



**Figure 3.32** Entrance to The Lace Market, Nottingham, from Middle Pavement.

district or city quarter they have similar functions of giving identity to place. Districts, too, have minor paths, nodes, landmarks, identifiable sub-areas with distinctive boundaries. These structuring ideas help the designer to focus on the kinds of physical components which, if used sensitively, can make a district or city memorable and rich in perceptual detail for both the citizen and visitor.

### **PERMEABILITY STUDY: PRIVACY AND ACCESSIBILITY**

We all live both public and private lives. One measure of a civilized society is the freedom with which citizens can walk the streets in safety. A function of urban government is to ensure the safe

use of the public realm. Another, apparently contradictory, role of urban government is to guarantee to its citizens the levels of privacy demanded by its culture or cultures. Securing safety and privacy in the home and delivering easy access to public space are two functions of urban government. The contrary demands for privacy in the home and easy access to the streets, squares and parks of the city are resolved at the interface between the public realm and the private domain. The design of the interface between the public realm and the more private areas of individual properties is a legitimate concern of urban design. This section outlines techniques for studying and understanding the relationship between privacy and accessibility in a given location. The technique highlights points of conflict in the environment, indicates those places