



YORKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST

President: The Countess of Harewood

Vice-presidents: Lady Legard, Peter Goodchild, Nick Lane Fox

www.yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

Val Hepworth

Trustee

Conservation and Planning

Planning Officer

Planning Services

Merrion House

110 Merrion Centre

Leeds City Council

Leeds LS2 8BB

planning@leeds.gov.uk

department.of.planning@leeds.gov.uk

conservation@yorkshiregardenstrust.org.uk

20th July 2026

Dear Sir/Madam

26/03397/LI Listed building application for internal and external works and repairs including installation of heat pump to rear; replacement of roof slates and septic tank; refurbishment and replacement of windows and roof slates, Parlington Lane Cottage, Parlington Lane, Aberford, Leeds LS25 3EF

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 (RPG) – Parlington Estate at grade II. (List Entry Number: 1447854). 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 Parlington Estate was developed by the Gascoigne family, Catholic landed gentry based in Yorkshire from the early 16th century. It is a good example of a designed landscape laid out largely in the late 18th century with distinct areas and features that directly reflect the ideas, philosophies and interests of its owner and that of a notable estate gardener, John Kennedy. Kennedy was a key figure in the development of horticulture, cultivation and agriculture in the 18th century who brought the estate and Gascoigne international recognition through his pioneering planting methods.

Parlington Lane Cottage is shown on the c. 1802 Sketch Map (dated by WYAS) of the Parlington Estate. It is not apparent on the earlier 1773 estate plan and is described by HE on the listing as 'estate lodge'. Its location on the opposite side of the lane from 3 paddocks, labelled as such, on an earlier sketch plan of that part of the estate, undated but probably c. 1800, may be of significance. These paddocks are important because it is believed that they were where Sir Thomas Gascoigne's horses were grazed. (See Note in Appendix below.) The paddocks could be looked down on (and the horses admired) from the Round House (listed grade II, built 1802). This means that the Cottage in Parlington Lane would also probably be within that vista, and a distinct feature of the late C18 designed landscape, hence its classical facade. Our analysis is confirmed by the HE listing description which refers to the Cottage as an eyecatcher in views from the higher NW area of the park.

Most of the proposed works are repair and maintenance apart from the installation of the Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP). The ASHP is discreetly placed and unlikely to have any impact on the RPG. Although there are no details of the replacement septic tank we note from the application it will replace the existing below ground tank so assume it is like for like.

The Gardens Trust and Yorkshire Gardens Trust considers that the proposals should not have any impact on the RPG and we support the remedial repair and maintenance works sympathetic to the character and significance of the Grade II Listed Cottage and its setting within the designed landscape.

Yours sincerely,

Val Hepworth, Trustee Conservation and Planning

Cc: Dr Kristof Fatsar, Landscape Architect North of England, Historic England
e-yorks@historicengland.org.uk; Conservation@ the Gardens Trust

APPENDIX

West Yorkshire Archive Service, Leeds, Gascoigne Papers, GC/MA 55 and 56.

Terry Friedman, 'Romanticism and Neoclassicism for Parlington: The Tastes of Sir Thomas Gascoigne' *Leeds Arts Calendar*, No 66(1970), 16-24.

Gascoignes and horses

Breeding and racing horses was a significant interest for the Gascoignes from c.1700, when Sir Thomas 4th Bt is recorded as owning a 'foreign horse'. In 1722, the estate was raided and horses removed under penal laws (Catholics prohibited from owning a horse over the value of £5). In the second half of the C18 and the first decades of the C19 Sir Thomas and Richard Oliver Gascoigne ran a stud that had national and international renown, producing some of the finest bloodstock of the period. Both men had winners in the greatest races of their day (St Leger, Derby, Oaks) and the Gascoigne Stakes were run at Doncaster throughout the early decades of the 1800s. The stud earned a considerable income from prize money and sales of stallions, foals and brood mares, both here and abroad. Race winners were sold on for thousands of guineas. Improvement of the thoroughbred horse also filtered down to improved quality in working horses – an important contribution to the Gascoignes' other activities: transport, mining, and agriculture.

Some of the Gascoigne racehorses were painted by eminent sporting and animal artists of the day: *Jerry* by John Frederick Herring snr, *Soothsayer* by Benjamin Marshall. These are held at Lotherton Hall.

Shared horse racing interests were an important aspect of Sir Thomas Gascoigne's political activities. (cf Marquis of Rockingham at Wentworth).