



# YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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

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Chris Webb  
Chair, YGT

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Dear Planning Officer

**24/03946/FU | Erection of a classroom block; change of use of Rose Lodge to ancillary staff facilities, with external alterations including the demolition of existing outbuildings and the erection of new stores and workshop, repairs to roof and brickwork, clearance of vegetation, the demolition of existing entrance steps and electrical services cupboard, new ramped access and steps to entrance with balustrades, timber framed canopy over entrance door, replacement timber windows and doors, installation of vents to rear and replacement cast aluminium gutters and rainwater pipes; associated works including hard and soft landscaping and parking | Rose Lodge Temple Newsam Park Road Leeds LS15 0AE**

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 Temple Newsam Park, a Registered Park and Garden at grade II. The application focuses on the walled garden (itself a listed structure at grade II) and Rose Lodge, an unoccupied and unused former estate gardener's house, listed for its curtilage value.

The proposal by Luminate Education Group seeks to erect a new building for Leeds College, and to adapt Rose Lodge for educational purposes and associated administration. Leeds College's School of Land & Animal Sciences is based at Home Farm, Temple Newsam. Home Farm houses the animal care and animal management courses, allowing students to get hands-on practical experience of raising farm animals and observing wildlife. It is one of the largest working rare breed farms in Europe and one of 16 nationally approved by the Rare Breeds Survival Trust. LEG wishes to relocate, improve and expand Leeds College's teaching facilities at Temple Newsam to provide high-quality classrooms to serve the growing demand from SEND students in the city region.

YGT wishes to state at the outset that we are currently working with partners to try to devise ways in which the provision of education about the development of historic gardens and landscapes, and in practical horticulture, can be expanded and improved in Yorkshire. We are therefore disposed to view this application favourably because of the way it assists us in meeting our own objectives. We have, however, set this aside in the evaluation that follows.

Broadly, we find we are in line with the findings of the submitted Heritage Statement and the Consultation Report from Historic England. We agree that the location of the new building is the most appropriate, in heritage terms, that could be found on this site. The design and structure of the new building helps to conceal it in almost all views, near and far; from the north, where parts of the building can be seen due to seasonal changes in cover, this presents minimal harm to the wider landscape. However, we note that the Conservation team have identified the appearance of the building above the garden wall in views from the south east, and we would support the recommendation for further modification of the roof design to avoid this potential for harmful impact. We commend the design's successful aim to protect the heated north wall of the walled garden and to enable it to become an educational and aesthetic feature. We are pleased, too, that Rose Lodge is to be conserved as a heritage asset, and appropriately used for a function related to its original purpose.

In sum, we consider the proposals to be appropriate in and sensitive to their surroundings, while presenting a real uplift, over time, in public appreciation and understanding of the nature, function and importance of historic parks and gardens. We suggest that the recommendations of the Ecological Appraisal become planning conditions. We endorse the suggestion by Historic England and contained in the Heritage Statement that below ground archaeology is conducted adjacent to the north wall.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Webb  
Chair, YGT

Cc Historic England, [e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk](mailto:e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk) ; [Conservation@theGardensTrust.org](mailto:Conservation@theGardensTrust.org)