



Architectural &
Engineering
Metalwork



Introduction

Dorothea Restorations is the UK's leading specialist in the conservation, restoration and production of traditional architectural and engineering heritage metalwork.

Our craftsmen specialise in work with a wide range of materials, including genuine wrought ('puddled') iron, traditional cast iron, steel, copper and copper alloys (brass and bronze), tin, zinc, lead and gilded / decorative finishes, as well as all associated carpentry, joinery and glazing.

We provide a range of services to a diverse client base, including architects, heritage bodies such as the National Trust and English Heritage, local authorities, museums, building contractors and private individuals.

- For anyone involved in the care and maintenance of architectural metalwork, historic structures or industrial heritage, we deliver a unique and comprehensive range of conservation, repair and restoration services.
- And we apply the same traditional skills and craft to the creation of new-build architectural metalwork, including the reproduction of missing elements in historic settings.

Our work can be found anywhere that demands the very highest standards of craftsmanship: from architectural features (such as gates and railings, windows, verandas and canopies, roof lights and domes, balustrades, staircases and balconies) through to complete architectural and engineering structures (including iron bridges, conservatories and glasshouses, windmills, watermills, bandstands, and fountains).

Our Philosophy

A strong and well-defined philosophy runs through everything we do at Dorothea Restorations.

Our Conservation Policy was developed as the first of its kind more than 25 years ago, and it continues to set the industry standard for ethical restoration and repair intervention on metalwork in any historic context. With all conservation and restoration work, our aim is to:

- Retain as much existing material as possible, repairing sympathetically rather than renewing;
- Use (where at all possible) traditional techniques and materials wherever renewals are unavoidable;
- Record in detail the artefact before, during and after conservation work especially by measured drawing and photographing, and ensure the secure and stable long term storage of records;
- Instruct those concerned with on-going care and maintenance in the correct procedures and processes; and
- Work to the highest standards consistent with the original style of manufacture.

And for new-build and replication work, the core principles remain the same – using traditional techniques and materials wherever possible, ensuring the closest possible appearance to either surviving fabric or historical records, and working to the highest standards possible consistent with the required style of manufacture.

Services

Dorothea Restorations has been at the forefront of metalwork conservation, restoration and repair for more than 30 years.

Conservation, restoration and repair

Our skilled craftsmen and women can guide clients through every stage of a conservation, restoration or repair project, no matter how complicated.

Our work in this field includes:

- Consultancy
- Recording and dismantling, whether the item will be worked on site or back in one of our two dedicated workshops
- Cleaning – whether a complete blast clean, flame cleaning or manual / mechanical cleaning
- A full range of repair techniques including welding, plate repair, stitch repair; and adhesive / resin repair (conservation)
- Replacement parts
- Finishing
- Spray or brush painting
- Gilding
- Specialist joinery and carpentry
- Specialist glazing
- Reassembly
- Support and after-care consultancy

New Build and Replication

Traditional craft, traditional materials and the very highest quality are the hallmarks of the new and replacement metal structures and decorative features manufactured by Dorothea Restorations.

We specialise in rising to the challenge of demanding new-build projects, whether creating complex new structures or reinstating missing features in sensitive locations.

Our commitment to using traditional techniques and materials, and to ensuring the closest possible appearance to any surviving fabric or historical records, means that Dorothea Restorations is a natural choice for demanding and high-quality architectural metalwork, from traditional gates and railings to bandstands and complex composite structures like glasshouses and domes.

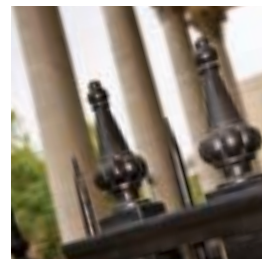
Consultancy

We provide clients across the UK and overseas with consultancy and project management expertise based on decades of working in architectural metalwork and engineering heritage.

Whether carrying out initial condition surveys or managing entire restoration contracts, Dorothea Restorations can help ensure the most challenging of projects runs smoothly from start to finish.

Services include:

- Condition surveys
- Conservation reports
- Repairs specifications
- Project costing
- Project management
- Operational and safety training





Architectural Metalwork

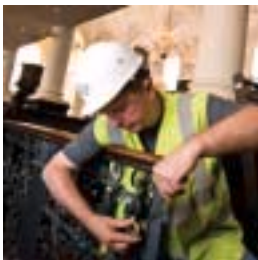
Dorothea Restorations is the metalwork specialist of choice for architects, main contractors and other building professionals.

Whether restoring and repairing existing fabric or working on replacement or new-build projects, Dorothea provides the complete range of services required to ensure a successful project.

We operate as both consultants and contractors.

Our consultancy work is designed to help the client and professional team ensure their project runs smoothly from start to finish, with services including condition surveys, feasibility studies, conservation reports, repairs specifications, project costing and project management.

And as contractors we can work on an unrivalled range of project sizes and types. Whether as subcontractors or main contractors, we routinely deliver contracts of all sizes, from the repair of individual artefacts to the restoration or building of complete new structures.



1	2	3	1 Lord Mayor's Mansion House, Bristol
			2 British Museum Gates and Railings, London
			3 Kings Cross Dome, London
4	5	6	4 Belton House, Grantham
			5 Pavilion Gardens, Buxton
			6 Camellia House, Nottingham
7	8	9	7 Royal Exchange, London
			8 Mina Road, Bristol
			9 West Park Bandstand, Wolverhampton
10	11	12	10 Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, Wrexham
			11 St Alkmunds Church, Shrewbury
			12 Gielgud Theatre, London

Dorothea Restorations' work can be found anywhere that demands the very highest standards of craftsmanship, from architectural features (such as gates and railings, windows, verandas and canopies, roof lights and domes, balustrades, staircases and balconies) through to complete structures (including iron bridges, conservatories and glasshouses, bandstands and fountains).





Engineering Heritage

Dorothea Restorations was born from a love of the machines that helped power the Industrial Revolution – and that passion still runs deep through our business today.

Whether working with steam, wind or water technology, we have been involved in many of the most memorable projects in recent engineering and industrial archaeology.

Our work is carried out for museums and private organisations alike, and covers the widest range of industrial and heritage engineering equipment, both static (beam engines, pumping engines, expansion engines and the like) and operating / locomotive engines.

We also offer the UK's most comprehensive mill conservation service, having worked on more than 150 windmill and watermill restoration projects in recent years.

Projects in this highly specialised field include waterwheels and turbines; sails / sweeps and stocks; mill shafting, gears and bearings; metal / timber hurst frames; millstone reassembly, installation and dressing; vats, horses, hoppers, shoes, damsels; sluice gates and debris gratings; metal and timber bridges; culverts and watercourses; lightning conductors; and electric drives and water recirculation systems.



History

Dorothea Restorations was a business born of passion.

The company was founded in 1974 by a group of enthusiasts who first came together as volunteers working to protect Britain's great engineering and industrial heritage – the huge machinery and equipment which had powered the Industrial Revolution and was now being left to rot and decay through lack of care, attention and resource.

This was the nascence of industrial archaeology, and Dorothea Restorations quickly found itself at the vanguard of the movement.

The Ethical Conservation and Restoration Policy we developed was adopted as a best practice standard across the industry, and we consistently pioneered new techniques as every new challenge was found – either rediscovering traditional craft techniques long since lost, or employing the latest technologies to solve very modern problems involving traditional materials.

As our reputation for this combination of traditional metalworking skills and modern engineering practice grew, we were increasingly asked by architects, heritage bodies and the construction industry to look at structural and architectural metalwork. This work grew steadily, and architectural metalwork eventually became the mainstay of our work.

Having been founded in Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire, the company quickly expanded with new workshops in Bristol, allowing us to offer a genuinely nationwide service. In 2007 we moved our Bristol operation to new, bigger workshops nearby.

Today's Dorothea Restorations is well-established as one of the leading authorities in all areas of specialist metalwork. We still have that same passion for our work, and are still building on the principles, the skills, the enterprise and the inventiveness that inspired the founders more than 30 years ago.



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