

The Brontë Society objects to the wind farm proposed for Walshaw Moor, which forms a significant part of what is accepted to be the Brontë landscape, and which includes the site of Top Withins, believed to be the inspiration for the setting of *Wuthering Heights*.

The PEIR does not contain the baseline evidence for any assessment of the effect on Brontë heritage of the proposal, and instead, at PEIR 4.7.13, concludes that 'effects on the Brontë-related landscape are minor and not significant.' No evidence is provided to support this statement. We also note that consultation with the Brontë Society was not conducted until May 2026 (when we met with representatives of Wessex Archaeology) even though the necessity for this consultation was made clear by City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council in their response to the September 2023 Scoping Report.

The moorland between Haworth and Hebden Bridge allows the literary tourist to physically travel through the landscapes of the Brontës' imaginations and the worlds of their novels and poetry. In December 1904, Virginia Woolf wrote an account of a visit to Haworth which was published in *The Guardian*:

"I do not know whether pilgrimages to the shrines of famous men ought not to be condemned as sentimental journeys. It is better to read Carlyle in your own study chair than to visit the sound-proof room and pore over the manuscripts at Chelsea. **The curiosity is only legitimate when the house of a great writer or the country in which it is set adds something to our understanding of his books. This justification you have for a pilgrimage to the home and country of Charlotte Brontë and her sisters.**"

Woolf, along with the 70,000 visitors who visit the Brontë Parsonage Museum from across the world each year, clearly understood the inseparable connection between the local landscape and the Brontës, a connection which cannot be dismissed.