Figure 4.7 SWOT analysis (part).

Opportunities

- 1 Potential of Shire Hall
- 2 Boots first shop
- 3 Vacant/underused warehouse buildings and sites
- 4 Better pedestrian links to city centre
- 5 LRT
- 6 Improved traffic management
- 7 Bringing together of various activities associated with the area (e.g. lace)
- 8 Creating a mixed-use people's place
- 9 Environmental improvement
- 10 Events (e.g. Warser Gate Square)
- 11 Potential to link Broadmarsh caves and other caves
- 12 Possible relocation of English Heritage to Lace Market
- 13 Development of industrial tourism
- 14 Possible development of national (international) lace centre
- 15 Education
- 16 Interpret heritage in depth
- 17 Potential to provide Nottingham with a richer, more integrated national tourism product
- 18 Packaging of Lace Market as part of city centre
- 19 Pedestrian tourist trail from castle

20 Retailing (speciality/independent)

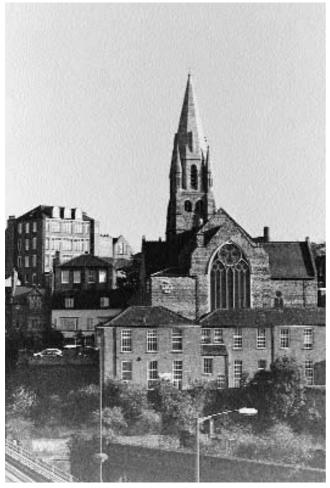
- 21 Factory shops
- 22 Thematic interpretation of Goose Gate
- 23 Opportunity to improve car parking
- 24 Opportunity for hotel development
- 25 Gateway treatment of Weekday Cross
- 26 Adams Building focal point
- 27 Craft Festival Market
- 28 European aid
- 29 Cultural events
- 30 Media industry
- 31 Fashion Centre

Threats

- 1 Speculative increase in land values
- 2 Unecomonic costs of refurbishment
- 3 Constraints on local authority spending
- 4 Increased rents may displace independent shops
- 5 Ownership single ownership/fragmented and private
- 6 Current economic circumstances investment limited to north/south of centre/out-of-town retailing
- 7 Loss of traditional crafts in building industry (need for supervision by grant-aiding authorities)

Trust was set up in 1993 as a private-/public-sector partnership to reflect the need for development not solely based on property regeneration.⁹ Since then there have been significant improvements in conditions in Nottingham Lace Market. In terms of tourism, Lace Hall is linked to Shire Hall and to the former County Gaol, which opened as a museum (Figures 4.8 and 4.9). In addition, Broadmarsh Caves, of great significance for Nottingham's history, have been opened to the public. While there has been a loss of textile and clothing manufacture, the Fashion Centre has expanded its activities and a new programme of training courses involving local employees was developed, centred on Clarendon College.¹⁰ Several buildings have been or are being refurbished, including the Adams Building which will be used as an extension of Clarendon College, a highly significant event for The Lace Market. A further development which will affect The Lace Market is the building of the proposed Light Rapid Transit System (LRT, supertram). The LRT for Nottingham has received Royal Assent and The Lace Market is located on the route of its first phase.¹¹

A SWOT analysis of The Lace Market carried out today would have to take into account the quarter's current function, the state of its social, economic and physical environment; recent developments; and the commitment to new administrative structures. The Lace Market is in a considerably stronger





4.8

position than it was even twenty years ago. There is now the Lace Market Heritage Trust with the ability to marshal public and private finance. The area has already received major private-sector investment. Other strengths include a growing list of refurbished properties of distinction, resulting in higher property values, a nascent tourism industry and media industry. The location of The Lace Market close to the city centre makes it an attractive proposition for real estate developments. The prospect of the quarter's link by supertram to the railway station, bus stations and to other parts of the city centre will improve the centrality of its location. The main weakness remains the area's appearance, in some places, of dilapidation and isolation. There is little movement of people in the area at most Figure 4.8 Lace Hall, High Pavement, The Lace Market.

Figure 4.9 Shire Hall, High Pavement, The Lace Market.