



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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13th March 2026

Dear Mr Peck

RB2026/0325- Paid Pre-App Enquiry for proposed children's play area at Wentworth Garden Centre Hague Lane Wentworth.

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) on this Pre-Application Enquiry in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development affecting a site listed by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks and Gardens (RPG). In this case Wentworth Woodhouse, which is registered grade II*. The Yorkshire Gardens Trust (YGT) is a member organisation of the GT and works in partnership with it in respect of the protection and conservation of registered sites and is authorised by the GT to respond on GT's behalf in respect of such consultations.

The historic Fitzwilliam Wentworth Estate of approx. 15,000 acres includes the area of the Wentworth Garden Centre situated in Wentworth Woodhouse's former kitchen garden. This area lies immediately within the Registered boundary, west of the main house (Listed Grade I), close to the stable block and riding school (Listed Grade I) of 1758 by John Carr of York (1723-1807) and south of Home Farm (Listed buildings at Grade II).

The proposal document (Malcolm Scott consultants) at 2.3 notes the Impact on the Setting of the Listed Building as follows:

'The proposed adventure playground area will not have an adverse impact upon the setting of Wentworth Woodhouse Hall and Stable Yard. The application site is screened to the north by a 5.2 metres high wall, to the west by a 4.2 metres high wall, to the east by mature trees and shrubbery. The majority of the play equipment is below the height of these walls.'

We have not found any mention of the actual RPG and its significance and similarly we have not found Appendix A with the details of the individual pieces of equipment mentioned.

We offer the following advice.

The play equipment should be built and sited so that it is below the height of the walls when children are on it at the highest point. If the tallest piece was located in the west of the proposed site, nearer to the buildings, perhaps it might not be so visually intrusive as if it was located in the middle of, or at

the east side of the new site? We also advise that some boundary treatment with planting would soften the overall effect.

We hope that our advice is useful for the final design.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc Yorkshire and the Northeast Historic England; conservation@ the Gardens Trust.