



MOORE TREES

Consulting Arborist

Picus Sonic Tomograph Testing

3 Kalgoa Road
Bellevue Hill NSW 2023



Prepared for
Woollahra Council

Prepared by
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Summary

This report has been commissioned by Philip Jackson of Woollahra Council to conduct a structural test on one (1) Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*) located on the Council nature strip outside 3 Kalgoa Road, Bellevue Hill NSW 2023. This structural test has been undertaken with the use of the Picus® Sonic Tomograph. This instrument uses the velocity of sound waves to calculate the area of decay within a tree. Test results are shown as a colour coded two dimensional image.

Picus® Sonic Tomograph testing was undertaken on the 1st October, 2008. The tree has a large stem wound that appears to have been colonized by a decay fungi.

The test revealed minor decay at the test site. The tree has 80% sound wood at the test location. The tree is structurally sound at the test site and should be retained. A further test in twelve (12) months time should be conducted to ascertain the rate of spread of the decay.

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1. Introduction

This report has been commissioned by Philip Jackson of Woollahra Council to conduct a structural test on one (1) Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*) located on the footpath at 3 Kalgoa Road, Bellevue Hill NSW 2023. This structural test has been undertaken with the use of the Picus® Sonic Tomograph. This instrument uses the velocity of sound waves to calculate the area of decay within a tree. Test results are shown as a colour coded two dimensional image.

This tree is located on a public footpath and has developed a tall trunk that bifurcates at approximately seven (7) metres from ground level.

The subject tree has a large stem wound at the base on the western side and is showing evidence of bulging (Plate 3). The wound has been tested as decay located at the base of the tree could possibly cause the tree to fail at the base if large portions of the trunk are decayed.

No aerial inspections or root excavations were conducted as a part of this report.

2. Test results

Tree 1



PICUS test conducted by: Paul Vezgoff
Test Height at sensor 1: 600mm
Tree Circumference: 3070mm
Botanical Name: Sydney Blue Gum
(*Eucalyptus saligna*)
Location: 3 Kalgoa Road Bellevue Hill
Date of test: 1/10/08

Plate 1: The subject tree. Image shows the tree has a symmetrical shape. Targets below the tree include, footpath, private and public property. P. Vezgoff.

Tree 1 - Summary

The Picus® Sonic Tomograph test was conducted at six hundred (600) millimetres from the base of the subject tree. This area was chosen as it was the most likely area of the greatest portion of decay to be present, due to a large wound on the western side of the tree. There appeared to be the possibility of decay fungi having entered the heartwood of the subject tree. The subject tree appeared to have a species of decay causing fungi that has caused the wood within the wound area to become soft.

The Tomogram shows that a decay fungus was found at the test location, in very small quantities. Test results indicate that there is approximately 80% sound wood at the test location (Plate 2).

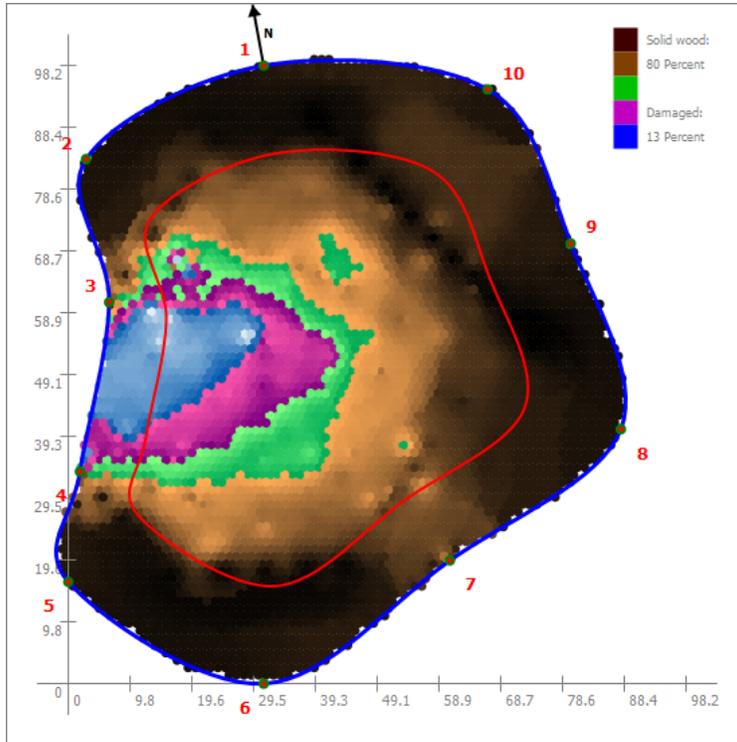


Plate 2: Tomogram of the test site. Red line is indicative of the 70/30 linear measurement. P. Vezgoff.



Plate 3: Image shows the wound and bulging occurring at the base of the trunk. Red line is the approximate location of the test site.

3. Observations

The subject tree is a mature Sydney Blue Gum (*Eucalyptus saligna*) approximately nineteen (19) metres in height. The age of the tree is approximately 35 years old.

The tree has symmetrical form and has normal canopy density for the species. The crown spread is eight (8) metres. The branch attachments within the canopy appear sound. There is minor dead wood within the canopy. Old pruning wounds show good occlusion indicating that the tree is in good health. There was no evidence of fruiting bodies, cracks or splits on the trunk. I could see no evidence of termites. There is a large wound present on the western side of the trunk, probably due to mechanical damage. Wound wood is developing around this wound and is causing the lower portion of the trunk to have a bulging appearance.

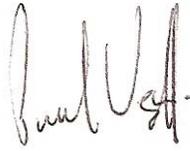
The tree would be considered co-dominant however as it is surrounded by other mature tree species in the immediate proximity. This collection of canopies would help provide the tree with additional protection during strong winds.

4. Recommendations

The test revealed varying stages of decay at the test site with 80% sound wood at the test location. The tree is structurally sound at the test site and should be retained. A further test in twelve (12) months time should be conducted to ascertain the rate of spread of the decay.

If you have any questions in relation to this report, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Vezgoff
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Moore Trees



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