

Arboricultural Report

Safety and Condition Survey



**The Woodlands
Worthenbury
Wrexham
LL13 0AW**

Prepared by: Giles Mercer BSc (Hons) M.Arbor.A

Date: 3rd April 2018

Site:	'The Woodlands', Worthenbury, LL13 0AW	Client Ref:	Tree Survey
Our Ref:	TR0418.01GM	Arbor Tel:	01938 433234

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Appendix 1

Arbor001 - Tree Survey (1:200 plan of site)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report has been commissioned by Mr Dorian Hopkins the owner of the site – ‘The Woodlands’, Worthenbury, Wrexham LL13 0AW.
- 1.2 The brief was to appraise nine individual tree within (and on the boundaries) of the site in relation to the potential risk that it may pose to users of the site, visitors to the site, to the fabric of any buildings / structures in the event of a structural failure and to users of adjacent land and highways to which the owner(s) of the tree owe a 'duty of care'.
- 1.3 To prepare a clear set of report recommendations with supporting plans and tabulated data in order to facilitate ease of consideration of the liability implications of the tree(s) by the owner(s)/ manager(s).
- 1.4 There are four compelling reasons to implement a Tree Hazard Risk Policy and have a structured program for tree inspections.
 - a) Provide documented evidence that a property owner/occupier is compliant with their legal obligations to provide an adequate ‘duty of care’ for visitors and users of the property.
 - b) Reduce the risk of harm to people or property to as low as reasonably possible by managing the trees effectively. This involves a pro-active and systematic approach to identifying potential hazards, ranking them according to their severity and prioritising action to achieve an acceptable level of risk.
 - c) Provide a prioritised and effective management schedule of works to aid budgeting and allocation of resources
 - d) Ameliorate tree defects by prescribing remedial maintenance. This will extend the safe useful life expectancy of the trees and preserve their important visual amenity and any wildlife habitats provided by them

2.0 DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION PROVIDED / OBTAINED

- 2.1 Arbor Consultancy Limited obtained the current Ordnance Survey (Mastermap) mapping of the site.

3.0 SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- 2.1 The property was visited on in April 2018 to carry out an inspection of the tree in order to evaluate their condition and assess the risk of failure.
- 2.2 The primary dimensions of the tree were recorded and notes taken relating to the maturity, vitality and apparent tree works history.
- 2.3 The process used for evaluating the risk of tree failure is visual inspection for defects (visual tree assessment, VTA). The three components of tree risk assessment proposed by Matheny and Clark (1994) are the tree's failure potential, an environment conducive to tree failure, and a target.
- 2.4 This report refers to the condition of the trees and an assessment of the site on the day that the evaluation was undertaken, the trees were not climbed but assessed from ground level.
- 2.5 Data provided by the testing / measuring equipment has been verified according to the equipment manufacturer's instructions.
- 2.6 No responsibility is assumed by Arbor Consultancy Ltd for legal matters that may arise from this report, and the consultant shall not be required to give testimony or to attend court unless subsequent contractual arrangements are made.
- 2.7 Any alteration or deletion from this report will invalidate it as a whole.

- 2.8 This report is valid for six months from the date of the inspection. It is recommended that trees within falling distance of a highway or regularly populated area are inspected annually and after any extreme weather event e.g. winds in excess of 50mph.
- 2.9 The report is valid only for typical weather conditions. Healthy trees or parts of healthy trees may fail in unusually high or unpredictable winds or violent storms and as the consequences of such weather phenomena are unforeseeable Arbor Consultancy Ltd cannot be held liable for any such failures.
- 2.10 The responsibility for any work undertaken on the surveyed trees rests with the land manager. It is advised that before any work is undertaken the Local Authority is consulted with regard to the existence of statutory controls for example Tree Preservation Orders; Conservation Area's etc.
- 2.11 We are awaiting indication from the Local Authority as to whether any statutory controls exist in relation to the trees.

3.0 TREE LOCATION & SITE ENVIRONMENT

- 3.1 The trees are located within fields to the west of the village of Worthenbury.
- 3.2 With the exception of tree T7 (a Horse Chestnut), the trees are all Oaks. The trees are historic hedgerow trees and are mature-overmature with some potentially being veteran trees.
- 3.3 The site is low lying and appears to be regularly waterlogged. Drainage improvements are being undertaken (Ditches cleared etc) and this will improve the environment for the trees.
- 3.4 The site is not extensively used (occupied) although usage is likely to increase.

4.0 TREE DETAILS AND OBSERVATIONS

4.1 Refer to the tree data table at section 6.0

5.0 APPRAISAL

5.1 The assessment of threat from any tree focuses on three variables;

1. Likelihood of Failure;
2. Targets;
3. Consequences of Failure

The above are influenced by the size and weight of the tree(s) and its limbs, the nature of the targets and frequency of use of target zones and the severity of damage/injury that is likely to be the result of a structural failure.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Ref	Age	Species	Height (m)	Diameter at breast height DBH (mm)	Radial crown spread (m)	Condition	Observations	Recommendations	Priority
T1	M	Oak	15.8	~ 1000	8.5	C/D	Extensive basal decay extending up to the scaffold union at circa 4m. Extensive dieback (re-trenching) evident throughout the crown.	Reduce to a habitat stick of circa 6m in height using coronet cuts where practicable to maintain / create habitat potential for bats etc.	Moderate (6-12M)
T2	M	Oak	12.0	~ 650	6.2	C	Located on edge of ditch. Waterlogged. Moderate deadwood observed in crown. Multiple historic pruning wounds located around the scaffold union. Evidence of historic storm damage to crown.	Crown clean and deadwood. Crown lift to 3m (epicormic growth)	Low (12-18M)
T3	M	Oak	11.1	~ 950	5.0	D	Extreme basal and stem decay. Extensive dieback of crown. Lean of approximately 10°. Cavity to base. Appears to be hollow.	Reduce to a habitat stick of circa 5m in height using coronet cuts where practicable to maintain / create habitat potential for bats etc.	Moderate (6-12M)
T4	M	Oak	17.3	~ 700	5.5	C/D	Extensive dieback to crown (retrenching) Ivy covered	Crown clean and deadwood. Sever Ivy	Low (12-18M)
T5	M	Oak	10.0	~ 1000	5.0	D	Located on edge of ditch. Significant historic failure. Canker. Cavity evident at 3-4m. Fungal fruiting bodies evident (Saprophytic). Clear structural cracking to stem indicating rotational stress failure.	Fell to ground level	Moderate (6-12M)
T6	M	Oak	20	≥ 1600	~ 10	B	Some evidence of hollowing under buttress roots. Evidence of historic storm damage. Retrenching (significant deadwood in crown)	Crown clean	Low (12-18M)
T7	M	Horse Chestnut	15	~ 700	5-6	D	Waterlogged. Poor extension growth. Sparse crown. Evidence of significant historic failure. Hollow under root plate. Extensive (and historic) Ganoderma fruiting bodies. Evidence of bleeding canker. In decline (mortality spiral).	Fell to ground level	High (0-6M)
T8	M	Oak	~ 11	~ 700	5.5	C/D	Roadside tree. High target value. Evidence of historic failure. Extensive dieback. Bark necrosis evident in crown. Ivy covered.	Reduce to a habitat stick of circa 6m in height using coronet cuts where practicable to maintain / create habitat potential for bats etc.	High (0-6M)
T9	M	Oak	~ 11	~ 1000	5.5	C/D	Extensive decay. Hollow. Significant historic failure over road. Decay evident to stem / base and scaffold.	Reduce to a habitat stick of circa 4-5m in height using coronet cuts where practicable to maintain / create habitat potential for bats etc.	High (0-6M)

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7.0 SITE PLAN

Please refer to the large scale tree survey plan supplied with this report.



Aerial view of site (Imagery date 20/04/2009 – Google Earth)

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8.0 PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph of T1 showing extensive decay



Photograph of decay to stem of T1

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Photograph of T1

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Photograph of T2



Photograph of T3



Photograph of T3 base



Photograph of T3 crown



Photograph of T4 failure



Photograph of T4 crown



Photograph of T5



Photograph of T6

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Photograph of T6 base



Photograph of T7 Ganoderma



Photograph of T7 Bleeding Canker



Photograph of T7



Photograph of T7

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Photograph of T1, T2, T3



Photograph of T8



Photograph of T8 historic failure



Photograph of T8 stem



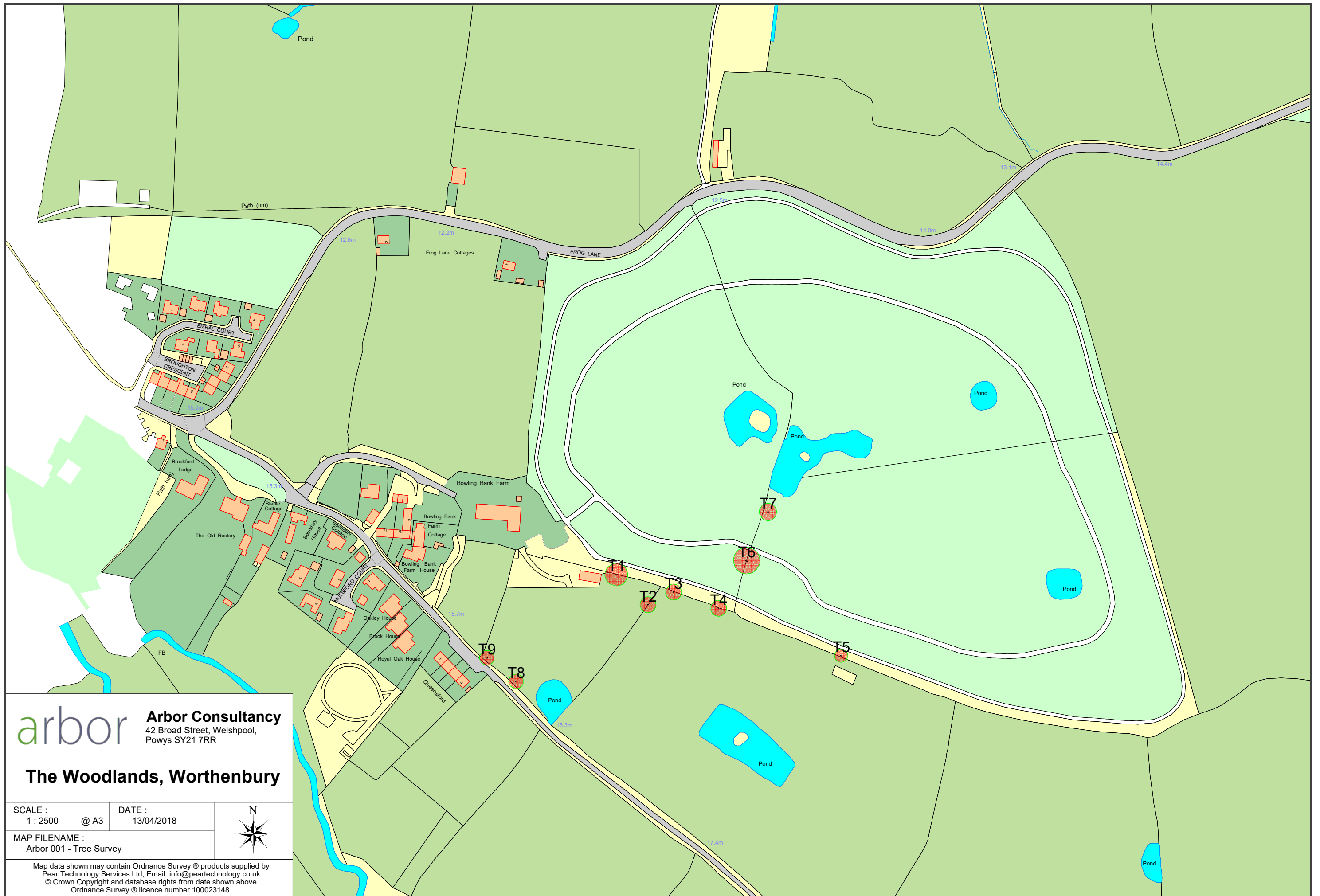
Photograph of T9

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arbor

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SCALE :
1 : 2500 @ A3

DATE :
13/04/2018

MAP FILENAME :
Arbor 001 - Tree Survey

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