

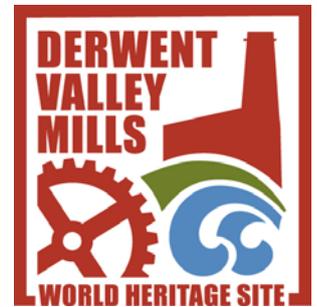
# DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

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Liz Prior  
Amber Valley Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Ripley  
Derbyshire DE5 3BT

12th December 2017

Dear Liz

**AVA/2017/1279: Replacement of timber windows with casement style uPVC on south elevation at 28 Sunny Hill, Milford.**

Please find below my response to the consultation concerning the above application. These comments will be taken to the World Heritage Site Conservation and Planning Panel for verification in February.

The site lies within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS). The Derwent Valley Mills were inscribed on the World Heritage List by UNESCO in 2001. The Derwent Valley Mills Partnership, on behalf of HM Government, is pledged to conserve the unique and important cultural landscape of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site; to protect its outstanding universal value (OUV), to interpret and promote its assets; and to enhance its character, appearance and economic well-being in a sustainable manner.

The retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value (SOUV) for the Derwent Valley Mills was adopted by the World Heritage Committee in 2010. The SOUV refers to the following UNESCO criteria, which the World Heritage Committee agreed were met at the time of inscription. They are:

- C(ii) That the site exhibits “an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town planning or landscape design”;
- C(iv) That the site is “an outstanding example of a type of building or architectural or technological ensemble or landscape, which illustrates a significant stage in human history”.

The SOUV records that these criteria were met for the following reasons:

- C(ii) The Derwent Valley saw the birth of the factory system, when new types of building were erected to house the new technology for spinning cotton developed by Richard Arkwright in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century.

C(iv) In the Derwent Valley for the first time there was large-scale industrial production in a hitherto rural landscape. The need to provide housing and other facilities for workers and managers resulted in the creation of the first modern industrial settlements.

A Management Plan for the World Heritage Site was created in 2002, and updated in 2014. It has as the first of its nine aims to: “protect, conserve and enhance the Outstanding Universal Value of the DVMWHS.” In accordance with this aim, and with reference to Section 12.1 of the Management Plan, I have consulted with Derbyshire County Council’s Conservation, Heritage and Design Service (which advises the World Heritage Site Partnership in planning matters), and have received the following advice:

From a simple map regression exercise the building first appears on the 1904-39 OS. The building features characteristics consistent with the Arts and Crafts movement which concurs with the assumption that it is an early 20th century building.

Given the age of the dwelling it is unlikely that this was once part of the Strutt Estate although its relatively intact architectural appearance contributes positively to the DVMWHS. The photograph of the window to the rear illustrates that the existing window is likely to be original. Although this may not be visible to other parts of the WHS it would be deleterious to the character of the building, and therefore its positive contribution to the WHS, if the windows are replaced, and certainly with uPVC. It would be preferable that the windows are repaired, or replaced on a like-for-like basis should this not be practicable, in order to preserve its contribution to the WHS.

I hope these comments can be considered when a decision is made concerning this development.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Adrian Farmer'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Adrian Farmer**

Heritage Co-ordinator, Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.  
cc Rachael Coates, AVBC