

DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

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Heather Wynne
Amber Valley Borough Council
Town Hall
Ripley
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17th October 2019

Dear Heather

AVA/2019/0889: Extension to form entrance hallway and porch on ground floor and bathroom on first floor; new window on front elevation; roof-lights and dormer window in the roof at Hill Top, Makeney Road, Makeney.

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 November.

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 have received the following advice:

This property was built by the Strutt family who owned the mills at Milford and Belper, and was their final residence before they moved away from this area. As such, it shows a reduction in status from the larger homes of Makeney Hall and Bridge Hill House, and is, therefore, an Attribute of the World Heritage Site. It is located within the Buffer Zone of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, which is designated to protect the ‘immediate’ setting of the Site, and it is adjacent to the World Heritage Site and the Belper and Milford Conservation Area.

Hill Top is a large, unlisted house, set within a rural landscape, above Duffield Bank. Although the building sits adjacent to the enclosed field pattern, the house is screened by trees and some distance from public views from roads or footpaths. Furthermore, the application relates to a number of alterations and extensions to the dwelling, which are relatively minor in scope. The roof-lights are the elements most likely to impact on longer views to the otherwise recessive roof planes, were they to be visible.

On balance, it is considered that the significance of the World Heritage Site would not be harmed as the works would not impact on its landscape setting, nor be of sufficient size to impact on the building’s significance as the final Strutt home in the Derwent valley.

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 Sarah Brooks, AVBC