



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

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www.yorkshiregardentrust.org.uk

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James.Shallcross@forestrycommission.gov.uk

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Dear Mr Shallcross

Application Ref: 012/1654/2022 Felling Licence Application Plantations between The Firs and Wintringham Common Farm, woodland surrounding Scampston village, Lodge Plantation and woodland South of Lodge Plantation, Scampston Hall Estate.

Thank you for consulting The Gardens Trust (GT) 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. In this case Scampston Hall, 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 designed landscape at Scampston Hall includes a park laid out to a design by Lancelot 'Capability' Brown (1716-1783) during the 1770's and which incorporated earlier 18th century features, possibly designed by an earlier important designer Charles Bridgeman (d.1738). The grade II* registration indicates that Scampston is a particularly important site of more than special interest. (This grade only applies to c. 28% of registered sites.)

We understand that as this is a thinning licence only, there will be no restocking and that thinning is generally carried out to promote the growth of the remaining trees. (Compartments 2, 5A & 5B will be removed from this application as they are already covered by a previous approved licence.)

The following compartments in the application are within the registered park and garden:

3A – Mill Plantation, immediately north of Scampston Farm. Scot's Pine.

6A and 6B – small compartments/clumps of Scot's and Corsican pine, on 'The Plain' which is the parkland. The parkland is largely used as pasture with other scattered mature trees, part of Brown's design work where we trust that particular care will be taken.

8A – Lodge Plantation, at a distance south of 9B but part of the western boundary plantation. Scot's Pine and Corsican pine.

9B – Spur to the north-west part of the western boundary plantation. Scot's Pine and Corsican pine.

10 – East of the Palladian Bridge (listed grade II*) which was designed by Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown or possibly his assistant Henry Holland c.1775. The Palladian Bridge is prominent in views from the park and parts of the garden. Compartment 10 is also east of the Lower Fish Pond/Lake and to the west of Rock House Plantation. Sycamore, beech, oak (robur and petraea) and ash.

2 – this compartment – Park Plantation - is also within the registered park and garden and is part of the eastern boundary plantations. We think that it is shown on a map of 1829 by Edward Page. It is east of the cascade/waterfall that was designed by Brown. (Sir William St Quintin (5th baronet) wrote to Brown in 1773, ‘I have received the favour of your letter with the plan inclosed for the cascade which I like very much.’) Scot’s pine.

There are two compartments outside the registered boundary but within the setting:

14 – compartment north of 10 above. Mixed broadleaves and mixed conifers.

3B – compartment south of 3A but just outside the registered boundary. Scot’s pine.

As you will appreciate the above compartments proposed for thinning are integral to Scampston’s significant historic designed landscape with its boundary plantations and incorporating views and vistas that are especially important in a naturally somewhat flat landscape on the southern edge of the Vale of Pickering. We trust that care in that regard has been taken in determining which trees to fell and which to leave to grow on. If this is the case, then the Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust have no objection to the thinning work.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth
Trustee Conservation and Planning

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