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January 28<sup>th</sup> 2026

Dear Mr Evely,

**Planning Application: 81214**  
**The Wood Yard The Old Sawmills Filleigh Barnstaple Devon EX32 0RN**  
**Erection of a rural worker's dwelling and associated works**

Thank you for consulting the Gardens Trust in its role as Statutory Consultee on the above application which may have a material impact on the significance of Castle Hill, a Grade 1 registered park and garden (RPG) included by Historic England on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest. We have liaised with the Devon Gardens Trust and their local knowledge informs this joint response.

The listing describes the site as 'An early C18 formal landscape with structures and water features laid out by Earl Clinton around a mansion designed by Lord Burlington, altered to a more natural form and extended in the mid C18 by Matthew, Lord Fortescue. Further C19 developments include early C19 structures and pleasure grounds around the house and extensive late C19 ornamental planting across the estate.'

We have considered the information provided and it is regrettable that there is no reference to the Grade 1 status of the RPG and the fact that the proposed new structure is well within the RPG and situated close to the Grade II listed Sawmill. However, we do not wish to comment further on the proposals at this stage. We would, however, emphasise that this does not signify in any way either our approval or disapproval of these proposals. If you have any further queries, please contact us at this email address, and we would be grateful to be advised of the outcome of the application in due course

Yours sincerely

Joanne Mirzoeff BA (Hons) MSc  
Consultant Conservation Officer