

THE STANLEY SMITH (UK) HORTICULTURAL TRUST

Application Summary Sheet (please do not extent beyond one page)

Contact details

Name: Contact details withheld to comply with the Data Protection Act.

Organisation: Museum of North Craven Life

E-mail:

Address:

Telephone number:

About your project

Please provide a description of the project which you are applying for a grant for. Use the box below to provide a short high level synopsis and continue on separate sheets with a wider description as necessary.

We wish to develop an Apothecary's Garden as part of a larger renovation of the historic Folly Gardens, opening more of the grounds to the public and providing our dedicated team of garden volunteers with the resources they need to undertake this project and continue to maintain the garden to the highest standard. Herbs and medicinal plants will be used as an educational resource for visitors to the Museum of North Craven Life, for schools and our local community to learn about 17th and 18th century medical practice and the historic importance of the stillroom in the home.

Please identify the category of the Trust's objectives which you believe your project meets.

To promote the creation, development, preservation and maintenance of gardens open to the public

Please describe personnel who will be participating in the project (if appropriate).

We will employ a garden designer to direct the project. The work will be undertaken by experienced volunteers, under the direction of the Garden Team Lead, who will involve members of the local refugee community.

Please describe your long-term plans for the future of the project once the grant has been used (if applicable).

In the long term, the project will enable us to open up more of the gardens for public enjoyment and learning. We anticipate that this will encourage visitors to return to the Museum (which is volunteer-led, receives no public subsidy and is reliant on admissions, donations and retail income) helping us to become more resilient.

Financial Information

Please attach all relevant financial information such as expected other income and proposed expenditure.

Sum applied for: Up to £3250 (at the Trustees' discretion)

Please send your application (including this cover sheet and any supporting documents) in electronic form, hard copy or both to the following addresses:

Postal address (hard copies): Dr David Rae, Director, Stanley Smith (UK) Horticultural Trust, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 20a Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR

E-mail address (electronic copies): d.rae@rbge.org.uk



NORTH CRAVEN
BUILDING
PRESERVATION
TRUST

AN APOTHECARY'S GARDEN AT THE FOLLY



The North Craven Building Preservation Trust (Registered Charity no. 505438 and Company Limited by Guarantee no. 01265072) maintains the Museum of North Craven Life at The Folly, a late 17th century historic house and garden in Settle, North Yorkshire (www.thefolly.org.uk)

The project focuses on an interesting example of a late English Baroque town garden in a confined space, much altered in the intervening centuries. It is slowly yielding information as we carry out investigation of its structure and development. It provides an amenity for the Settle community and for our visitors.

PROJECT OUTLINE

We are seeking support to develop an **Apothecary's Garden**, explaining the medicinal and other uses of the plants that would have been grown by Lettice Preston, who, with her husband Richard, built The Folly in 1679. The project includes commissioning a garden designer to assist with planning and to ensure that the planting scheme is historically appropriate. The garden will provide cutting material for stillroom demonstrations in the Museum. We also wish to ensure safe access to the whole area and reinstate power and a water supply to the lower garden level; install two flights of steps to the upper levels and safety railings to the pathways at the rear of the garden, and install handrails to step flights throughout. We want to provide seating for visitors to spend more time enjoying this quiet and secluded space and plan to improve some areas with new edgings, provide signage to assist public understanding of the planting scheme and add displays in pots to improve the sensory garden. Two of the volunteers are keen to lead on a small permanent outdoor exhibition on the geology of the Craven Faults. We urgently need to provide our volunteers with a garden shed and a range of new equipment and materials to help them achieve their goals for this project.



Approximately 42,000 people a year visit The Folly to enjoy exhibitions and to take part in events and activities at the Museum of North Craven Life. The Museum and garden is run by a group of 55 volunteers, who manage routine operations, including visitor services. Eight volunteers form the Garden Team: over the last ten years they have transformed the Folly Garden from a wilderness into an outdoor space to complement our Grade I listed building, with a seating area for the museum's coffee house. The garden has potential to be further developed for arts activities, outdoor exhibitions and more generally as a quiet space for the people of Settle and visitors to the area to enjoy.

We wish to make improvements to the garden at the rear of The Folly, now in the heart of Settle's conservation area. Volunteers have worked to clear and replant the garden, which was badly overgrown when the Trust acquired it in two separate purchases in 1996 and 2010. The garden team have done an extraordinary amount of work with minimal funding, relying on gifts and donations to create a new amenity for the Settle community. For reasons of public safety, we have not yet been able to make most of the upper garden accessible to visitors to the Museum of North Craven Life. A site adjacent to the South Store has been identified for the Apothecary's Garden.

Around 25-30 members of the local refugee and asylum seeker community have worked with the team, often for extended periods, and we envisage that this number will increase. We had ambitions to open more of the garden to the public in 2020, but as a result of the pandemic we chose to create a one-way route through the museum with a new, wheelchair accessible pathway through the garden so that visitors can safely exit the building. This has enabled visitors to see more of the garden for the first time and from feedback we know that they are keen to have greater access.



BACKGROUND TO THE TRUST

The Folly is at the heart of Settle's cultural identity, and a major draw for the heritage tourism market on which the town depends. With a wide range of opportunities for volunteers and a lively family programme, engagement with the Museum, its historic house and garden helps combat social isolation, and promote mental health and well-being across generations. Without the Museum to coordinate cultural and creative practice, North Craven would lose the resource that has been key to

understanding and expressing the area's cultural distinctiveness for over fifty years. The Museum offers the community of North Craven a place to preserve and share the best of the area's cultural heritage, to display volunteer-curated exhibitions and the work of local artists, to engage in lifelong learning, creative workshops and activities. The garden at The Folly is an increasingly important resource for the community that surrounds us, particularly for people in the town without access to their own outdoor space.

The Folly building is undergoing a major transformation as funding for urgent repairs has been awarded by Historic England and the National Lottery Heritage Fund under the Heritage Emergency Fund scheme. This enables us to repair the roofs, rainwater goods and windows of our unique 17th century hall house, repoint the front elevation and relocate the kitchen to reduce the risk of fire. Electrical works as part of this scheme will provide power to the garden level. We hope to complete the work in time to reopen at Easter 2021 and would like to be able to open the whole of the garden during the summer months.

PROJECT BUDGET (all costs inc. VAT)

Design fees	£2500
Reinstate power to garden level	£250
Reinstate water supply	£325
Install safety railings to upper path	£350
Install 2x step flights to upper levels	£400
Install handrails to step flights	£500
Materials to reconstruct upper path	£250
Teak benches (x2)	£450
Plants for Apothecary's Garden	£375
Materials for planting bed construction	£420
40m x 13mm retractable hose	£140
Stihl SH 86 C-E Cordless leaf vacuum blower / shredder	£279
Metal tool shed	£324
Base for shed	£129
Compost for containers 1000l	£129
30cm dia Terracotta pots (x7)	£140
Project total	£6961
<i>(Match funding already received)</i>	<i>(£925)</i>

MATCH FUNDING

Heritage Emergency Fund	£350	Received
Private donation	£400	Received
NCBPT reserves	£175	Received
Applications in progress	£2800	Pending
Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust	£3250	Pending
	£6975	

NCBPT will make an in-kind contribution to cover all labour costs and overheads (insurance, bookkeeping, IT, office costs, etc.) This is not quantified within the project budget.

Our accounts are available to view on the Charity Commission website

Project start date/end date: 30 April 2021 – 30 September 2021

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

The Apothecary's Garden project will be overseen by the Trust's Project Board, which is made up of three trustees, the Chair and Hon. Treasurer, financial adviser, a garden volunteer and the managing architect (a representative of Overtons Architects, Ilkley). The Project Board meets fortnightly (currently via Zoom). Full details of the Trustee Board may be found at:

<https://www.thefolly.org.uk/charitable-trust/trustees/>

HOW WE WILL MEASURE SUCCESS

We will gather statistical and qualitative data during the project and in the twelve months following its completion. A baseline survey will be carried out to assess levels of confidence, perceived levels of technical competence, perceptions of the Trust and expectations of volunteering, and a similar survey will be conducted six months after the end of the project, enabling us to analyse the impact of the activities. Measures of success will include improvements against pre-Covid figures and/or against project targets:

For Audiences (impact measured through footfall counts, exit surveys, feedback forms)

- Numbers of visitors to the garden
- Numbers of people engaging with the Museum for the first time
- Numbers of previous visitors returning to the Museum specifically to visit the garden
- Percentage of positive comments about the Apothecary's Garden and related educational projects derived from feedback

For Workforce

- Number of volunteer hours
- Number of new project volunteers
- Overall increase in levels of volunteer satisfaction, etc. assessed against baseline survey

In addition, we will monitor against the Museum's key performance indicators for budgetary efficiency and delivery against the overall project timetable and milestones

WHY THE PROJECT IS NEEDED NOW

As the Museum has been closed for most of 2020 and will not reopen until at least Easter 2021, it is vital that we create a new visitor offer to re-establish ourselves as a local attraction and re-engage our community. Access and safety improvements to our garden will enhance our ability to offer outdoor activities, should social distancing restrictions remain in force. We are also keen to recognise and support the invaluable work of our volunteers, who have continued to maintain the garden throughout the pandemic.