Hilary

I am not making any changes to the previously submitted documentation for planning application NYM/2018/0094/FL; I am taking this opportunity to offer further information and clarification on the matters you raised.

- I attach a document which provides the context for the location chosen for the Nissen Hut.

- A number of individual cast panels will be bolted together to create a hollow sculptural form. The finished form will have a fully sealed surface which prevents access.

- The sculpture’s access path has been designed to meet DDA standards. The access path for pedestrians has been designed to conform to the specifications prescribed within the “BT countryside for All Standards and Guidelines” publication, section 3. This is the industry standard for good practice for disabled people's access in the countryside. (We have used the specification for rural/working landscapes. This allows 5% (1:20) gradient for 19m, followed by a 1.5m level landing.)

I hope that you find this helpful.

Kind regards

From: Walton, Elizabeth
Sent: 17 April 2018 16:11
To: Hilary Saunders
Subject: NYM/2018/0094/FL
Elizabeth

Elizabeth Walton MRICS
Area Land Agent
Yorkshire Forest District
Nissen Hut, part of the Shy Sculpture series

By Rachel Whiteread

Dalby Forest

Commissioned by 14-18 NOW and Forestry Commission

In 2019, the Forestry Commission celebrates its centenary. Founded in 1919 to replenish the nation’s strategic timber reserve after the First World War, the Forestry Commission manages Dalby Forest as part of the Public Forest Estate – the country’s largest landholding, comprising 1500 woods and forests across England.

To mark this major milestone in the organisation’s history, the Forestry Commission have partnered with 14-18 NOW to commission leading British artist Rachel Whiteread to create a new public sculpture; a sealed cast of the interior of a Nissen hut made in glass reinforced concrete.

14-18 NOW is the UK’s arts programme for the First World War centenary, commissioning new work and extraordinary experiences connecting people with the First World War.

As the Forestry Commission itself was created in response to the impact of the First World War on our national landscape, our partnership and this commission by Rachel Whiteread reflects on this history. Dalby Forest was one of the first sites to be acquired for forest planting after the formation of the Commission. Labour camps were created at many sites across the country, including Dalby, to create much needed employment after WW1 and to plant the forests.

Nissen huts were distinctive, pre-fabricated, multipurpose structures invented during the First World War. They were used in Dalby Forest’s labour camp, erected in the 1930s, to support the mass tree planting across the site and the wider area. The camps were also later used as prisoner of war camps, during the Second World War in this and other forests across the country.

The proposed Nissen hut sculpture will create a haunting and lasting testament to the war’s impact on every part of the British landscape. It will offer space for quiet reflection on the history of the surrounding landscape and the origins of the forest.
Key to Whiteread’s development as an artist are the public projects that have punctuated her career. The first of these was *House* 1993, a concrete cast of the inside of a Victorian terraced house in London’s East End, which stood for only 80 days before it was demolished. Other significant public commissions have included a translucent resin cast, *Water Tower* 1998, in New York; a concrete inverted library, *Holocaust Memorial* 2000, in Vienna; *Monument* 2001, which stood on the empty fourth plinth in London’s Trafalgar Square.

Nissen Hut will be the latest in the artist’s more recent series of *Shy Sculptures* – huts or sheds cast in concrete and situated in remote locations such as by a fjord in Gran in Norway, on a hill on Governor’s Island, New York and in the Mojave desert in California. As with these works, the location of Nissen Hut is a vital element of its concept and, with the proposal to situate the work on the very site where once stood the first labour camps that housed those who worked in the first of the Forestry Commission sites, it will offer an opportunity to contemplate that history through a physical connection with it.