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Canopy Tree Experts is a member of the International Society of Arboriculture.
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A Report on 6 *Cupressus sempervirens* 'Stricta' (Italian Cypress) at 41 National Circuit, (Block 16, Section 7) Forrest, ACT

Prepared for:

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Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) Registered Assessor No. 2845
www.qtra.co.uk

Assessment:

- **Date:** 28 August 2018
- **Assessment by:** Alan Mann
- **Weather:** Fine

Brief

I was requested to inspect the trees and report on their condition.



Figure 1 Photo from www.actmapi.act.gov.au

Tree location:

The trees are in a row: the approximate locations of the end trees are indicated on this aerial photo (Figure 1)

Summary

The 6 Pencil Pines are in a row along the property boundary and are in good condition, however their stability may be compromised by earlier excavation on the neighbouring block.

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Information Provided

Background:

The NCA is the authority responsible for approval of development on this block therefore ACT Tree Protection Act 2005 does not apply.

Documents Provided:

None

Other Documents Sourced:

www.actmapi.act.gov.au aerial photos from 2009 and 2012.

The Trees' Environment

The trees are on the boundary fence with mainly lawn along this side, but also concrete path past two tree. A deep excavation and installation of a retaining wall has been carried out on the neighbouring block some time ago

Tree Size

Refer to Tree Schedule

Tree Condition

Health

The trees are in good health. They are free from any significant insect infestations or diseases.

Structure

The trees have good structure



Figure 2 The row of Pencil Pines. Tree 1 is at left; Tree 6 at right. A small *Magnolia figo* is between Tree 3 and Tree 4.

Observations

- Roots from Trees 5 & 6 are disrupting the adjacent concrete footpath
- The root zone of these trees has been significantly reduced by deep excavation on the adjacent block: there is a retaining wall approximately 1m from the trees' trunks. The redevelopment of that block was carried out prior to 2012.

Table 1 Tree Schedule

Tree no.	Species	Height (m)	Directional Canopy Radii (m)				Trunk circumference above root	Tree Condition		Tree Quality Classification
			North	East	South	West		Health	Structure	
1	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	15	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	1.60	Good	Good	Medium
2	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	10	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.59	Good	Good	Low
3	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	12	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.79	Good	Good	Low
4	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	12	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.02	Good	Good	Low
5	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	18	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.12	Good	Good	Medium
6	<i>Cupressus sempervirens</i> 'Stricta'	18	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.04	Good	Good	Medium

Discussion

The trees are in good health despite the adjacent excavation; however, the excavations might compromise the trees' ability to withstand strong SE winds that occasionally occur in Canberra.

Appendix 1

Explanations of Terms Used in the Tree Assessments

This Assessment form has been developed to conform to the requirements of 'Notifiable Instrument NI2007-422', and; The AS4970-2009 'Protection of trees on development sites'

1. **Tree Number**

This is a unique sequential identification number allocated to each tree located on the block, overhanging the block or on the verge. The numbers are allocated in Figure 1.

2. **Species**

The binomial species name is given

3. **Height**

The tree height was measured using a clinometer from a measured offset.

4. **Directional Canopy Radii'**

Canopy radii were estimated.

The four radial canopy diameters are shown (in meters) in the 'table.

5. **Health**

Is an indication of the tree's health and vigour. It has been judged against the following range:

Very Good (VG), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), or Very Poor (VP)

General comments on the tree's health and vigour, and specific comments on evidence of **insect** infestation or **disease** presence in the tree are included in the **Comments Column** if significant.

6. **Structure**

The structural integrity of the tree has been judged against the following range:

Very Good (VG), Good (G), Fair (F), Poor (P), or Very Poor (VP)

General comments on the tree's structure and specific comments on evidence of **Root Zone Disturbance** and **Structural Damage** to the tree are included in the **Comments Column** if significant.

7. **Tree Quality Classification**

These classifications are based on the guidelines in the 'Draft Guidelines for the Preparation of Tree Management Reports for Development on unleased Territory Land 2004 Draft'.

Poor – A poor quality tree is of poor form, structure or health or is likely to represent a significant safety hazard.

Low - A tree that does not have significant amenity value. (the classification Low Quality has been added (by Canopy Tree Experts) to this classification to indicate a tree that has no formal reason for removal other than is lack of significance in the landscape. Some of these trees may have potential to become significant, in which case this is indicated in the comments column.

Medium - A medium quality tree is one of reasonable form, structure and health and is not likely to represent a significant safety hazard.

High – A high quality tree is one that is of good form and condition and without structural defect. It should not represent a significant hazard.

Exceptional- A tree may be considered exceptional on the basis that it is an important part of the landscape due to factors such as prominence of location, contribution to the surrounding landscape and its general appearance. An exceptional tree should be free of any defects that cannot be addressed by remedial treatment. A tree may also be assessed as being exceptional for its **botanic/scientific**, **cultural** and **natural heritage** values. Trees with significant **botanic/scientific**, **cultural** and **natural heritage** values may not be ruled out of the exceptional classification due to health, structure or safety concerns.

8. **Circumference**

Trunk Circumference was measured above the root flare 9Aproximately 0.3m above ground level

Appendix 2– Method and Limits

Method

The site was inspected visually.

The inspection of the trees was limited to a visual examination from ground level without the use of boring or testing devices.

The trees' trunk circumferences and heights were measured whereas the canopy spread was estimated.

Limits

Site Specific

I had full access to the tree in question.

I was not able to carry out a full assessment of Tree 1 because it was located on the neighbouring property, however every effort was made to examine the tree from this block.

Covers only those trees listed

The information in this report covers only those trees listed and reflects the condition of those trees at the time of the inspection.

Further studies

No **heritage**, **ecological** or **habitat assessments** were carried out for this site by Canopy Tree Expert's arborists or their agents.

No assessment of the **benefits** of these trees was made.

Reinspection

If removal of the tree is not carried out, biennial reinspections are recommended, unless noticeable changes occur before that time, in which case immediate inspection is recommended.

Tree Risk Assessment

Although the arborist is qualified and authorised to assess risk by both the QTRA and TRAQ methods of assessment, neither method was carried out for this report. However the training for these authorisations will have influenced the way in which the assessor views the risk associated with trees. A QTRA assessment can be carried out if requested. (www.qtra.co.uk, www.isa-arbor.com)