#### Prepared for Charter Hall Site Address: 600 Woodstock Avenue Rooty Hill 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021

Date	Revision	Stage

Member of Arboriculture Australia, Registered Consulting Arborist No. 1286 Member of International Society of Arboriculture No. 157768 Bachelor of Horticultural Science, University Sydney. AQF Level 2, 3 & 5 Diploma in Arboriculture Graduate Certificate AQF Level 8 University Melbourne Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)

#### Statement

Bradshaw Consulting Arborists is a company that exclusively provides tree consultancy within the tree industry. There is no conflict of interest concerning the recommendations outlined in this report.

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# Contents

1	In	stroduction3
	1.1	Plans used in this assessment3
	1.2	The Site
	1.3	Method4
2	В	ody Observations Results
3	D	iscussion12
4	Re	ecommendations13
5	Pı	roject Arborist Monitoring Stages13
6	Re	eferences14
7	A	ppendix A15
8	A	ppendix B Tree locations, sheet 1 Tree Protection Plan16
	8.1	Sheet 2
	8.2	Sheet 3
	8.3	Sheet 4
9	A	ppendix C Methodology for Determining Tree Retention Value20
	9.1	Appendix D Table 2 Step 1 Landscape Significance Rating
	9.2	Appendix E Table 3 Estimating Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) Step 222
	9.3	Appendix F Table 4 Determining Tree Retention Values23
1(	0	Appendix G Tree Protection specifications
	10.1	Installation of underground services
1	1	Qualifications and Experience27

Figure 1 Site location (Google Maps 2021)	3
Figure 2 Drawing taken from AS 4970-2009	24
Figure 3 Trunk Protection	25
Figure 4 Trunk and branch Protection (AS 4970-2009)	25

## **1** Introduction

This report has been prepared by Tristan Bradshaw of Bradshaw Consulting Arborists for Charter Hall at the property 600 Woodstock Avenue Rooty Hill. The report request was to inspect Forty three trees throughout the property and surrounding properties.

The trees' characteristics have been listed in Table 1 page 6. The aim is to determine the health and condition of the trees and the impact of the proposed development. The inspection of the site was undertaken on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021

The report was completed on 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

See appendix B Section 8 for tree locations and tree protection plan.

The site's trees are managed under Blacktown City Councils Urban Tree Management Policy.

The property is not bushfire prone and not within the RFS 10/50 vegetation entitlement clearing area.

No trees are listed on council's significant tree register.

The property is not mapped as having Terrestrial Biodiversity.

### 1.1 Plans used in this assessment

Consultant	Company	Date	Revision
Survey	Boxall	16/7/2021	
Architectural	Nettletontribe	6/12/2021	-

Stormwater and Landscape plans are yet to be assessed

## 1.2 The Site

The site is composed of an existing warehouse and pockets of vegetation.



Figure 1 Site location (Google Maps 2021)

## 1.3 Method

The inspection of the site was undertaken on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

The inspection method used was the Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) method (Mattheck & Breloer 2010). This method involves inspecting the trees from ground level, using binoculars to aid in identification of any external's signs of decay, physical damage, growth related structural defects and the site conditions where the tree is growing. This method will ascertain whether there is need for a more detailed inspection of any part of the tree. No aerial or subterranean inspections were carried out. See appendix A for the complete flow chart.

The Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) was estimated. The height of the measurement was at 140 cm above the ground.

The height of the tree was estimated.

The canopy spread of the tree was estimated.

**Health:** Based on vigour, callus development, % of deadwood, dieback, fruiting levels, internode lengths

- (E) Excellent
- (G) Good
- (F) Fair
- (P) Poor
- (D) Dead

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

**Condition:** Based on the structural integrity of the tree, cavities, fungal decay, branch failure, branch taper, sap or Kino exudate, fruiting bodies, root condition.

(E) Excellent

(G) Good

- (F) Fair
- (P) Poor
- (D) Dead

Landscape Significance and Retention Value see sections 6.2 and 6.3.

#### Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE)

In a planning context, the time a tree can expect to be usefully retained is the most important longterm consideration. SULE is a system designed to classify trees into a number of defined categories so that information regarding tree retention can be concisely communicated in a non-technical manner. SULE categories are easily verifiable by experienced personnel without great disparity.

A tree's SULE category is the life expectancy of the tree modified by its age, health, condition, safety and location (to give safe life expectancy), then by economics (i.e. cost of maintenance; retaining trees at an excessive management cost is not normally acceptable), effects on better trees, and sustained amenity (i.e. establishing range of age classes in a local population).

SULE assessments are not static but may be modified as dictated by changes in tree health and environment. Trees with short SULE may at present be making a contribution to the landscape but their value to the local community will decrease rapidly towards the end of this period, prior to their being removed for safety or aesthetic reasons. For details of SULE categories see Appendix A, adapted from Barrell (1993 and 1996).

#### Visual Habitat

This assessment is based on a visual observation of the tree, included in the VTA method.

Habitat trees are trees that provide microhabitats, these can include hollows, deeply fissured bark, cracks, epiphytes or forms of decay (Bütler, R., Lachat, T., Larrieu, L., & Paillet, Y., 2013).

**Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)** – A specified area above and below ground and at a given distance from the trunk, set aside for the protection of a tree's roots and crown to provide for the viability and stability of a tree that is to be retained where it is potentially subject to damage by development.

**Structural Root Zone (SRZ)** - The area around the base of a tree required for the tree's stability in the ground. The woody root growth and soil cohesion in this area are necessary to hold the tree upright. The SRZ is nominally circular with the trunk at its centre and is expressed by its radius in metres. This zone considers a tree's structural stability only, not the root zone required for a tree's vigour and long-term viability, which will usually be a much larger area.

## 2 Body Observations Results

 Table 1 Individual tree characteristics

Tree Number	Botanical Name	DBH (mm)	DAB (mm)	Canopy N	Canopy S	Canopy E	Canopy W	Height	Health	Age	Condition/ Structure	SULE	Visual Habitat	Landscape significance	Retention Value	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)	Percentage TPZ Incursion	Retain or Remove notes
1	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	600	600	4	4	4	4	13	G	М	G	>40	No	High	High	2.7	7.2	0%	Retain
2	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	320	320	4	4	4	4	13	G	Μ	G	>40	No	High	High	2.1	3.8	0%	Retain
3	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	366	370	3	3	3	3	10	G	М	G	>40	No	High	High	2.2	4.4	0%	Retain
4	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	430	430	4	4	4	4	13	G	М	G	>40	No	High	High	2.3	5.2	0%	Retain
5	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	350	360	4	4	4	4	12	G	М	G	>40	No	High	High	2.2	4.2	0%	Retain
6	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	600	600	5	5	5	5	13	Р	O M	Р	<5	No	Low	Very Low	2.7	7.2	0%	Significant dieback, epicormics. Remove
7	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	50	50	1	1	1	1	7	G	S M	G	>40	No	High	High	0.9	0.6	100%	Remove

Tree Number	Botanical Name	DBH (mm)	DAB (mm)	Canopy N	Canopy S	Canopy E	Canopy W	Height	Health	Age	Condition/ Structure	SULE	Visual Habitat	Landscape significance	Retention Value	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)	Percentage TPZ Incursion	Retain or Remove notes
8	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	80	100	1	1	1	1	6	G	S M	G	>40	No	High	High	1.3	1.0	100%	Remove
9	Eucalyptus sideroxylon (Red Ironbark)	100	100	1	1	1	1	6	G	S M	G	>40	No	High	High	1.3	1.2	100%	Remove
10	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	400	400	4	4	4	4	12	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.3	4.8	100%	Remove
11	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	240	240	2	2	2	2	9	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	1.8	2.9	100%	Remove
12	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	220	220	3	2	3	1	9	G	М	F	5-15	No	Moderate	Low	1.8	2.6	100%	Remove
13	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	280	310	3	3	3	3	9	G	М	G	>40	No	Very High	High	2.0	3.4	100%	Remove
14	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	310	330	4	4	4	4	14	E	М	G	>40	No	Very High	High	2.1	3.7	100%	Remove
15	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	430	430	4	4	4	4	14	E	М	G	>40	No	Very High	High	2.3	5.2	100%	Remove

Tree Number	Botanical Name	DBH (mm)	DAB (mm)	Canopy N	Canopy S	Canopy E	Canopy W	Height	Health	Age	Condition/ Structure	SULE	Visual Habitat	Landscape significance	Retention Value	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)	Percentage TPZ Incursion	Retain or Remove notes
16	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	330	340	4	4	4	4	14	E	М	G	>40	No	Very High	High	2.1	4.0	100%	Remove
17	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	296	380	4	4	4	4	14	E	М	G	>40	No	Very High	High	2.2	3.6	100%	Remove
18	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	340	340	4	4	4	4	14	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.1	4.1	100%	Remove
19	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	400	400	4	4	4	4	16	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.3	4.8	100%	Remove
20	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	210	210	2	2	2	2	8	E	S M	E	>40	No	Very High	High	1.7	2.5	100%	Remove
21	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	220	220	3	3	3	3	8	E	S M	E	>40	No	Very High	High	1.8	2.6	100%	Remove
22	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	300	300	4	4	4	4	16	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.0	3.6	100%	Remove
23	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	380	380	5	4	4	4	16	E	Μ	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.2	4.6	100%	Remove

Tree Number	Botanical Name	DBH (mm)	DAB (mm)	Canopy N	Canopy S	Canopy E	Canopy W	Height	Health	Age	Condition/ Structure	SULE	Visual Habitat	Landscape significance	Retention Value	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)	Percentage TPZ Incursion	Retain or Remove notes
24	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	380	380	5	4	4	4	16	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.2	4.6	100%	Remove
25	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	240	240	3	3	0	3	9	E	М	G	>40	No	Very High	High	1.8	2.9	100%	Remove
26	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	270	270	3	3	0	3	9	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	1.9	3.2	100%	Remove
27	Eucalyptus sp	200	200	1	1	1	1	3	Ρ	S M	Р	<5	No	Moderate	Very Low	1.7	2.4	0%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
28	Waterhousia floribunda (Weeping Lillypilly)	80	80	1	1	1	1	3	F	S M	G	5-15	No	Moderate	Low	1.1	1.0	0%	Remove
29	Waterhousia floribunda (Weeping Lillypilly)	60	60	1	1	1	1	2	F	S M	G	5-15	No	Moderate	Low	1.0	0.7	0%	Remove
30	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	220	220	2	2	2	2	5	G	М	Р	<5	No	Very High	Very Low	1.8	2.6	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
31	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	220	220	2	2	2	2	5	G	М	Р	<5	No	Very High	Very Low	1.8	2.6	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove

Tree Number	Botanical Name	DBH (mm)	DAB (mm)	Canopy N	Canopy S	Canopy E	Canopy W	Height	Health	Age	Condition/ Structure	SULE	Visual Habitat	Landscape significance	Retention Value	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)	Percentage TPZ Incursion	Retain or Remove notes
32	Eucalyptus sp	180	220	2	2	2	2	4	G	М	Р	<5	No	Moderate	Very Low	1.8	2.2	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
33	Eucalyptus sp	200	220	2	2	2	2	3	G	М	Р	<5	No	Moderate	Very Low	1.8	2.4	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
34	Eucalyptus sp	180	200	2	2	2	2	4	G	М	Р	<5	No	Moderate	Very Low	1.7	2.2	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
35	Eucalyptus sp	250	250	3	1	2	5	6	G	М	Р	<5	No	Moderate	Very Low	1.8	3.0	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
36	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> (Forest Red Gum)	360	370	3	3	3	3	14	G	М	Р	5-15	No	Very High	Moderate	2.2	4.3	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
37	<i>Eucalyptus tereticornis</i> (Forest Red Gum)	400	400	4	4	4	4	14	G	М	Р	5-15	No	Very High	Moderate	2.3	4.8	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
38	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	320	330	2	2	2	2	8	G	М	Р	5-15	No	Very High	Moderate	2.1	3.8	100%	Lopped for powerlines. Remove
39	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	450	470	4	4	4	4	16	E	М	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.3	4.8	100%	Remove

Tree Number	Botanical Name	(ww) H8O	DAB (mm)	Canopy N	Canopy S	Canopy E	Canopy W	Height	Health	əgA	Condition/ Structure	SULE	Visual Habitat	Landscape significance	Retention Value	Structural Root Zone (SRZ)	Tree Protection Zone (TPZ)	Percentage TPZ Incursion	Retain or Remove notes
40	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	390	450	4	4	4	4	11	E	Μ	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.3	4.4	100%	Remove
41	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	250	260	2	2	2	2	6	F	Μ	G	15-40	No	Very High	High	1.7	2.4	100%	Remove
42	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	490	530	4	4	4	4	13	E	Μ	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.3	4.7	100%	Remove
43	Eucalyptus moluccana (Grey Box)	360	380	4	4	4	4	13	E	Μ	E	>40	No	Very High	High	2.1	4.0	100%	Remove

## **3** Discussion

Forty three trees have been included in this assessment.

Trees 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 27, 28 and 29 are located within the road reserve.

Trees 7-25, 30-42 are located within the property.

#### Trees 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 27, 28 and 29

Trees 1-5 are in good health and will be retained and protected.

Tree 6 is in poor health with extensive dieback. One trunk of the tree has completely died, and the remaining trunks have extensive epicormic growth at the base of the tree with dieback. It is recommended this tree is removed and replaced.

Tree 27 is an unsuitable species for its location. To provide clearance for the high voltage power lines above this tree, it is continually lopped to approximately 3 metres in height. A more suitable species is possibly *Callistemon viminalis* that is considered a small tree.

Trees 28 and 29, while in good health, have a thinning canopy and a stunted shape. It is likely this species is not suitable due to its higher water requirements and has significantly restricted growth.

It is recommended trees 27, 28 and 29 are removed and new planting of the avenue be undertaken with trees of small stature.

#### Trees 7-25, 30-42

Trees 7, 8 and 9 are recently planted and although outside the proposed building footprint will possibly be impacted by the proposal. It is proposed these young saplings are removed and replaced as per the proposed landscape plan.

Trees 10-29 are all negatively impacted by the development. It is proposed these trees are removed and replaced with a perimeter of tree planting around the property. The overall canopy coverage will increase compared to the existing canopy coverage.

Trees 30-38 are all Eucalyptus trees that have mature heights of over 20 metres. Due to the high voltage powerlines these trees are continually lopped and have a very poor structure. The pruning to clear the powerlines has forced the growth of trees 35, 36 and 37 over the existing warehouse and caused an unbalanced tree structure.

All trees 30-38 are unsuitable species for their location due to the pruning requirement. These trees will never be structurally sound with balanced canopies. It is recommended these trees are removed and replaced. The proposed landscape plan lists canopy trees to 10 metres. Along this boundary it is suggested canopy trees with a maximum height of 6-7 metres to avoid extensive lopping.

It is proposed trees 39-42 are removed to allow the construction of a carpark. It may be possible to use a permeable pavement allowing the retention of some of these trees.

Trees are located along the boundary in the property 604 Woodstock Avenue Rooty Hill. These trees have not been included in the survey. It is expected that there will be little effects to these trees as an existing driveway occurs down the boundary and this is proposed to be replaced with a new driveway. Final levels will be slightly higher than the existing.

## 4 Recommendations

- 1. Removal of trees 6-42.
- 2. Retain trees 1-5.
- 3. Tree removal should be conducted by an Arborist with a minimum (Australian Qualification Framework) AQF level 3.
- 4. Work must be undertaken as per the Code of Practice Amenity Tree Industry 1998.
- 5. The tree removal process and staff should be skilled and undertake the removal of the tree as per the minimum industry standards.
- 6. Appoint project arborist. Minimum AQF Level 5 with 5 years' experience.
- All trees must be retained and protected in accordance with Australian Standard 4970-2009. A tree protection plan has been provided as a guide in section 8. Tree protection fencing and trunk protection is required. See Section 10 Appendix G for generic specifications for these tree protection measures.
- 8. Services such as electrical/stormwater/sewer/telecommunications have not been assessed at this stage. All services should be routed outside of the TPZ as indicated in Table 1, if this is unavoidable, we must be notified to re-assess this proposed development.

## 5 Project Arborist Monitoring Stages

The list of monitoring stages are imperative to the long term health of those trees to be retained. The principal contractor (Site Builder) should be informed of these requirements as they often form the basis of the conditions of consent for the project. The stages set out below are a minimum requirement to aid in ensuring the long-term health of any tree recommended for retention on the site.

Stage	Type of Monitoring	What is required
1	Ensure tree protection has	Tree Protection Certification
	been installed as per tree	
	protection plan section 7.1	
2	Final certification summarises	Final certificate supplied for
	the attendance to the site and	occupation certificate
	reason for attendance.	
	Comment on the likely long-	
	term health of the retained	
	trees. Provide any ongoing	
	recommendations.	

## **6** References

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## 8 Appendix B Tree locations, sheet 1 Tree Protection Plan

Requirement	Total	Tree Number	Legend
Trees Removed	38	6-43	Red
Trees Retained	5	1-5	Green
Trunk Protection	5	1-5	
Tree protection fencing	5	1-5	

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## 9 Appendix C Methodology for Determining Tree Retention Value

The aim of this process is to determine the relative value of each tree for retention (i.e. its Retention Value) in the context of development. This methodology assists in the decision-making process by using a systematic approach. The key objective of process is to ensure the retention of good quality trees that make a positive contribution to these values and ensure that adequate space is provided for their long term preservation. The Retention Value of a tree is a balance between its sustainability in the setting in which it is located (the 'landscape') and its significance within that setting (landscape significance).

#### Step 1: Determining the Landscape Significance Rating

The 'landscape significance' of a tree is a measure of its contribution to amenity, heritage, and ecological values. While these values are fairly subjective and difficult to assess consistently, some measure is necessary to assist in determining the Retention Value of each tree. To ensure in a consistent approach, the assessment criterion shown in Table 2 should be used. A Tree may be considered 'significant' for one or more reasons. A tree may meet one or more of the criteria in any value category (heritage, ecology or amenity) shown in Table 2 to achieve the specified rating. For example, a tree may be considered 'significant' and given a rating of 1, even if it is only significant based on the amenity criteria.

Based in the criterion in this table, each tree should be assigned a landscape significance rating as follows:

- 1. Significant
- 2. Very High
- 3. High
- 4. Moderate
- 5. Low
- 6. Very Low
- 7. Insignificant

#### Step 2: Determining Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE)

The sustainability of a tree in the landscape is a measure of its remaining lifespan in consideration of its current health, condition and suitability to the locality and site conditions. The assessment of the remaining lifespan of a tree is a fairly objective assessment when carried out by a qualified Consulting Arborist. Once a visual assessment of each tree is completed (using the Visual Tree Assessment criteria), the arborist can make an informed judgement about the quality and remaining lifespan of each tree. The Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) methodology (refer to Table 3) can be used to categorise trees as follows:

- Long (Greater than 40 years)
- Medium (Between 15 and 40 years)
- Short (Between 5 and 15 years)
- Transient (less than 5 years)
- Dead or Hazardous (no remaining SULE)

The SULE of a tree is calculated based on an estimate of the average lifespan of the species in an urban area, less its estimated current age and then further modified where necessary in consideration of its current health, condition (structural integrity) and suitability to the site.

## 9.1 Appendix D Table 2 Step 1 Landscape Significance Rating

RATINGS	HERITAGE VALUE	ECOLOGICAL VALUE	AMENITY VALUE	
1. SIGNIFICANT	The subject tree is listed as a Heritage item under the Local Environment Plan (LEP) with a local, state, or national level of significance or is listed on Council's Significant Tree Register.	The subject tree is scheduled as a Threatened Species as defined under the Threatened Species Conversation Act 1995 (NSW) or the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.	The subject tree has a very large live crown size exceeding 100m2 with normal to dense foliage cover, is located in a visually prominent position in the landscape, exhibits very good form and habit typical of the species.	
	The subject tree forms part of the curtilage of a Heritage Item (building/structure/artefact as defined under the LEP) and has a known or documented association with that item.	The tree is a locally indigenous species, representative of the original vegetation of the area and is known as an important food, shelter or nesting tree for endangered or threatened fauna species.	The Subject tree makes a significant contribution to the amenity and visual character of the area by creating a sense of place or creating a sense of identity.	
	The subject tree is a Commemorative Planting having been planted by an important historical person (s) or to commemorate an important historical event.	The subject tree is a Remnant Tree, being a tree in existence prior to development of the area.	The tree is visually prominent in view form surrounding areas, being a landmark or visible from a considerable distance.	
2. VERY HIGH	The tree has a strong historical association with a heritage item (building/structure/artefact/garden etc) within or adjacent the property and/or exemplifies a particular era or style of landscape design associated with the original development of the site.	The tree is a locally indigenous species representative of the original vegetation of the area and is a dominant or associated canopy species of an Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) formerly occurring in the area occupied by the site.	The subject tree has a very large live crown size exceeding 60m2, a crown density exceeding 70% (normal-dense), is a very good representative of the species in terms of its form and branching habit or is aesthetically distinctive and makes a positive contribution to the visual character and the amenity of the area.	
3. HIGH	The tree has a suspected historical association with a heritage item or landscape supported by anecdotal or visual evidence.	The tree is a locally indigenous and representative of the original vegetation of the area and the tree is located within a defined vegetation link/wildlife corridor or has known wildlife habitat value.	The tree is a good representative of the species in terms of its form and branching habit with minor deviations from normal (e.g. crown distortion/suppression) with a crown density of at least 70% (normal); The subject tree is visible form the street and/or surrounding properties and makes a positive contribution to the visual character and the amenity of the area.	
4. MODERATE	The tree has no known or suspected historical association but does not detract or diminish the value the value of the item and is sympathetic to the original era of planting.	The subject tree is a non-local native or exotic species that is protected under the provisions of the DCP.	The subject tree has a medium live crown size exceeding $25m^2$ ; The tree is a fair representative of the species, exhibiting moderate deviations from typical form (distortion/suppression etc) with a crown density of more than 50% (thinning to normal). The tree is visible from surrounding properties but is not visually prominent- view may be partially obscured by other vegetation or built forms. The tree makes a fair contribution to the visual character and amenity of the area.	
5. LOW	The subject tree detracts from heritage values and diminishes the value of the heritage item.	The subject tree is scheduled as exempt (not protected) under the provisions of this DCP due to its species, nuisance or position relative to buildings or other structures.	The subject tree has a small live crown of less than 25m <sup>2</sup> and can be replaced within the short term (5-10 years) with new tree planting.	
6. VERY LOW	The subject tree is causing significant damage to a heritage item.	The subject tree is listed as an Environment Weed Species in the Local Government Area, being invasive, or is a nuisance species.	The subject tree is not visible from surrounding properties (visibility obscured) and makes a negligible contribution or has a negative impact on the amenity and visual character of the area. The tree is a poor representative of the species, showing significant deviations from the typical form and branching habit with a crown density of less than 50%.	

## 9.2 Appendix E Table 3 Estimating Safe Useful Life Expectancy (SULE) Step 2

1 Estimate the age of the tree					
2 Establish the average life span of the species					
3 Determine whether the average life span needs to be modified due to local environmental situation					
A Estimate remaining life expectancy					
Life Expectancy	=	average modified life span of species - age of tree			
5 Consider how health may affect safety (& longevity)					
6 Consider how tree structure may affect safety					
Consider how location will affect safety					
8 Determine safe life expectancy					
Safe Life Expectancy	=	life expectancy modified by health, structure and location			
Consider economics of management (cost vs benefit of retention)					
10 Consider adverse impacts on better trees					
11         Consider sustaining amenity - making space for new trees					
12 Determine SULE					
Safe Useful Life Expectancy	=	safe life expectancy modified by economics, effects on better trees and sustaining amenity			

Ref. Barrell, Jeremy (1996) Pre-development Tree Assessment Proceedings of the International Conference on Trees and Building Sites (Chicago) International Society of arboriculture, Illinois, USA

## 9.3 Appendix F Table 4 Determining Tree Retention Values

The Retention Value of a tree is increased or diminished based on its sustainability in the landscape, which is expressed as its SULE. A tree that has a high Landscape Significance Rating, but low remaining SULE, has a diminished value for retention and therefore has an appropriate Retention Value assigned. Conversely a tree with a low Landscape Significance Rating even with a long remaining SULE, is also considered of low Retention Value. This logic is reflected in the matrix shown in Table 1.

Once the landscape Significance Rating and SULE category have been determined, the following matrix can be used to determine a relative value (or priority) for retention:



## TABLE 1 – DETERMINING TREE RETENTION VALUES

## **10 Appendix G Tree Protection specifications**

Tree Protection Fencing (See Figure 2 below)

Tree protection is to be carried out on all trees to be retained on site.

All fencing should be at the perimeter of the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ).

The TPZ must be enclosed with a fully supporting chainmesh protective fencing. The fencing shall be secure and fastened to prevent movement. The fencing shall have a lockable opening for access. Roots greater than 30mm diameter are not to be damaged/severed during the construction of the fence. See Figure 2 Drawing taken from AS 4970-2009below.

The enclosed area must be free of weeds and grass, the application of a 75mm layer of leaf mulch to the tree protection zone (TPZ) must be maintained for the duration of works.

Two signs on either side of the fencing are to be erected showing the name and contact details of the site Arborist and the words NO ENTRY clearly written.

No work is to be undertaken within this Tree Protection Zone; this includes:

-No removal or pruning of trees

-No construction, stockpiling or storage of chemicals, soil, and cement. Or the movement of machinery, parking and personnel is to occur within the TPZ.

-No refuelling, dumping of waste, placement of fill or Soil level changes.

-No lighting of fires or physical damage to protected trees.

-No temporary or permanent installation of utilities or signs.

-No service trenches should pass through the TPZ, unless approved and supervised by the project arborist.

#### Example of tree protection fencing



Figure 2 Drawing taken from AS 4970-2009



Figure 4 Trunk and branch Protection (AS 4970-2009)



**Figure 3 Trunk Protection** 

## Trunk/Branch Protection

Hessian or similar material is used as a wrap around the trunk/branch to a height of 2.6 metres from the base of the tree. Covering the hessian are timbers 100x50x2500mm These are to be spaced around the trunk with gaps of approximately 100mm. The timbers are to be secured with metal strapping. These materials are not to be directly fastened to the tree. See Figure 3 and 4 above.

## **Ground protection**

This is used to protect the Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) from soil compaction. Soil compaction reduces the available pore spaces within the soil, this reduces water holding capacity, oxygen and carbon dioxide diffusion. It can cause water to runoff the soil surface reducing infiltration. Over time the root system in a soil that is compacted (High Bulk Density) reduces in size. As the root system of a tree declines so does its canopy. When soil compaction is severe the entire tree can die.

Where scaffolding, foot traffic or wheelbarrow access is required. The soil surface should be covered by Geotextile fabric followed by plywood sheets 1.2 x 2.4 metres x 18mm thick and then covered by 100mm of mulch to provide a trafficable surface. Driveways or areas that will have heavy vehicles over the soil surface should have geotextile fabric, 100mm of mulch or gravel followed by sleepers 100x 200 x 3000mm. The sleepers are spaced 150mm apart and the gaps filled with gravel or mulch. The sleepers are then strapped together with hoop pine to prevent movement.

## **10.1 Installation of underground services**

All underground services must be routed outside the TPZ of any protected tree. The project arborist must be consulted (or council if required in DA conditions) if works pass through the TPZ of any tree. Methods such as thrust boring/directional drilling or hand excavation, during supervision by the project arborist are methods that reduce impact to surrounding trees. These are acceptable methods under AS 4970-2009.

## **11 Qualifications and Experience**

#### TRISTAN BRADSHAW

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#### **Professional Memberships**

Member of the International Society of Arboriculture. No: 157768

Member of Arboriculture Australia No. 1286

#### Qualifications

2016-2018 Graduate Certificate in Arboriculture AQF8 at Melbourne University.

2015 Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ)

2013-2014 Diploma of Arboriculture AQF5 at Ryde TAFE. Distinction

2012 Certificate III in Arboriculture at Ryde TAFE

2011 Certificate IV in Occupational Health and Safety

2010 Aboriginal Sites Awareness Course by Aboriginal Heritage Office

1996-1999 Bachelor of Horticultural Science at University of Sydney. Honours+

Tristan Bradshaw has been involved in the Horticultural and Arboricultural Industry since 1995. The business Bradshaw Horticultural Services was formed and incorporated Horticultural consulting work and landscaping. In 2000 Tristan undertook the Level 2 Arboriculture course at Ryde TAFE. The business progressively specialised in consulting, tree removal, pruning and stump grinding works. Extensive hands-on knowledge was developed during the climbing of trees undertaking pruning or removal and during storm events understanding the tolerances of trees.

In 2009 the new business name Bradshaw Tree Services was registered to reflect works only being undertaken in the tree industry. The business operated throughout Sydney employing up to 25 people. Tristan Bradshaw's main role was as a consultant advising clients and writing reports. In 2019 Bradshaw Tree Services ceased operations and Tristan Bradshaw began Bradshaw Consulting Arborists exclusively undertaking tree consultancy.

Tristan Bradshaw with continued education has attained a Level 8 qualification, attends the annual Arboriculture conferences taking part in the seminars to broaden his knowledge.

This assessment was carried out from the ground and covers what was reasonably able to be assessed and available to this assessor at the time of inspection. No subterranean inspections were carried out. The preservation methods recommended where applicable are not a guarantee of the tree survival but are designed to reduce impacts and give the trees the best possible chance of adapting to new surroundings.

#### Limitations on the use of this report:

This report is to be utilised in its entirety only. Any written or verbal submission, report or presentation that includes statements taken from the findings, discussions, conclusions or recommendations made in this report, may only be used where the whole or the original report is referenced in, and directly attached to that submission, report or presentation.

#### Assumptions:

Care has been taken to obtain information from reliable resources. All data has been verified insofar as possible: however, Bradshaw Consulting Arborists can neither guarantee nor be responsible for the accuracy of information provided by others.

#### Unless stated otherwise:

-Information contained in this report covers only the tree/s that was/were examined and reflects the condition of the tree at the time of the assessment: and

-The inspection was limited to visual examination of the subject tree without dissection, excavation, probing or coring. There is no warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied, that problems or deficiencies of the subject tree may not arise in the future.

-The assessment does not identify hazards and associated risk; this report is not a risk assessment.

Yours sincerely,

Thouther

Tristan Bradshaw (BHort Sci (USYD), Dip Arb AQF 5 (TAFE), Grad Cert AQF 8 (UMELB), TRAQ