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Trees in the Planning Process

Merton College, Oxford

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Arboricultural Methods, Special Techniques and Site Supervision

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Arboricultural method Statements

What are they and who are they really for?

What should you be looking for?

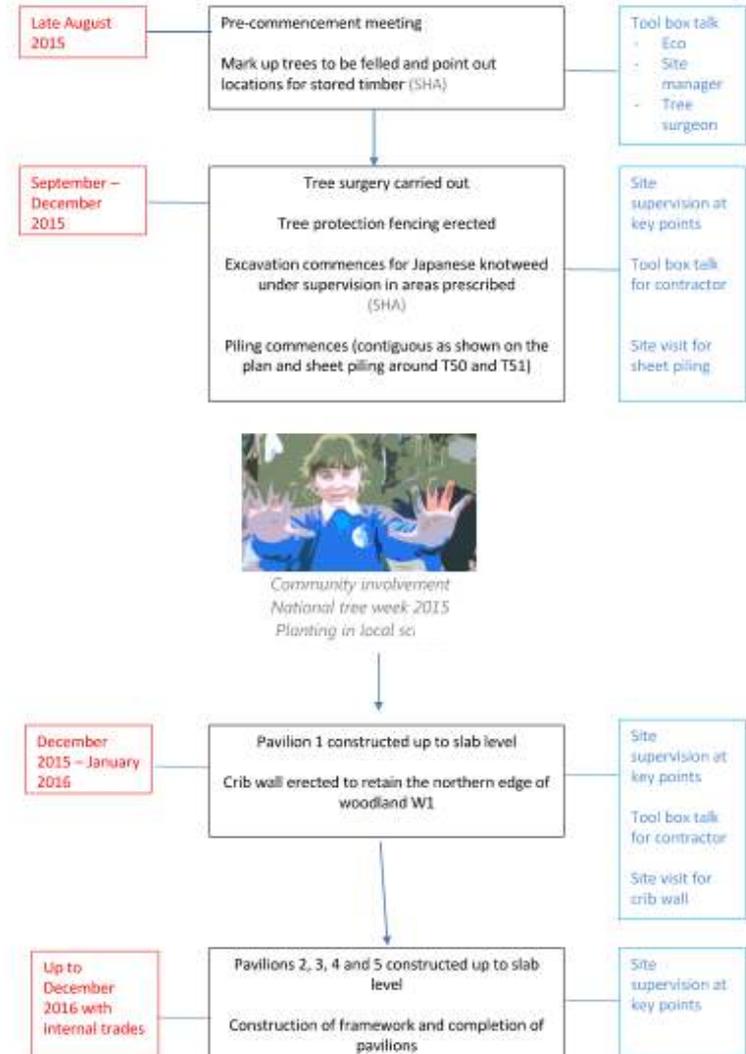
- Background - referencing the AIA and planning conditions
- Tree protection plans for each stage
- Tree protection specification
- Tree surgery schedule
- **How works near trees will be carried out**
- **How the work will be supervised**
- Key personnel and timeframe

What to expect in a AMS – Tree protection plans



What to expect in a AMS – Tree surgery schedule and method statement

Tree no.	Species	Proposed works	Reason
T19	Fig TPO W2 Diameter = 120mm Height = 5m	Fell to ground level and grind stump	To facilitate access for Japanese knotweed removal. It will outgrow its situation and is out of keeping in the landscape
T24	Hazel and two much smaller hazel bushes TPO W2 Diameter = 350mm Height = 7m	Fell to ground level and grind stump	To facilitate access for Japanese knotweed removal
T25	Sycamore TPO W2 Diameter = 90mm Height = 8m	Fell to ground level and remove stump	Low quality tree and to facilitate the removal of the Japanese knotweed
T26	Hazel TPO W2 Diameter = 120mm Height = 5m	Fell to ground level and remove stump	Low quality tree and to facilitate removal of Japanese knotweed
T39	Ash TPO W2 Diameter = 160mm Height = 12m	Fell to ground level and remove stump	To facilitate development. This tree has major dead wood and included bark unions through the crown
T42	Norway maple TPO W2 Diameter = 190mm Height = 9m	Fell to ground level and remove stump	This small tree is leaning and its removal is needed to facilitate Japanese knot weed removal
T43	Cotoneaster TPO W2 Diameter = 210mm Height = 7m	Fell to ground level and remove stumps	To facilitate Japanese knotweed removal
T44	Sycamore	Remove dead wood and crown lift tips to	As a precautionary safety measure





Communication

Special techniques for exploring issues & working near trees

The main objective is to protect the crown, trunk and roots of trees to be retained.

Protecting roots includes protecting soil, as well as the roots.

There are four main methods two of which are outlined:

- Root Protection Areas and gut feeling
- Trial pits
- Air spade
- TreeRadar

Technique: Air spading

What is it great for?

What is it not great for?



Technique: Air spading for root pruning



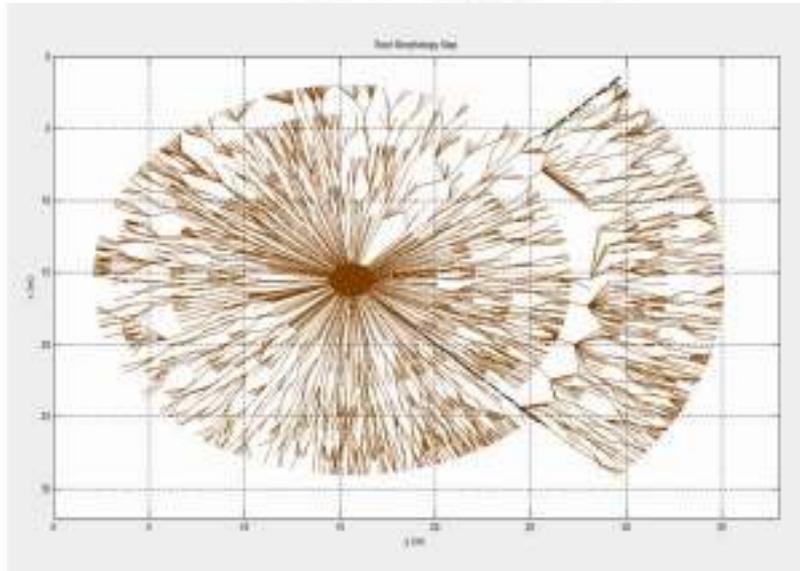
Technique: Air spading for vertical mulching



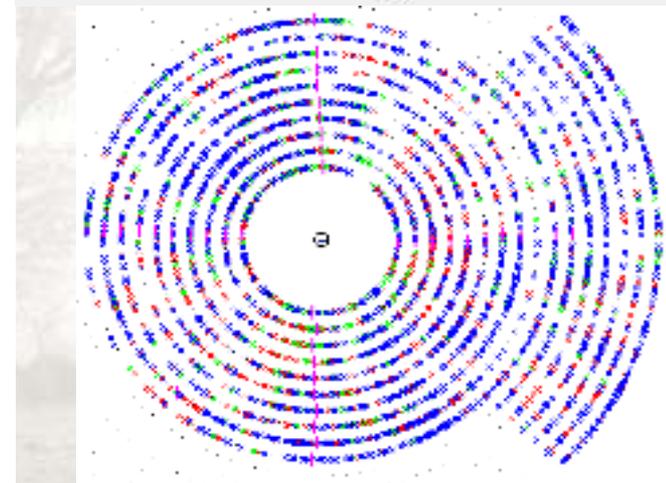
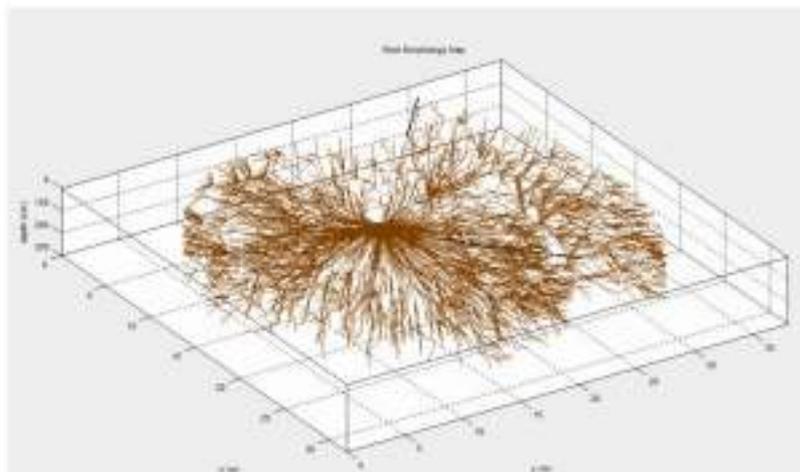
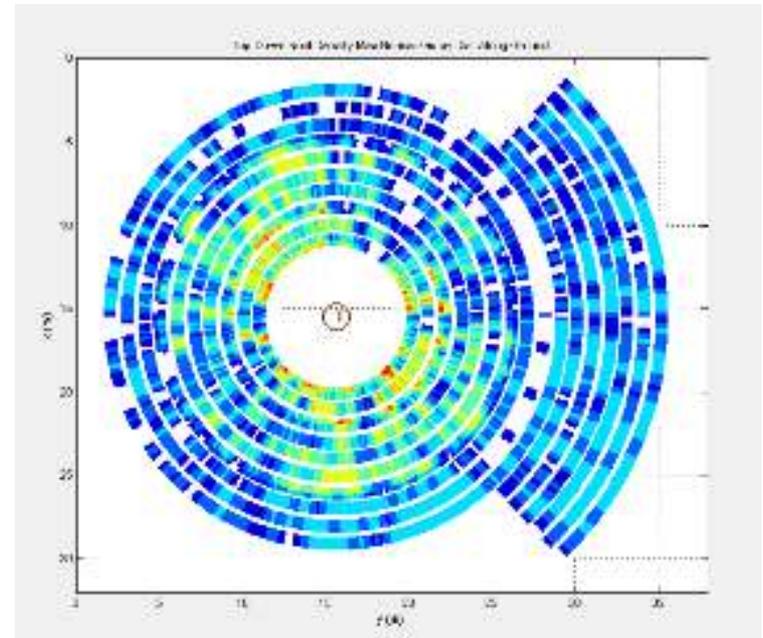
Technique – root exploration using TreeRadar



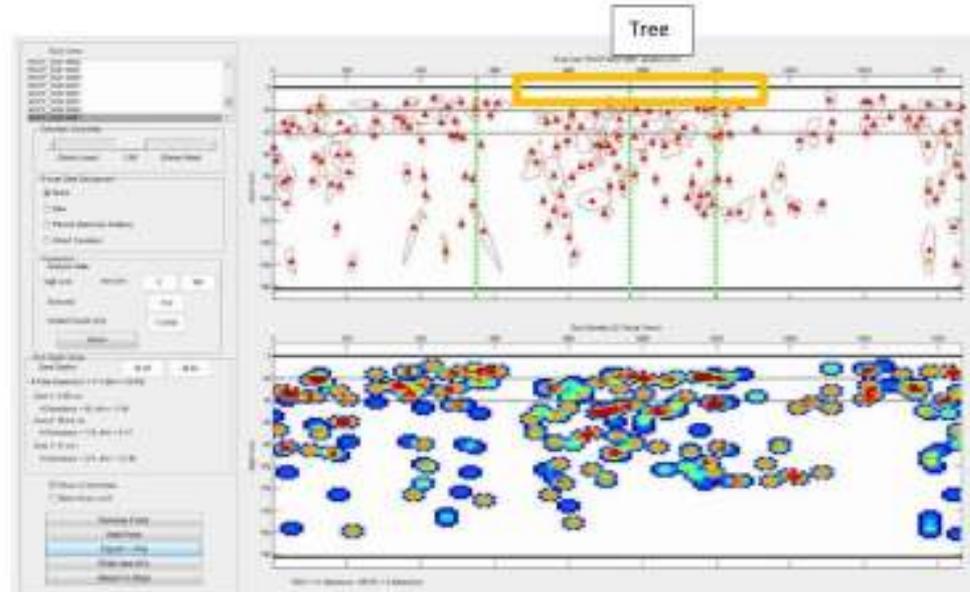
Technique – root exploration using TreeRadar for a veteran tree near proposed bypass



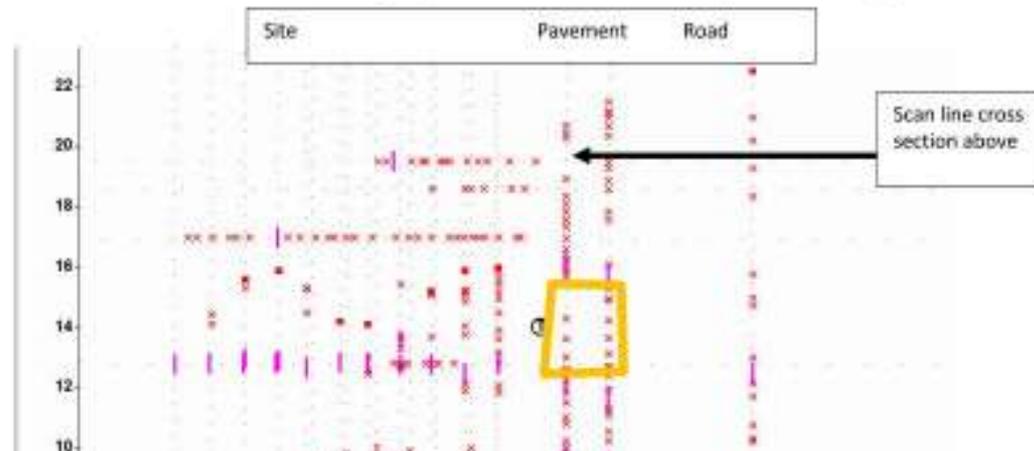
Overhead Morphology view



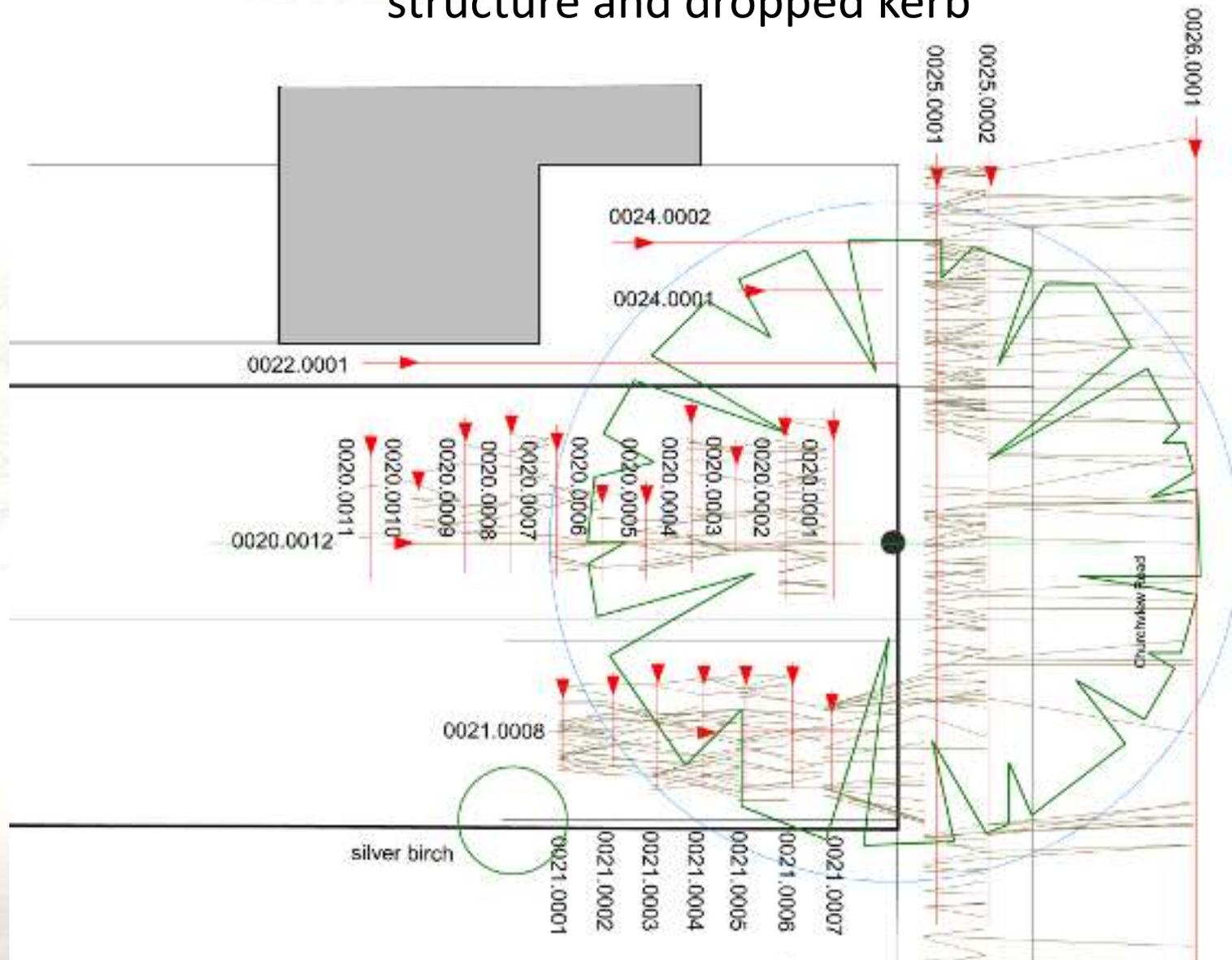
Technique – root exploration using TreeRadar for a new structure & dropped kerb



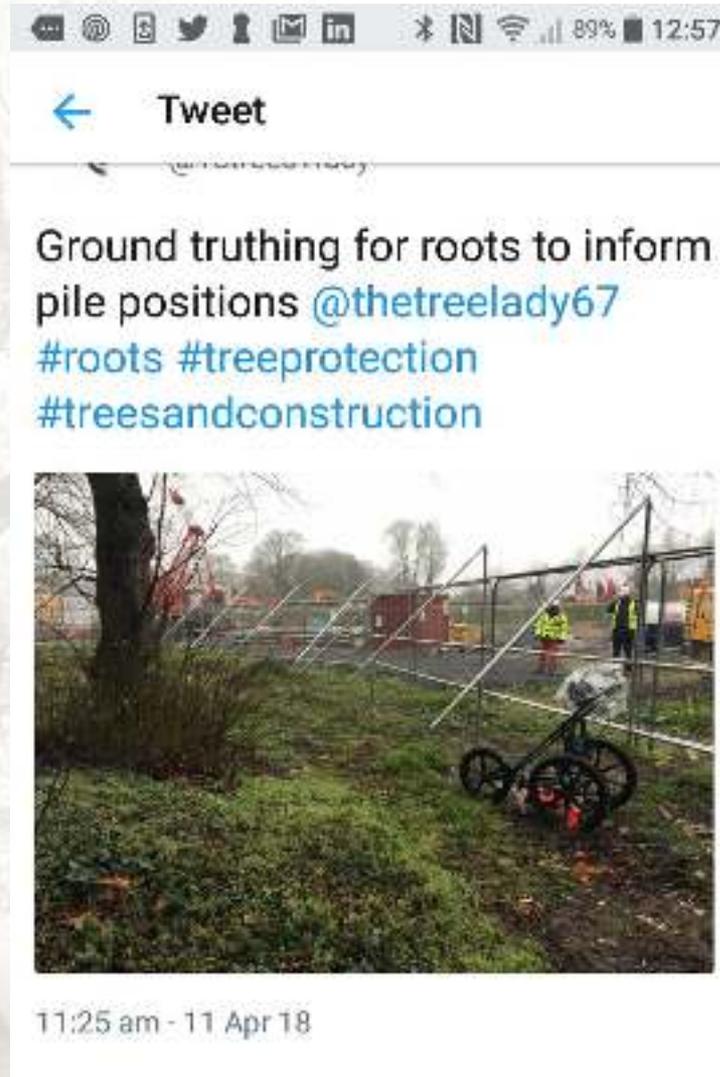
Scan line 0025.0001 cross section, along the pavement close to the tree – yellow box = dropped kerb



Technique – root exploration using TreeRadar for a new structure and dropped kerb



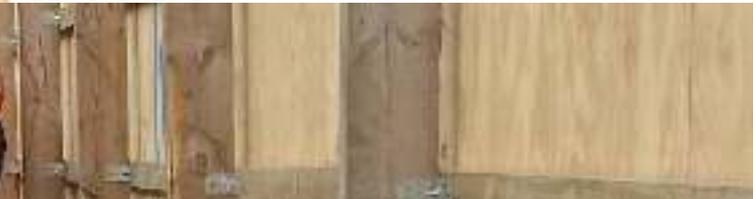
Technique – root exploration using TreeRadar for a new structure



Technique – demolition of structures and surfaces



Photo 2 of the roots, temporary
create a new



Line of underground
services to be
installed

Ground beam
Pile backs (set back)

Line of underground
services to be
installed



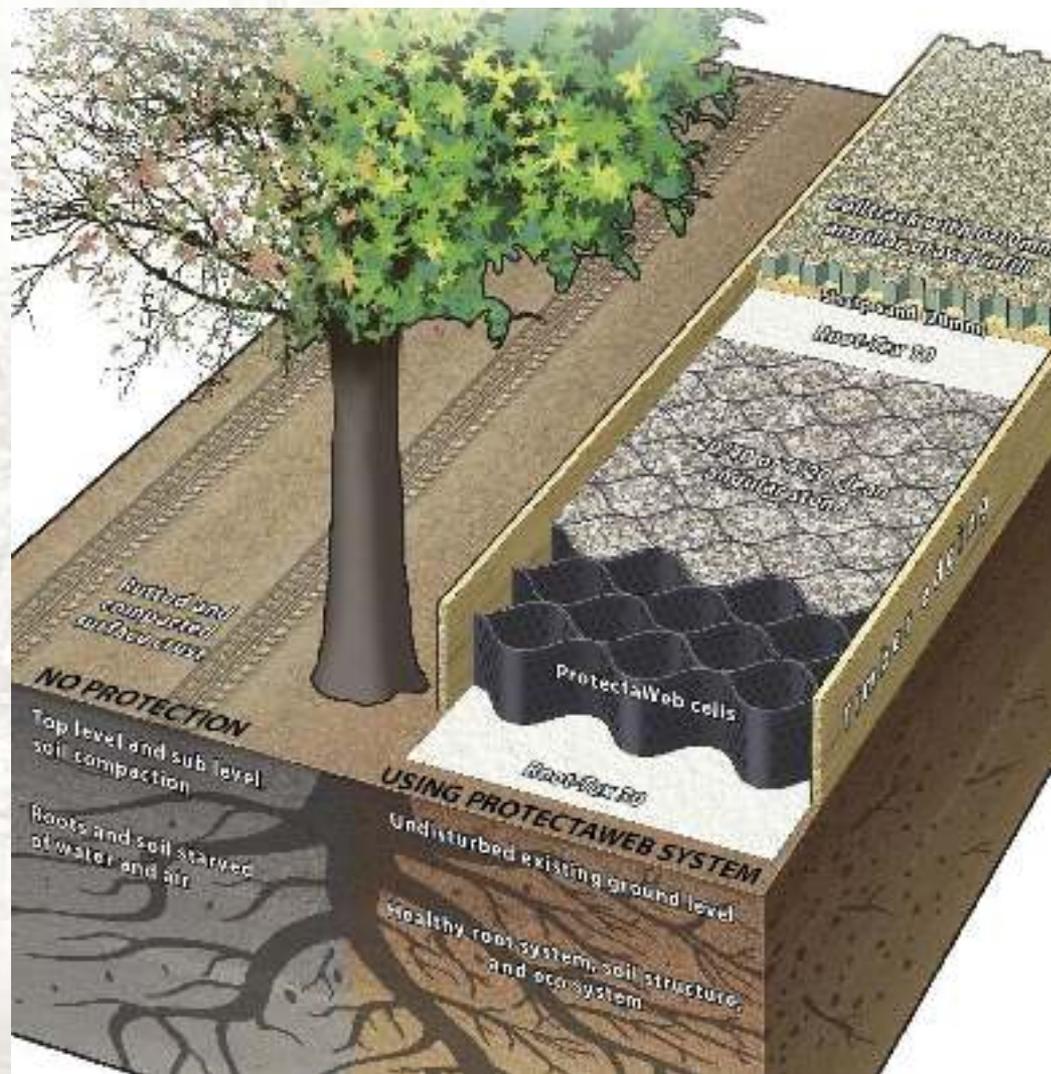
Photo 4 of the rooting area being covered in a geotextile membrane

Note the location for the ground beam (600mm deep)

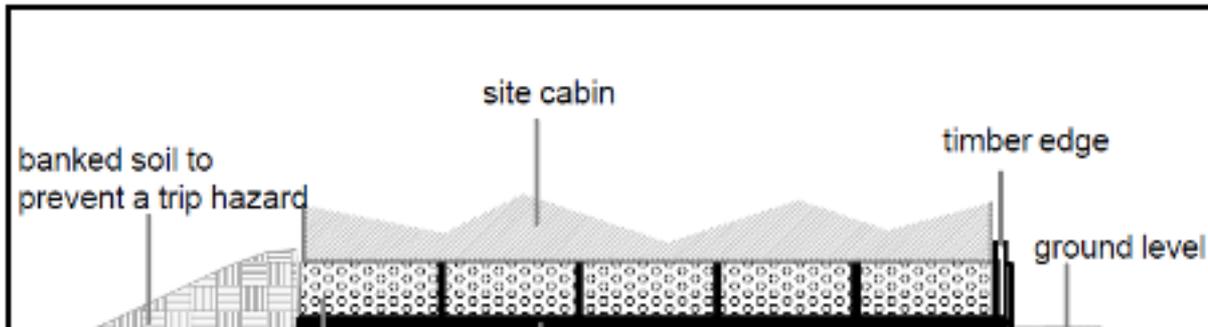
Technique – underground services (NJUG 4) using and open trenches. Other techniques include underground moling



Technique – ground protection during demolition and construction



Technique – new hard surfaces Considering levels and permeability



The importance of team working and site supervision



Client
 Site manager
 Design
 Team
 Lead
 Tree Officer

Planning

Pre-works

Delivery

Sign-off
 and
 closure

Summary

Summary

Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting held with tree contractor to discuss scope of works Carry out tree surgery Minor tweaking to tree protection fencing and removal of fencing around trees in the rear garden
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Trench 2 only needed to be dug down to 100mm, so this was carried out by spade. No roots were found. No further so-called work required in the root protection area in connection with the foundations.



Photo 1 - site plan

The building has been set out

Root exploration

In accordance with the nearby Hybrid Ecology Ltd and Skans Hybrid Ecology Ltd and Skans

- The feeding was removed
- The soil was dug using a spade
- The soil spade was used
- The roots found in Trench 1 identified. A couple of strands of roots were found to cross the path to the rear garden to connect to the building
- The trench was backfilled



Photo 3 of the trench down to 300



Photo 5 close



Photo 6 of the Root Protection



Photo 7 of New dug Trench 2

Photo 8



Photo 10 of seriously eroded hole with the soil/corner

Photo 9

Tree protection



Photo 11 of the tree protection fencing being re-installed. The meeting took place to discuss the tree surgery.

Effective tree protection



Culture: understanding, respecting and influencing

Communication: listening, observing, relaying information and soft skills

Clarity: avoiding jargon, tool box talks and use of visual aids

Control: enforcement action, health and safety and budgets

Towards a new dimension: Community collaboration









