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7th February 2025

Dear Ms Baptist,

Re: 2024/5407/P | Restoration, conservation, demolition, replacement and erection of buildings in East Side and West Side of Highgate Cemetery, including erection of a gardeners building on the East Side, erection of visitor and operations building and relocation of Perkins monument on the West Side, Cemetery wide landscaping, drainage, public realm, access works and repair of mausolea, to support the function of a working cemetery, visitor and community uses | Highgate Cemetery Swain's Lane London N6 6PJ

Thank you for consulting the Gardens Trust (GT) in its role as Statutory Consultee with regard to proposed development affecting a site included by Historic England (HE) on their Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England, as per the above application.

We are grateful for the opportunity to comment on this application, which has a material impact on the significance of Highgate Cemetery, an historic designed landscape which is Registered by Historic England at Grade I. The inclusion of this site on this statutory register requires great weight to be given to its conservation. We have liaised with our colleagues in London Parks and Gardens to prepare this joint response.

We support the proposals for the Cemetery, which encompass a wide range of buildings and landscape interventions to provide a long term strategy for this Grade I site. The overall plan provides well thought through and sensitive solutions, underpinned by high quality design for each building. These will support conservation, restoration, ongoing maintenance and visitor services for the cemetery as a whole.

The proposed new buildings are sensitively located so that they will not detract from the significance of the landscape. In some instances, such as the Project 6: East Side Mound Building /Gardener's Building, it may help articulate such areas which are of less significance, receive fewer visitors and provide vital facilities to maintain the landscape.

Adaptations for the main entrance buildings will allow new uses for these, and support understanding of the whole site design and its significance, but we leave it to others to comment on the architectural details.

Landscape proposals work for both ecological enhancement and the historic significance of the cemetery, re-opening views where appropriate.

If any additional information is made available, or you have any further queries, please contact us at consult@thegardenstrust.org. We would be grateful to be advised of the outcome of the application in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Tamsin McMillan

Acting Conservation Officer The Gardens Trust

For further information, we refer you to the Gardens Trust publication "The Planning System in England and the Protection of Historic Parks and Gardens" (2024), which is available online at https://thegardenstrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Planning-System-in-England-and-Protection-of-Historic-Parks-and-Gardens-2016-v1.pdf