

BELL SYSTEM PRACTICES
Outside Plant Construction
and Maintenance

SECTION G32.160
Issue 3, July, 1944
AT&T Co Standard

DROP AND BLOCK WIRING AVOIDING TREE INTERFERENCE

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1. GENERAL

1.01 This section outlines methods of avoiding tree interference with drop wires. It is issued principally to provide information on routing wires to obtain adequate clearance from trees, and on trimming trees.

1.02 This section and Sections G32.159, G32.161 and G32.162 replace Section G32.160, Issue 2.

1.03 For information on the following subjects refer to the sections indicated:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Section</u>
Separations	G32.159
Tree Guards	G32.161
Mechanical Protection on Buildings.....	G32.162

1.04 Endeavor to obtain clearance in terms of feet rather than inches between drop wires and tree trunks, limbs, branches, twigs and foliage, in order to avoid contacts as the result of tree growth.

2. METHODS OF AVOIDING TREE INTERFERENCE

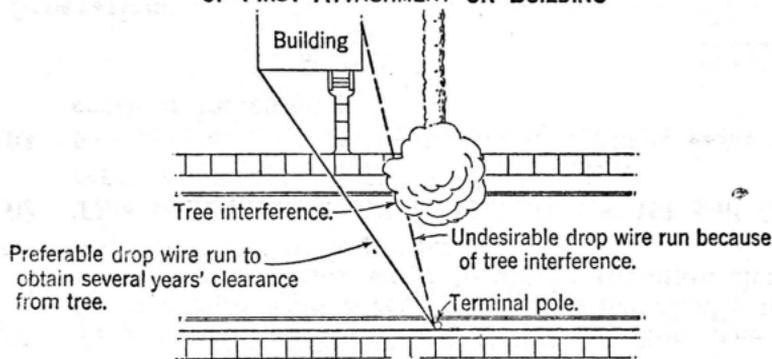
2.01 **General:** When planning drop wire runs, tree interference can usually be avoided in one of the following ways:

- By locating the first building attachment so that the drop will adequately clear trees. (See Paragraph 2.02.)
- By spanning to a building from a span clamp. (See Paragraph 2.03.)

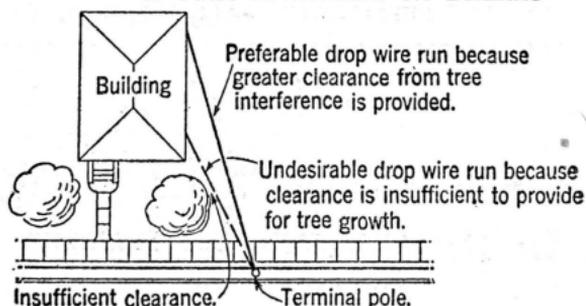
- (c) By running drop wire below bottom branches of tree. (See Paragraph 2.04.)
- (d) By spanning to an adjacent building, garage, etc., if permission can be obtained. (See Paragraph 2.05.)
- (e) By trimming trees if permissible. (See Paragraphs 3.01 and 3.02.)
- (f) By obtaining a reassignment to another terminal if this will not increase the length of the drop by more than one pole-to-pole span.

2.02 **Locating First Building Attachment:** By carefully selecting the location for the first building attachment as shown in the following illustrations, adequate clearance can frequently be obtained between drop wires and trees.

AVOIDING TREE INTERFERENCE BY PROPER LOCATION OF FIRST ATTACHMENT ON BUILDING

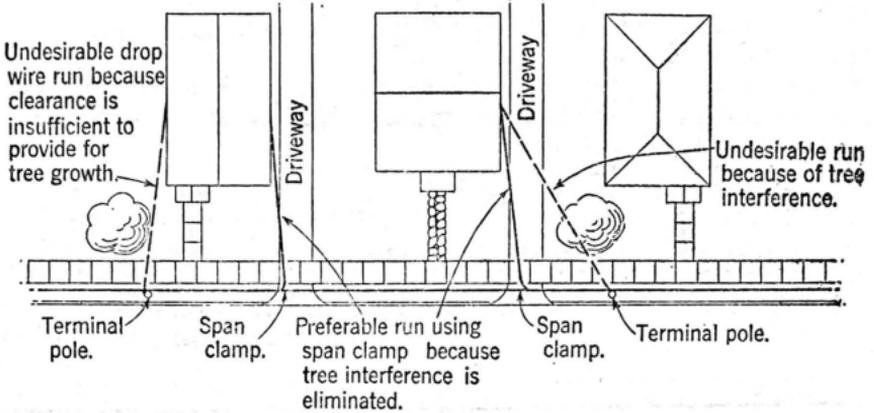


PROVIDING ADEQUATE CLEARANCE FROM TREE INTERFERENCE BY PROPER LOCATION OF FIRST ATTACHMENT ON BUILDING



2.03 **Using a Span Clamp:** By spanning to a building from a span clamp instead of from a pole as shown in the following illustration, adequate clearance can sometimes be obtained between drop wires and trees.

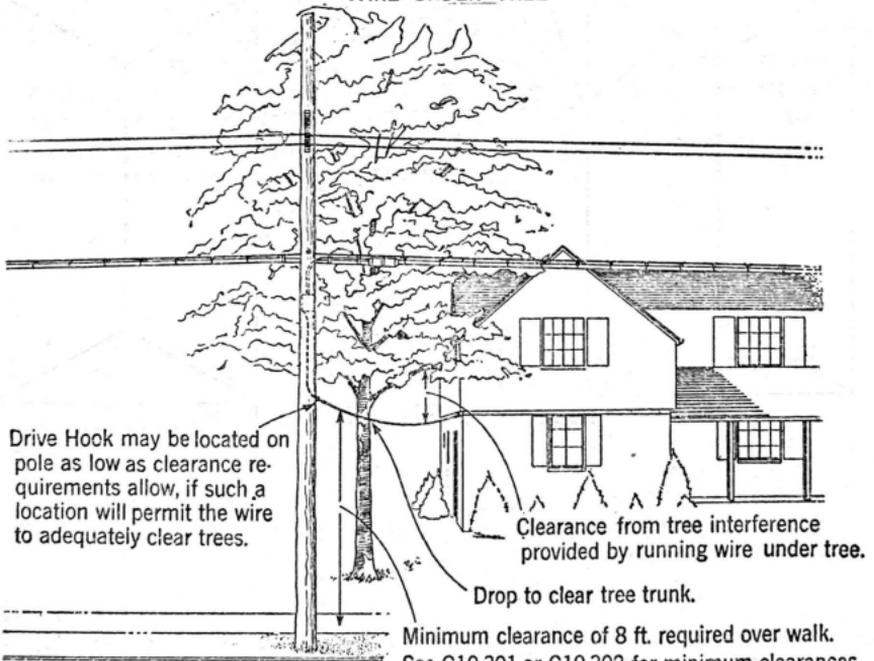
ELIMINATING TREE INTERFERENCE BY USING A SPAN CLAMP



Note: Consider running wire over a driveway as it usually is free from tree interference.

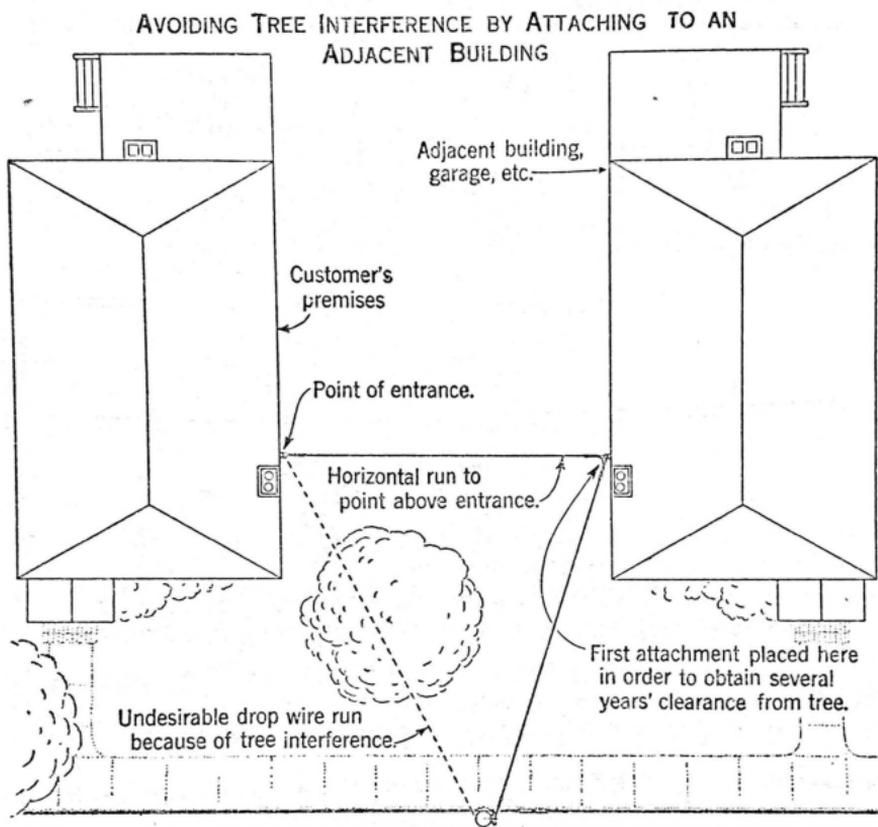
2.04 Running Wire Under Tree: By routing a drop wire under the bottom branches as shown in the following illustration, tree interference can sometimes be avoided.

ELIMINATING TREE INTERFERENCE BY LOCATING POLE ATTACHMENT AS LOW AS CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS ALLOW IN ORDER TO RUN WIRE UNDER TREE



Minimum clearance of 8 ft. required over walk.
See G10.301 or G10.302 for minimum clearances required if wire runs along street or highway or crosses over street, highway or driveway.

2.05 **Spanning To An Adjacent Building:** By spanning to an adjacent building, garage, etc., as shown in the following illustration, adequate clearance between drop wires and trees can often be obtained.



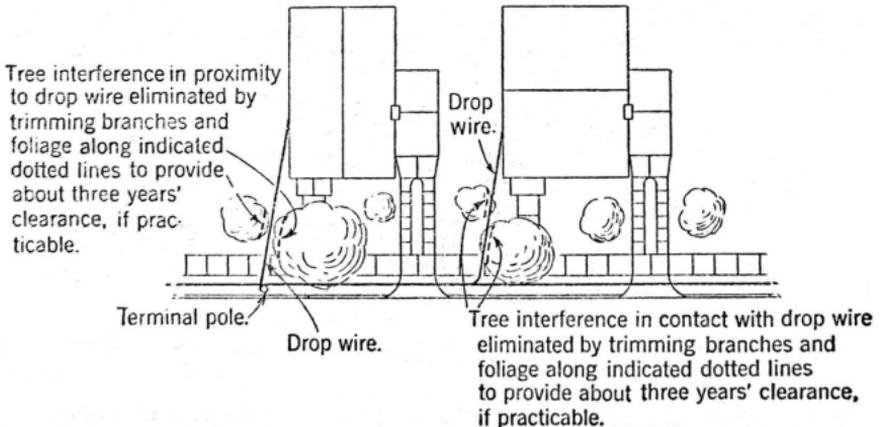
5. TRIMMING TREES

3.01 Trimming trees is frequently the preferred method of avoiding abrasion of drop wire. Unless it is definitely known that it is not permissible to prune trees, make every reasonable effort to obtain consent instead of assuming otherwise.

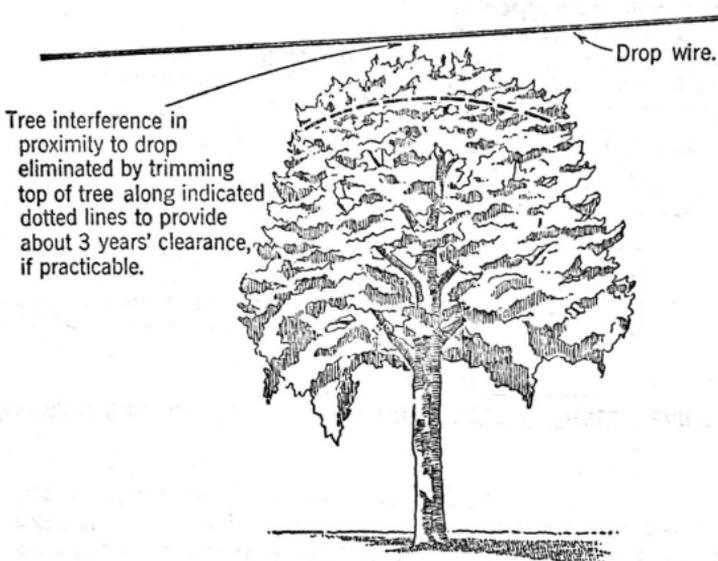
3.02 Where interference is to be avoided by trimming trees, pruning problems will arise in performing the work. It is essential, therefore, that workmen engaged in placing and maintaining drop wire be familiar with the tree pruning methods covered in Sections G10.325, G10.326 and G10.327. In reviewing these sections, note the following points among other information covered:

- (a) Good public relations shall be maintained in performing tree trimming work.
- (b) The time required to do a workmanlike pruning job is no greater than doing a haphazard one.
- (c) Particular attention should be given to pruning those branches, both horizontal and vertical, growing in the direction toward the drop wire.
- (d) In removing branches, make flush cuts to reduce to a minimum the possibility of sprouting.
- (e) If practicable, provide as much as a three years' clearance in trimming the tree, estimating tree growth in accordance with Section G10.327 which lists fast growing and slow growing trees. If it is impracticable to trim to this extent, trim as much as possible, and follow Section G32.161 for protecting wire with tree guards.

TRIMMING SIDE OF TREES TO PROVIDE ABOUT A THREE YEARS' CLEARANCE



TRIMMING TOP OF TREE TO PROVIDE ABOUT THREE YEARS' CLEARANCE



- (f) Obtain adequate clearance from small branches, twigs and foliage as well as from larger branches and limbs. Small branches and twigs grow rapidly and cause considerable abrasion in whipping and rubbing against drop wire.
- (g) In running a wire under branches during the dormant season provide a clearance sufficient to adequately clear them when they are weighted down with leaves. Likewise, in running a wire over leafed branches, keep in mind that these branches will be in a higher position during the dormant period.