



**National
Trust**

Statement on the Impact on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

To	North Norfolk District Council
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Subject	Proposed Gardeners Bothy, Felbrigg Hall
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1.0 Building Location

The existing Portacabin that has been used as the Gardeners Bothy for many years, is located within a high walled enclosure that forms part of the walled gardens to Felbrigg Hall. The enclosure serves as the Gardeners Yard and contains all the buildings and facilities required to run the gardens, including poly tunnels, tool store and compost bins. It is an area that is mostly concealed from view and not accessible to the visiting public on the estate. The surrounding walls to the yard area create a visual barrier so there is no detrimental impact on the gardens and wider landscape of the Felbrigg Estate.

The location of the existing Gardeners Bothy is ideal as it is adjacent to where the team of gardeners and garden volunteers work maintaining the large cultivated walled gardens that are open all year round as part of the visitor experience.

The existing Portacabin was originally erected as there were no other suitable existing nearby structures within the National Trust's control that could be utilized for the garden staff as a rest room and office.

The proposed new building will sit in the same position as the existing Portacabin.

2.0 Proposed design

The existing structure is a standard modern Portacabin of no aesthetic quality, with a flat felt finished roof, Aluminium windows and painted render finished walls. The proposed new building has been designed to complement the setting and surroundings. It will be clad in black stained timber boarding, similar in manner to the adjacent tool store, set on a red brick plinth and incorporate timber windows and external doors. The low mono-pitched roof will reduce the vertical scale of the building and will have a green finish of Sedum plants.

3.0 Conclusion

The proposed new Gardeners Bothy will have a positive impact on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, replacing an ugly utilitarian structure with one in keeping with the important historic setting.

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