



47 Denmans Lane
Lindfield
Haywards Heath
West Sussex
RH16 2JN

FAO: Naomi Langford
SDNPA

Submitted by e-mail

25th June 2019

Dear Madam,

Erection of replacement outbuildings, dog kennel and run, removal of garden steps and associated landscaping. Ref: SDNP/19/02158/HOUS

Thank you for notifying the Sussex Gardens Trust (SGT) of the above planning application. The Gardens Trust (GT) is the statutory consultee on matters concerning registered parks and gardens, and is now working closely with County Garden Trusts such as SGT regarding commenting on planning policy and planning applications.

Representatives of SGT have not visited the site since the making of this application and the views expressed below are based upon the information supplied and some local knowledge.

The site lies within Blackdown Park which is included with a Grade II designation on the register of Historic Parks and Gardens maintained by Historic England; as such the applicant is required to describe the significance of Blackdown Park (NPPF, para 128) and assess whether the proposals will result in harm to that significance.

The redevelopment of the service buildings to the west of the main house will bring about a loss of the current informality of the area but the new modern buildings would not, in our opinion result in an adverse effect on the adjacent registered landscape.

In respect of the proposed modifications to the garden layout, the flight of steps from the principal lawn is a significant feature that makes an important contribution to the formality of this part of the registered garden and is an integral part of the garden design. As has been noted by the Planning Officer in his request to the applicant for more information, the accompanying statement is devoid of any proper assessment or reason for their removal. Their removal would, in our view, be a notable loss to a registered garden and would result in harm to its significance. The proposed seating area shown on the proposals plan is in design and scale a poor substitute in its relationship to the adjacent gardens. We would hope that additional information, as sought by the planning officer, will be provided and no decision taken on the application until this is received.

Yours faithfully

Jim Stockwell

On behalf of the Sussex Gardens Trust.
CC: The Gardens Trust