set 6m back from the boundary line – these trees are developing well but will soon require thinning out to favour the better trees if this is to be a feature of value in the future.
- **Group 1 – Walnut/Griselinia/Privet/Plum** – a linear screening belt of young trees and evergreen shrubs of ornamental species – in good condition.
- **Tree 2 – Western Red Cedar** - a small stunted off site conifer of ragged appearance and poor shape and form – short life expectancy.

3.3 A Tree Root Protection Schedule has been prepared in accordance with BS5837:2012 recommendations (see Plans BJH 01 & 02 at appendix B12)

Tree No.	Tree Species	Cat	Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Table 1 Radial Protection Zone m	BS5837:2012 Table D1 Polygon Area m ²	Is An Offset Required To Cater For Existing Rooting Pattern Restrictions
1	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	U	550 500 350	-	-	NO – surrounded by hard standing and buildings which are constraints that cancel each other out
Hedge 1	Hazel (<i>Corylus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	B2	Av 25 x 4	0.6	1	NO – rooting will be suppressed within the line by competition but there is free rooting to the outer faces
Copse 1	Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i>) Cherry (<i>Prunus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	A2	Av 100	1.2	5	NO – free rooting to all directions
Group 1	Walnut <i>Griselinia</i> Vargtd. Chinese Privet Myrobalan Plum	B2	Av 70	0.9	3	NO – rooting will be suppressed within the line by competition but there is free rooting to the outer faces
2	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	U	180	2.2	15	NO – free rooting to all directions

4.0 IMPACT ASSESSMENT & TREE PROTECTION MEASURES RECOMMENDED

4.1 The finalised planning layout drawing has been provided to me and an assessment made as to the viability of retaining trees as part of this layout in order that they meet the RPA requirements of BS5837 - the data is presented here in tabular format:-

Key: ~~NO-RSAM~~ = Remove for sound arboricultural management reasons ~~NO-RTFD~~ = Remove to facilitate development UF = under footprint of proposed development
 YES = Yes can be retained and fully protected YES (D) = Yes can be retained subject to mitigation measures being applied

Tree No	Species	Cat	Stem Diam mm	BS5837:2012 Radial Protection Area m	BS5837:2012 Polygon Area m ²	Distance from Site Features (see key above)	Can Tree Be Retained
1	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	U	550 500 350	n/a	n/a	n/a	~~NO-RSAM~~ or coppice at hedge height
Hedge 1	Hazel (<i>Corylus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	B2	Av 25 x 4	0.6	1	0.8m to new building	YES
Copse 1	Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i>) Cherry (<i>Prunus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	A2	Av 100	1.2	5	7m to new building line	YES
Group 1	Walnut <i>Griselinia</i> Vargtd. Chinese Privet Myrobalan Plum	B2	Av 70	0.9	3	1m to existing gravel surfaced car parking area 1.5m to the new parking bay	YES
2	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	U	180	2.2	15	2.7m to new parking bay	YES

4.2 YES

There is **1** tree; **1** group; **1** copse and **1** hedge in this category on this project which can all be retained and fully protected in accordance with BS5837 recommendations (see **Tree Protection Plan BJH.04** at appendix B114).

4.3 NO – RSAM

There is **1** tree in this category on this project which it is proposed be removed for reasons of poor health and/or sound arboricultural management.

Tree 1 – Field Maple – structural integrity undermined by fungal decay at ground level.

4.4 NO – RTFD

There are no **0** trees on this project which would have to be removed to accommodate the layout proposed.

5.0 PRE-DEVELOPMENT TREE WORKS

N.B. – These works are recommended not only to facilitate works but also to improve the shape and form of retained trees for the future.

No	Species	Tree Works Recommended
1	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>	Fell or coppice for safety reasons
Hedge 1	Hazel (<i>Corylus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	Trim the top and sides back prior to construction works to provide good clearance and also prevent any damage to the hedge
Copse 1	Oak (<i>Quercus</i>) Ash (<i>Fraxinus</i>) Cherry (<i>Prunus</i>) Beech (<i>Fagus</i>)	- Not under my clients control - Recommend that the owners consider thinning it out to favour the better trees
Group 1	Walnut <i>Griselinia</i> Vargtd. Chinese Privet Myrobalan Plum	Lightly trim back the low branch overhang of the car park to prevent damage to cars and facilitate access
2	Western Red Cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	- Not under my clients control - Recommend that the owners consider severing the ivy at ground level

6.0 METHOD STATEMENT

Generic

- 6.1 Undertake any tree works that are specified at Section 5.
- 6.2 Erect the protective fencing as specified under **BS5837 Section 6** as shown on the **Tree Protection Plan BJH03/04** at appendix BH3. Barriers are to be 'Fit For Purpose' to exclude construction activity and must be maintained to ensure that they remain rigid and complete and in the original setting out positions. This fencing shall conform to Figure 2 or Figure 3 of BS5837. Weatherproof signs stating '**Keep Out – Construction Exclusion Zone**' should ideally be firmly secured to the outside of the Tree Protection fencing and positioned at regular spacings throughout.
- 6.3 The area within the fenced off **CONSTRUCTION EXCLUSION ZONE** is to be regarded as **sacrosanct** and the fencing shall not be taken down or relocated at any time without the prior written approval of the local authority tree officer, unless this has already been agreed as part of the planning application consent process and is detailed in writing and shown on a plan.

The following prohibitions shall apply within the area enclosed by the Tree Protection Fencing:-

- **No** mixing of cement or any other materials.
 - **No** storage or disposal of any soil, building materials, rubble, machinery, fuel, chemicals, liquid waste residues or materials/debris.
 - **No** siting of any temporary structures of any description including site office/sales buildings, temporary car parking facilities, porta-loos, storage compounds or hard standing areas – unless such location has been approved in accordance with a Site Set Up Plan and adequate ground protection measures laid to prevent soil compaction or contamination.
 - **No** soil/turf stripping, raising/lowering of existing ground levels, excavation or alterations to the existing surfaces/ground conditions.
 - **No** installation or siting of any underground services, temporary or otherwise including gas; water; surface or foul water drainage; soakaways; electricity; television; telephone; external lighting or any associated ducting.
 - **No** fires within 10m of the canopy drip line of any tree or hedge.
 - **No** signs; cables; fixtures or fittings of any description are to be attached/fixed to any part of any retained tree.
- 6.4 It will be very important for any vehicle drivers to have undergone a pre-contract induction session where the trees to be retained are to be highlighted and the need for care and attention when working nearby with wide loads; tall loads; plant with swinging booms, jibs and counterweights (including drilling rigs) or slewing hydraulic arms to avoid contact with trunks or crowns.

Site Specific

6.5 Hedge 1 – Hazel and Beech

- There will be work taking place immediately abutting these plants so it will not be practical or feasible to erect any protective fencing here.
- The process here will be to trim the hedge back prior to the commencement of works and then work from the east side with care to avoid contact with the hedge or disruption of its roots – the best way to avoid this would be to hand dig a slit trench along the line of the footings and cleanly sever any roots with bypass secateurs.
- Once this work has been undertaken a machine can be used working from the car park to the east side and at ninety degrees to the hedge pulling back towards itself in order to pull out the footings for the new building.

6.6 Tree 2 WRCedar & Group 1 Mixed Ornamentals

- Erecting the protective fencing as shown on the Tree Protection Plan will essentially seal these trees off from the works and prevent any root or crown damage to same.

6.7 Utility Services & Drainage & Lighting

- I have been assured that all such connections can be made outside of tree RPA's and into existing service connections.

6.8 Site Set Up/Delivery/Materials Storage/Works Compound/Site Office/Welfare Units

- All of this can be set up on the gravel surfacing that makes up the existing car park area.
- It can be seen that this will not impact on any of the retained trees RPA's.

7.0 SITE MONITORING & SUPERVISION

- 7.1 There will need to be a **Pre-Commencement Site Meeting** [PCSM] between the development teams arboricultural consultant and the clients building contractors to verify that the protective measures are all in place before any work commences out on site. This will include verifying that all such Protective Fencing is 'Fit For Purpose' and has been erected as shown on the Tree Protection Plan.
- 7.2 It will be very important for ALL site personnel to have undergone a pre-start induction session where the trees to be retained are to be highlighted and the need for care and attention when working nearby stressed – with a copy of the Tree Protection Plans pinned up for all to see in the main Site Office and/or Mess Room.
- 7.3 There will be need for one further site monitoring and supervision visit in order to monitor the 'Hand Digging' of a slit trench close to Hedge 1 and to sever any roots that are encountered (if any) with sharp and clean bypass secateurs.
- 7.4 A contact list will be prepared and circulated that clearly identifies key personnel on the project and their responsibilities - so that the clients building contractors have the means to call in the project Arboricultural Consultant should any accidents/incidents/variations occur or there be a need for specific advice as the project evolves and is built out.
- 7.5 The details of the PCSM meeting and any subsequent site monitoring visits will be photographed and incorporated into a report which will be signed by the Arb Expert and the following reporting procedures will be adopted :-

This is an example of the format for the **Site Monitoring Schedule** that would be prepared and updated after each site monitoring visit with copies going to the clients and the local planning authority Tree Officer:-

Schedule Of Site Monitoring & Supervision for – The Wolds, Fontwell Avenue, Eastergate

* In accordance with the Arboricultural Impact Assessment & Method Statement Report 0981.bjh.Feb18 & Tree Protection Plan - BJH 03/04

Date	Item	In Attendance	Notes/Observations From Inspection	Details Of Any Follow Up Action Required
tbc	Pre-Commencement Meeting	Council Tree Officer to be invited Bernie Harverson - Arb. Expert [BH] + Site Construction Manager	A joint site inspection was conducted and agreement reached that the Protective Fencing and Ground Protection measures were 'Fit For Purpose' and in the correct locations.	
tbc	Site Monitoring Visit	Bernie Harverson - Arb. Expert [BH] + Site Construction Manager	Attended site to monitor the 'Hand Digging' of a slit trench beside Hedge 1	

8.0 CONCLUSIONS

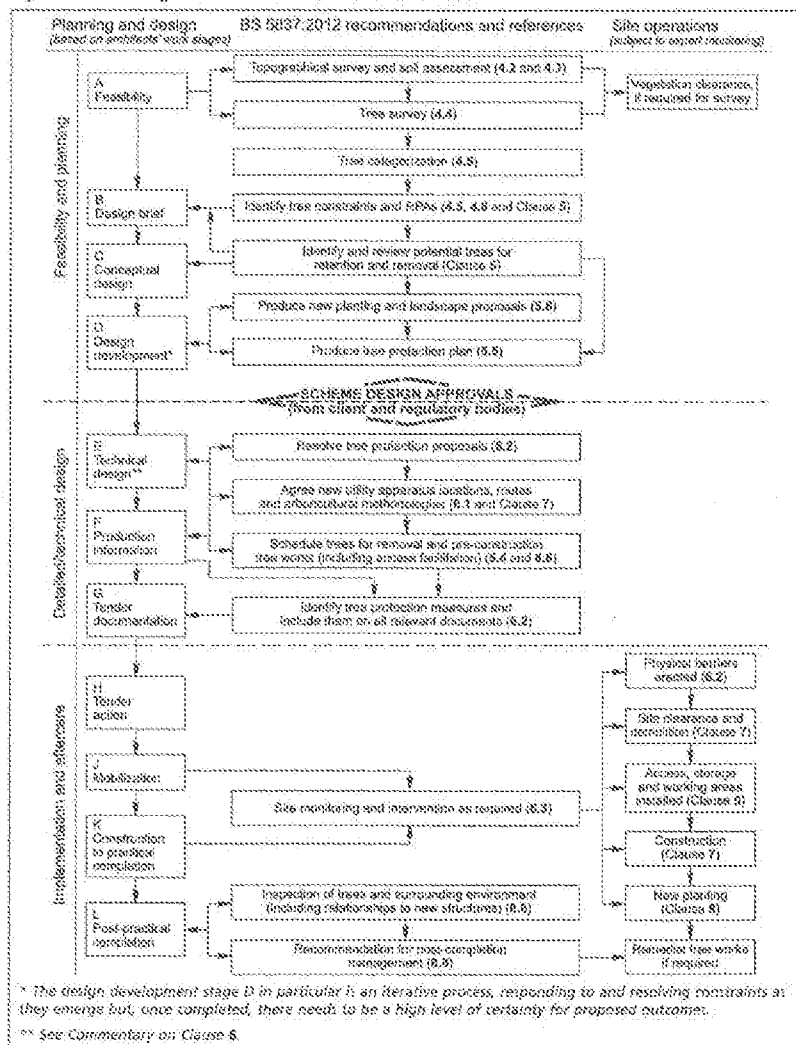
- There will be no tree loss required at this location in order to facilitate the re-development proposals.
- All retained on and off site trees can be adequately fenced off and protected in accordance with the Tree Protection Plan.
- In the case of the hedge some mitigation work at the outset would help prevent root damage and allow it to develop to its full potential in the future.
- Provided that all development works are undertaken in strict accordance with this report and its associated plans I can see no reason why the retained trees on this site would suffer any ill effects to the detriment of their ongoing health and vitality.



BH 1

Figure 1 - Flow Diagram
& Tree Survey Notes

Figure 1 The design and construction process and tree care



TREE SURVEY NOTES

These Tree Survey Notes have been prepared in accordance with the recommendations of **British Standard 5837:2012** and they define the criteria for pre –development tree surveys.

- Each tree/group/hedge/shelterbelt/woodland has been allocated a unique number (**No.**), where specifically requested and appropriate fees are agreed small durable numbered metal tags can be applied to each tree/group surveyed.
- The tree species (**Species**) is provided in both English and Latin name formats.
- Height assessments (**Ht**) are estimated in metres. This will be adequate for the majority of cases, but where accurate heights become a critical issue it may be necessary to return to site, as a separately commissioned exercise, to collect accurate measurements with the aid of optical instruments.
- Trunk/stem diameters (**Diam**) are measured in millimetres at 1.5m above ground level – where the tree is inaccessible the diameter is estimated as indicated by suffix #
- Radial crown spread assessments (**Brch Sprd**) are estimated in metres from the centre of the trunk/group to each of the four primary points of the compass (**N-north; E-east; S-south and W-west**) in order to achieve a representation of the crown shape which will be shown on the accompanying tree survey plan. These provide a general guide as to the main bulk outline of a tree/groups crown but are not tape measured dimensions. These would only be undertaken as part of a separately commissioned exercise, where precise dimensions are critical to the project at hand.
- Both the canopy ground clearance (**GC**) and the height & compass direction of the lowest major branch (**LMB**) are estimated and shown in metres
- An assessment of a tree/groups ‘life stage’ (**LS**) is made in terms of its site specific maturity as part of the surrounding landscape, taking into account its overall shape and form in that setting, and is recorded thus :-
Y - Young tree/group; **SM** - Semi-Mature tree/group; **EM** - Early-Mature tree/group;
M – Mature tree/group; **OM** - Over – mature tree/group
- Data on the structural condition (**Condition Comments**) of the tree/group is provided to give its visual appearance and any significant health and safety issues.
- Details of any recommended tree works required at the time of survey is given under the heading – **Preliminary Management Recommendations**.
- An estimate of a tree/groups remaining contribution in years (**RC**) is made and is recorded thus :-
0-5; 5-10; 10-20; 20-30; 30-40 or >40 years.
- The category grading (**Cat**) for each tree/group is assessed according to the criteria provided within **BS5837:2012**. The assessment is made of the tree/group in its current condition and within the environment encountered bearing in mind its suitability for retention as part of any future proposed

development; although the exact layout detail of any specific scheme will not be known at the time of surveying. The trees have been classified into one of four categories and colour coded as BS5837 recommends :- (dark red); (light green); (mid-blue) and (grey). Please note that suffixed numerical sub-categories are also applied for guidance only and do not carry any cumulative or increased value for the tree/group. This colour coding scheme will be applied to all drawings provided.

Table 1 – Cascade chart for tree quality assessment

Category and definition	Criteria			Colour on plan
Trees unsuitable for retention				
Category  Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years.	- Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (i.e. where, for whatever reason the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) - Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant, immediate, and irreversible overall decline - Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality NOTE Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve.			Dark Red
Trees to be considered for retention				
	Criteria – Subcategories			
	1	2	3	
Category  Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or those that are essential components of groups or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. the dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands of particular visual importance as arboricultural and /or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. veteran trees or wood-pasture)	Light Green
Category  Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in the category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually growing as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating than they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	Mid Blue
Category  Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present in groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefits	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	Grey



BH 2

Tree Survey & Constraints Plan

BJH 01/02



BH 3

Tree Retention & Protection Plan

BJH 03/04

+ BS5837 Figure 2 & Figure 3

Figure 2 Default specification for protective barrier

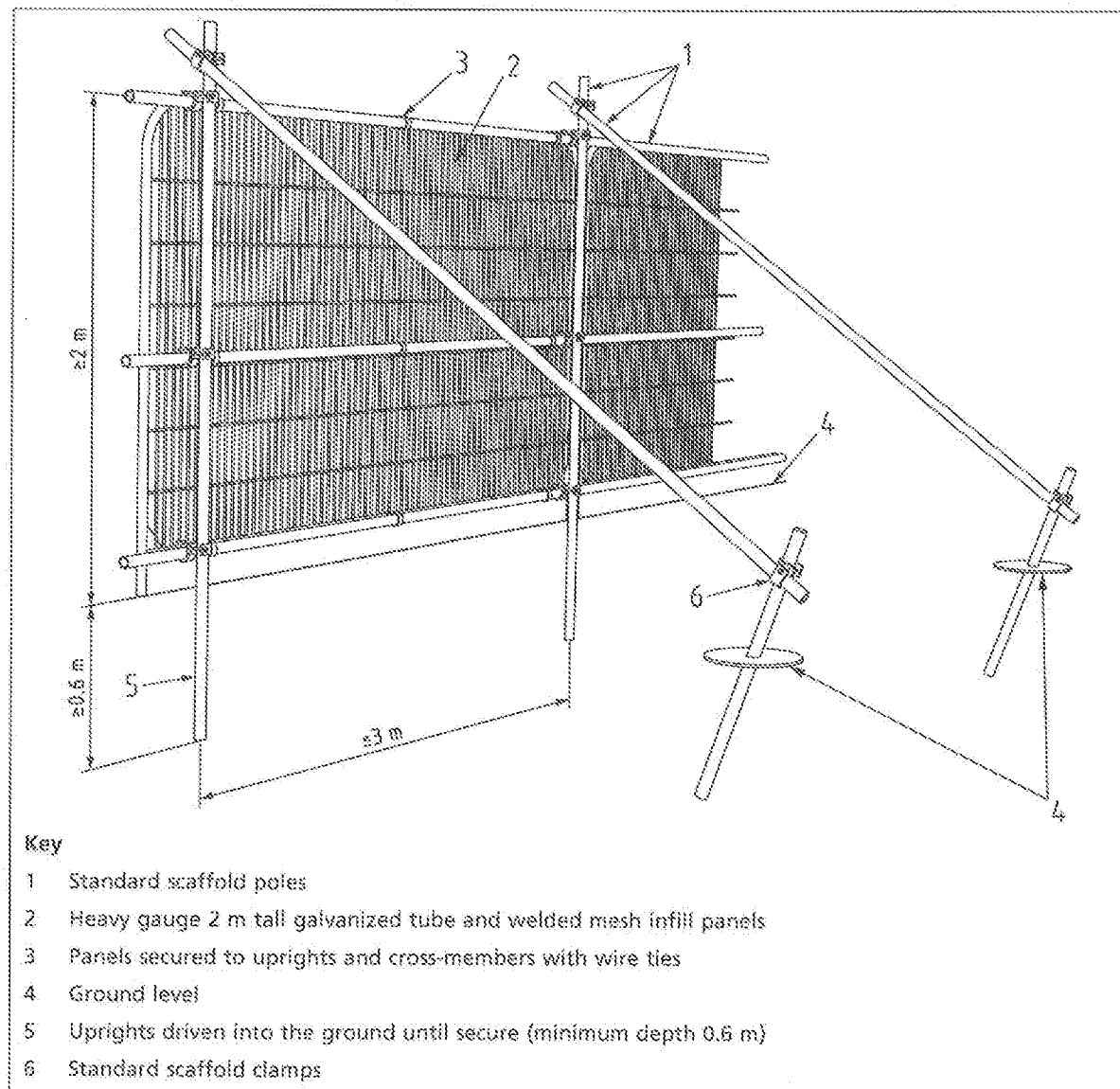
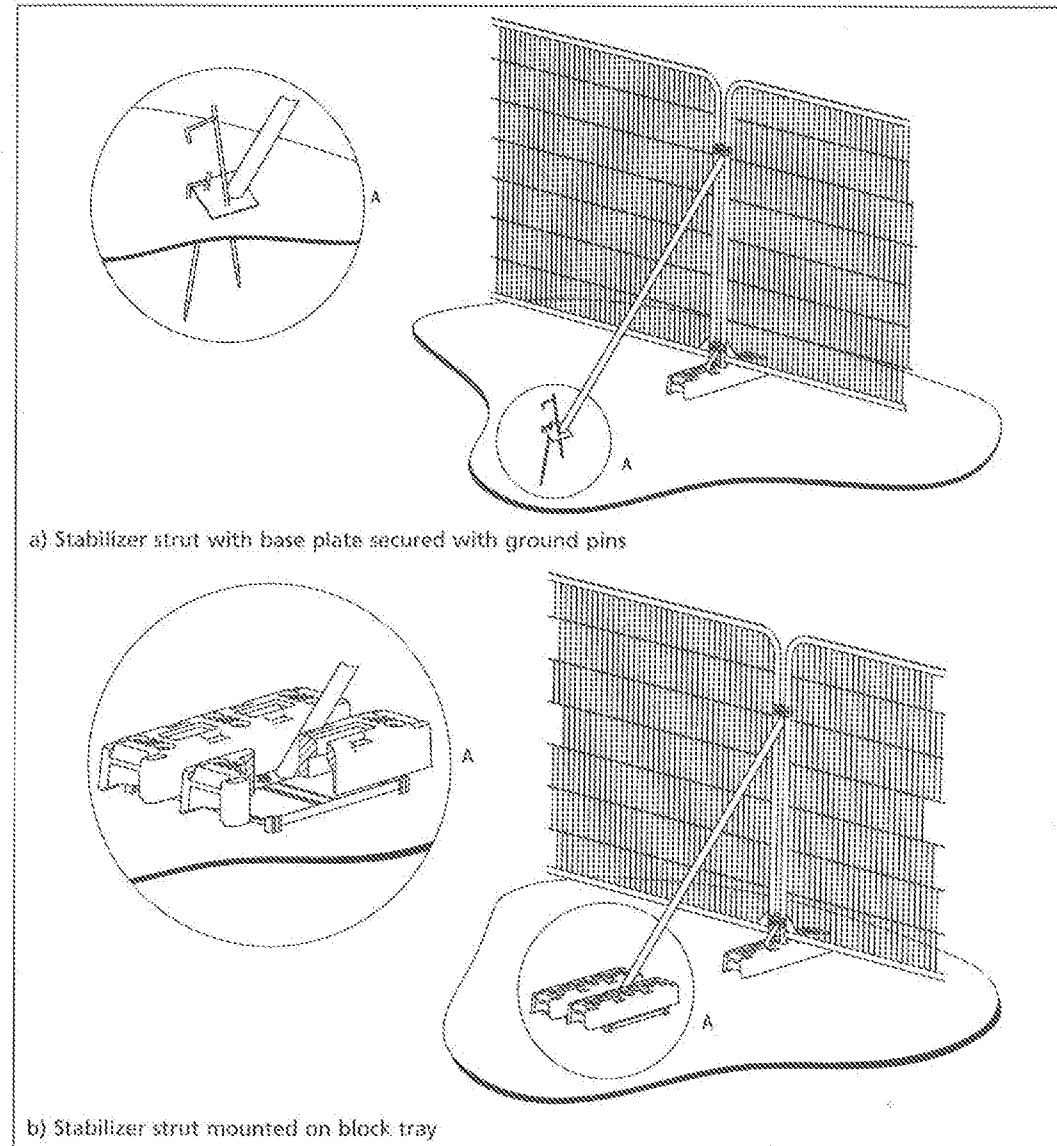


Figure 3 Examples of above-ground stabilizing systems



a) Stabilizer strut with base plate secured with ground pins

b) Stabilizer strut mounted on block tray



BH 4

Qualifications & Experience



QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- My name is Bernie Harverson and I am a self employed independent arboricultural consultant in private practice. I take instructions primarily in the South of England but also on occasions work nationwide and abroad and have an office at : –
3 Foxcombe Cottages, South Harting, West Sussex GU31 5PL
- I hold the following arboricultural qualification – **National Diploma in Arboriculture** (Royal Forestry Society – 1976)
- I have **forty seven** years of practical and managerial experience in the arboricultural industry including periods in both the public and private sectors.
- My Local Government sector experience comprises one year as a tree surgeon with Brighton Parks and nine years spent in Arboricultural Officer posts with both Westminster City Council and Portsmouth City Council
- My past practical experience in the private sector includes two years at Tilhill Forest Nursery and over ten years for various companies as a Climbing Arborist/Tree Surgeon.
- Managerial work in the private sector includes two years as manager of Beechings Tree Surgeons and twelve years with the CBA Tree Consultancy Practice as Managing Director and Senior Arboricultural Consultant.
- As an independent self employed Arboricultural Consultant [since 2005] I now provide a comprehensive range of services including :-
tree surveys, appraisals, assessments and inspections with particular reference to planning and development and tree safety audits with a service offered as a climber to undertake full climbing inspections to better understand the condition of a given tree before prescribing a management strategy.
- I also undertake litigation work appearing as an Expert Witness in Court Actions and at Planning Appeals, Hearings and Local Inquiries.

3 Foxcombe Cottages - South Harting - West Sussex GU31 5PL

