



Connick Tree Care



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Connick Tree Consultants

TREE DEVELOPMENT REPORT

(BS5837:2012 ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT)

CLIENT	Mr Amir Iqbal
PLANNING AUTHORITY	Reading Borough Council
PLANNING REFERENCE	PL/25/0029
SITE	1 Ennerdale Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 7HH
SURVEY & REPORT BY	Mr Joe Howard
PEER REVIEW	Mark Haddock BSc (Hons) CEnv 2 nd September 2025
DATE	28 th August 2025

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ARBORICULTURAL METHOD STATEMENT

This Arboricultural Method Statement (AMS) provides how the construction of new extension to the existing driveway can be undertaken within a Root Protection Area (RPA) of T005 while minimising the potential impact to an acceptable level.

1.1 PHASING AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It will be the responsibility of the developer to ensure that those development phases identified as possibly impacting upon all retained trees are undertaken in line with the sequence set out in table 1 below.

1.2 SEQUENCE OF WORKS

To ensure the impact upon all trees retained is minimised, all construction works close to or within the Root Protection Areas should be completed in line with the following sequence of works. Due to the scale of the project and the minimal level of intrusion Arboricultural supervision will be conducted by means of submitted photographs.

Table 1: Identifying sequence of construction works which may impact trees

Sequence	Works Phase
1	Pre-commencement site meeting. AIA and AMS documents to be explained by client to contractor.
2	Monitor shallow excavations carried out using a toothless bucket on <1.8t tracked excavator to prepare the sub-base for the geocell system.
4	Monitor the installation of the geocell layers.
5	Completion of works to be signed off by the appointed arboriculturist.

On submission of photographic evidence, a site monitoring form will be completed by CTC and held on file.

A PDF copy of the completed form will be made available to the local planning authorities' case officer if requested.

1.3 RESPONSIBILITIES

It will be the responsibility of the client/site owner to follow all instructions set out in the Tree Protection Plan and Method Statement throughout the construction period.

It will be the responsibility of the client/site owner to ensure that copies of this Arboricultural Method Statement and its appendices are available on site at all times.

It will be the responsibility of the project manager to send copies of any construction method statements which may have implications to retained trees should those methods differ from those described in this document.

The construction manager will ensure the build sequences identified within table 1 are completed to ensure that no damage occurs to the trees during the construction processes. This includes the organisation of the pre-commencement site meeting. The client/site owner will be responsible for contacting CTC at any time issues arise related to the trees on site.

The main contractor will be responsible for ensuring sub-contractors do not carry out any process or operation that is likely to adversely impact upon any tree on site.



1.4 TREE WORKS

Trees T002 and T003 currently have crowns in contact with the roof of the existing property.

These trees have been subject to neglect in recent years, leading to increased crown encroachment. As a result, remedial pruning will be necessary irrespective of the proposed development to prevent damage and maintain appropriate clearance. The recommended work is specified in the tree survey schedule (Appendix I) and will be carried out by a suitably qualified contractor to BS3998.

1.5 TREE PROTECTION MEASURES

The existing boundary fence will serve a dual function throughout the development process. Firstly, it will act as a protective barrier for trees and surrounding vegetation, preventing accidental damage during construction. Secondly, it will clearly delineate the construction exclusion zone, ensuring that all activities remain strictly within the designated work area, thereby minimizing disruption to the surrounding environment. The boundary fence is to remain in place for the duration of construction work. No other tree protection fencing is required.

Temporary ground protection will not be required within the Root Protection Areas (RPAs) as the existing hardstanding is to be retained and serves this purpose. All storage and construction-related activities will be confined to existing hard surfaces.

2 UNDERGROUND SERVICES

Underground service diagram drawings have not been provided. Anecdotally I have been informed that no new service runs are required.

3 ARBORICULTURAL SUPERVISION

Before any works commence on site, a pre-commencement meeting will be held with the construction team to review and outline all requirements detailed in this method statement. If any concerns or issues arise during this meeting, the project arboriculturist (CTC) will be contacted immediately, and a site meeting will be arranged between CTC and the contractor prior to the start of any works.

Throughout the construction period, the project arboriculturist (CTC) will carry out regular site monitoring and will liaise with the local authority arboriculturist should any issues concerning trees arise. All site visits and photographic reports will be documented, with copies provided to the client/site owner and made available to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) case officer upon request.

Initial shallow excavations for the sub-base of the driveway extension will be monitored closely. If a significant number of fibrous or structural roots are encountered, work will cease immediately. The project arboriculturist will assess the situation and determine the appropriate course of action to avoid harm to retained trees. Excavations will not be required beyond 300mm depth.

Any deviations from the approved methodology outlined in this statement must be reported to CTC. CTC will then inform the local authority arboricultural officer and assess the implications of the variation. Any significant changes to the methodology will require written approval from the LPA tree officer before implementation.

4 LANDSCAPING DETAIL AND METHODOLOGY

Hard Surfacing

Aside from the planned extension to the existing driveway, no other landscaping works are to take place in the rear or front gardens. There will be no construction of new patios, decking areas, pathways, retaining walls, or the installation of any additional fencing.

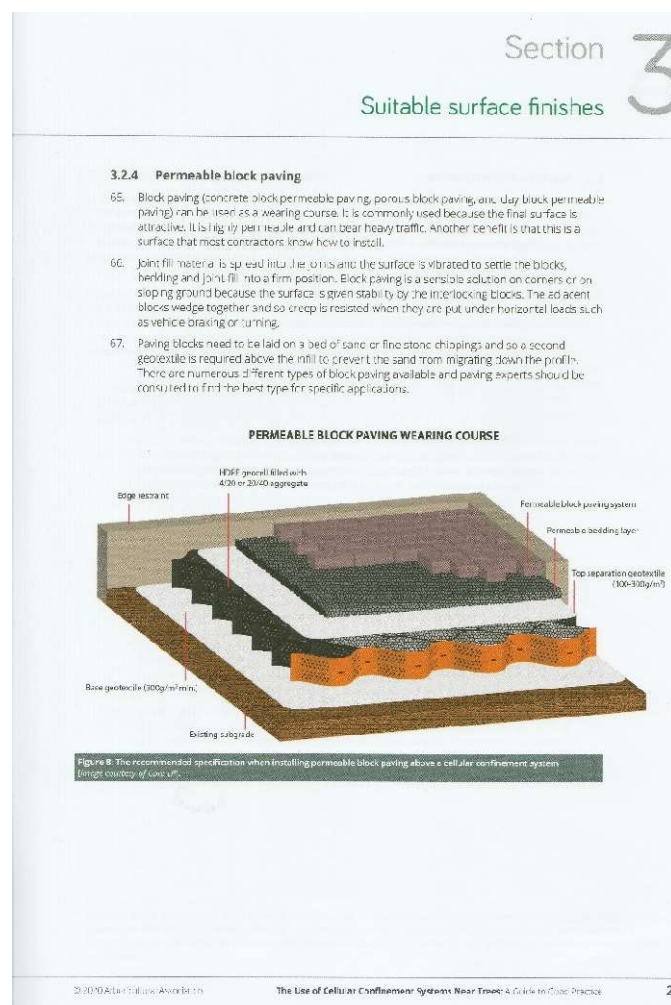
As no new fencing is being installed, there is no requirement for mammal access gaps. All existing boundary fences will remain in place and be retained in their current condition, ensuring minimal disruption to the site's existing layout and ecological connectivity.

The new section of driveway will be constructed using porous block paving, chosen for its sustainable drainage properties. This permeable surface will be laid above a geocell ground confinement system, which provides a stable, load-bearing foundation while promoting water infiltration. This type of construction is shown to accommodate root growth and expansion whilst minimising surface displacement.

The finished height of the driveway extension will be level with the existing driveway, using the existing edge as a restraint. Shallow excavation <250mm be required to achieve the correct final level.

Guidance note 12 from the Arboricultural Association on methods of installation will be provided to the contractor by CTC and will be followed. Additional guidance can be found using this link:

<https://www.corelp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/CORE-TRP-Brochure.pdf>



Example of permeable block paving construction process (extract from AA Guidance Note 12)

Any excavations required for the installation of the new driveway extension will be carried out using a toothless bucket on a <1.8t 360deg excavator or alternatively by hand tools. This will ensure minimal damage to any roots that may be present. Soil will be removed in small, controlled increments to protect existing tree roots.

The geocell layer will be placed on a geotextile layer on the existing undisturbed sub-base. The geocell will be filled with non-fines aggregate 4/20 or 20/40. A second geotextile layer will be laid on top of the geocell. These layers replace the traditional compacted MOT Type 1 classification sub-base which must not be used. A standard permeable bedding layer for the porous block paving may then be installed.

Soft Landscaping

A new native species hedge will be planted using bare-root whips. This planting will take place during the first dormant season post completion of all works. The whips will be planted within a weed-free strip of soil, arranged in a double staggered row with spacing of approximately 30–45 cm between plants, and finished with a layer of mulch to retain moisture and suppress weeds. Regular watering in periods of dry weather (absence of rain for more than 5 days), will form part of the ongoing maintenance to ensure successful establishment.

Any plants that die during the first year will be replaced. Any plants that become seriously damaged or diseased within five years of planting will be replaced during the next available planting season with specimens of the same species and of a comparable size, in order to maintain the continuity and integrity of the hedge.



An example of the planting described

5 GENERAL PRECAUTIONS

5.1 SITE FACILITIES

The position of any site compound, toilets and storage space will be sited outside of the RPA of any retained trees or within existing hard standing. Any re-siting of these during the course of the proposed development will need to be approved in writing by the Local Authority Tree Officer.

5.2 STORAGE SPACE

There will be no spoil or construction material stored within the protected sections of the RPA of the retained trees or shrubs on the site. Where possible all storage should be contained within pre-existing hard surfaces.



5.3 PERIMETER FENCING

Although not anticipated, works to erect perimeter fencing can have a negative impact upon retained trees. To ensure all retained trees are not impacted it is essential that all fence post holes are formed by hand and away from the base of trees. If roots are identified the hole should be relocated.

5.4 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

No mixing or storage of materials will take place up a slope where they may leak into a CEZ or RPA.

No hazardous materials such as fuels, oils or cement will be stored within the storage area in the rear garden.

Materials which may contaminate the soil will not be discharged within 10m of any tree stem. When undertaking the mixing of materials, it is essential that any slope of the ground does not allow contaminants to run towards a tree root protection area.

5.5 TREE SURGERY WORKS

Any tree works considered necessary for health and safety reasons or to facilitate the development will be undertaken in accordance with British Standard 3998 (2010) Recommendations for Tree Works.

All works required are outlined within the Tree Survey Schedule.



APPENDIX I TREE SURVEY SCHEDULE

BS5837 Survey Data

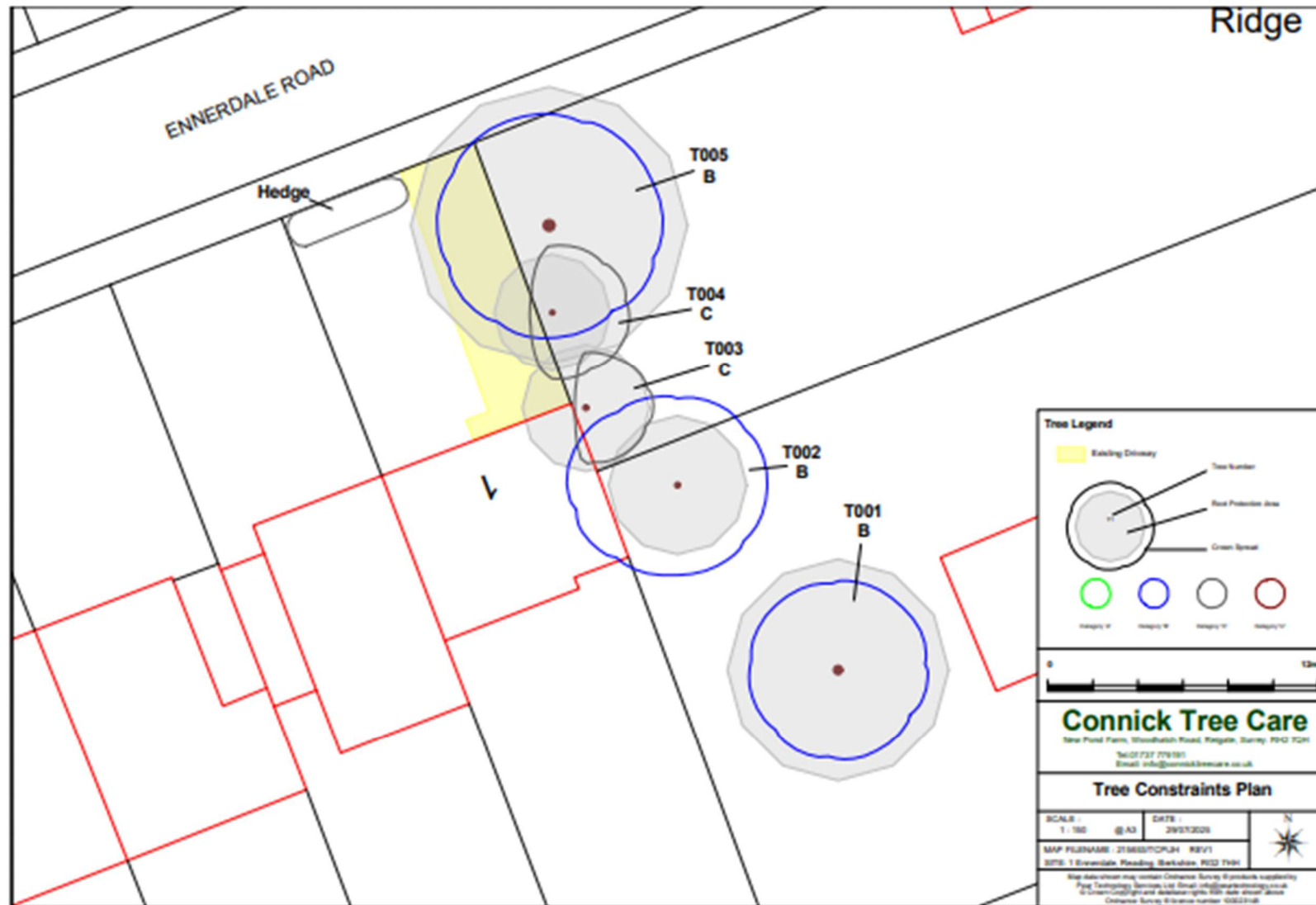


Ref.	Species	Measurements	General Observations	Category	Recommendations
T001	Common walnut (Juglans regia)	Height (m): 10 Stem Diam(mm): 400 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Lowest Branch (m): 4(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Third party tree, viewed from over the fence. Dense ivy growth within the lower crown.	B RPA Radius: 4.8m. Area: 72 sq m.	
T002	Cherry plum 'Pissardii' (Prunus cerasifera 'Pissardii')	Height (m): 8 Stem Diam(mm): 250 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 5W Lowest Branch (m): 3(SW) Life Stage: Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Third party tree, viewed from over the fence. Twin stemmed from ground level with ivy up to 3 metres above ground. Crown in conflict with the property roof.	B RPA Radius: 3.0m. Area: 28 sq m.	Prune back crown to boundary line
T003	English yew (Taxus baccata)	Height (m): 5 Stem Diam(mm): 230 Spread (m): 2.5N, 3E, 2.5S, 0.5W Lowest Branch (m): 0.5(E) Life Stage: Young Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Third party tree. Crown in conflict with the property roof. Stem growing within 200mm of property footings.	C RPA Radius: 2.8m. Area: 25 sq m.	Prune back crown to boundary line
T004	Laurel cherry (Prunus laurocerasus)	Height (m): 4.5 Stem Diam(mm): 210 Spread (m): 3N, 3.5E, 3S, 1W Lowest Branch (m): 1.5(S) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Third party tree. Multi stemmed from ground level. Areas of dysfunction in the crown with major deadwood.	C RPA Radius: 2.5m. Area: 20 sq m.	
T005	Horse chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum)	Height (m): 13 Stem Diam(mm): 500 Spread (m): 4N, 4E, 4S, 4W Lowest Branch (m): 1.5(N) Life Stage: Semi Mature Rem. Contrib.: 40+ Years	Third party tree. Minor ivy throughout the crown. Crown has a 3m clearance over the property driveway entrance.	B RPA Radius: 6.0m. Area: 113 sq m.	



APPENDIX II

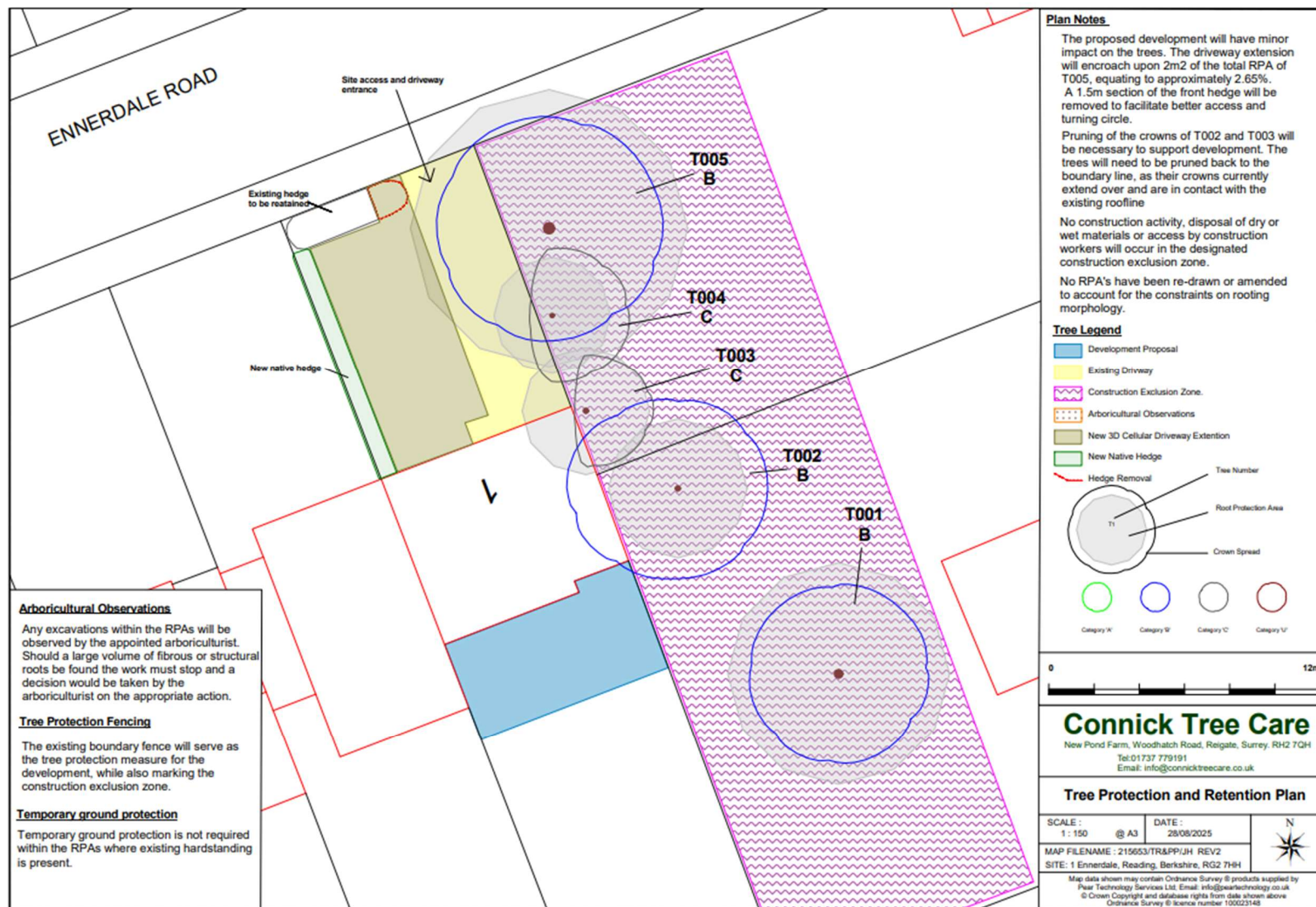
TREE CONSTRAINTS PLAN





APPENDIX III

TREE PROTECTION PLAN





APPENDIX IV QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

Subjects	Level	Dates
Technician member of the Arboricultural Association		2023 ongoing
Professional Tree Inspection (LANTRA)	Pass	April 2023
Level 3 diploma in forestry and arboriculture	Distinction	2015
NPTC cs30, cs31, cs38, cs39	Pass	from 2015 ongoing.

2. CAREER SUMMARY

I began my career in forestry and arboriculture in 2015 by completing a Level 3 Diploma through a two-year college course. This provided me with the essential knowledge and practical skills needed to enter the industry. After qualifying, I started work as an arborist with a local arboricultural company, where I gained hands-on experience in tree care and management.

Over time, I developed my skills further and took on greater responsibilities, eventually progressing to a team management role. This position helped build both my technical and leadership abilities as I oversaw tree operations and coordinated projects.

To advance my career, I pursued additional training and became a certified professional tree inspector, which expanded my opportunities within the field. With this qualification and a solid foundation of practical experience, I moved into a consultancy role at Connick Tree Care.

As an Arboricultural Consultant, I now provide expert advice to clients on managing their tree assets safely and sustainably, drawing on my years of field experience and ongoing professional development.

3. AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Tree hazard risk assessments for tree owners
Decay assessment and mapping
Tree management reports on prioritizing maintenance programs.
Diagnosis of tree disorders
General arboricultural advice
Trees in relation to subsidence
Arboricultural surveys to BS5837