

Jonathan Hazell

My career in arboriculture began “on the tools” as a recent forestry graduate with the tree gang in the London Borough of Ealing in 1980. As my career developed, from a first tentative role as the Tree Officer for Northampton Borough Council to senior management or Director positions with national bodies, much of my work became engagement, either outward facing – talking with potential customers, managing client relationships, negotiating with contractors, the general public and with industry regulators, or inward facing – ensuring that compliance and commercial issues were understood and appropriately addressed within the business.

My wide experience has led me to be pragmatic, seeking solutions to the sometimes complex but always dynamic relationships between trees, buildings, and people, rather than dogmatically perpetuating problems.

Since October 2011 I have shared my experience and advice to a wide customer base, from local authorities, the private householder, and multi-site, multi-function support service providers. I have been active in trying to help clients to

define how I can meet their need,
design the level of service that will meet that need, and
deliver the agreed outcome, which has generally been peace of mind.

I am retained by Warwick District Council to provide commentary upon applications for tree work and their development management function, and as the Tree Safety Officer for a local school.

Typical instructions range from individual tree inspections, development site surveys, the preparation of arboricultural impact assessments and method statements, or the preparation of management strategies. I have also lectured to arboricultural students on consultancy work and supported local contractors with the preparation of tender documents for tree services. For several years I have been privileged to be one of the panel of judges appointed by Eljays44 for their annual Pro Landscaper Business Awards.

Contact details

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CPD

- November 2017 – Veteran Tree Management Workshop
- November 2016 – Tree Preservation Orders: Effective Application
- March 2009 – A Practitioner’s Guide to Visual Tree Assessment
- October 2008 – Quantified Tree Risk Assessment licensed user training course, number 1272
- February 2005 – NEBOSH Level 3 Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety
- December 2000 – Competent Person under Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations
- February 1994 – Fellow Member of the Arboricultural Association

Education

- 1977 – 80 University College North Wales, Bangor: BSc. (Hons) Forestry
- 1976 – 77 Hounslow Borough College: 2 GCE “O” levels, 2 GCE “A” levels
- 1969 – 76 Isleworth Grammar School: 9 GCE “O” levels, 3 GCE “A” levels



Career history

October 2011 to present

I established my own arboricultural consultancy practice and became involved in every stage of each project, from helping my clients to accurately define their need, then designing the level of service that would meet that need, and finally delivering the outcome that they required, which has generally been a consent of some kind.

To date I have provided a range of arboricultural support services, for example:

- an understanding of the legal framework that protects trees
- analysis, critique and review of third-party expert testimony
- development site tree surveys to BS 5837:2012
- enterprise-wide tree risk management strategies
- method statements and codes of practice to support tender submissions
- preparation of lectures at Level 6 for arboricultural students
- preparation of schedules of rates for tree services
- preparation of tender actions for tree work services
- recruitment advice
- sustainable tree and woodland management
- tree hazard assessments and management recommendations
- Tree Officer role for Northampton Borough Council (now West Northamptonshire Council) between March 2016 and September 2023
- Tree Officer role for Warwick DC since October 2015

Clients have included:

- an agricultural college and various schools
- architects, builders, developers, surveyors and project managers
- charities and heritage bodies
- ecological consultants, planning consultants
- local planning authorities
- parish councils, housing trusts and local authorities
- multi-site, multi-function support service providers
- private individuals

Parkwood Consultancy Services

Head of Arboriculture

January 2008 to September 2011

Parkwood Consultancy Services was a multi-disciplinary environmental consultancy practice that specialised in bid management, project management, landscape design, environmental and ecological services.

As the Head of Arboriculture, I was

- the principal consultant specialising in tree surveys and inspections, tree hazard evaluation and risk assessment, as well as the interactions between trees and the built form,
- responsible to the Managing Director for
 - compliance with environmental and planning law as well as health, safety and welfare across the arboricultural offering,
 - innovation in service delivery,
 - providing client-ready data,
 - recruitment of new staff, and
 - tendering for new business.



On behalf of local government, commercial and retail clients I was responsible for implementing and project managing a wide range of quality assured instructions, including:

- pre-development tree inspections to BS5837:2005,
- large-scale tree inventory surveys,
- individual tree inspections,
- tree risk management strategies and plans, and
- arboricultural contract and project management.

Whilst with Parkwood Holdings I was able to continue my engagement with the arboricultural industry as an industry representative on several bodies and committees, including being an Arboricultural Association Trustee (and Chair of their Board of Directors for two years), a member of Lantra's Trees and Timber Industry Group and the National Sector Scheme 18 committee.

Glendale

Director of Arboriculture

January 2000 to December 2007

Glendale specialised in supplying arboricultural and land management services throughout the UK, particularly essentially to local authorities. In addition to P&L I was responsible to the Board for tendering for new arboricultural and land-management business, compliance issues (health, safety and welfare, environment, training) innovation in service delivery and the recruitment of new senior staff. Moreover, as one of the Regional Health and Safety Advisors I was responsible for continuously reviewing the company's health, safety and welfare documents, for investigating incidents and reporting data to the executive board, developing common reporting models and delivering training programmes.

Arboricultural Association

Technical Director

February 1996 to January 2000

I was responsible for the promotion of the Association, acting as the industry representative to a wide range of interested bodies, assisting with the development of competences and qualifications, stimulating the members' technical and professional development, providing training opportunities and representing the views of the membership to the non-executive Board.

I was instrumental in developing the Association's widely adopted Risk Assessment in Commercial Arboriculture programme and the Guide to Good Climbing Practice. In addition, I was the lead author for what became Guidance Note 8 – Framework for Tree Work Contracts.

Milton Keynes

April 1985 to February 1996

In Milton Keynes I was responsible for assisting in the development, implementation and refinement of strategies for the management of the landscape, for managing the contract letting process, and letting contracts, and for assisting in setting annual budgets and monitoring variances with costs.

Northampton Borough Council

June 1982 to April 1985

In my first technical or professional role, I was responsible for arboricultural, ecological and silvicultural advice for the general public, and members, fellow officers and officers of the Development Corporation.

August 1980 to June 1982

After graduating I gained valuable practical experience as part of the direct labour force in Ealing, as one half of a two-man band providing arboricultural and silvicultural work on the Norfolk/Suffolk border, and as a self-employed arborist in West London.

