Melbourne Road Oak

Summary

Prior to the investigation (by use of Picus Sonic Tomograph), fungal fruiting bodies of the wood decay pathogen *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Chicken of the Woods) were noted by a member of Amey's Arboriculture team.

The fungal fruiting bodies were located at an open cavity near the base of the stem's northern aspect.

The purpose of the scans detailed below was to aid detailed investigations to establish the extent of decay present in the lower stem in order to provide options for the future management of the tree.

Three scans were taken at spacing of 250mm up the stem.

The results of the Tomography indicate that the extent of decay did not breach t/R ratio of 30/70%, the point at which fully-crowned trees become dangerous (in hollow tree stems, the t/R ratio is the ratio of the thickness (t) of sound wood to the radius (R) of the stem. A criterion helpful in evaluating tree risk).

In light of these results (and the location of the tree within the carriageway) the following management options were considered:

  A. Removal and replacement if highway safety obligations prevent safe retention in the carriageway.
  B. "Heavy" reduction of the existing crown volume (approx.. 30%) and instigation of a long term heritage tree management strategy with annual inspections. The installation of line markings and/or bollards to highlight tree encroachment and guide traffic.

Following much determination, option A was considered most appropriate.

PICUS Sonic Tomogram – 1 x *Quercus robur*, Melbourne Road, Sheffield

Tree Data:

Town:	Sheffield
Neighbourhood:	Stockbridge
Road:	Melbourne Road
Tree species:	*Quercus robur*
Tree height [m]:	13 m
Trunk circumference cm (at height of 1,3m):	395 cm
Level of measurement (above ground):	Scan 1- 500mm
	Scan 2- 750mm
	Scan 3- 1000mm
Measured circumference at tomography level:	Scan 1- 405cm
	Scan 2- 395cm
	Scan 3- 395cm
North at sensor:	10
Order from:	Amey (Sheffield)
Expert:	Tim Wetherhill Tech ArborA
Test Date:	27th January 2014

Melbourne Road Oak

Scan 1 at 500mm approx.
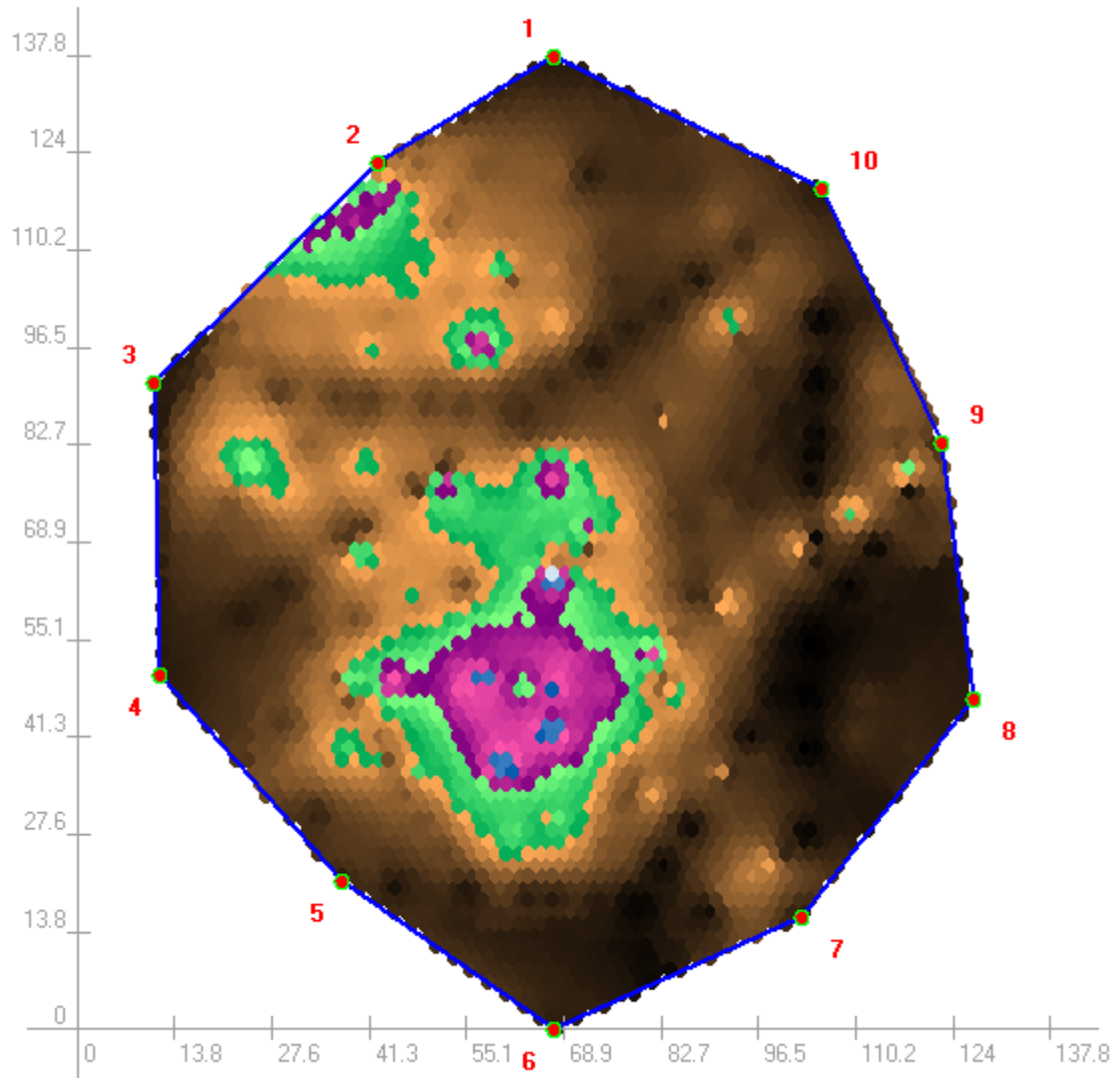
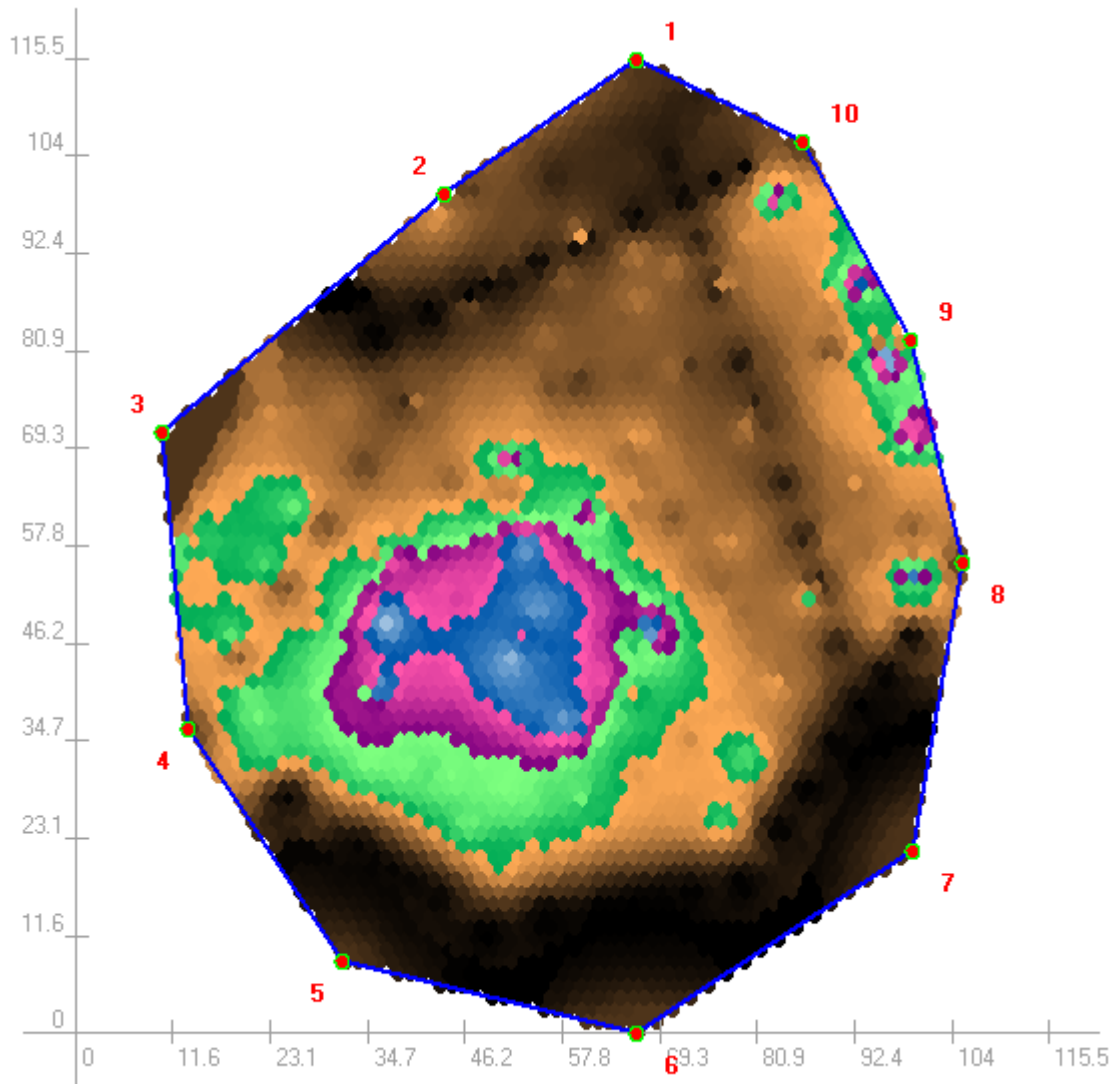# Melbourne Road Oak

Scan 1 photographs:

Melbourne Road Oak

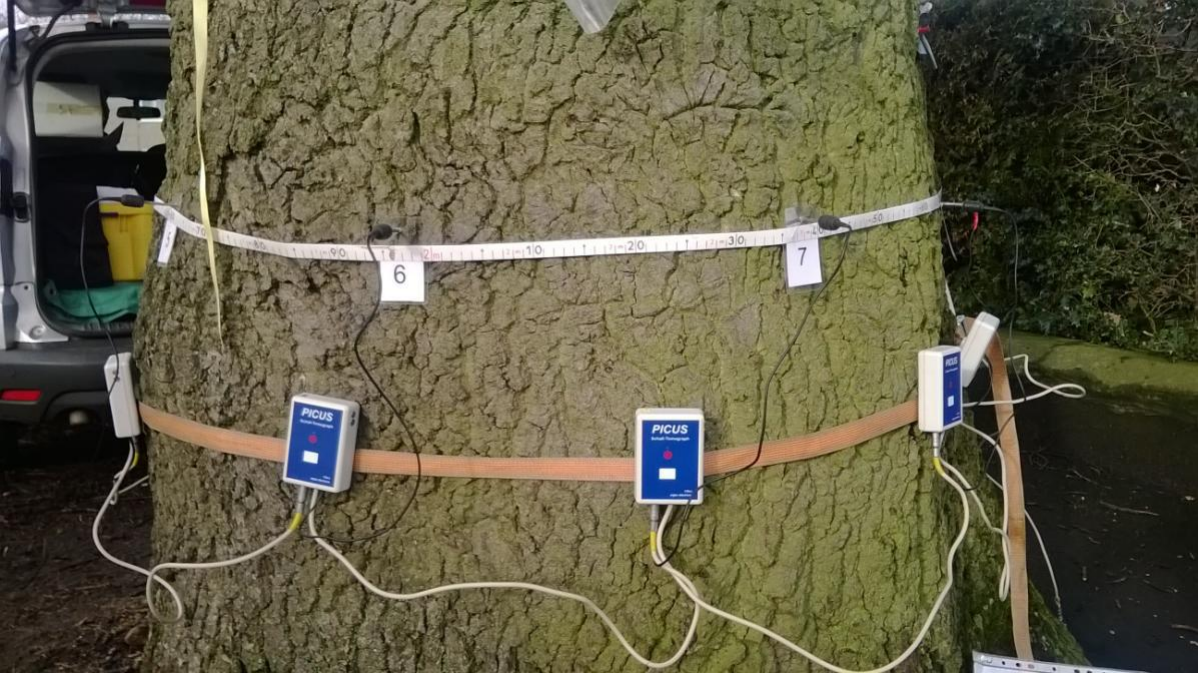# Melbourne Road Oak

Scan 2 at 750mm approx.

Melbourne Road Oak
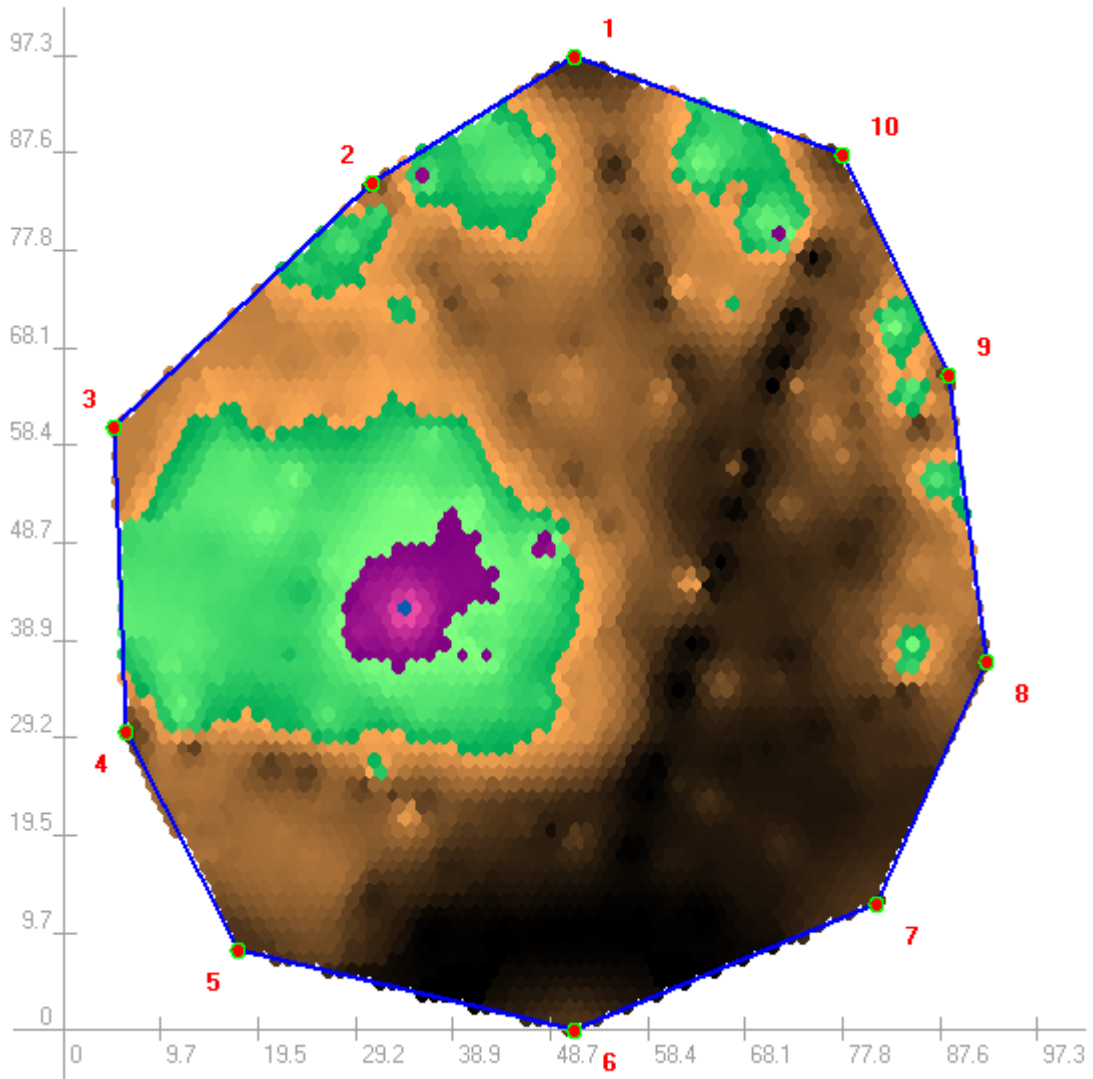
Scan 2 photographs:
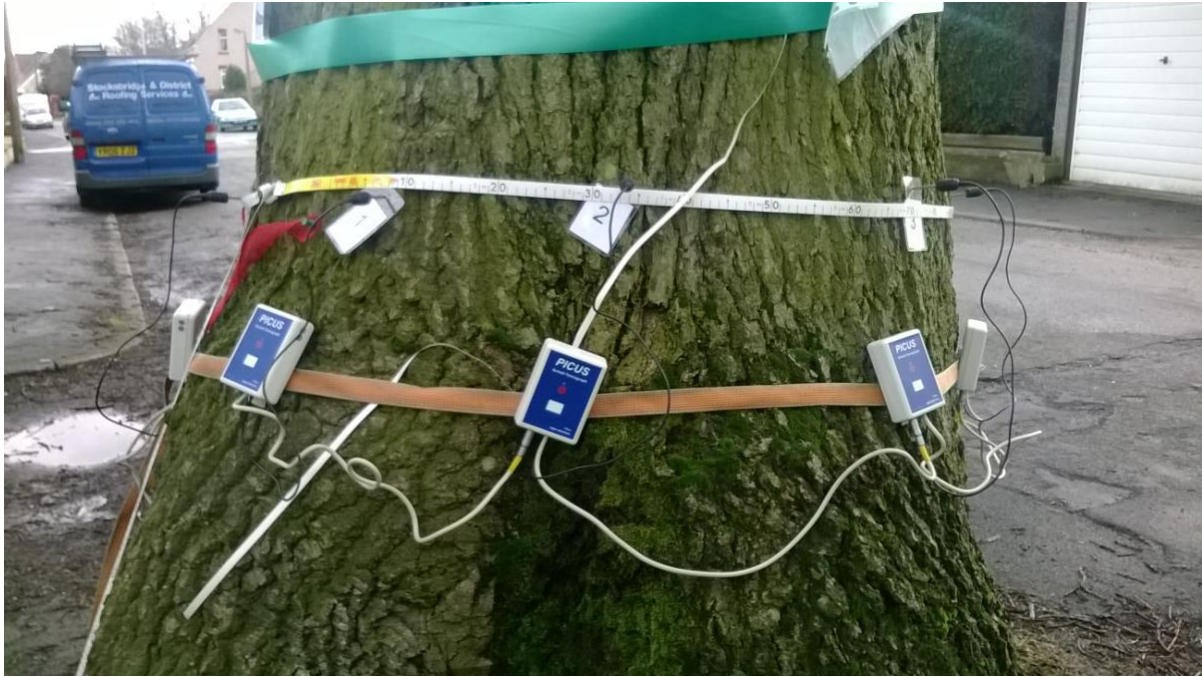
Melbourne Road Oak

Melbourne Road Oak

Scan 3 at 1000mm approx.

Melbourne Road Oak

Scan 3 photographs:

Melbourne Road Oak