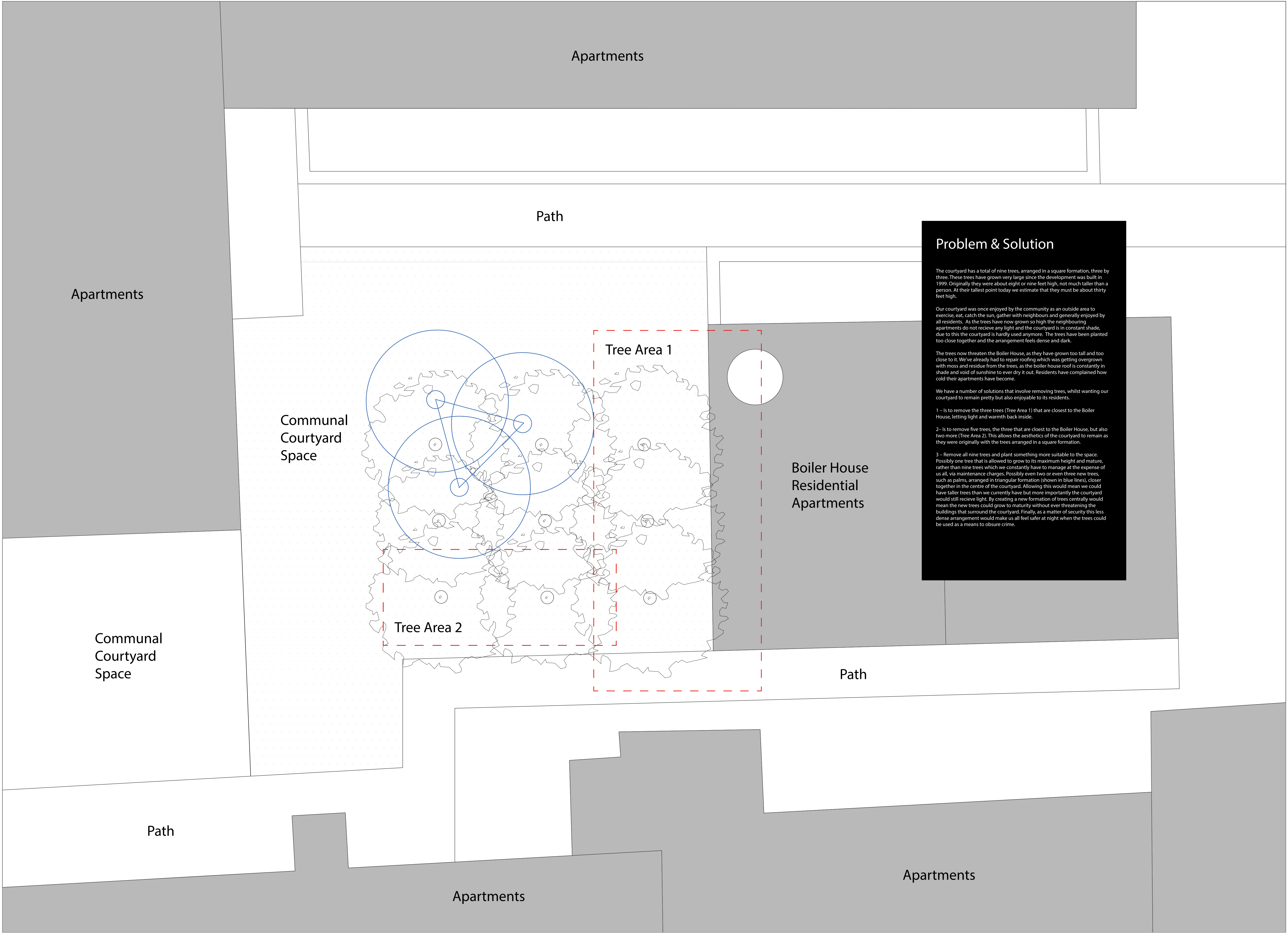




Problem & Solution

The courtyard has a total of nine trees, arranged in a square formation, three by three. These trees have grown very large since the development was built in 1999. Originally they were about eight or nine feet high, not much taller than a person. At their tallest point today we estimate that they must be about thirty feet high.

Our courtyard was once enjoyed by the community as an outside area to exercise, eat, catch the sun, gather with neighbours and generally enjoyed by all residents. As the trees have now grown so high the neighbouring apartments do not recieve any light and the courtyard is in constant shade, due to this the courtyard is hardly used anymore. The trees have been planted too close together and the arrangement feels dense and dark.

The trees now threaten the Boiler House, as they have grown too tall and too close to it. We've already had to repair roofing which was getting overgrown with moss and residue from the trees, as the boiler house roof is constantly in shade and void of sunshine to ever dry it out. Residents have complained how cold their apartments have become.

We have a number of solutions that involve removing trees, whilst wanting our courtyard to remain pretty but also enjoyable to its residents.

1 – Is to remove the three trees (Tree Area 1) that are closest to the Boiler House, letting light and warmth back inside.

2- Is to remove five trees, the three that are closest to the Boiler House, but also two more (Tree Area 2). This allows the aesthetics of the courtyard to remain as they were originally with the trees arranged in a square formation.

3 – Remove all nine trees and plant something more suitable to the space. Possibly one tree that is allowed to grow to its maximum height and mature, rather than nine trees which we constantly have to manage at the expense of us all, via maintenance charges. Possibly even two or even three new trees, such as palms, arranged in triangular formation (shown in blue lines), closer together in the centre of the courtyard. Allowing this would mean we could have taller trees than we currently have but more importantly the courtyard would still recieve light. By creating a new formation of trees centrally would mean the new trees could grow to maturity without ever threatening the buildings that surround the courtyard. Finally, as a matter of security this less dense arrangement would make us all feel safer at night when the trees could be used as a means to obsure crime.