

Nicholas Jones Consultants Limited
Independent Professional Arboricultural Consultancy

Arboricultural Assessment and Method Statement

Site: Land to North of the waste screening site
Thistleworth Farm
Grinders Lane
Dial Post
West Sussex
RH13 8NR

Prepared by: Nicholas Jones BSc. (Hons). MSc. M Arbor A

On behalf of Mr A Hyatt

Date: 22nd May 2020

Ref: NJCL 541-2

Executive Summary

Nicholas Jones Consultants Limited were commissioned by Mr A Hyatt to prepare an arboricultural report to advise on the potential impacts of the proposed development upon the existing tree population located on Land to the North of the waste screening site, Thistleworth Farm, Grinders Lane, Dial Post, West Sussex, RH13 8NR.

The proposed development includes the completion of landfill activity. This application is retrospective. The existing soil bund located on the western boundary of the site will be of no long-term detriment to the highway trees located off site.

This report confirms that there are no trees highlighted for removal to facilitate the proposed development.

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Validation Statement

This report contains supporting information regarding trees in relation to the proposed development at Land to the North of the waste screening site, Thistleworth Farm, Grinders Lane, Dial Post, West Sussex, RH13 8NR.

For Local Planning Authority purposes this report contains the following elements:

- ❖ A tree survey in accordance with the guidance contained in British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction – recommendations'. The survey has been undertaken by a competent and qualified arboriculturist.
- ❖ A plan indicating a North point and containing tree survey information and tree retention categories as defined in British Standard 5837:2012.
- ❖ An assessment of the arboricultural impacts of the proposed development and details of all trees to be removed or retained and any associated measures proposed for their protection.
- ❖ An Outline Arboricultural Method Statement detailing the means of tree protection and any constraints posed on the implementation and phasing of work.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Formal details – My name is Nicholas Jones I am the Principal Arboricultural Consultant for Nicholas Jones Consultants Limited. I have 30 years' experience in the arboricultural industry with the past 20 years acting as a consultant; I hold a BSc (Hons) in Arboriculture and an MSc in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry awarded by the University of Central Lancashire. I am a Professional Member of both the Arboricultural Association and the Consulting Arborist Society and a Lantra accredited Professional Tree Inspector; giving advice to clients on a wide range of arboricultural and horticultural issues.
- 1.2 This amended report has been commissioned by Mr A Hyatt in order to advise on the following:
- ❖ The species, size and position of any trees within the area of the proposed development and within neighbouring and adjoining areas where trees may have some significance to the proposed development.
 - ❖ The maturity and condition of the trees surveyed with appropriate recommendations for action.
 - ❖ The impact of the proposed development upon the tree population in and around the site.
 - ❖ Measures required to protect retained trees during the development works and the ongoing monitoring of construction works to ensure that retained trees remain protected effectively.
- 1.3 The site was visited on 6th November 2019 and a survey carried out identifying and locating the relevant trees.

- 1.4 The site is under the administrative jurisdiction of Horsham District Council. Reference to the councils online mapping facility has confirmed that there are, to date, no Tree Preservation Orders relating to the site. Moreover, the site is not located within a Conservation Area.

<https://horsham.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=f8cab77b5b72485abe9b30d4349c0047>

- 1.5 An assessment of the trees in the vicinity of the proposed development has been made in line with the guidance provided in British Standard 5837:2012 'Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction Recommendations'.

- 1.6 This report should be read with reference to the following drawing (Table 2):

Originator	Drg No	Title
Nicholas Jones Consultants Limited	NJCL 541-2_01_220520	Tree Layout Plan

Table 2

- 1.7 The following technical references are made in this report (Table 3):

Originator	Title/Reference
British Standards Institute	5837:2012 Trees in relation to design, demolition and construction - Recommendations

Table 3

2. Arboricultural Impact Assessment

- 2.1 Development proposals can impact on trees by requiring their removal or by adversely affecting their longevity through disturbance to their rooting environment or the impact of severe pruning. In many cases however it is possible to reduce the levels of disturbance by implementing precautionary measures and by adopting appropriate working practices.
- 2.2 An assessment of the trees affected by the proposed development is summarised in Table 4 below. Full details of all the trees assessed are provided in the tree survey schedule in **Appendix 1**.
- 2.3 The location of the tree group is provided in the Tree Layout Plan (Ref: NJCL 541-2_01_22520 **Appendix 2**).

	BS5837:2012 Assessment Category			
	A	B	C	U
Trees to be removed	0	0	0	0
Trees to be retained & protected	0	1 group	0	

Table 4

- 2.4 There is no tree removal or facilitative pruning required to facilitate the proposed development.
- 2.5 The existing site layout includes a soil bund to the west of the site which physically separates the adjacent retained trees from the area of the proposed development.

- 2.6 The component trees of G1 are located to the west on highway land (Plate 1). The trees are semi mature with an average stem diameter of 100mm and an associated Root Protection Area of 1.2m. The neighbouring bund is located outside the Root Protection Areas of the component trees and will not be of any long-term detriment.



Plate 2 – View north of existing bund and tree group G1

- 2.7 The bund was professionally created in 2018 and to date have displayed no indication of slipping. The proposed planting will aid stabilisation.

3. Arboricultural Method Statement

- 3.1 The principal purpose of an Arboricultural Method Statement is to ensure the preservation of retained trees through setting out appropriate working practices, construction techniques and tree protection measures that will be adopted when construction work is undertaken.
- 3.2 The proposed development is physically separated from the adjacent retained trees by the existing soil bund, which will act as an adequate protection barrier.
- 3.3 In consideration of the above, there are is no requirement for any additional tree protection measures in relation to the proposed development.

4. Summary & Conclusions

4.1 British Standard 5837: 2012 contains clear and current recommendations for a best practice approach to the assessment, retention and protection of trees on development sites. The proposed development has followed this guidance by:

- ❖ Seeking arboricultural advice to inform the layout and design of the proposal
- ❖ Continuing to take advice on all aspects of the proposal that may impact upon the retained trees

4.2 It is our professional opinion that the proposals put forward allow for confidence in the long-term retention of the existing tree cover and would not result in any detriment to the character of the local area and the wider treescape.

4.3 From an arboricultural perspective the principle of the proposed development is therefore considered supportable in terms of Local Policy relating to trees.

4.4 In summary, we consider that there are no valid arboricultural issues that reasonably restrict the proposed development of the site.



Prepared by Nicholas Jones *BSc (Hons), MSc, M Arbor A.*

Date: 22nd May 2020



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Appendix 1 – Tree Survey

All trees on site have been assessed and are recorded in the tree schedule (**Appendix 1**) with all key trees plotted onto Drg No. NJCL 541-2_01_220520 Tree Layout Plan (**Appendix 2**). The trees have been visually assessed from ground level only using non-invasive methods of inspection. Tree height is an estimation, crown spread and height to underside of canopy are measured with a Disto laser measure.

The survey information collated for each tree is as follows:

- Tree reference number: As recorded on the site plan.
- Tree species: Common name only
- Life stage: (J) Juvenile, (SM) Semi mature, (EM) Early mature, (M) Mature, (OM) Over mature, (V) Veteran
- Estimated remaining contribution in years e.g.: Less than 10, 10-20, 20-40, more than 40
- Height: In metres
- Stem diameter measured in millimetres as follows:
 - Single stem trees - measured at 1.5m above ground level
 - Multi stem trees (less than five stems) total of all stem diameters measured at 1.5m above ground level
 - Multi stem trees (more than five stems) mean stem diameter measured at 1.5m above ground level
- Adjusted root protection area radius (Metres) calculated in accordance with the formulas provided in chapter 4.6 and Annex D of BS5837:2012
- Crown Spread: Measured at the four cardinal points (Metres)
- Height to underside of canopy: Measurement from ground level to the lowest branch (Metres)
- Physiological condition: Excellent, Fair, Poor, Dead

- Structural condition: Assessed as previous item on presence of decay and potential structural defects
- Quality assessment category: As defined in Table 1
- Comments and observations: Information regarded as relevant by the assessing arborist
- Preliminary management recommendations: Details of any remedial action required to address significant defects and or facilitate development

A full hazard assessment of the trees, such as decay detection and mapping, has not been undertaken as this is considered beyond the scope of this report. Obvious hazards and defects that would reasonably affect the trees contribution to the landscape have been fully considered and are detailed in the tree survey schedule.

British Standard 5837:2012 provides guidance for the assessment of trees on development sites and suggests four primary quality assessment categories and three associated sub categories into which trees should be placed. These categories are defined in Table 1:

Category & Definition	Criteria			Identification on Plan
Category U Those in such a condition that they cannot realistically be retained as living trees in the context of the current land use for longer than 10 years	Trees that have a serious, irremediable, structural defect, such that their early loss is expected due to collapse, including those that will become unviable after removal of other category U trees (i.e. Where for whatever reason, the loss of companion shelter cannot be mitigated by pruning) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trees that are dead or are showing signs of significant immediate and irreversible overall decline Trees infected with pathogens of significance to the health and/or safety of other trees nearby, or very low-quality trees suppressing adjacent trees of better quality NOTE: Category U trees can have existing or potential conservation value which it might be desirable to preserve			Dark Red
Trees to Be Considered for Retention				
Category & Definition	Criteria - Subcategories			Identification on Plan
	1. Mainly arboricultural qualities	2. Mainly landscape qualities	3. Mainly cultural values, including conservation	
Category A Trees of high quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 40 years	Trees that are particularly good examples of their species, especially if rare or unusual, or those that are essential components of groups, or formal or semi-formal arboricultural features (e.g. The dominant and/or principal trees within an avenue)	Trees, groups or woodlands or particular visual importance as arboricultural and/or landscape features	Trees, groups or woodlands of significant conservation, historical, commemorative or other value (e.g. Veteran trees or wood-pasture)	Light Green
Category B Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years	Trees that might be included in category A, but are downgraded because of impaired condition (e.g. presence of significant though remediable defects, including unsympathetic past management and storm damage), such that they are unlikely to be suitable for retention for beyond 40 years; or trees lacking the special quality necessary to merit the category A designation	Trees present in numbers, usually as groups or woodlands, such that they attract a higher collective rating that they might as individuals; or trees occurring as collectives but situated so as to make little visual contribution to the wider locality	Trees with material conservation or other cultural value	Mid Blue
Category C Trees of low quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 10 years, or young trees with a stem diameter below 150mm	Unremarkable trees of very limited merit or such impaired condition that they do not qualify in higher categories	Trees present on groups or woodlands, but without this conferring on them significantly greater collective landscape value, and/or trees offering low or only temporary/transient landscape benefit	Trees with no material conservation or other cultural value	Grey

Table 1

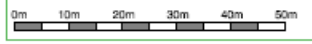
Notes: Root Protection Areas have been omitted for Category U trees and others proposed for removal as it is assumed they will not be subject to retention. RPA's are capped at a 15m radius (707m²) in accordance with British Standard 5837:2012.

Site:	Land to the North of the waste screening site, Thistleworth Farm	Date:	06.11.2019	Reference No:	NJCL - 541-2	Surveyor:	N D Jones										
Tree number	Tree species	Life stage	Estimated remaining contribution (years)	Tree Height (m)	Number of stems	Stem diameter (mm)	Crown spread (m)				Height to underside of canopy (m)	Physiological condition	Structural condition	Quality Assessment Category	Comments and observations	Preliminary Management Recommendations	Root Protection Area Radius (m) for retained trees
							N	E	S	W							
G1	Mixed species	SM	<20	8		Ave 100						Fair	Fair	B2	A mixed species group of hawthorn, field maple and ash. Located off site to the west and situated on highway land adjacent to the A24. Separated from the proposed development by the existing soil bund	None	1.2

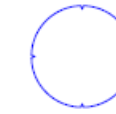
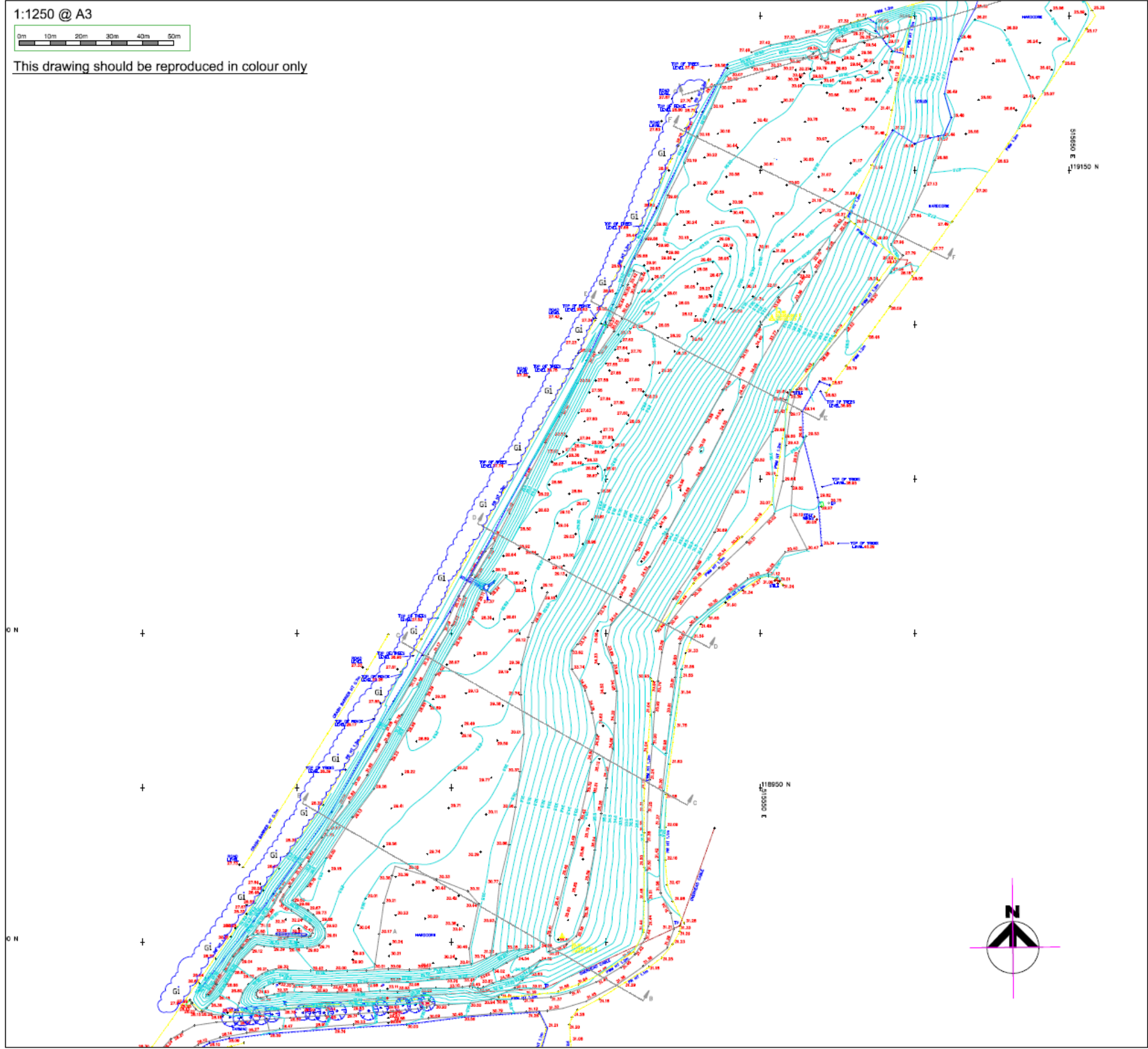
Appendix 2 – Tree Layout Plan

*Do not scale from the following drawing

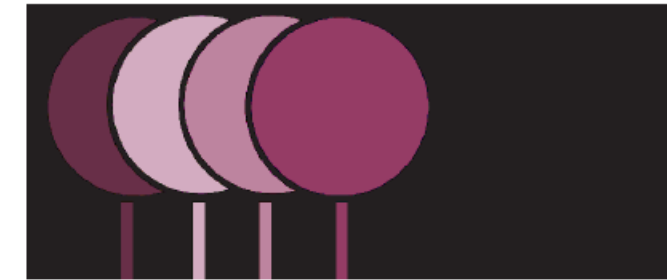
1:1250 @ A3



This drawing should be reproduced in colour only



Category B - Trees of moderate quality with an estimated remaining life expectancy of at least 20 years



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Client's Name

Mr A Hyatt

Job Title

Land at Thistleworth Farm, Grinders Lane
Dial Post, West Sussex, RH13 8NR

Drawing Title

Tree Layout Plan (G1)

Scale

1:1250 @ A3

Drawn

NDJ

Date

22.05.2020

Drg No

NJCL 541-2_01_220520

Status

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