



Curriculum Vitae
Melanie Lloyd Morris (Dip. Arch Cons. MRTPI, IHBC)
Heritage Conservation Consultant

Date of Birth: 23 October 1963

Education: BA (Hons) 2:1 History of Art and Architecture (University of Reading 1985)
 Diploma in Architectural Conservation (Heriot Watt University 1987)

Professional bodies: IHBC - Membership of Institute of Historic Building Conservation (1998)
 MRTPI - Chartered Town Planner (2000)
 ASCHB - Association for Studies in the Conservation of Historic Buildings (1989)

Employment History:

Mel Morris has over 21 years experience working in historic environment conservation.

1987-1988 Bedfordshire County Council as Assistant Conservation Officer
 1988-1999 Derbyshire County Council as Senior Conservation Officer
 1999-2001 Nottingham City Council as Principal Historic Buildings Adviser & then Acting Team Leader
 2001-2009 Mel Morris Conservation, consultancy

Whilst employed by Derbyshire County Council and Nottingham City Council, Mel's work was focussed on major Grade I and II* historic buildings, developing grant-packages and working with "buildings at risk" & running conservation-led regeneration schemes.

Mel has worked on a number of high-profile strategic conservation projects including Wirksworth Town Scheme, assistance with the World Heritage Site nomination for the Derwent Valley, the restoration of two major market places in Belper and Bolsover (with Heritage Lottery Funding), Conservation Area Partnerships for a number of market towns and the development of the first Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme for Nottingham.

Between 1999 and 2001 whilst working for Nottingham City Council Mel undertook a Conservation Statement and Development Brief for Colwick Hall, a Conservation Plan for Wollaton Hall and Park, advised on lottery bids and implementation (Nottingham Arboretum and Wollaton Hall), and advised on listed building refurbishment and works at Nottingham Castle (grade I), the Adams Building (grade I), and Clifton Hall (grade I). Mel provided advice to "Nottingham City Museums and Galleries" on three major museum sites; Wollaton Hall (Natural History Museum and Industrial Museum), Castle Museum, Newstead Abbey, advice which continued for several years after she set up the consultancy.

Since establishing in private practice in December 2001, Mel has:

- developed the business to create a strong, reliable & professional team of associates; graphic designers, photographers & research specialists
- produced 34 Conservation Area Character Appraisals & several Management Plans
- produced 2 Conservation Management Plans for major scheduled sites in association with a firm of well respected conservation architects
- advised Nottingham City Council on lottery bids & conservation planning for three museum sites; Newstead Abbey, Wollaton Hall, and Nottingham Castle
- been part of the successful team to develop the £9 million restoration scheme for Wollaton Hall & Park

- advised on development control matters concerning major listed buildings for both public and private sectors
- produced supplementary planning guidance on listed buildings, conservation areas and archaeology & a buildings at risk register

Team Working and Liaison:

Mel Morris has developed close working relationships with professionals within Local Authorities (e.g. highway engineers, building control and environmental health officers, architects and structural engineers, education, museum and landscape staff), and with organisations such as the National Trust, English Heritage, local Building Preservation Trusts, Groundwork Trusts, local and regional museums and Regeneration Bodies.

Since establishing a consultancy, Mel has continued to work with professionals in a variety of disciplines & has built up a detailed network of associates, with expertise in archaeology, graphic design & environmental education, museum conservation & collections care, conservation architects, architectural paint analysis, historic landscape assessment & landscape designers.

Conservation-led Regeneration Schemes:

Mel Morris has direct experience of working within large multi-disciplinary teams and responsibility for management of regeneration-based grant schemes, encompassing market towns and inner-City areas including preparation of successful bids to fulfil funding requirements. Examples;

Wirksworth Town Scheme (Derbyshire) 1988-1992

A large market town with particular problems from loss of its principal industry (quarrying) and a textile manufacturing base, one of the first such schemes to be established in the U.K. Mel Morris managed and supervised the English Heritage/ local authority partnership scheme after it had been established for a number of years. Projects included the restoration of the 16th century Almshouses with a local Housing Association, the re-paving of the Lychgates and Cook's Yard using traditional materials, re-roofing of the grade I listed church.

Belper Conservation Area Partnership (Derbyshire) 1995-1999

A large industrial town with problems from the loss of the hosiery manufacturing and cotton-spinning base. Mel Morris managed the scheme, a local authority / English Heritage partnership (later the HLF), & monitored/supervised work on site. Projects included the restoration of terraced millworkers cottages, the restoration of Public Baths and town centre shopfronts, feasibility studies on the grade II* listed cotton mill (North Mill & Weir) and Congregational Church, initiatives to promote environmental education within the town, and the full re-paving/restoration of the Market Place with Heritage Lottery Fund grant-aid (scheme of £½ million). Mel was responsible for co-ordinating all funding for the market place re-paving scheme, public consultation, & working alongside the resident engineer in the project team providing design advice, sourcing materials & specialist contractors.

Bolsover Conservation Area Partnership Scheme (Derbyshire) 1995-1999

An historic market town that expanded rapidly in the late 19th century with coal mining. By the late 1980's the Pit was redundant and the area was suffering massive unemployment. Mel Morris co-managed the CAP scheme a joint-English Heritage/ local authority scheme; later an HLF funded scheme. Projects included: the re-paving and traffic management of the market place (HLF-funded scheme co-designed by County highway engineers and Mel Morris), the re-construction of the walls and gardens to the model colliery village, the design and production of town trails, the environmental enhancement of scheduled ancient monument earthworks in association with the local Groundwork Trust, the restoration of critical Buildings at Risk and the restoration of important shopfronts.

Nottingham (Alfreton Road & Gamble Street) Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme 1999-2001

An area of inner-city deprivation that has also received New Deal funding. Social problems and the loss of the lace-manufacturing base have created difficulties in finding sustainable uses for the massive lace & textile factories and for regenerating the shopping streets. Mel Morris managed the scheme on behalf of Nottingham City Council / English Heritage. Projects included; restoration of the redundant Provident

Works for small business use in association with Nottingham Regeneration Limited, the restoration of an Italian restaurant and use of upper floors for flats, the re-fronting of several small commercial properties, incorporating traditional shopfronts and the associated bringing into use of upper floors for flats.

Other examples; Whitwell Section 77 Scheme 1988-1995
 Eckington Town Scheme 1993-1995
 Belper Town Scheme 1993-1995
 Eckington Conservation Area Partnership Scheme 1995-1999
 Cromford Conservation Area Partnership Scheme 1997-1999

Mel Morris has therefore:

- extensive experience of managing and providing technical advice on conservation-based regeneration grant schemes both within the inner-city and market towns
- a proven track record of successful Partnership schemes in historic areas working in close association with English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund. During her management of projects within Derbyshire and Nottingham no scheme was underspent in any year. Budgetary control has ranged from £¼ million (over 3 years) for Cromford and Belper CAP Schemes, to £400,000 for Nottingham (Alfreton Road & Gamble Street) Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme, to £½ million enhancement scheme for the restoration of Belper market place
- experience of project management of complex schemes
- detailed knowledge of requirements and standards of specification and site work for heritage-based grant schemes

Buildings at Risk:

Extensive experience of facilitating rescue packages for listed buildings at risk, production of the "Buildings at Risk" register for both Derbyshire and Nottingham, preparation of repairs notices, development briefs for feasibility studies, appointment of consultants, submission of bids for funding (including the Heritage Lottery Fund). Examples include:

- Derbyshire Buildings at Risk Register 1996 & 1999 - production of both County editions
- 1998 Pleasley Pit (grade II and Scheduled Ancient Monument); supervision/co-ordination of feasibility study & grant-aided programme for heritage-interpretation use and craft workshops, as basis for Heritage Lottery Fund submission
- 1998-1999 Belper North Mill (grade I); advice to Belper North Mill Trust: local authority officer representative, brief for condition assessment, lottery advice
- 1995-1999 Technical Panel of Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust
- 2001–2002 co-ordination & production of Buildings at Risk survey and register of Nottingham
- Development Brief and Conservation Statement for Colwick Hall, Nottingham – grade II* listed building (2000)
- Advice on grant-aid and lottery bids for a large number of buildings at risk; The Camellia House (Wollaton Park), The Chinese Bell Tower and Bandstand (Nottingham Arboretum), Provident Works (Nottingham), 32 Stoney Street (Nottingham)
- 2004: Thimble Hall, Middleton-by-Youlgreave; preparation of justification statement & case for economic re-use & extension of a tiny grade II listed building at risk
- 2004: Abbey House, Whitby – development of Conservation Management Plan for building at risk

Listed Buildings Advice:

Mel has advised on many listed buildings over the years and this was the main focus of her work whilst employed by the local planning authorities. Since 2001 Mel has advised on a number of important listed buildings. The following are just a few examples ranging from 1990-2009:

- Hardwick Hall (grade I); advice on aspects of restoration and security to mullioned windows, advice on roof compartmentation for fire safety, advice on new public toilet block
- Carnfield Hall, South Normanton (grade II*); advice on subdivision of Country house into flats and development within grounds
- Moscow farm, Milford and Dalley Farm, Belper (grade II*); advice on re-use of redundant farm buildings; conversion to dwellings, viability of holiday lets
- Clifton Hall, Nottingham (grade I); advice on subdivision, feasibility of residential, office and leisure use, development within grounds, enabling development, modern extension (2001)
- The Adams Building, Nottingham (grade I); advice on alterations for further education uses for Clarendon College (2000)
- Boots D10 and D9 (grade I by Owen Williams); advice on alterations to 1920's and 1930's factories for "Boots plc", to form offices and laboratories (2000)
- Wollaton Hall, Nottingham (grade I); advice on alterations to improve access and insertion of lifts (2000-2004)
- 2008: Greenmoor, Buxton – Heritage Statement & Options Appraisal for development within the grounds of a grade II listed Barry Parker building

Public Inquiries, Crown Court & Expert Witness Testimony:

Public Inquiry: expert witness for Nottingham City Council; application for demolition of listed building – Great Northern Warehouse, Nottingham (2000)

Crown Court: Carter Hall Farm, Eckington; expert witness testimony for Crown Court Prosecution

Informal Hearing: appeal against enforcement notice; Colwick Hall, Nottingham, relating to architectural theft from John Carr of York grade II* listed building (October 2001)

Conservation Management Plans & Conservation Statements:

- Development Brief and Conservation Statement for Colwick Hall, Nottingham – grade II* listed building (2000)
- Conservation Plan – Wollaton Hall & Park for Nottingham City Council, co-authored with Museum Conservation Manager (2002)
- Newstead Abbey, Notts. – brief for Conservation Plan, Development Plan & Landscape Restoration Management Plan 2002 – retained as professional adviser to Nottingham City Council during production of plans
- Conservation Management Plan for Abbey House, Whitby (March 2004) – Grade I listed building at risk, for John Cunnington Architects

- Conservation Management Plan for Bradwell Abbey, Milton Keynes (July 2004), for John Cunnington Architects
- Advice on issues for a Conservation Management Plan at Derwentwater Youth Hostel (J Cunnington Architects 2005)

Conservation Area Appraisals, Character Statements & Management Plans:

Mel Morris has produced a total of 36 conservation area appraisals or character statements. These range from historic designed landscapes, such as Wollaton Park (Nottingham City Council), to rural settlements areas, major historic towns and important historic industrial sites.

- Ridgmont Conservation Area, Bedfordshire – 1988
- Belper Conservation Area, Derbyshire - 1995
- Wollaton Park Conservation Area, Nottingham – 2002, for Nottingham City Council
- 22 Conservation Area Character Statements for South Derbyshire District Council:
Repton, Swadlincote, Shardlow, Ticknall, Melbourne, Etwall, Bretby, Milton, Newton Solney, Walton-on-Trent, Swarkestone, Stanton-by-Bridge (2004-2005)
Kings Newton, Woodhouses, Aston-on-Trent, Barrow-on-Trent, Twyford, Netherseal, Smisby, Trusley, Trent & Mersey Canal, Lullington (2007-08)
- 6 Conservation Area Appraisals for Derbyshire Dales District Council:
Cromford Conservation Area Character Appraisal - 2006
Castle Top, Lea Bridge & High Peak Junction Conservation Area Appraisal - 2006
Matlock Bank Conservation Area Character Appraisal - 2007
Brassington Conservation Area Character Appraisal - 2007
Carsington & Hopton Character Appraisal - 2009
Middleton-by-Wirksworth Character Appraisal - 2009
- Buxton Conservation Areas Character Appraisal for High Peak Borough Council - 2006-7
- Derby: Green Lane & St. Peters Conservation Area Appraisal & Conservation Management Strategy (2009), for Derby City Council

Survey:

Condition Survey of the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site & preparation of audit for English Heritage Partnership Scheme grant - 2004

Heritage Lottery Fund Implementation - *examples*

- Belper Market Place Restoration (1995-1999); successful lottery bid and implementation (£1/2 million)
- Belper CAP Scheme (1998); successful lottery bid and implementation (£1/4 million)
- Nottingham Arboretum; advice on implementation of lottery funding for structures under Urban Parks Programme (1999-2001)
- Bolsover Castle Street and Market Place; for Bolsover District Council; scheme of environmental enhancement and restoration (Heritage Lottery funding)

- Wollaton Hall & Park (2002-4); part of team to develop £6.7 million lottery bid
- Newstead Abbey (2002-4); successful bids for HLF funding for Landscape Restoration Management Plan and Conservation Plan (£100,000)

Historic Parks and Gardens:

- Advice on Registered Parks and Gardens whilst employed by Derbyshire County Council and Nottingham City Council; e.g. lottery funding and advice on Belper River gardens, Nottingham Arboretum
- Secretary of Derbyshire Historic Gardens Trust from 1997 to 2000 advising on planning applications affecting historic parks and gardens, and undertaking research on sites such as Ireton Gardens, (Kedleston), Bretby Park, Foremarke Hall walled kitchen garden, enabling the addition of parks and gardens to the English Heritage Register
- Preparation of briefs & tenders for Landscape Restoration Management Plans for grade I registered parks at Wollaton Park & Newstead Abbey & management of each appointment. Application for development grant for LRMPs at both sites (£50,000 grant for each site)

Policy:

- World Heritage Site – assistance with development of bid for the Derwent Valley, Derbyshire
- Policy formulation for conservation - Local Plan (Nottingham City) and Derbyshire Structure Plan
- Amber Valley Listed Buildings Working Party (expert advice for Amber Valley Borough Council)
- Supplementary Planning Guidance (Bolsover District Council) on the Historic Environment

Environmental Interpretation:

- Liaison with Nottingham Trent University Heritage Management course and development of Old Belper trail
- Environmental education: collaboration with Derbyshire County Council environmental education adviser on projects at New Bolsover (pack for schools at model colliery village) and Belper cotton mills, including talks to groups, production of an exhibition at New Bolsover and grant applications
- Production of Bolsover Town Trail and New Bolsover Town Trail for the Conservation Area Partnership
- Belper Interpretative Plan – Draft 1997 – a local strategic document for the presentation of the historic town (in consultation with local amenity societies)

Conservation Training:

- Two day-long seminars – training in an introduction to conservation for Development Control staff (Nottingham 2000-2001)
- NVQ Assessor for Level 4 Conservation Control NVQ in association with COTAC (2003-2005)