



Frances Verity Perspectives

Heritage | Planning | Urban Design

Mary Clemence BA(Hons), DipTP, DipBldgCons(RICS), MRTPI

Areas of expertise include:

- Enabling development-related processes, including project management of planning/listed building consent applications & associated negotiation
- Feasibility studies & design guidance, including townscape appraisals
- Analysis of the heritage significance of historic buildings, areas and designed landscapes, including archival research and field survey
- Impact appraisals – assessing the impact of development within the context of an historic environment/townscape, including impact on views and setting
- Producing or contributing to heritage chapters in Environmental Statements
- Conservation area character appraisals (CAAs) and management plans (CAMPs), including Article 4 advice and public consultation
- Conservation management plans
- Buildings at risk surveys
- Conservation & planning law, policy and practice
- Expert witness/appeals

Mary is the principal & proprietor of FVP. She has extensive experience in both public and private sectors and is adept at working collaboratively and creatively with development teams, public agencies and the voluntary sector.

With specialist expertise in matters related to conservation of the historic environment, including conservation in an ecclesiastical context, Mary is a long standing member of a Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (CoE Blackburn Diocese). In 2010, she was shortlisted for the Awards for the Presentation of Heritage Research 2010, sponsored by national heritage protection agencies, including English Heritage, and presented a research paper at the British Museum on the subject of buildings at risk

During her career, Mary has held various posts in four English local planning authorities: notably carrying responsibility for planning policy, conservation and design as Assistant Borough Planning Officer in Bournemouth; and for regeneration, conservation and design, as Economic Regeneration and Conservation Manager at Chorley Borough Council, where she advised on all aspects of the heritage environment; oversaw a CABE Space pilot project; prepared a brief for a town centre environmental audit and made a major contribution to the preparation of a town centre masterplan and action plan.

Mary has also worked as a consultant planning inspector, both in England and the Republic of Ireland and, immediately prior to setting up her own practice, was an Assistant Director (Historic Buildings) at CgMs Consulting Ltd.

Recent commissions have included conservation management plans, appraisals of heritage significance & impact; listing-related advice; the provision of representations & expert witness evidence at appeal; design critiques/advice; and development management, including negotiation (a sample of specific projects can be found on the project page of the [FVP website](#)).