



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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28th March 2023

Dear Mr MacPhail

RE:- 012-3879-2022 Mulgrave Estate - Felling Licence Consultation, Gellam, NZ 835 116

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to any proposed development that could affect a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks & Gardens – Mulgrave Estate 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 park was laid out by the first Earl of Mulgrave in the late 18C and early 19C incorporating proposals made by Humphry Repton (1752-1818). Repton was the leading English landscape gardener of his period. The site is made more significant because Repton's Red Book of proposals is still held by the family. Repton wrote in his report on first seeing Mulgrave that it had "the most magnificent, the most beautiful, the most romantic" of scenery that "abounds in the greatest variety of pleasing and interesting objects".

Compartment 1a is a large area of woodland within the registered boundary immediately south of Barnby Beck. The compartment runs west from the north- west of the site of the ruins of old Mulgrave Castle. Mulgrave Castle is a significant feature of the historic designed landscape. Built in the 12th and 13th centuries with 16th century alterations it is listed grade I. The ruinous remains of a keep, bailey walls and a gatehouse survive. Repton proposed rebuilding part of it as a romantic ruin, though this was not done.

We understand that this application is for a clear fell of a spruce and larch block that has reached its rotation age. There are small elements of broadleaf trees that will be retained if possible. It is to be restocked with a mix of Norway and Sitka spruce and Douglas fir, with 10% of mixed broadleaves included. FISA and good forestry practice will be adhered to inclusive of sediment control to ensure

the stream at the edge of the block is not impacted. We are pleased to read that no impact is expected on Mulgrave Castle, with directional felling away from the scheduled monument and its boundary.

Having looked at the early OS maps,

Yorkshire Sheet 31 surveyed 1849, published 1853 6inches ;1mile

Compartment 1a appears to be notated as entirely deciduous trees.

OS 25inch:1mile maps:

Yorkshire XXXI.4 surveyed 1893 published 1894

Compartment 1a is mainly deciduous but with a single largish group of conifers running westwards from the curving track that runs north to the footbridge over Barnby Beck

Yorkshire XXX1.4. revised 1911 published 1914

As above.

So, it seems likely that the compartment was planted with broadleaves historically and depending on suitability for the future, it would be appropriate to continue to have a reasonable element of broadleaves.

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection.

Yours sincerely

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

cc. Historic England e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk; Conservation@ the Gardens Trust