



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: Countess of Harewood

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

www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Ms Beth Thomason
Asst Outreach Adviser
Northern Forest

Mrs Val Hepworth
Trustee
Conservation and Planning

BethThomason@woodlandtrust.org.uk

conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

10th October 2022

Dear Ms Thomason

RE: Consultation on Tree Planting (Woodland Creation) at Inholmes, Tadcaster

Thank you for enquiring about these two sites to the north-west of Tadcaster. The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of the Gardens Trust (GT) and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of sites on the Historic England Register of Parks and Gardens.

The Gardens Trust is the Statutory Consultee regarding any proposed development affecting a site included on the Register and the YGT is authorised by the GT to respond on the GT's behalf. We can on occasion advise on non-registered sites as per your enquiry.

We understand that there is a proposal to plant some trees this season - Improve perimeter planting to create shelterbelts and wildlife corridors. Also sensitively supplement the parkland planting.

As you say Inholmes is not registered but it does have parkland and there is also a similar looking parkland site approx. 1km North of Inholmes, and what appears to be woodland between the sites which has a designed aspect to it. There are a significant number of scheduled monuments surrounding the site.

YGT does have some research which should be helpful.

1. The parkland identified to the north is the southern section of Healaugh Hall park (see <https://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk/research/sites/healaugh-hall#info> boundary map). This YGT research record gives detail about the site.

2. Inholmes seems to be a separate estate to Healaugh. We suggest you get in touch with Tadcaster Historical Society - <https://tadhistory.org.uk/> who may be able to help further.

As for the site itself, it appears to have been developed in the second half of the 19th century as the 1st edition 6" OS map attached (surveyed 1846/7) shows just a few trees to the south with garden/orchard adjacent to building. By 1891, the landscape is in place (see 1st edition 25" map attached). It was owned (and occupied) by Charles Shann between 1861 and c. 1886 when it was put up for rent (he died in 1899), so was likely to be responsible for the development. By 1889, it was occupied (and owned?) by Frank Riley-Smith, whose brother, Henry Herbert, owned nearby Toulston Lodge from c. 1886 (<https://www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk/research/sites/toulston->

[lodge#info](#)). The two brothers had inherited the Smiths brewery at Tadcaster.

Later owners were Charles Burgoyne Lamb (c. 1901 - 1925). It was put up for sale in 1927 and 1931. By 1953, it was owned by Frank Anthony Riley-Smith (grandson of Henry Herbert) until his death in 2010.

Please see the attachments for the OS maps referred to above.

Proposed tree planting at InHolmes: As you rightly thought the small amount of evidence that YGT has to hand suggests that during the second half of the 19th century the owner of the site laid out the grounds surrounding his property in a limited form of the English Landscape Style utilising we presume the land he had available. So we have the principle house with ancillary buildings such as stables and carriage house etc, pleasure grounds (with deciduous and coniferous trees) and gardens round the house, walled garden with small greenhouses and bothies to the north of the house and parkland with scattered trees and the odd small clump to give interest. A lodge beside the entrance from the main road has coniferous and deciduous planting surrounding it again to make something of a statement for those arriving and then the drive proceeds to the house with views into the parkland and a carriage sweep at the house. Then a lesser arm of the drive accesses the stables and carriage house before proceeding south to the main road. There is a paddock to the east of the house, and the house and its immediate gardens are bounded/separated from the parkland by what appears to be a sinuous ha-ha. The house has a terrace on its principal sides (ie east and south). As you would expect there are boundary trees affording views both into the designed landscape and towards the house and in reverse. There are also two ponds to the south- west boundary. So, we have a designed ornamental landscape in miniature – as compared with those found on large estates. I note that Smaws Wood and various other copses of trees to the north and north-west of Inholmes also appear to be part of the design beyond the immediate area – this is not unusual.

I suggest that any tree planting is led by the evidence of the maps and the current situation and the tree spp on the ground. So, trees that are failing could have a replacement planted. Without a site visit and knowledge of how the land is managed it is difficult to be definitive but maybe there could be an opportunity to plant ornamental mixed woodland in the north-east corner of the site with a sinuous edge facing into the parkland following design principles and views/vistas. In general, the boundary planting could be enhanced.

The parkland identified to the north is the southern section of Healaugh Hall park. **Healaugh Hall and parkland is in a prime location on the north bank of the River Wharfe. The house, now demolished, sat in a prominent elevated position visible from the opposite riverbank. Its surviving parkland trees are important, as the river corridor is devoid of woodland, except for that associated with historic parklands, such as Newton Kyme Hall 1.5km further upstream and Grimston Park 3km downstream.**

The parkland and gardens were laid out on top of medieval ridge and furrow ploughing, which still survives today. There is evidence of earlier field systems within the deer park and some Iron Age and Roman rectilinear enclosures are revealed as cropmarks (NRHE: 1199293). Recent lidar 1m digital surface model images (<https://data.gov.uk/publisher/environment-agency> accessed 20/05/17) show surviving earthwork banks of a field system of uncertain date.

YGT website gives a good deal of information that should help to inform your thoughts on any tree planting, but care will need to be taken to conserve the historic design (and environmental) nature of the site.

You will probably know that a good website for seeing older OS maps is that of the National

Library of Scotland, nls

We hope that the information in this letter is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Chris Mayes, Landscape Architect North of England, Historic England,
e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk; Conservation@ the Gardens Trust,