

# DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Shand House, Dale Road South, Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3RY

T: +44(0) 1629 536831

E: [info@derwentvalleymills.org](mailto:info@derwentvalleymills.org)

[www.derwentvalleymills.org](http://www.derwentvalleymills.org)



Sarah Pearce  
Amber Valley Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Ripley  
Derbyshire DE5 3BT

20th January 2018

Dear Sarah

**AVA/2017/1370: Construction of a detached dwelling along with associated vehicular and pedestrian access on land off St Ronans Avenue, Duffield.**

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) Buffer Zone, and close to the Site itself. 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:

A simple OS map regression exercise suggest that the land may have formed part of the Duffield Hall Estate. However, in more recent years the land has been developed extensively with a modern housing estate. Most of the houses appear to be built from at least the 1960s onwards.

The proposed development site appears to lie within the curtilage or garden to an existing modern house on the estate. A number of remnant trees which were presumably part of the former Duffield Hall estate remain, and these, together with other possible parkland features, form an important visual screen from the A6/former turnpike road.

The proposed development is for a two-storey dwelling in an honest modern style and it is considered that it is of a suitable scale and design quality. The arboricultural statement and supporting landscape plan suggest that there will be no adverse impacts on any significant existing trees which are important to the character of the site and immediate setting to the WHS. The dwelling will be visible from the A6 but its impact will be limited as the most visible façade from this aspect is a simple brick façade with a sloping grey roof. The existing trees should also serve to help reduce the visual impact of the dwelling.

Therefore provided that the quality of materials and detailing are of the highest possible standard the proposed development will only have a very negligible negative impact on the OUV of the DVMWHS and the DVMWHS Partnership does not object to the proposed development.

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', written in a cursive style.

**Adrian Farmer**

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