

Design and Access Statement update 25th May 2018

Nissen Hut, part of the *Shy Sculpture* series by Rachel Whiteread, from Low Dalby to Adderstone, Dalby Forest

Introduction

Following the North York Moors National Park Authority referred decision on our original application, we have decided to relocate the Nissen hut sculpture from Low Dalby to the Adderstone Rigg trail, Adderstone.

In addition we are providing further comment regarding this proposal in the context of the North York Moors National Park policies.

Background

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 to connect people with the First World War.

The Forestry Commission 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

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 mass tree planting across the area.

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.

Aims of the project

This project aims to:

- launch the high profile celebrations of the Forestry Commission's centenary.
- celebrate the establishment of the Forestry Commission with a world class piece of art – reflecting back on the reason the organisation exists as a result of the First World War.

NYMNPA

25/05/2018

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- firmly establish Dalby Forest as a location with high quality art by established and emerging artists as part of the Forestry Commission's national Forest Art Works programme.

Rachel Whiteread - *Nissen Hut* sculpture

- This new, permanent sculpture for Dalby Forest will be the cast of the interior of a Nissen hut.
- These iconic, domed huts were constructed as part of the labour camps, for workers who planted Dalby and other forests across the country.
- This sculpture, which will be unveiled 99 years after the FC was created, will bring to life the story of our foundation and the original planting of Dalby.
- The sculpture will exist in the forest environment in perpetuity. It will change with the seasons and weather over the years, as nature grows around it.
- The new location creates a sense of discovery. It is not visible from the Forest Drive or even the already existing and well used walking and running trail at Adderstone.

Design - Nissen Hut

The sculpture will be constructed as per the drawings:

- Scale of sculpture - 5.1m wide x 11m long x 3.2m high
- The sculpture will be constructed from precast glass reinforced concrete sections to create the sealed replication of the Nissen hut interior.
- The sculpture will be located on a crushed stone pad foundation, with a 1.5m wide DDA compliant path on all sides.



This photograph shows the forest clearing where the sculpture will be located. The access path enters from the left of the photograph and sweeps into the clearing in the middle of the photograph. The sculpture will be located centrally between the two trees in the foreground shown with needles/in leaf. The path will then continue to the right, behind the right hand tree, shown in leaf, to join the existing forest road.

Working with the planning officers we have designed the DDA loop to follow the trail and road routes to reduce the need for tree felling. The sculpture site is tucked away within the clearing to limit its visibility from the existing trail. (see plan details.)

Access

After careful consideration of other possible locations, the sculpture is now proposed to be located off the first section of the existing Adderstone Rigg yellow trail, currently used as a popular, signed walking and running route.

A circular DDA loop will be created according to the BT Countryside for All specifications, providing access for all visitors to the sculpture.

The circular DDA loop will start at the existing Adderstone car park and follow the existing yellow trail route. The DDA path diverts into the trees to view the Nissen hut which will be sited in an existing clearing. The DDA trail will then continue and loop back to the Adderstone carpark along an existing forest road. (See revised plan detail.)

Traffic and car parking

Visitors will be encouraged to use the existing car park at Adderstone Field which has the capacity for large numbers of vehicles, as already utilised for large scale events.

The smaller car park at Adderstone will be upgraded to accommodate a number of designated disabled car parking bays. This car park will link to the circular DDA loop.

Visitors will cross the forest drive from the car parks. As a traffic calming measure for visitor safety we will install signs and rumble strips on the forest drive approaches.

Currently, at the forest drive crossing point there is an existing layby. This will be removed through landscaping to avoid user conflict.

Forest Plan

While the new path and sculpture base construction will require the removal of some lower shrub vegetation, the sculpture will be located in an existing clearing within an area of mixed broadleaves and conifer. This area, under the approved design plan, will be managed as part of continuous cover forestry (CCF) silvicultural system rather than a clear fell system. Under this system, the rate of change is managed more slowly and gradual through a combination of selective thinning and small-scale group felling. This will allow enough light to reach the forest floor to allow existing trees to develop and allow new regeneration, coppice regrowth or replanting to become established. Through this style of management the majority of the site will have tree cover at all times and across a range of tree heights and ages.

Policy context from officer report:

1. The site is located in the open countryside where development is strictly controlled. Core Policy A of the NYM Local Development Framework seeks to ensure that new development conserves and enhances the Park's special qualities; with priority being given to ensuring development does not detract from the wider landscape or the quiet enjoyment, peace and tranquillity of the Park, or detract from the quality of life of local residents.
2. Development Policy 3 seeks to maintain and enhance the distinctive character of the National Park by ensuring that the siting, layout and density of development preserves or enhances views into and out of the site; that the scale, height, massing

and design are compatible with surrounding buildings and that the standards of design are high.

3. Development Policy 14 seeks to ensure that new tourism development and the expansion or diversification of existing tourism businesses will be supported where the proposal will provide opportunities for visitors to increase their understanding, awareness and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National Park; where the development can be satisfactorily accessed from the road network (by classified roads) or by other sustainable modes of transport including public transport, walking, cycling or horse riding; where the development will not generate an increased level of activity; and where it will make use of existing buildings.
4. The Development Plan has no policies specifically in relation to outdoor sculptures or public art and there are no national planning policies relating to this subject area.

Response to the policy context:

1. Nissen hut celebrates and responds to the fact that the Forestry Commission has played a key role in the shaping of the landscape of the North York Moors – in particular the forested areas – over the last 99 years. The sculpture will nestle into this landscape of Dalby Forest offering an opportunity for quiet reflection of this history. It will create a haunting and lasting testament to the war's impact on every part of the British landscape. It will not be visible from the forest drive, and it will be accessible to all visitors and take them on a journey of discovery.
2. The quality of the art work is high – Turner Prize winning artist Rachel Whiteread is a well-established artist with a world-wide reputation. The Nissen hut will be located in an existing clearing within an area of mixed species tree cover. To the west of the site is the route of the existing Adderstone Rigg trail and to the east is an existing forest road. Trail users will come across the sculpture when following the DDA trail loop but the sculpture itself will not be visible from the forest drive nor from the existing trail or forest road.
3. The sculpture provides a great opportunity to increase the visitor understanding of the history of the Forestry Commission: its creation and the impact on the North York Moors landscape. The location utilises and enhances existing recreation facilities; car parks, road and recreational trail networks.
4. Forest Art Works is the Forestry Commission's national arts programme which has a Memorandum of Understanding with Arts Council England. Working with Ryedale District Council, the Forestry Commission is developing an arts strategy for Dalby.

Considerations no longer applicable to the revised location

We have worked to find an alternative suitable location for the Nissen hut sculpture. The revised location addresses the considerations raised at the site on the Ellerburn trail;

- **Proximity of access path to neighbouring properties and increase in activity levels**

Relocating the Nissen hut to the Adderstone Rigg trail removes the perceived impact of the Nissen hut on users along Ellerburn trail.

- **Privacy of neighbouring properties**

There are no neighbouring properties at the revised location.

- **Traffic**

The previously raised traffic issues at Low Dalby are no longer relevant to this application. The forest drive road crossing at Adderstone has been considered above.

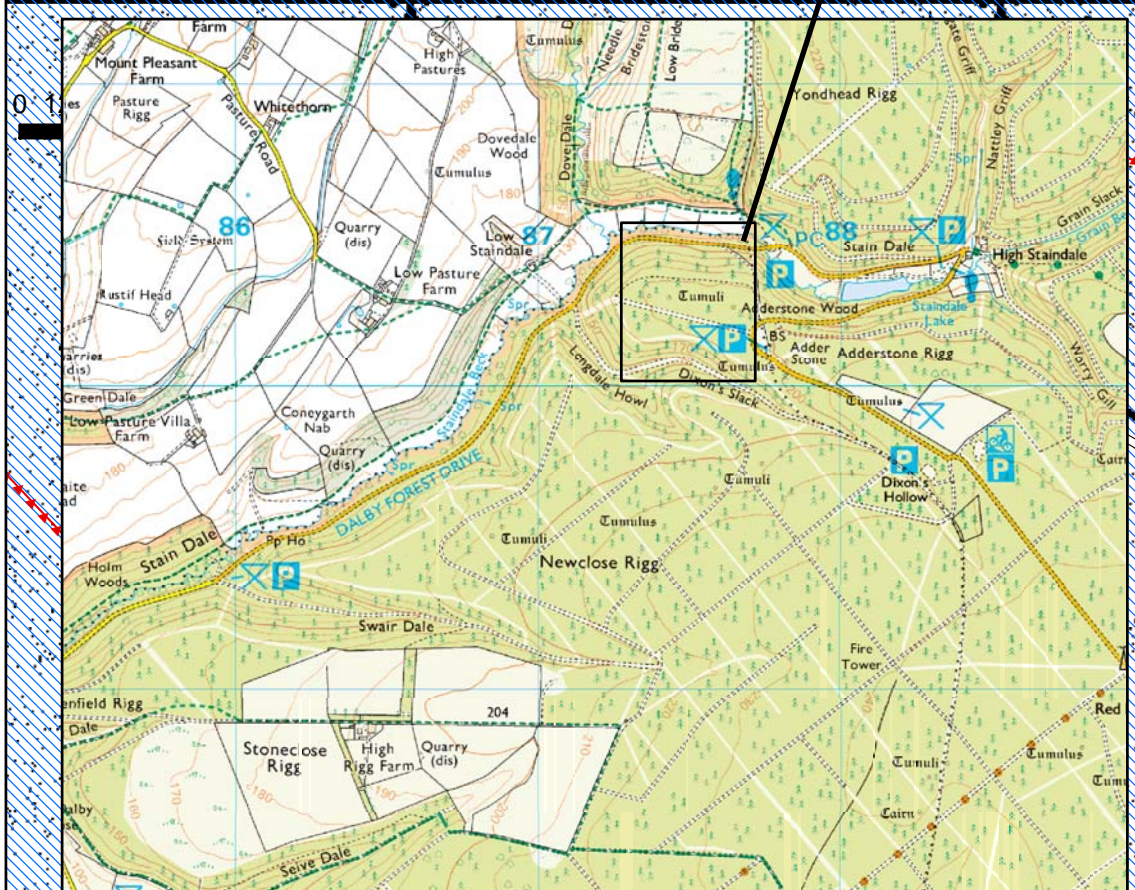
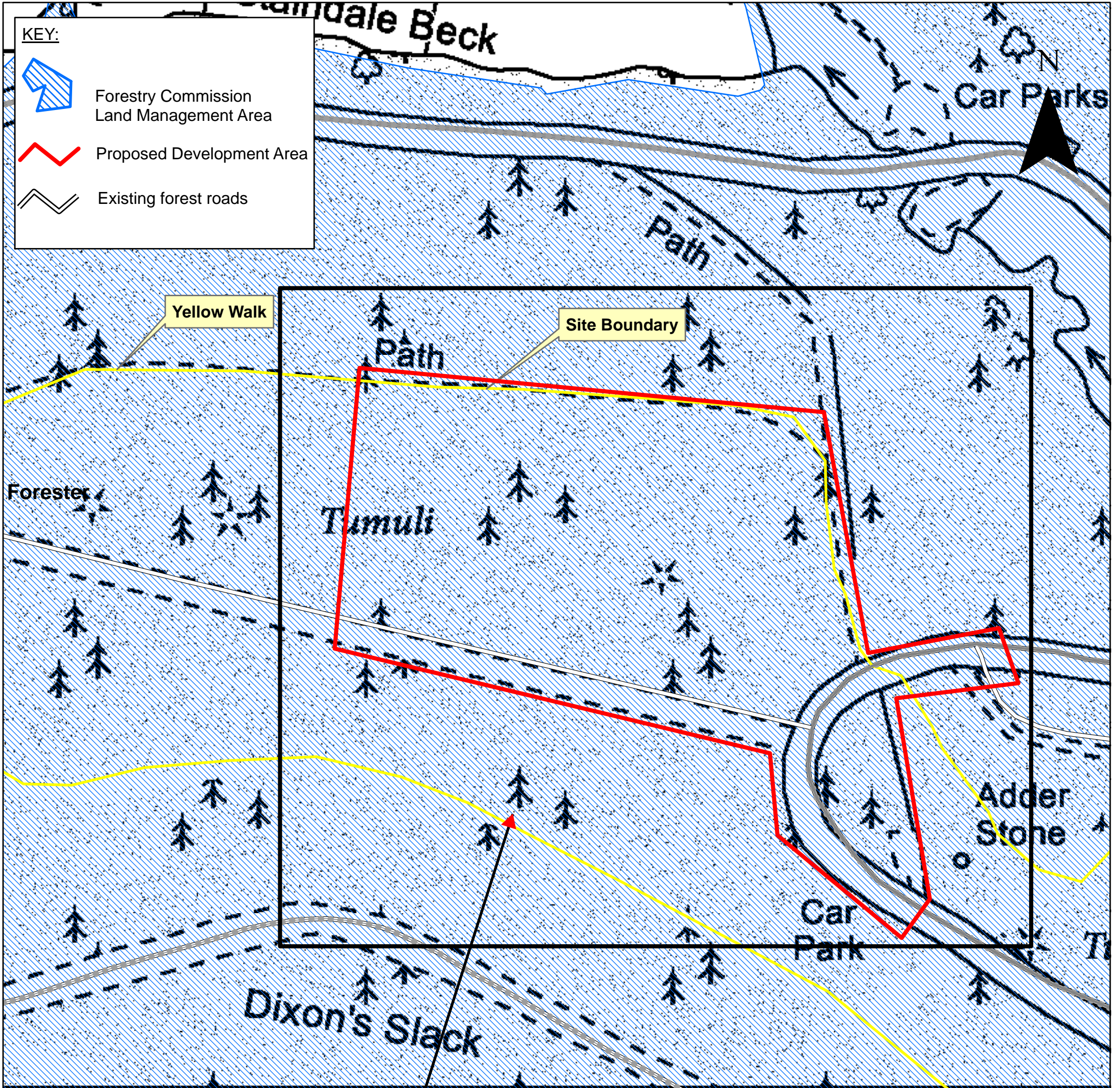
Summary

A new sculpture in the shape of a Nissen hut will be created to represent the Forestry Commission, its centenary and the impact of the First World War on the landscape. The sculpture will be created by Turner Prize winning artist Rachel Whiteread as part of the 14-18 Now nationwide programme of arts activities commemorating WW1.


The new sculpture will be located at Adderstone, sited along an existing walking and running trail. The sculpture will be accessible by all visitors using a DDA compliant trail loop. This will ensure that any visitor to the North York Moors National Park can access and experience world class art which blends into the wider forest landscape.

KEY:



-  Forestry Commission Land Management Area
-  Proposed Development Area
-  Existing forest roads

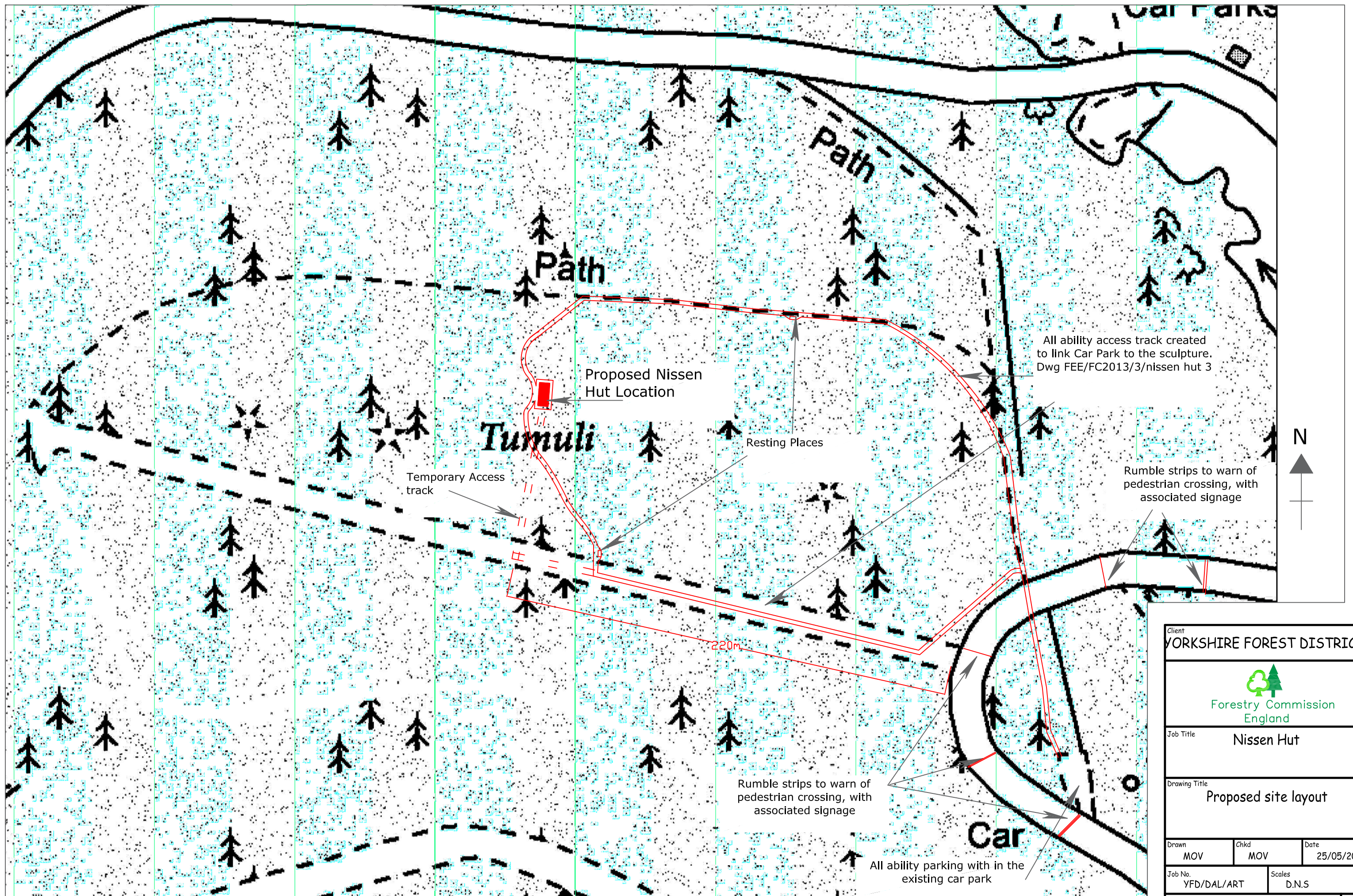



DO NOT SCALE - IF IN DOUBT, ASK

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Project: Nissen Hut, Dalby Forest			
Title: Site Location Plan			
Dwg no: FEE/FC2013/3/Nissen Hut B		Revision:	
Scale: 1:25000	1:2500	Date: 23/05/18	
WHEN PRINTED AT A3 SIZE			
Drawn: M O'Vastar		Checked: M O'Vastar	

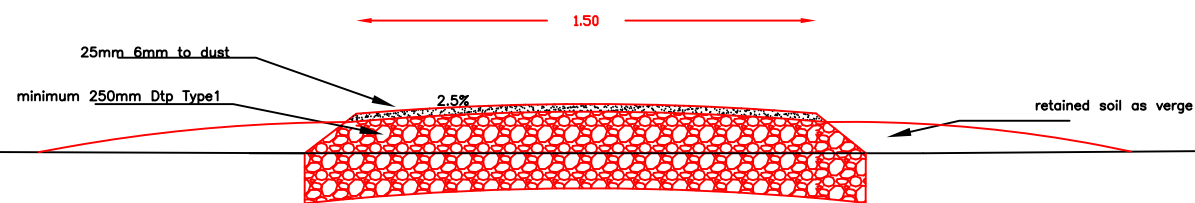
0 0.02 0.04 0.06 0.08 Kilometers

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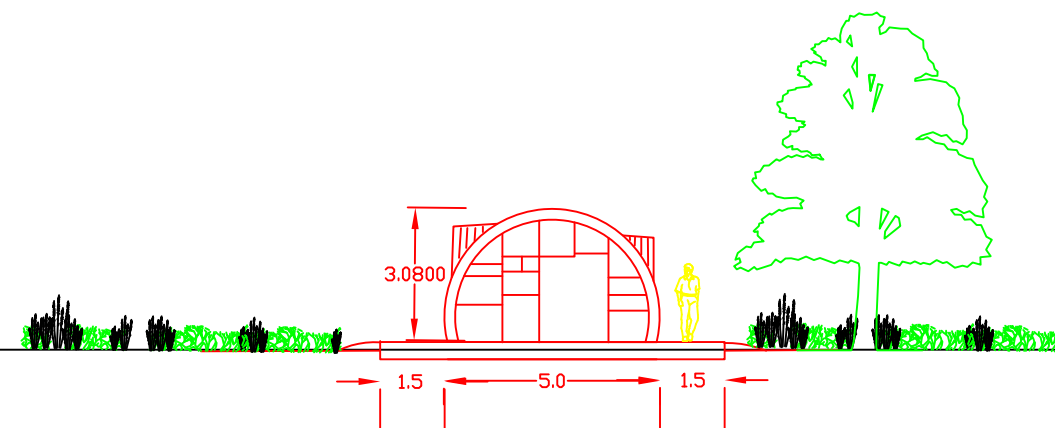


Client YORKSHIRE FOREST DISTRICT		
 Forestry Commission England		
Job Title Nissen Hut		
Drawing Title Proposed site layout		
Drawn MOV	Chkd MOV	Date 25/05/2018
Job No. YFD/DAL/ART	Scales D.N.S	
Drawing No. FEE/FC2013/3/Nissen Hut 2	Rev. B	

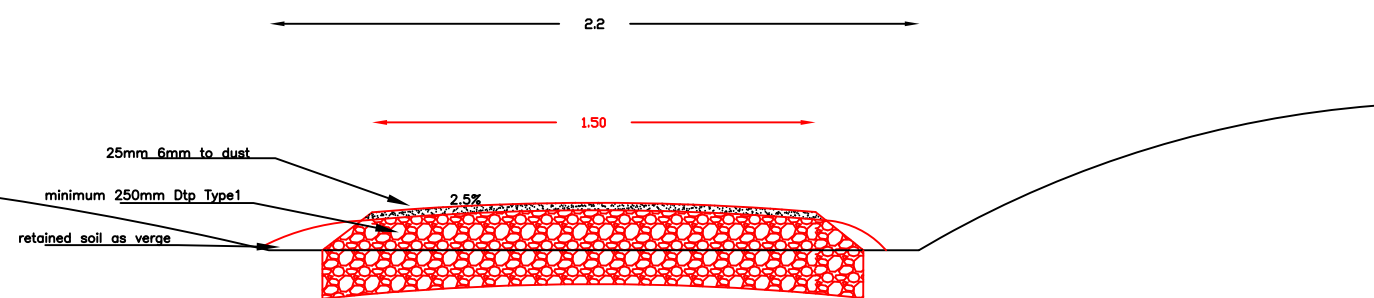
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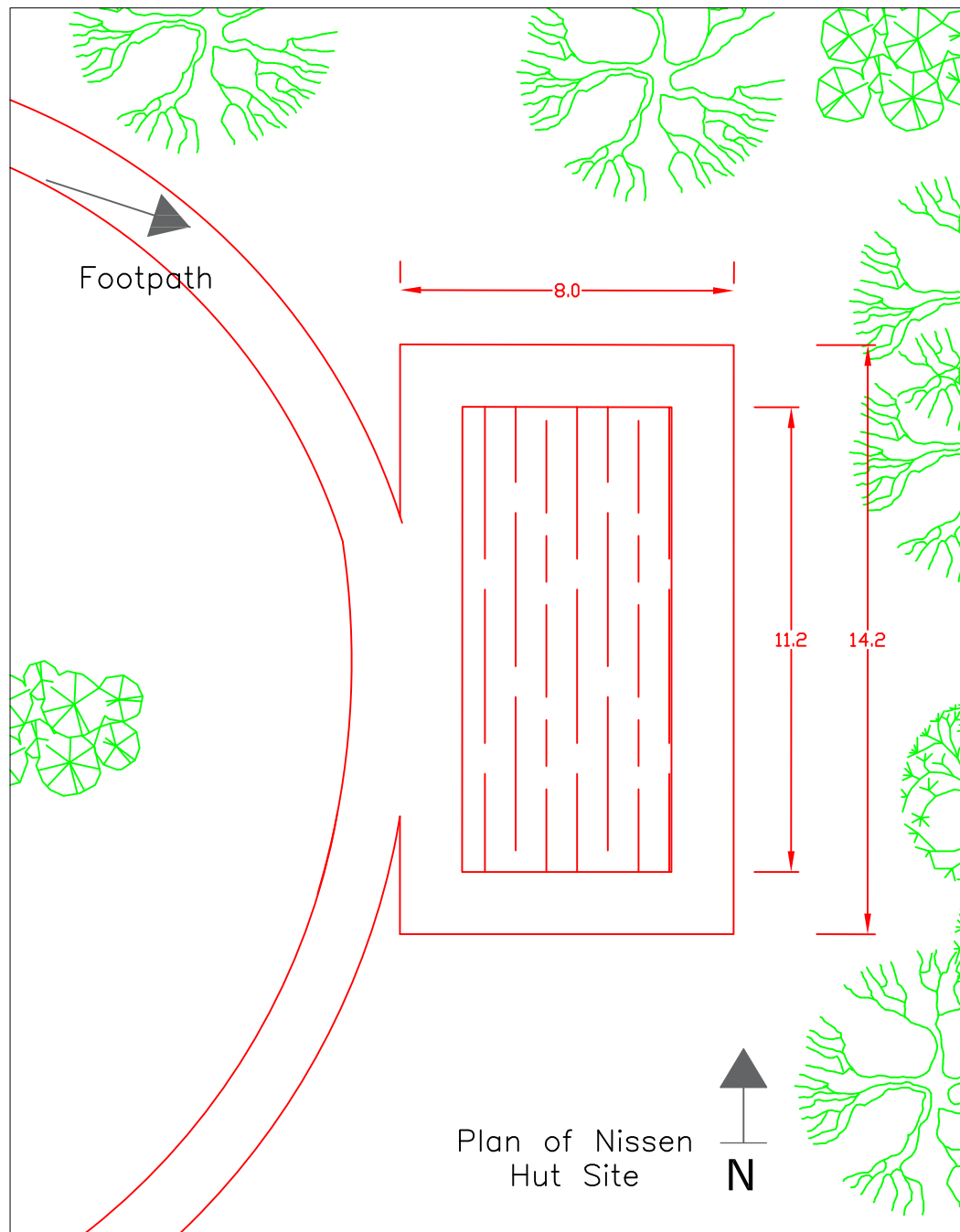
Cross Section on Existing Level Ground



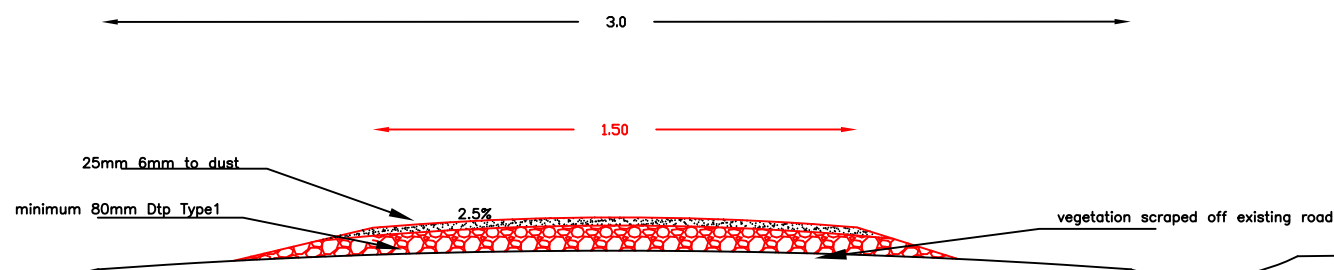
Cross Section of Nissen Hut Site




Cross Section on Existing Footpath



Plan of Nissen Hut Site



Cross Section on Existing Forest Road

Client YORKSHIRE FOREST DISTRICT		
 Forestry Commission England		
Job Title Nissen Hut		
Drawing Title Layout and Cross Sections		
Drawn MOV	Chkd MOV	Date 23/05/18
Job No.		Scales D.N.S
Drawing No. FEE/FC2013/3/Nissen Hut 3		Rev. B