



## 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:

I have over 25 years experience working in historic environment conservation.

2001-2013	Mel Morris Conservation, consultancy
1999-2001	Nottingham City Council as Principal Historic Buildings Adviser & then Acting Team Leader
1988-1999	Derbyshire County Council as Senior Conservation Officer
1987-1988	Bedfordshire County Council as Assistant Conservation Officer

The work of the consultancy has evolved from work primarily on Heritage Lottery Fund and local authority funded projects to, in recent years, work for large organisations, such as The Environment Agency, English Heritage, educational institutions, private developers and architectural practices.

Since establishing the consultancy in December 2001, the business has:

- produced 36 Conservation Area Character Appraisals & several Management Plans
- produced 2 Conservation Management Plans for scheduled monuments 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 that developed the £9 million restoration scheme for Wollaton Hall & Park
- advised on development control matters concerning major listed buildings for both public and private sectors
- contributed, on behalf of Heritage Places, to a Heritage Impact assessment of the Liverpool Waters planning application
- represented a private client as expert witness at a planning inquiry into the use of a Grade I listed building for weddings and corporate events
- provided conservation advice within a design team on an HLF Parks for People grant in St. Helens

I undertake Project Management of multi-disciplinary teams & have built up a reliable network of associates, with professional expertise in archaeology, graphic design & environmental education, museum conservation & collections care, architecture, fire and structural engineering, architectural paint analysis, historic landscape assessment & landscape design.

Whilst employed by Derbyshire County Council and Nottingham City Council, my 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. This included work on a number of high-profile projects

including Wirksworth Town Scheme, the World Heritage Site nomination for the Derwent Valley and the restoration of historic market places in Belper and Bolsover.

Between 1999 and 2001 I 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 I set up the consultancy.

### Listed Buildings Advice:

I have advised on many listed buildings over the years and this was the main focus of my work whilst employed by the planning authorities. Since 2001 I have advised on a number of important listed buildings, many “at risk”. The following are examples ranging from 1990-2012:

- 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
- 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
- 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)
- 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
- Mansion House, Ashbourne (grade I) – advice for the Environment Agency on the alterations within the garden as part of the Ashbourne flood defence scheme (2010)
- Caverswall Castle, Staffordshire (grade I) – Statement of Significance, Inventory, Sensitivity Analysis, planning inquiry evidence (2009-2010)
- Liverpool University Students Union (1909-13 grade II), by Sir Charles Reilly – Statement of Significance, Supporting Statement for Listed Building Consent for improvements to disabled access, re-ordering interiors, repair specifications (2012)
- St. Martin’s Lodge, Chester (grade II) – Building Appraisal of Thomas Harrison’s house in Chester for Brunning and Price Ltd. (2011) in advance of change of use
- Greenbank, Chester (grade II) – Heritage Statement for Georgian Mansion for private developer (2012) in advance of application for change of use

### Public Inquiries, Crown Court & Expert Witness Testimony:

Public Inquiry: expert witness for Derbyshire County Council; application for quarry extension on the edge of Pleasley Park and Vale Conservation Area

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)

Planning Inquiry: Caverswall Castle, Staffordshire; expert witness testimony for private owner and expert advice on use of the grade I listed building for weddings and events (2010)

### Conservation Management Plans & Conservation Statements:

- Development Brief and Conservation Statement for Colwick Hall, Nottingham – grade II\* listed building at risk (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:

I have 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, major historic towns, such as Buxton, 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, Etwell, 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)
- 7 Conservation Area Appraisals for Derbyshire Dales District Council:  
Cromford (2006), Castle Top, Lea Bridge & High Peak Junction (2006), Matlock Bank (2007), Brassington (2007), Carsington & Hopton (2009) Middleton-by-Wirksworth (2009), Lumsdale (2010-11)
- 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

- Hayfield Conservation Area Character Appraisal (2011) – High Peak Borough Council

### World Heritage Sites - *examples*

- Derwent Valley Mills WHS - Condition Survey & preparation of audit for English Heritage Partnership Scheme grant – 2004
- Liverpool Maritime and Mercantile City WHS - Heritage Impact Assessment of Liverpool Waters planning application for Heritage Places, commissioned by English Heritage, assessment of compliance with SPD, impact on views, on conservation areas and impacts on Outstanding Universal Value
- Ironbridge Gorge WHS – Heritage Statement and contribution to OUV, as part of a planning application for extensions and alterations to the Woodbridge Inn, Coalport (2011)

### 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 successful £6.7 million lottery bid
- Newstead Abbey (2002-4); successful bids for HLF funding for Landscape Restoration Management Plan and Conservation Plan (£100,000)
- Victoria Park, St. Helens (2010-2012); Parks for People grant – advice on restoration of grade II listed gate lodge, walled garden and conservatory, detailed repair specifications and drawings

### 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)
- Parks for People Grant (HLF); Victoria Park, St. Helens – advice within the design team on listed buildings, reports, repair specifications, detailed drawings for repair and restoration, advice on reinstatement of Messinger-style conservatory and restoration of rusticated garden walls

### 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)

### Conservation-led Regeneration Schemes:

I have direct experience of working within large multi-disciplinary teams, managing regeneration-based grant schemes, encompassing market towns and inner-City areas. I provided technical advice & specifications & have a proven track record of successful Partnership schemes in historic areas, working in close association with English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

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. I 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 within the Derwent Valley World Heritage Site. Problems arose initially from the loss of the hosiery manufacturing and cotton-spinning base. I 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 and the full re-paving/restoration of the Market Place with Heritage Lottery Fund grant-aid (scheme of £½ million).

#### 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. I 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 myself), the re-construction of the walls and gardens to the model colliery village, 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 also received New Deal funding. Social problems and the loss of the lace-manufacturing base created difficulties in finding sustainable uses for the massive lace & textile factories and for regenerating the shopping streets. I 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.