



the  
**arbor centre**  
CONSULTANCY

**59 Ellesmere Street, Mount Hawthorn Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) –  
October 2022**

*Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)*  
*1x Jacaranda mimosifolia*

Prepared for:

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October 2022  
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Reference number: Q005734

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# Table of Contents

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|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Table of Contents</b> .....  | <b>2</b>  |
| <b>1. Introduction</b> .....  | <b>3</b>  |
| 1.1 Purpose of this Preliminary VTA Report.....                           | 3         |
| 1.2 Arboricultural Inspection.....  | 3         |
| 1.3 Limitations of this Report.....                                       | 3         |
| <b>2. Executive Summary</b> .....   | <b>5</b>  |
| <b>3. Conclusions</b> .....   | <b>7</b>  |
| <b>4. Recommendations</b> .....   | <b>8</b>  |
| 4.1 Short Term (Immediate Actions) .....                                  | 8         |
| 4.2 Medium Term (~12 months).....   | 8         |
| 4.3 Longer Term (~2 – 3 years) .....                                      | 8         |
| <b>5. References &amp; Reading</b> .....                                  | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>Appendix A: Visual Tree Assessment</b> .....                           | <b>10</b> |
| <b>Appendix B: Images</b> .....   | <b>11</b> |
| <b>Appendix C: City of Vincent – Arboricultural Assessment Form</b> ..... | <b>12</b> |
| <b>Appendix D: Overview of Australian Standards AS 4373</b> .....         | <b>14</b> |
| <b>Appendix E: Historical Data – Aerial Imagery from 1942</b> .....       | <b>15</b> |



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of this Preliminary VTA Report

To inspect the subject tree as specified by Shelley Blechynden, to provide comment on current health and structural status of the tree for inclusion into City of Vincents Trees of Significance Register and; identify management considerations required for the retention of the tree at 59 Ellesmere Street, Mount Hawthorn (circled in Figure 1).



Figure 1. Tree of assessment outlined in red – image source [www.Nearmap.com](http://www.Nearmap.com) - image date 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022

## 1.2 Arboricultural Inspection

Arbor Centre undertook an Arboricultural assessment of the identified tree on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. The assessment was a visual inspection undertaken from ground level incorporated a preliminary below ground and aerial inspection of the tree (refer Appendix B for Images).

## 1.3 Limitations of this Report

This report provides interpretation of the trees current status; and affords high level guidance on how best to manage the tree over the near and longer term. Ongoing specialist Arboricultural inputs will be required in implementing these recommendations; and; in refining tree and tree risk management requirements



over time, based on tree responses. The information contained within this report is not intended, or suitable to be used as a Final '*Tree Management Report*' for the subject tree.

Further to the above, this assessment and report does not attempt to predict or quantify potential future tree failures, the partial or complete failure of trees and/or tree parts is a natural part of any environment. Tree failures may be influenced by a wide range of factors including (but not limited to) tree age and condition, quality of previous pruning works; abrupt changes to the local growing environment, prior root zone incursion/impacts and high winds or other extreme climatic events etc.

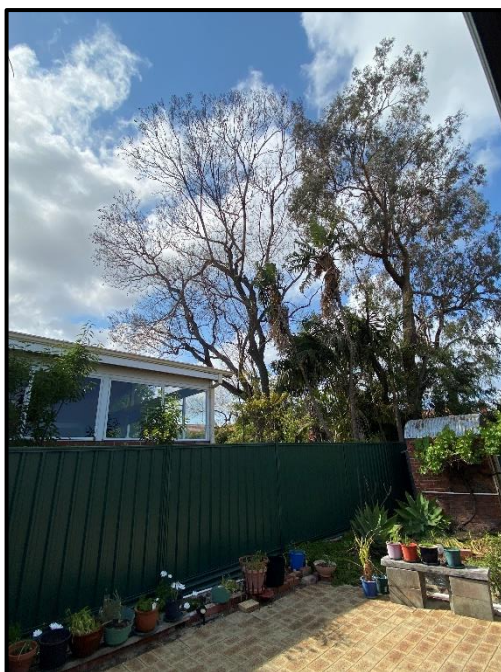




## 2. Executive Summary

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Refer Appendix A & B for further detail regarding VTA Results and Site Images.



**Figure 2** – Subject tree at the time of inspection (20 October 2022) Image looking South

The subject tree – *Jacaranda mimosifolia* (Jacaranda) was assessed on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2022. Minor structural defects were noted within the canopy; however, these flaws/defects are considered to be manageable given the appropriate arboricultural practises are applied moving forward - refer figures 2, 3 & 4 for detail.



**Figure 3** – Subject tree at the time of inspection (20 October 2022) Image looking South-West



**Figure 4** – Subject tree at the time of inspection (20 October 2022) Image taken during the aerial inspection



The canopy displays good health with acceptable structure, minor structural flaws will require addressing as part of the ongoing canopy management moving forward. The subject tree displays good new seasons growth (includes regeneration), typical leaf colouration and size at time of assessment.

Several structural issues were observed including; previous deleterious pruning (i.e. tree has been lion tailed, however canopy structure could be remediated to offset previous works); stem failures ranging from 50 mm dia. to 150 mm in diameter; deadwood ranging to 50 mm in diameter, minor rubbing and crossing stems to 50mm, however; these issues are generally considered manageable within the scope of an ongoing, proactive tree management, canopy pruning and monitoring program.

Findings from the preliminary below and aerial inspections are as follows:

- Tree presents a unique form; the excessive fluting is not a typical characteristic of Jacaranda's. The fluting appears to be in response to previous damage, however, the tree has stabilised well since the damage and still presents solid wood throughout the canopy.
- Inspection of the root flare and first order roots revealed no apparent soil cracks, root plate subsidence, heaving, or noticeable movement at ground level, with good root taper and minor fill noted to the North, East and West sides of the tree (<100mm) however is not considered as a concern at this time.

The subject tree assessed has been identified as capable of being retained provided the issues identified within this report are acknowledged &/or addressed within a long term tree management plan (refer Point 4. *Recommendations* for further detail).



### 3. Conclusions

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The Subject tree is able to be retained - this is contingent on the Recommendations identified within this report being appropriately implemented in a timely manner and; to the required standards as identified by Arbor Centre.

Specialist corrective and remedial pruning undertaken over several years can alleviate defects within the canopy and extend the useful life expectancy of the tree for the foreseeable future.

During canopy pruning works, aerial inspections can also be undertaken throughout the canopy to identify (and address minor) structural issues not visible from the ground level.

The long-term welfare of the tree and its safety would best be served by undertaking regular inspections to monitor tree progress and assess, identify report and/or make further recommendations (remedial or otherwise) on any change or tree related problem(s) that may arise.

Achieving the successful long-term retention of the tree will require specialist and timely Arboricultural input into the development of an appropriate long term Tree Management Plan (including the development and implementation of a 'tree specific' canopy pruning plan).

Future Investigations as part of the management plan may include analytical assessment and soil profile assessments to validate ground level and preliminary observations. The tree will also require ongoing assessment to verify long-term status in terms of health and safety.

The management of risk is underpinned by the standards of ongoing maintenance afforded the tree. It is imperative that only suitably qualified arborists, experienced in veteran tree preservation are engaged in monitoring, maintaining and managing the tree into the future.

Any works undertaken are to be approved by one of Arbor Centres Arboricultural Consultants prior to their commencement and; undertaken by Arbor Centre's qualified Arboriculturist's or a suitably qualified Arborist nominated by the client.



## 4. Recommendations

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**Tree Is To Be Retained And The Following Recommendations Implemented By Arbor Centre:-**

### 4.1 Short Term (Immediate Actions)

- That Corrective/Remedial Canopy Pruning be undertaken to address structural defects that were noted in the inspection;
- Aerially inspect the remainder of the canopy for potential structural, health and/or other issues that may not be detectable from ground level.

*Note: Aerial investigations are able to be undertaken at the time of pruning.*

### 4.2 Medium Term (~12 months)

- That an *Arboricultural Management Plan* (AMP) be developed and implemented for the tree to addresses the risk management and long term canopy management requirements, while at the same time as maximising tree amenity and longevity. Investigations as part of the AMP may include root zone and soil profile assessments.

### 4.3 Longer Term (~2 – 3 years)

- That reinspection of the tree be undertaken in 2 – 3 years time (and/or following severe weather events) by the Consultant to assess and make further recommendations (remedial or otherwise) where required.
- Based on tree response to the short term corrective/remedial pruning, commence specialist remedial pruning to alleviate remaining defects from within the canopy and establish framework to enable future maintenance.
- Review undertaken of management plan every 5 years.





## 5. References & Reading

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## Arbor Centre - Visual Tree Assessment (VTA)

| <p><b>Tree Identification Number -</b> AC0001</p> <p><b>Genus Species -</b> <i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i></p> <p><b>Common Name -</b> Jacaranda</p> <p><b>Tree Origins -</b> Exotic</p> <p><b>Site Address -</b> 59 Ellesmere Street</p> <p><b>Suburb -</b> Mount Hawthorn</p> <p><b>Postcode -</b> 6016</p> <p><b>Name of Assessor</b> Alex Bodenstaff</p> <p><b>Date -</b> 20/10/2022</p> <p><b>Time -</b> 9:00</p>   |   |                         |                       |  |   |
|--|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| <p><b>Height Estimate ~</b> 15 (Metres)</p> <p><b>Canopy Spread ~</b> 15 (Metres)</p> <p><b>Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) -</b> 0.670 (mm)</p> <p><b>Bole/Root Flare -</b> 0.780 (mm)</p> <p><b>AS 4970 Nominal TPZ -</b> 8.04 (Metre Radius)</p> <p><b>AS 4970 Nominal SRZ -</b> 2.98 (Metre Radius)</p> <p><b>Estimated Life Expectancy (ELE) -</b> 40+ Years</p> <p><b>Age -</b> Mature</p> <p><b>Tree Type -</b> Deciduous</p> <p><b>Tree Health -</b> Good</p> <p><b>Tree Structure -</b> Acceptable</p>  |   |                         |                       |  |   |
| <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: left;">Observations &amp; Comments</th> <th style="width: 50%; text-align: left;">Additional Comments -</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>Site -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Location - Tree Situated in Rear Yard</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Character - Residence</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Landscape Features - Turfed, Irrigated</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Site History - Grade Change</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Infrastructure - None Noted</p> <p><b>Health -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Leaf Colouration - Typical</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Leaf Size - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Canopy Density - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Wound Occlusion - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Seasonal Growth - Good</p> <p><b>Canopy Structure -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Previous Failures (mm) - 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| Observations & Comments  | Additional Comments -   |                         |                       |  |   |
| <p><b>Site -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Location - Tree Situated in Rear Yard</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Character - Residence</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Landscape Features - Turfed, Irrigated</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Site History - Grade Change</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Infrastructure - None Noted</p> <p><b>Health -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Leaf Colouration - Typical</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Leaf Size - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Canopy Density - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Wound Occlusion - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Seasonal Growth - Good</p> <p><b>Canopy Structure -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Previous Failures (mm) - 50-100, 100-150</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Deadwood (mm) - 0-50</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Hollows (mm) - 100-200</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Rubbing/Crossing Stems (mm) - 0-50</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Unions - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Taper - Acceptable</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Decay - Yes - Main Stem</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Cracks - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Suppression - Minor</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Symmetry - Intermediate</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Previous Pruning - Excessively Thinned</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Form - Unique Form</p> <p><b>Acoustic Sounding -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Hollow Sounding - Yes - Main Stem</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Visual Decay - Yes - Main Stem</p> <p><b>Pest and Disease -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Sporophores - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Pests - Caterpillar</p> <p><b>Root Crown/Flare (Ground Level) -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Visible - Yes</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Defects - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">1st Order Roots - Good</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Root Taper - Good</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Encroachment - Yes - Minor</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Girdling - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Surface Roots - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Scalping - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Base Movement - No</p> <p><b>Soil -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Drainage Issues - No</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Shallow - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Compaction - None Noted</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Soil Type - Sand</p> <p><b>Recommendations -</b></p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Preliminary Recommendation - Retain</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Tree Management Works - Undertake Canopy Pruning Requirements</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Specific Pruning - Remedial Pruning</p>   | <p>Tree is situated in the centre of grassed area</p> <p>House was built between 1929/1930 by Harry Tandy</p> <p>Tree is situated in the centre of grassed area</p> <p>minor grade change (&lt;100mm) from the North to South (front to rear) of the yard</p> <p>Irrigation was noted at the time of inspection</p> <p>Tree had undergone seasonal defoliation at the time of inspection; New growth noted in canopy and bark displays expressions of healthy growing wood</p> <p>Active wound occlusion was noted</p> <p>New Growth was noted in the Canopy</p> <p>Minor failures noted on the Northern side of the canopy adjacent patio</p> <p>Build up of minor deadwood throughout the canopy</p> <p>Minor hollows noted</p> <p>Bifurcates at Ground level</p> <p>Minor decay present (refer Acoustic Sounding) - Fluting appears to be in response to previous damage</p> <p>Tree has been excessively thinned along stems (lion-tailed); however could be managed using appropriate arboricultural practises</p> <p>Tree has excessive fluting, which is considered unique to Jacaranda's</p> <p>All unions tested with acoustic hammer - minor hollows present in main stem</p> <p>Minor damage present - Fluting in response to damage - Good within canopy</p> <p>Larvae present - unknown pest</p> <p>Root flare was visible at the time of inspection, minor fill was built up around the basal/flare transition zone on the Northern side of the tree - &lt;100mm of fill for grass</p> <p>Southern transitional zone displayed good first order roots</p> <p>Grass was noted to the North, East and Western sides of the main stem - grass against trunk</p> <p>Soil moisture appeared to be OK at the time of inspection - High organics noted</p> <p>Typical grey sandy soil beneath top organic layer (grass layer), it was noted to have high levels of organics in upper horizon</p> <p>Development of Pruning and Management Plan for the subject tree</p> <p>Develop and implement an arboricultural management plan for the subject tree, so that appropriate arboricultural practises are applied in accordance with AS 4373</p> <p>Canopy requires, remedial works to offset previous pruning, cleaning, reduction, and removal of previous failures, development of a 5 yearly Pruning and Management Plan</p> |                         |                       |  |   |





## Appendix B: Images



*Image taken by Arbor Centre facing South – showing canopy heading toward eastern neighbour*



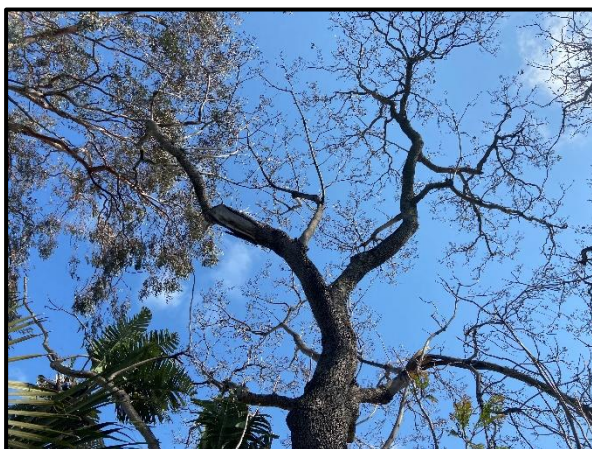
*Image taken by Arbor Centre facing North – showing fluting at ground level*



*Image taken by Arbor Centre from within canopy – showing fluting within the canopy*



*Image taken by Arbor Centre facing West – showing failed stem caught in canopy*



*Image taken by Arbor Centre from within canopy – showing wounding from previous failures*



*Image taken by Arbor Centre from within canopy – showing sound unions*





## **ARBORICULTURAL ASSESSMENT FORM – TO ACCOMPANY THE NOMINATION FOR EACH TREE OF SIGNIFICANCE**

(Please attach photographs as supporting evidence)

| <b>Arborist Information</b>           |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Name of Arborist                      |  |
| Business name (if applicable)         |  |
| Relevant qualifications/certification |  |
| Contact details                       |  |

| <b>Tree Information</b>                                       |  |
|---|--|
| Tree location (property address and location of tree on site) |  |
| Botanical name (including variety/ cultivar if applicable)    |  |
| Common name/s   |  |
| Estimated current tree age                                    |  |
| Life stage (active growth/ maturity/ senescence/other)        |  |
| Expected remaining life span                                  |  |
| Height, trunk circumference and canopy spread                 |  |



| Considerations for inclusion on Trees of Significance Register   |  |
|--|--|
| Aesthetic significance (e.g. exceptional specimen; significant contribution to the amenity of the neighbourhood etc.)  |  |
| Horticultural significance (e.g. outstandingly large height, trunk circumference or canopy spread; rare or unusual species with genetic or propagative value; likely to be remnant or regrowth of local native vegetation) |  |
| Structural integrity (root collar, trunk and crown)  |  |
| Impact of the tree on nearby properties (physical contact with structures; shading, dropping of leaf/flower/fruit etc.)  |  |
| Risk and safety considerations in relation to the tree (likelihood and consequence of branch/tree failure)   |  |

| Remedial work  |  |
|--|--|
| Past remedial work (e.g. evidence of past reduction pruning) |  |
| Recommended immediate remedial work                          |  |
| Recommended maintenance program                              |  |

| Other considerations   |  |
|--|--|
| Any other information that the arborist considers relevant to the tree's suitability for inclusion on the Trees of Significance Register |  |

| Arborist's verification |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Date of inspection:     |   |
| Signature               |  |

If there is insufficient space on this form, please feel free to attach additional pages. Please make sure that any extra pages are securely attached to this form and have the address of the place being nominated at the top.



## Appendix D: Overview of Australian Standards AS 4373

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Australian Standard AS 4373 'Pruning of Amenity Trees' 2007 has been developed to provide a guide on tree pruning procedures and practices to limit poor or deleterious type pruning being unnecessarily inflicted onto amenity trees.

The result of incorrect pruning of a tree is often irreversible, can negatively impact its health and structure and create unnecessary hazards within and surrounding the trees.

Correct tree pruning practices can reduce the likelihood of branch failures, limit pest and disease infestations, improve site safety and tree amenity, encourage sound structural development and extend tree longevity.

**Arbor Centre Note:-** Any pruning works undertaken to the assessed tree should be:-

- Specified by Arbor Centres AQF Level 8 Arboricultural Consultants (AQF 8 –Melbourne University Graduate Certificate in Arboriculture);
- Be undertaken by Arbor Centres trained, experienced and qualified Arborists (min AQF Certificate 3 in Arboriculture);
- Recognising the Australian Standards AS 4373 'Pruning of Amenity Trees' 2007 and;
- Undertaken under the direction and supervision of Arbor Centres AQF 5 – Diploma in Arboriculture Level 5 Arborists.

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**References:** AS 4373 2007



## Appendix E: Historical Data – Aerial Imagery from 1942



Prepared for: Shelley Blechynden  
59 Ellesmere Street, Mount Hawthorn Visual Tree Assessment (VTA) – October 2022

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If you have any queries or if we can be of further assistance, do not hesitate to call the Arbor Centre office on (08) 9359 9300.

Regards,



**Alex Bodenstaff – Urban Planning Consultant**

B. Urb&RegPlan. Curtin Uni

On Behalf of

**Rob Bodenstaff – Principal – Arboricultural Consultant**

Grad. Cert. Arb Melb. Uni.  
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- The uses of this advice in circumstances or situations other than the specific subject of this advice;
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