

Matthew Woollven

BA (Hons) MArch PGDipCons(AA) ARB RIBA
Conservation Architect

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Professional and Academic Qualifications

- 2015 ARB, RIBA
- 2015 RIBA Part III, Architectural Association
- 2014 Post Graduate Diploma in Historic Building Conservation, Architectural Association
- 2011 Master of Architecture, University of Brighton
- 2007 Bachelor of Architecture, University of Sheffield

Professional Background

Matthew has been working on historic building repair projects since 2007, at three different specialist architectural practices. He has always had a passion for old buildings, and worked on a wide range of historic buildings, from medieval houses to 1930s churches. He has worked on a number of high-profile buildings such as the Tower of London, Chiswick House and the Victoria & Albert Museum. He has experience of working alongside new-build practices and has advised specialist consultants on working with historic buildings.

He undertook his RIBA parts I and II at Sheffield and Brighton universities. His Part II major project looked at the relationship between people, architecture and death in London. He subsequently studied at the Architectural Association for his post graduate diploma in building conservation, where his thesis focused on 17th century church repairs. Matthew is currently a career mentor for architecture students at Sheffield University.

Roles and Responsibilities

Matthew's project roles have included building surveys, condition surveys, contract administration, and technical drawings. He has undertaken Quinquennial Inspections, written specifications, methodologies and Heritage Statements. He has worked alongside colleagues to oversee the preparation of competition entries and tenders. Within the office, Matthew helped develop and maintain our company website, as well as undertaking a range of general administrative duties. He is proficient in AutoCAD, Microsoft Office, the Adobe suite and the NBS software.

He has undertaken historic research into a variety of buildings, which has fed into design proposals, or been used to help understand a building's significance and development. He has experience of working collaboratively with other architects and professionals. He has helped produce Heritage Lottery Fund applications, and has worked alongside local authorities and Historic England. Matthew has been involved in a number of project tenders and has successfully brought GQA onto frameworks for the British Museum and the National Trust.

Matthew's approach to design and conservation balances pragmatism with thorough historic research and client engagement to deliver solutions that enhance the building, whilst fulfilling the client's brief at the required budget. He combines his interests in architectural history and traditional construction with environmental sustainability, social engagement and modern conservation techniques.

Matthew is currently acting as project lead and Contract Administrator for the repair of an 18th century walled garden, a 19th century townhouse, and is acting as Heritage Consultant to Heatherwick Studio for their £95m scheme to repair the Coal Drops in King's Cross.

Experience

2011- Present Giles Quarme & Associates

Dropmore Park: Project Architect

Restoration and repair works to a number of Grade I and Grade II listed garden buildings in the grounds of Dropmore House in Buckinghamshire. The buildings include a Chinoiserie Aviary, a series of trellis promenades, and an Italian style Loggia. Repairs undertaken with specialist craftsmen using a range of traditional materials. Matthew is working as part of a multi-disciplinary team which includes landscape architects, new-build architects, lighting designers and structural engineers.

V&A Aston Webb Screen: Conservation Architect

Condition survey, dismantling methodology and design team coordination for the Aston Webb Screen, which was being dismantled as part of AL_A's new Boilerhouse Yard project at the V&A. GQA acted as conservation architects to oversee this important aspect of the works, and help gain planning consent for the scheme.

Great Foster's: Architectural assistant

Outline proposals and detailed designs for alterations to the interior of an Elizabethan house, now a luxury hotel.

Pitshill: Architectural Assistant

Detailed drawings and project coordination for a new plaster ceiling by specialist craftsmen in a Regency country house.

Woodcote Park: Project Architect

Conservation project to restore a derelict listed walled garden and gardener's cottage dating back to the 18th century.

Bentley Priory: Architectural Assistant

Historic research and proposals for the interiors of an 18th century house by Sir John Soane, which was being converted into a WWII museum, undertaken in part with HLF funding. Matthew assisted with research, museum exhibition proposals and site meetings.

Coal Drops Yard: Heritage Consultant

Matthew is currently advising Heatherwick Studio on a £60m retail scheme at King's Cross incorporating three historic railway buildings, and working alongside the developers,

council and contractors to ensure that the buildings are conserved and their historic features protected. He has also worked alongside the Sustainability Consultant to produce a BREEAM assessment, and advise on the impact of proposed energy-saving technologies on the building's fabric.

100 Bayswater Road: Project Architect

Major project to repair and upgrade a grade II* listed Regency townhouse in central London, where JM Barrie wrote Peter Pan.

Alexander Square: Heritage Consultant

Advising on alterations to a Georgian house in Kensington. Preparation of documents for planning consents.

Previous Employment

2008-2009 Carden & Godfrey

Post Part- I Architectural Assistant at specialist conservation practice.

Projects included stonework repairs and site visits at the Tower of London, proposals for the crypt of Rochester Cathedral and details for an extension to a 1930s church in Surrey.

2007-2008 John Cunninton Architects

Post Part-I Architectural Assistant at specialist conservation practice.

Project experience included interior repairs at Chiswick House, condition surveys to an Edwardian school and detailed proposals to a number of grade I and II* listed churches including HLF applications.

2001-2003 JWA Architects

Intern at new-build focused practice.

Tasks included hand and CAD drawings, assisting with site surveys, and preparing documents.