

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

www.derwentvalleymills.org



Gareth Griffiths
Development Management
Derbyshire Dales District Council
Town Hall
Matlock DE4 3NN

14th December 2018

Dear Gareth

18/01310/FUL: Excavation works to form area of hardstanding for storage, construction of retaining walls and alterations to private access road at UK Slipform Ltd, Dunsley Mill, Via Gellia Road, Bonsall.

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 January.

The site lies within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS) Buffer Zone. 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 18th 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 received the following advice:

The site is wholly within the DVMWHS Buffer Zone albeit astride the boundary to the WHS. While there are no known surviving attributes within the development site it is close to the boundary of the WHS and just a short distance from Slinter Cottage. This is an attribute of the WHS for its association with the values pertaining to ‘power harnessing and production’ and that of its evidence of technical development within the Derwent Valley as described in the current DVMWHS Management Plan (2014-19).

The proposed development has the potential to impact on the immediate setting of this attribute and the wider WHS. Whilst the DVMWHS Partnership holds no objection in principle to the proposed development, it is difficult to assess the level or harm given the lack of clear design information. It would have been useful to have included a plan indicating the site before and after with an appropriate level of annotation. Before and after photographs of the site would also be useful from within the site boundary and including views of the site from Slinter Cottage; along the A6.

Once this information has been submitted it will be possible to provide comprehensive comments on the proposals.

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 Dr Mark Askey, DDDC