

Duke McPherson, Arborist

201 East Mountain Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93108

Phone 805 705-9529

E-mail: treemanduke@cox.net

May 16, 2010

Richele Mailand
Richele Design & Consulting
1129 State Street # 21
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



Regarding: Coast Live Oak tree protection issues, 1402 Grand Avenue, Santa Barbara, California.

Dear Richele,

I am writing you this arborist letter report to document our findings from our meeting on May 14th on the subject property in reference to the protection of a Coast Live Oak, *Quercus agrifolia*, during proposed construction of a detached garage.

The tree is located on the upper edge of a steep slope above and to the northeast of the main residence building (see the accompanying plan section). It has an 18" trunk diameter at 4.5' up from the soil level. At present it appears to be in good health though, being situated in a fast draining soil medium, is subject to fluctuation depending on seasonal rainfall totals.

The Critical Root Zone (CRZ) of the tree is represented by the area within the dripline plus 5', is shown on the attached site plan section along with the outline of the proposed garage. The configuration of the garage outline overlaps the CRZ for a maximum of 3' along an 18' section.

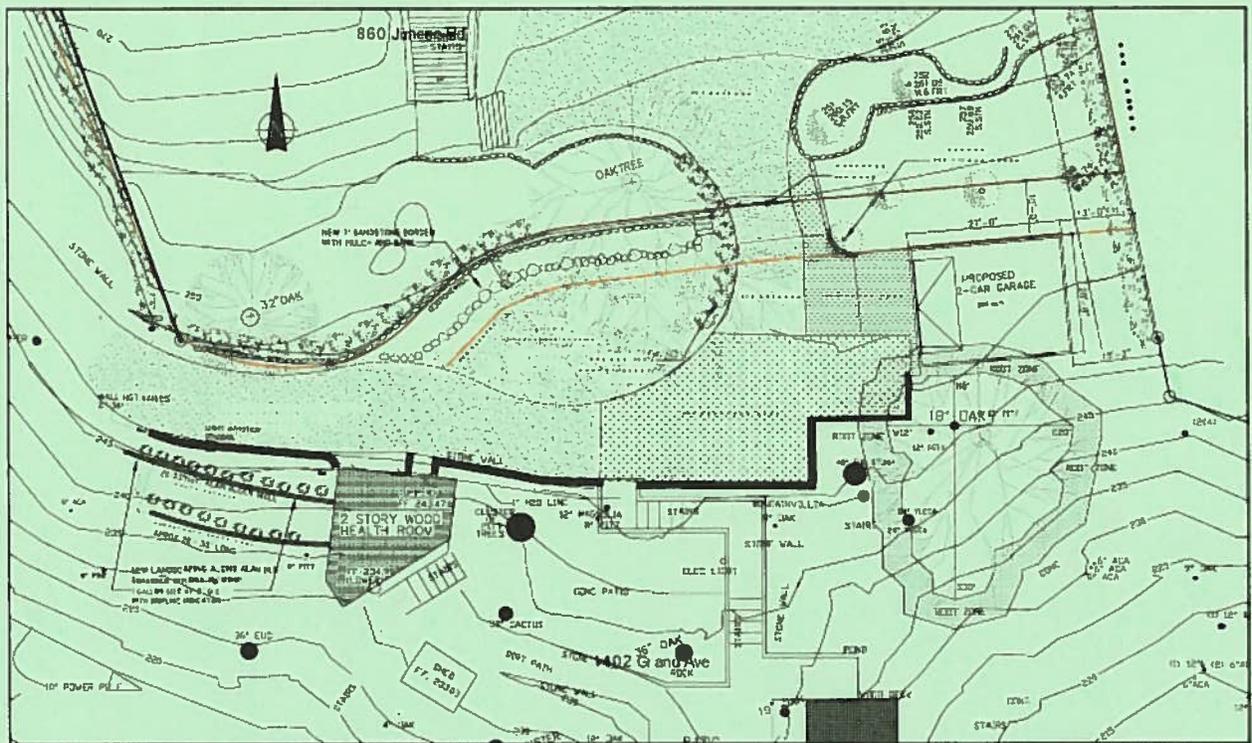
I conclude that the area intruded upon by the garage foundation excavation is of such a small fraction of the total CRZ that the tree's health will not be affected.

In this letter I also include concerns of another Coast Live Oak whose trunk is located on the property adjoining (860 Jimeno Road). One of the chief concerns was the proposal to use part of the area within its CRZ for a turnaround. I addressed the problem in a letter form arborist report dated April 16, 2009 to you. I concluded that because the owner had installed perforated plastic pipes in holes drilled throughout the exposed soil area, proper root aeration and water infiltration will occur even though vehicles would be allowed.

Sincerely yours,

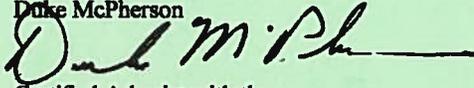
Duke McPherson

EXHIBIT D



The subject oak (18" trunk diameter) is located to the right of the plan section. Its Critical Root Zone is the area from the trunk to the outer edge of the darkened five foot zone adjoining the tree's dripline.

Report prepared by
Duke McPherson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Duke McPherson", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Certified Arborist with the
International Society of Arboriculture
Certification # WE-0690A

Member of the
American Society of
Consulting Arborists
Membership # 1113

Duke McPherson, Arborist

P.O. Box 5667

Santa Barbara, CA 93150

Phone 805 969-4676

E-mail: treemanduke@cox.net

April 16, 2009

Richele Design & Consulting
914 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Re: notes added to a letter of March 26, 2009.

Dear Richele,

I am writing this arborist report in letter form concerning the protection of a Coast Live Oak tree, *Quercus agrifolia*, on the property at 860 Jimeno Road, Santa Barbara, California. I wrote an earlier report, dated October 28, 2008, which dealt with some of the same issues as are found here. As mentioned before, the tree is 49" in diameter at 4 ½' up the trunk and despite a recent rather severe pruning and an attack of the California Oak Moth, *Phryganidia californica*, during the summer of 2008, is, in my opinion, in good health. Two inch diameter holes had been cored by the owner to a depth of 18" over a large section of the compacted soil area south of and below a retaining wall 6' from the tree's base.

The issue at present is whether the entire section of 1059 square feet and roughly in the shape of a half circle (termed here, the subject area) can be used to park vehicles or whether it would be preferable to use only a fraction of the area as a "hammerhead turnaround" and mulch and landscape approximately 594 square feet of the area.

First, we need to study exactly what occurs when soil is compacted. The upper most layer is compressed to form a hard crust (approximately 6" depending on soil texture) which inhibits the movement of air that is vital to maintaining good root health. It also prevents water infiltration into the soil during periods of rain. Roots generally do not establish themselves in this layer.

also ref B-5 geotechnical

It is my opinion that root health could be preserved in the subject area even if it was used for vehicular parking and turning around. I recommend that the entire area be cored in the manner described above and that perforated plastic pipe (Schedule 40 rated with ¼ " drilled holes) be placed in the holes to a depth of 18". In this way the holes would be preserved permanently as lined aeration and water infiltration tubes thus counteracting the possibility of compaction by vehicular traffic.

The above letter, written on March 28, 2009, leaves out two additional issues:

1. There is a setback line located west of a driveway which borders the subject area on the east, running north to south, and 10' into the area of the Critical Root Zone of the oak tree. To better insure that parking does not occur within the setback, it has been suggested that the area be planted. I recommend that a non-root invasive plant which needs little irrigation water be used such as *Agave attenuata*.
2. Another smaller area at the western end of the subject area is to be planted with a tree. This is a difficult soil for tree roots to penetrate, inhibiting establishment. Also, roots could become invasive to the retaining wall and driveway. I recommend that Agaves or their equivalent be planted here instead of a tree.

Sincerely yours,

Duke McPherson
Certified Arborist with the
International Society of Arboriculture
Certification # WE-690-A

Duke McPherson, Arborist

201 East Mountain Drive
Santa Barbara, CA 93108
Phone 805 969-4676
E-mail: treemanduke@cox.net

October 28, 2008

Richele Design and Consulting
914 Anacapa Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

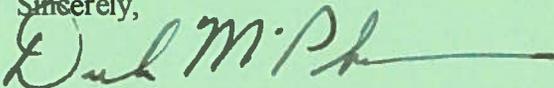
Regarding: 860 Jimeno Road, Santa Barbara, California

Dear Richele,

I am writing you this letter report in response to our meeting on October 24th at the property cited above. At that time you drew my attention to a 49" diameter (at 4.5' up the trunk) Coast Live Oak tree, *Quercus agrifolia*, situated on sloped terrain below (south) of the main residence. I examined the tree to determine its health level and determined that, even though it has sparse foliage throughout the canopy due to pruning for view and has had a moderate attack of the California Oak Moth, I assessed it to be in good health. You voiced concern that a proposal to pave the soil over a large part of the root system and demolition and re-making of the field stone retaining wall at its base may negatively impact its health.

First, I conclude that the program of tree care being carried on is exemplary: the terraced area around its base is not being irrigated, the retaining wall has had weep holes drilled into it every four feet at its base to allow for effective winter season drainage, and the approximately 1300 square foot compacted decomposed granite ground cover has had aeration holes drilled through it into the soil below. I recommend that no disturbance of the retaining wall occurs to prevent possible root impact and that the present decomposed granite cover which provides maximum root system aeration should be left as is. I feel that paving the root area with asphalt may cut off the effective root aeration that the tree receives at the present time.

Sincerely,



Duke McPherson
Certified Arborist with the
International society of Arboriculture
Certification number WE-0690