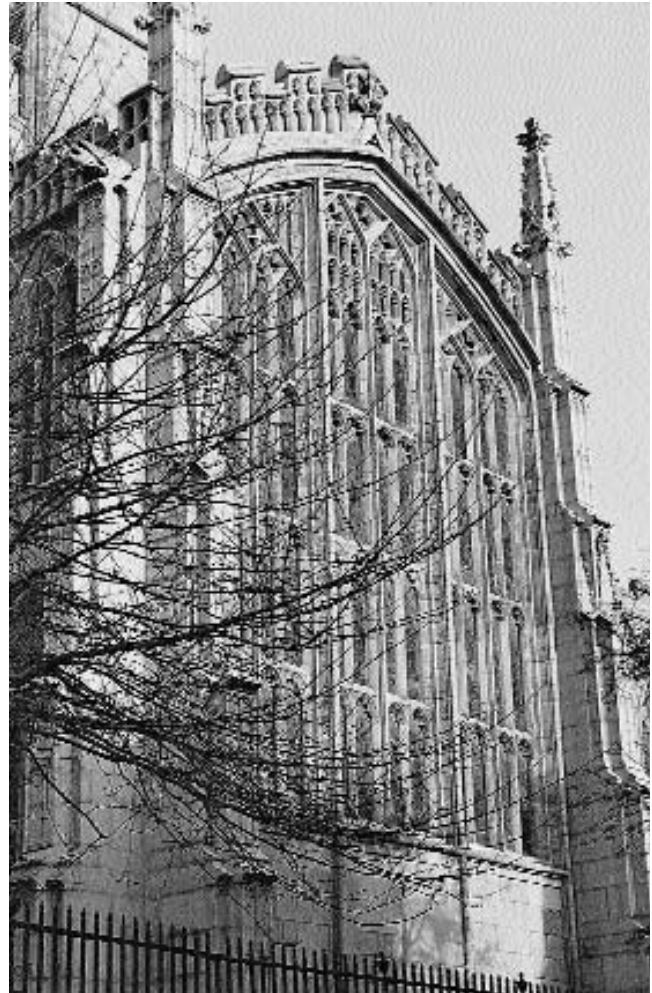




4.10

Figure 4.10 St Mary's Church, High Pavement, The Lace Market.

Figure 4.11 St Mary's Church, High Pavement, The Lace Market: detail.



4.11

times of the day; it can give the impression, which is not the case, that it has been abandoned and left to disintegrate, like a deserted town. This isolation gives the area a bad reputation and attracts few pedestrians, particularly in the evenings. There seems little connection between The Lace Market and the city centre across Fletcher Gate from

Weekday Cross to Carlton Street. Service access into the area for industry is weak and conflicts with the need to pedestrianize more of the area. There are few land uses in the heart of The Lace Market which attract heavy flows of pedestrian traffic which would help to make the quarter a safer place. There are still few ground-floor land uses

which generate activities opening out onto the street. Despite recent developments, there are few visitor attractions and no inviting public squares. For pedestrian street traffic to increase significantly these deficiencies in urban structure will need to be addressed. Many of the weaknesses of a place, however, may present other opportunities if they are seen in a more positive light. Seeing only the problems faced by a city quarter can be so negative that it may inhibit the search for innovative solutions.

The Lace Market has the opportunity to build upon the successes of the last twenty years. There is a great opportunity to develop further the tourist potential of this part of Nottingham. It is the site of many nationally important archaeological, historic and townscape elements. These elements must be fully developed and linked if the area is to attract significant numbers of visitors. The area does have the potential to form an Historic Urban Theme Park (Figures 4.8 to 4.11). In addition to its long history and the area's association with the lace industry, The Lace Market also could be developed as a media centre because of its two existing theatres. It already has a street which attracts a fashionable clientele because of the specialized character of its ethnic shops, chic boutiques and restaurants. These attractions need very little to weld them into a viable all-year-round centre for visitors: it does mean establishing a critical mass in terms of the density and numbers of activities associated with tourism. The Adams Building, once occupied by Clarendon College, will introduce into the area a whole new dynamic. The additional student population will generate pressures for further developments and presents an opportunity to bring back life and vitality to The Lace Market. The 'threats' facing The Lace Market should not be used as an excuse to inhibit development. They too can be seen as an opportunity to make arrangements and develop strategies which avoid the effects of economic forces which may prove detrimental to the developmental goals. In the case of The Lace



Figure 4.12 Canalside development, Nottingham: The Inland Revenue Building by Michael Hopkins and Partners.



Figure 4.13 Canalside development, Nottingham: The Inland Revenue Building by Michael Hopkins and Partners.