



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

Vice-presidents: Lady Legard, Peter Goodchild, Nick Lane Fox

[www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk)

Mr Mike Parkes  
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22 September 2025

Dear Mr Parkes

## **25/02975/FUL Erection of Marquee to visitor centre restaurant for a temporary period of 2 years**

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee for proposed developments that could affect sites included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens. The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of GT, works in partnership with it in the protection and conservation of registered sites, and is authorised by GT to respond on GT's behalf in such consultations.

We are responding to this application only in relation to its possible impact upon Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal World Heritage site, a Registered Park and Garden (RPG) at grade 1.

The significance the Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal WHS is too well known to require rehearsal here. It is important to note, however, that the proposed site of the marquee is sufficiently distant from the RPG, whose boundaries in this area are formed by mature vegetation, that there is minimum possibility of intervisibility between them. Moreover, the marquee is for temporary erection only, to cover two winters while construction work takes place at the Canal Gates entrance. The site chosen, therefore, is practical in that it adjoins the Visitor Centre café to which it will form a supplement, is minimally harmful to the RPG, and is a temporary intervention in the landscape of short duration compared with the longevity of the site.

The only further comment we would make is that the colour of the marquee as proposed could be toned down to blend better into the background of the Visitor Centre; and the shape of the marquee (as Historic England comments) could be adjusted to be less assertive against the Visitor Centre.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Webb  
Chair, YGT

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