DERWENT VALLEY MILLS WORLD HERITAGE SITE

Room S7, North Block, County Hall, Smedley Street, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG
T: +44(0) 1629 536831
E: info@derwentvalleymills.org

www.derwentvalleymills.org

Laura Anthony
Amber Valley Borough Council
Town Hall
Ripley
Derbyshire DE5 3BT

6th October 2020

Dear Laura

AVA/2020/0769: Demolition of existing rear lean to kitchen and outbuildings and the construction of a single storey rear extension at 4 Makeney Yard, Makeney.

Please find below my response to the consultation concerning the above application. These comments will be passed to the World Heritage Site Conservation and Planning Group for verification in November.

The site lies within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (DVMWHS). 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 maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site by protecting, conserving, presenting, enhancing and transmitting its culture, economy, unique heritage and landscape 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 2020. It has as the first of its nine aims to: "protect and conserve the Outstanding Universal Value of the DVMWHS to ensure its transmission to future generations." In accordance with this aim, and with reference to the operational guidance in Section 20 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:

The property is a three-storey end terrace dwelling located within the Belper and Milford Conservation Area. Number 4 Makeney Yard is an end property in the grade II listed row of 1-4 Makeney Yard . It forms part of a linear terrace facing south, to a private yard, at right angles to Makeney Road. This end property occupies a dominant and elevated position along Makeney Road, being set some 2.8m above the property's boundary stone wall, adjacent to the proposed extension. While the list description nominally describes the row as being 17th century, the supporting information claims the terraced dwellings might originally have been a farm, dating to 1495, and rebuilt in 1732 following a fire, being converted into four dwellings, subsequently, by the Strutts, in 1806. It believes Numbers 3 and 4 were the original farm house, which were converted to two dwellings by incorporating a party wall. It goes on to state that Numbers 1 and 2 were originally agricultural buildings prior to conversion to two dwellings.

Clearly, the row has much significance in its own right, but also by its contribution to the Outstanding Universal Value of the WHS. The existing extension comprises a rendered lean-to; a detached toilet/shower room and a timber shed, which are located in the small rear yard to the rear of the property, but immediately facing Makeney Road. While not the most appropriate elements to be associated with this sensitive and significant building, the modest scale of the existing extension and the recessive colour of the contrasting lightweight materials of the shed, which conceals the outside WC, allow the row to retain its prominence.

The proposed works are an amended version of the scheme approved under application no AVA/2020/0209, now to include a lower flat roof, without a parapet upstand, together with a Staffordshire Blue tiled mono-pitch roof against the rear wall of the dwelling. The desirable break between the corner of the end wall and the new accommodation has be retained within the proposals and modified to accommodate the raised mono-pitch roof. The works, as described in this revised scheme, would not adversely affect the significance of the WHS as defined by its Outstanding Universal Value. All opportunities to further reveal the significance of the building through exposing the elements of the rear wall of the dwelling should be taken.

I hope these comments can be considered when a decision is made concerning this development.

Yours sincerely

[redacted]

Adrian Farmer Heritage Co-ordinator, Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site.

cc Sarah Brooks, AVBC