



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

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

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28<sup>th</sup> June 2023

Dear Mr Peck,

## **RB2023/0784 Area of park wall to south east of East Lodge, proposed partial demolition, rebuilding and realignment, East Lodge, The Whins, Greasbrough S61 4QR**

This planning application has been sent to The Gardens Trust by the staff and volunteers who maintain the Joint Committee of the National Amenity Societies (JCNAS) casework log <https://casework.jcnas.org.uk/>. The Gardens Trust's (GT) role is as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development affecting a site listed by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks and Gardens. In this case Wentworth Woodhouse at 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 Wentworth Woodhouse Fitzwilliam estate is a remarkable heritage asset. The Grade I listed C18 main house is the centrepiece of over twenty supporting buildings and features with individual listings ranging over Grade I, Grade II\* and Grade II.

The curtilage listed wall, part of the historic boundary wall of the Wentworth Woodhouse Estate, runs parallel to a relatively busy country road and attaches to the parkland's south-east entrance by the East Lodge.

The Local Highways Authority has proposed changes to the junction of The Whins with Cinder Bridge Road to facilitate better traffic control and road conditions in the area. The development therefore proposes to widen the road on the opposite side of the junction to allow for a passing bay. In so doing these proposals would need to reposition part of the central section of the in-situ boundary wall – effectively moving the wall slightly to the west and pushing the boundary area marginally inward. As a significant Public Benefit of this proposal the Highway Authority are also proposing to rebuild an extensive length of boundary wall collapsed some time ago due to flooding.

The material of the wall is sandstone, likely local and akin to the materials described in similar assets within the park and garden. This proposal seems to be a practical solution and it also reinstates quite a length of wall that is currently derelict. The realignment is close to the gateway but does not affect the railings or stone of the entrance. Because the wall bounds and faces the road and behind the wall is a river and woodland (Cinderbridge Plantation), the important view is from the road so, with the reinstated wall this will improve the area and the impression of the estate. The work will also improve the drainage and help prevent further flooding that caused the wall to fail. Our only concern is the

bending of the wall inwards to create the extra traffic lane, will probably look unusual but we trust that this can be done as sensitively as possible. We note from the Heritage Impact Assessment at Appendix A that there is a Schedule of Works (From Wentworth Estate) specifying using extant stone bedded in lime mortar with a robust foundation, and we trust that this schedule of works will be carefully complied with to give a high quality historically-based outcome to the proposed works.

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection to the proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth  
Trustee Conservation and Planning

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