1.3.4 There are a number of trees suitable for transplantation that are currently located within the CIZ. The most significant of these is Tree 14, a mature Senegal Date palm. This tree could be transplanted and retained on site as part of the landscape works, as to could the 2 Frangipani trees documented as Trees 16 and 18.

1.3.5 The majority of the remaining trees are considered to be significant, but have issues that limit their arboricultural significance. These include Trees 1,2,3,4,9,10,13,16,18 and 20. Of these all but 1 is located within the construction impact zone and will require removal to allow for the construction process to occur. This is Tree 4, the Brush box located on the front verge and although flawed due to poor power line clearance pruning still provides an important arboricultural amenity.

1.3.6 The remaining 13 trees are of little arboricultural significance and would be recommended for removal irrespective of the proposed development due to irreparable structural faults, poor species characteristics or advanced decline.

1.3.7 The majority of the trees detailed are located centrally within the site and will require removal to allow for the construction process to occur. The most significant of these is a fully mature Lemon Scented Gum documented as Tree12. It can be estimated to be over 50years of age and is a prominent feature. The tree has a trunk diameter of over 1.2 meters and will have a large critical root zone. This will limit construction within approximately 10+ meters of its base.

1.3.8 This Lemon Scented Gum tree also has a large wound on the northern side of its base and its structural integrity would be questioned if it was to be retained in an urban environment. The mature age of the tree will also limit its ability to compartmentalize wounds and reduce the spread of decay as well as adapt to an altered environment. These are important issues when considering its long term viability within the context of the proposed development.

1.4 The Proposed Works

1.4.1 As noted the proposed works will require the demolition and clearing of all existing trees and houses within the site. This will be done to allow for the construction of the four residential tower blocks as documented. This is a significant social project and affects a large number of people as well as the surrounding economy.
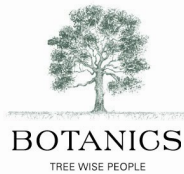
1.4.2 The proposed works will therefore involve;

- The removal of those trees documented.
- The excavation of the footings required allowing for the construction of the underground carport and construction of the 4 residential tower blocks as documented.

2. Methodology

2.1 Data Collection

2.1.1 An on site inspection and visual tree assessment (VTA) was undertaken on the 22 June 2009. No aerial (climbing) inspections were done. The site photos were taken by the author at the time of inspection with a digital camera.

2.1.2 Neither the site architect or property owner was on site during the site inspection. Discussion regarding the health and condition of the surrounding trees was made subsequently.

2.1.3 The following plans have been presented as the existing site layout.

- Donovan Associates plan showing the 7existing blocks and the location of the adjacent trees.
- Caldis Cook Group ground Floor Plan showing the location and building footprint of the 4 residential tower blocks.
- Caldis Cook Group Section showing the heights and proposed locations of the blocks.
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2.1.4 Whilst the location of the trees, as per the plans viewed, appear to be accurate, measurements of their location in relation to the existing and proposed work has not been taken for the purpose of this report. All significant trees over 4 meters in height have been assessed from ground level and tabled within.

2.1.5 Tree heights and canopy spreads have been estimated and trunk diameters have been measured with a diameter tape where applicable.