

Update to December 2021 State of Conservation Report – Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

Following the email of 30 January 2023 inviting States Parties to provide updates to State of Conservation (SOC) Reports initially planned for the 45th session in 2022, the UK State Party is providing the Secretariat with updates regarding Derwent Valley Mills (SOC report submitted on 16 December 2021).

The report below draws the World Heritage Centre's attention to, but does not repeat, information provided in the following subsequent notifications submitted to the World Heritage Centre:

- **Belper Mills - 24 May 2022 and 01 March 2023**
- **Crich Quarry - 15 July 2022 (see update in Section 4 below)**
- **Darley Abbey – 24 February 2023**
- **Eagle Quarter and Bradshaw Way – 24 February 2023**

The information is provided under the headings for the relevant section in the State of Conservation Report. The specific points raised in the World Heritage Centre's letter of 4 February 2021, in which production of a State of Conservation Report was requested, are reproduced in italics. Any further responses of the State Party to those points, which are set out below, are not indented and do not use italics.

2. Response to the request from the World Heritage Centre

- To have a deeper understanding of the existing and planned strategies and policies related to the protection and management of the property, and to be able to assess the potential impact of all current major project plans, the World Heritage Centre would like to kindly ask your national authorities to submit a report on the state of conservation.*

A - The Landmark, Phoenix Street, Derby

The State of Conservation Report updated the World Heritage Centre on proposals for a multi-storey building providing 202 residential apartments within the City of Derby abutting the World Heritage Site buffer zone. The State Party reported that this application had been approved by the Planning Authority.

The State Party understands that development has yet to commence on this site at the current time.

B - 118 dwelling development at Whitehouse Farm, Belper Lane, Belper

In the State of Conservation Report the State Party also provided an update regarding the status of the planning applications for development at Whitehouse Farm within the World Heritage Site buffer zone. The appeals against the Planning Authority's refusal and non-determination of the applications for 118 dwellings and 65 dwellings respectively had been recovered by the Secretary of State who had indicated that planning permissions should be granted, subject to conditions.

The State Party understands that, subsequently, construction has now commenced on the site.

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Steps taken since these decisions and positive planning outcomes

The State Party is able to provide a further update on the indication in the State of Conservation Report that Historic England was working with Amber Valley to secure additional Conservation Officer provision in the authority to reflect the extensive part of the Property within their Borough.

Funding is now in place from Historic England to support Amber Valley Borough Council's conservation expertise across the period from 2022 to the anticipated adoption of their Local Plan in 2024. This places them in a more secure policy position in respect of planning applications.

3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s) Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding Universal Value

The Belper Mills Complex

On 01 March 2023 the State Party submitted a notification regarding the live planning and listed building consent applications for the site which still await determination, and previously on 24 May 2022 the State Party submitted a notification in conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* regarding the closure of the North Mill Museum within the complex.

4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the Operational Guidelines, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity

Crich Quarry, Town End, Crich, Matlock (Application Reference CM6/0122/28)

On 15 July 2022 the State Party submitted a notification in conformity with paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines* regarding an application for this redundant quarry to the north of Crich Village which borders the World Heritage Site buffer zone to the west, and is located within the property's setting.

The State Party can confirm that the application remains as yet undetermined as the planning authority is still awaiting receipt of the information it requested.

Conclusion

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have further questions regarding any aspect of this update to the State of Conservation Report submitted on 16 December 2021.

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The State Party will continue to ensure that the World Heritage Centre is kept updated in a timely manner with any information relevant to the topics or projects discussed above. However, we appreciate that any information submitted subsequent to this will not be reviewed by the World Heritage Centre or the Advisory Bodies, in line with Decision 35 COM 12B, ahead of the World Heritage Committee's meeting in September this year.



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