



Date of Birth: 23 October 1963

Education: BA (Hons) 2:1 History of Art and

Architecture (Univ. 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:

2001-present Mel Morris Conservation, heritage consultancy

1999-2001 Nottingham City Council as Principal Historic Buildings Adviser & then Acting Team

Leader

1988-1999 Derbyshire County Council as Senior Conservation Officer1987-1988 Bedfordshire County Council as Assistant Conservation Officer

Mel is an accredited conservation consultant (HESPR - IHBC), a chartered town planner, and an architectural historian.

Mel has 32 years experience of working in the field of historic environment conservation, of which the first 15 years were spent in local government teams and the last 17 years in private practice, as a specialist conservation and heritage consultant.

After specialising in architectural conservation in Edinburgh, Mel was appointed as a conservation officer at Bedfordshire County Council in 1987 and progressed to work for Derbyshire County Council for 12 years before eventually working at Nottingham City Council for 2 years, finishing as acting Team Leader for conservation. In Derbyshire Mel project managed many high profile grant schemes including hard landscaping the historic market places at Bolsover and Belper. In Nottingham Mel worked within the team responsible for masterplanning, urban design and conservation and was principal historic buildings adviser and was seconded to the Museum Service to help implement a Conservation Plan for the flagship Wollaton Hall and Park. Mel was principal author of the Wollaton Hall and Park Conservation Plan, which established the robust basis for a £6.4 million lottery grant and was retained by the project team as conservation consultant during the project implementation.

In 2011 Mel Morris was part of the Heritage Places team commissioned by English Heritage to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment of the Liverpool Waters scheme (Peel Holdings development of Liverpool Northern Docks). Mel's role included an assessment of 31 'key views' within the WHS Management Plan, to assess the impact of the development on the World Heritage Site and its Outstanding Universal Value.

In 2017 and 2018 Mel represented Amber Valley Borough Council as the expert witness for two public inquiries for (1) Kedleston Road (re: the setting of Kedleston Hall and RPG) and (2) The

Bullsmoor Inquiry (re: the setting of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site). Subsequent to the Kedleston Road Inquiry, 2017 Mel Morris worked with Deborah Evans, landscape architect, on a new Kedleston Hall Setting Study commissioned by the National Trust, in liaison with a number of stakeholders including local planning authorities and Historic England.

In September 2018 Mel Morris Conservation was commissioned by Historic England and Derby City Council to undertake a Skyline Study of Derby to identify significant views in Derby and review existing policy to inform a revised Tall Buildings Strategy, a project which was completed in January 2019.

The consultancy has produced 47 Conservation Area Character Appraisals & 4 management plans and Conservation Plans / Conservation Management Plans for sites including Grade I listed buildings, scheduled monuments and historic landscapes and is currently (2019) working on a new Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Keswick in the Lake District National Park – The English Lake District World Heritage Site.

Strategic Conservation & Policy

2016 - consultant to Historic England on draft Local Plans and Sustainability Appraisals in the East Midlands

2011 - Heritage Impact Assessment of the Peel Holdings development of Liverpool Northern Docks, part of the WHS, on behalf of English Heritage, working for Stephen Bond of Heritage Places. This included an assessment of 31 'key views'.

October 2016-2017 – Conservation consultant to South Derbyshire District Council on all matters related to heritage

January-March 2018 – Heritage Impact Assessments of SHLAA sites within Mansfield District Council Local Plan

September 2018 to January 2019 – Analysis of Derby City Skyline and Significant Views – baseline assessment for Historic England and Derby City Council

Conservation Area Appraisals, Character Statements & Management Plans:

Produced (and written) a total of 47 conservation area appraisals or character statements in Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Nottingham and the Lake District. 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 within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site and the Churnet Valley:

Belper, Wollaton Park, Repton, Swadlincote, Shardlow, Ticknall, Melbourne, Etwall, Bretby, Milton, Newton Solney, Walton-on-Trent, Swarkestone, Stanton-by-Bridge, Kings Newton, Woodhouses, Aston-on-Trent, Barrow-on-Trent, Twyford, Netherseal, Smisby, Trusley, Trent & Mersey Canal, Lullington, Cromford, Castle Top, Lea Bridge & High Peak Junction, Matlock Bank, Brassington, Carsington & Hopton, Middleton-by-Wirksworth, Lumsdale, Buxton Conservation Areas (4) Derby: Green Lane & St. Peters, Clay Cross, Hayfield, Simmondley, Whitfield, Padfield, Tintwistle, Chapel-enle-Frith - Town End, Howard Park, Rudyard Lake, Oakamoor, Swadlincote Management Plan, Keswick.

Conservation Management Plans & Conservation Statements:

• Development Brief and Conservation Statement for Colwick Hall, Nottingham – grade II* listed building (2000) designed by John Carr of York

- Conservation Plan Wollaton Hall & Park (Grade I) for Nottingham City Council, lead author, written with the Museum Conservation Manager (2002)
- Newstead Abbey, Notts. (Gde I and RPG) brief and procurement of Conservation Plan, Development Plan & Landscape Restoration Management Plan for Nottingham City Council 2002 retained to project manage plans during production
- Conservation Management Plan for Abbey House, Whitby (March 2004) Grade I listed building at risk, with John Cunnington Architects
- Conservation Management Plan for Bradwell Abbey (gde I & SAM), Milton Keynes (July 2004), with John Cunnington Architects
- Advice on issues for a Conservation Management Plan at Derwentwater Youth Hostel (J Cunnington Architects 2005)
- Conservation Management Plan Greenbank Hall, Chester (2014) Georgian mansion, with landscaped garden and enabling development
- Conservation Plan New Standard Works, Birmingham Jewellery Quarter (gde II) 2016
- Conservation Management Plan Sunnymede, Southport (Jan 2017) Victorian marine villa (gde II), with garden by Edward Kemp and enabling development

Landscapes

Kedleston Setting Study for The National Trust, 2017, with DE Landscape and Heritage

Bodelwyddan, N Wales – Heritage Impact Assessment of Factory Chimney at Bodelwyddan Castle RPG and Kinmel Park RPG (2018), with DE Landscape and Heritage

Keswick – Setting within the English Lake District WHS (as part of the CA appraisal and management plan 2019)

Moor Park, Harrogate (2017) – heritage impact assessment - assessment of the historic landscape setting of the listed buildings and new development

Public Inquiries & Expert Witness Testimony:

<u>Crown Court:</u> Carter Hall Farm, Eckington; expert witness testimony for Crown Court Prosecution – (1997)

<u>Public Inquiry</u>: expert witness for Nottingham City Council; application for demolition of listed building – Great Northern Warehouse, Nottingham (2000)

Informal Hearing: appeal against enforcement notice; Colwick Hall, Nottingham, relating to architectural theft from John Carr of York grade II* listed building (October 2001)

<u>Local Plan Inquiry</u>: Review of Sites for Glossop Local Plan (2015) – for High Peak Borough Council – principal heritage consultant assessing the setting of heritage assets

<u>Planning Inquiry</u>: South Wingfield and Wingfield Manor (2016), for Amber Valley Borough Council - principal heritage consultant assessing the setting of heritage assets

<u>Planning Inquiry</u>: Kedleston Road, Derby (2016), near Kedleston Hall – for Amber Valley Borough Council -principal heritage consultant assessing the setting of heritage assets

<u>Planning Inquiry</u>: Jawbone Lane, Kings Newton (2016) for South Derbyshire District Council - principal heritage consultant assessing the setting of heritage assets

<u>Planning Inquiry</u>: Bullsmoor, Belper (2018) for Amber Valley Borough Council – expert witness on heritage assessing the impact of development on the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

Conservation-led Regeneration Schemes:

Management of regeneration-based grant schemes, encompassing market towns and inner-City areas between 1988 and 2002. Budgets ranged from $\pounds \frac{1}{4}$ million for grant schemes to $\pounds \frac{1}{2}$ million enhancement scheme for the restoration of Belper market place. Project management, technical advice & specifications, working in close association with English Heritage and the Heritage Lottery Fund:

- Wirksworth Town Scheme (Derbyshire) 1988-1992
- Belper Conservation Area Partnership (Derbyshire) 1995-1999
- Bolsover Conservation Area Partnership Scheme (Derbyshire) 1995-1999
- Nottingham (Alfreton Road & Gamble Street) Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme 1999-2001
- Swadlincote Conservation Management Plan, 2014-2015 & Article 4 Direction for THI ongoing support to THI officer during implementation

Listed Buildings Advice - examples:

The following are just a few examples from the last ten years:

Chester Town Hall (grade II*) – 2018: Heritage Assessment for Cheshire West and Chester Council (comprehensive significance study of the building and all its spaces, artefacts, fixtures, fittings and decorative schemes)

Caverswall Castle (grade I); 2009-2010 Inventory, Statement of Significance, Sensitivity Analysis & Proof of Evidence for Public Inquiry

Ashcombe Park, Cheddleton (II*) -2015-2018 ongoing - Heritage Statement and advice on change of use from single dwelling, enabling development and re-use of 'estate' buildings

Old Palace, Chester (II*) -2016-2018 - Heritage Statement and advice on change of use to a wedding venue

Sunnymede, Southport (II) -2015 - Heritage Impact Assessment enabling development within the grounds, for Schemeglobal (Southport) Limited - assessment of setting

Albert Hall, Manchester (II) -2015 – Heritage Impact Assessment – conversion to Concert Hall venue for Zecol Ltd.

Salford Cathedral – Cathedral House (II*) – 2012 Heritage Statement for change of use to priests' accommodation and Level 3 Recording. For Catholic Building Services Ltd.

Sutton Barns, Endon (II) -2016 - Heritage Statement and advice on change of use to dwelling. Level 3 Recording. Private owner

Liverpool Students Guild (II) -2011-2012 for Liverpool University - Heritage Statement for reordering and access improvements. Repair specifications for repair and restoration of paint schemes, staircases and Gilmour Hall Debating Chamber.

Chester Bluecoats Hospital (II*) – 2013 - Heritage Statement and re-ordering for change of use and new access for third sector organisations – Chester Municipal Charities

Worsley Old Hall (II) -2013 - Design and Access Statement and LBC submission for Brunning and Price - refurbishment, repair and restoration. Level 2 Recording.

2 Harter Street, Manchester (II) -2014-2015 - conversion of paper warehouse to flats. Heritage Statement and Impact Assessment for Brookmoor

Main Bridewell, Liverpool (II*) – 2014 - Level 3 Recording for Falconer Chester Hall Architects

Bottle Kilns at Swadlincote (II*) – 2015 - advice to LPA in consultation with Historic England – buildings at risk and urgent works notice

Home Farm, Skelton – 2015 - Heritage Statement (Conservation Area) for The Wharton Estate

Adderley Mill, Cheadle – Heritage Statement (2018) for an industrial site incorporating a corn mill, bone crushing mill and paint mill

Bradwell Works, Longport – Heritage Statement (2018) for an industrial pottery site in Stoke-on-Trent

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 £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 Parks for People (2011-2012) £3 million. Heritage consultant working as part of architect's team on historic buildings and walled garden and advising on restoration of winter garden / conservatory.
- New Standard Works, Birmingham Jewellery Quarter (2016) Stage 2 within design team on behalf of the Ruskin Mill Trust including Conservation Plan