THE BATH CONFERENCE

The City of Bath occupies a special place in the history of the AIA, stated Conference Chairman Angus Buchanan in his welcome to delegates at this year’s conference. Since it was as a result of activities and meetings in the Bath area that the Association was formed in 1973, it was appropriate, therefore, that the Association should return ‘home’ for its fifteenth annual conference, having visited most other parts of the county during the intervening period.

Since 1974 Bath has been in the County of Avon, and in an introduction to the industrial archaeology of this ‘new’ county, Joan Day pointed to the great diversity of industry in the area since the Roman’s first came to Bath to take the waters and exploit the minerals on the Mendip Hills. A very significant stone industry had grown from the early eighteenth century onwards, whilst the neighbouring City of Bristol had many industries related to its activities as a port. Both cities had formerly had plentiful supplies of local coal, and both had been profoundly influenced by transport developments in the nineteenth century. One industry which moved out of Bristol, and later flourished in East Somerset and West Wiltshire, was the West Country woolen industry, which was the subject of an excellent contribution by Ken Rogers, the Wiltshire County Archivist. His knowledge of the Trowbridge area is unrivalled, and he has written extensively on this subject.

Many of the faster-flowing tributaries of the Severn and Avon provided ideal sites for watermills, expertly described by mill-owner and operator Martin Watts of the SPAB. Perhaps the finest mill site in the area, he concluded, is the Albert Mill at Keynsham, which is thankfully undergoing restoration at last after more than a decade of abortive schemes and local anxiety.

The little-known engineering industry of Bath and Bristol, pre-1850, was the subject of a stimulating talk by Hugh Torrens, who had some harsh words to say about local hero R. Brunel’s influence on the previously successful firm of Acramans of Bristol. Engineering enterprise had been carried on by Bath firms like Stothert & Pitt, and the inventiveness of local men like Joseph Day, pioneer of the two-stroke engine, provided us with hope for the future. One local ‘success story’, the rescuing of the SS Great Britain and its subsequent restoration, now well-advanced, occupied the last of the Saturday morning sessions, and served as an appetiser to those due to visit the vessel later in the day.

Unfortunately, just as the excursions were about to get under way, the heavens opened, and everyone received a thorough drenching before departing for the underground stone mines near Corsham, Bristol City Docks or Devizes and other sites on the Kennet & Avon Canal.

The theme of Sunday morning’s Holt Lecture by Angus Buchanan was ‘The Lives of the Engineers’, a study of the way in which engineering biographers have always looked to the same engineers for inspiration, and the full text will appear in a forthcoming issue of Industrial Archaeology Review. By sheer co-incidence, both awards presented at the Conference went to water-powered beam pumps, the Dorothea Award for conservation going to the Mellingsfield Pump, and the President’s Conference Award going to Claverton Pumphouse on the Kennet & Avon Canal.

Bath 1987 was an enjoyable and successful conference, and the Association records its thanks to Joan Day and Owen Ward and their helpers for all the work that went into making it a success. There was a record number of members’ contributions, an excellent range of displays and bookstalls, and a full pre-conference programme encompassing such varied topics as Bristol’s water supply, Mendip lead and numerous other sites in the Bath and Bristol regions.

Don’t forget the 1988 conference in Swansea 9-11 September, with a full programme of local visits after the conference from 12-16 September. Make a note in your diary now!

John Powell
EVEN T S
EXETER'S INDUSTRIAL
ARCHAEOLOGY

After the article in a previous Bulletin concerning the Haven Road electricity generating station in Exeter, members may like to know that the future use of these premises has been assured by an announcement that they are to be the future home of the International Sailing Craft Association, the charity which runs the Exeter Maritime Museum. As well as office accommodation, boat workshop space will be provided for the Museum.

In addition a feasibility study has been prepared for the Exeter City Council on the possible use of buildings in the riverside area of Exeter as an interpretation centre.

In 1750, a visitor to Exeter described how finished cloth was hung out to dry in this area and a variety of industries later gathered there, including coal wharves, lime kilns, paper mills, and cotton mills. Amongst these the Cricklepit complex is now thought to be of major national importance as a remarkably complete textile finishing complex of the second half of the 18th century. It is thought likely that it may be listed as being of historic and architectural importance and it is hoped that a full survey of it will be made. The local authority, Exeter City Council, is to be commended in having the foresight to recognise that the interests of Exeter demanded a proper evaluation of the available resources before taking any long-term decisions. The Report was prepared for the Council by the Institute of Industrial Archaeology at Ironbridge.

THE ALTON TOWERS OF CORNWALL

The historic Tuckingmill Foundry site between Camborne and Redruth is the subject of a proposal by Teagle Machinery Ltd. to create the Atlantic Theme Park which it is estimated would cost £1m and provide 100 jobs. Mr Teagle admitted some initial amusement at his plans to make Tuckingmill a Mediterranean-style fun spot, but no one else appears to want to use the site for industrial purposes - and if this is the way to preserve the buildings, why not? Certainly the tourist industry of Cornwall could do with something of this type. The massive 65,000 sq ft factory has stood empty for over two years and Mr Teagle comments, 'it's too big for anyone to touch and the cost of converting it into small units is prohibitive'. Watch this space!

A P F Stephens

INaugural Steaming of the 1845 Headly Engine

This historic engine was restarted in the Cambridge Museum of Technology, Riverside, Cambridge on the 24 May 1987. The engine, a 15-inch horizontal, was built by James and Edward Headly at their Eagle Iron Foundry in Cambridge and supplied to the Sawston Leathersports where it continued in operation until 1968, driving various machines through line shafting. The engine was removed and re-erected in the Museum in 1970 as a static exhibit until restoration by volunteers began in 1985.

VICTORIAN BRICKWORKS: SPECIAL PUBLIC ENGINE

During August the South Cove Brickworks, near Southwood, Suffolk arranged a special opening during which visitors could see all the processes taking place together with the 19th century coal-fired Scotch kiln actually in fire. A display of photographs, equipment and documents relating both to the site and the history of brickworking was staged. Now one of the few surviving of around 170 village brickworks in East Anglia, South Cove uses mechanical diggers in the clay pit and the engine-powered pug mill, but otherwise bricks are still moulded by hand, stacked in wooden drying sheds by hand and then fired using coal as fuel.

BEAULIEU ABBEY FULLING MILL

A fulling mill dating from between 1475 and 1500 has been unearthed by archaeologists from Hampshire County Museum Service excavating in the grounds of Beaulieu Abbey. The area where the excavation has been taking place had been known for the last 100 years as the 'Winepress'. The excavations were an attempt to discover the age of the building, confirm its supposed use and establish a sequence for its beginnings, its active life and its decay. The building revealed at a depth of 1.8m has thick walls and deep foundations with six rectangular areas which are thought to be the foundations of six wooden tanks in which the fulling process took place. Late medieval ceramics found during the dig have been confidently dated to the last quarter of the 15th century, therefore pre-dating the dissolution of the Abbey at Beaulieu.

WARMLEY BRASSWORKS EXHIBITION

Kingwood Borough Council and the Avon Industrial Buildings Trust have cooperated in mounting an exhibition in Kingswood Civic Centre, near Bristol, concerned with William Champion's Brassworks. First established in Bristol, Champion moved to Warmley in 1746 and carried out copper, brass and zinc manufacture there until 1769, when the works were sold to the Bristol Brass Company and run down. A garden landscape, including grotoes, was constructed on top of the demolished brassworks and it has been the task of Lesley Howe, the archaeologist employed by ABT, to unravel the various periods of development on the Warmley site. Alan Bryant of Kingswood Local History Society, Dave Sutton, John Cornwall and Tony Woolrich have put together a most informative exhibition dealing with the techniques of zinc and brass manufacture as well as with Warmley itself, and it is hoped that the exhibition will be made available outside Avon.

The Warmley Mill was restored and erected in the Civic Centre. It was unveiled by the President of AIA on 8 September to mark the opening of the exhibition.


Tony Woolrich explaining the Warmley Turret Clock to the AIA President.
Sneinton Windmill, which chronicles the ground using science, was bought over by Robinson and Sons manufacturers who took over in 1985. Slight demolition had taken place. The restoration was given a full swing on the conversion of the tower to a shared living unit. The building was designed by William Fairbairn for the first owner, John Fielden, cotton master and MP for Oldham, 1832–47. Fielden played a key part in the struggle for the Ten Hours Act.

Green’s Windmill, Sneinton, Nottingham

The restoration of this tower mill in suburban Nottingham has now been completed. The mill was built in 1807 on a former post mill site and it operated until the 1880s, then becoming derelict and being gutted by fire in 1947. The son of the original miller was George Green, the mathematician and theoretical physicist. The association led Professor Lawrie Chaliss and colleagues at Nottingham University to raise funds for the restoration of the mill. The site was purchased and presented to the City of Nottingham in 1979 and restoration and rebuilding of the mill was begun by R. Thompson and Sons of Alford, Lincolnshire. This work has now been completed and corn is again ground using wind power in December 1986. A Science Centre has also been built nearby, which includes the life of George Green. The mill and Centre are open to the public Wednesdays to Sundays and enquiries may be made by telephoning 0602 503635.

The Screw Mill, Heartshorne, Derbyshire

This mill was erected on a former iron making site on the Repton Brook and is now being converted to a restaurant. A feature of the building will be the waterwheel which has been lifted from its house for shot blasting and painting before replacement. The 24” (7.3m) diameter and 4” (1.2m) wide overshot iron wheel was fitted in the late 19th century as a replacement. The building was probably constructed originally as a corn mill, then used for the manufacture of wood screws before reverting to corn mill and maltings.

The Architectural Heritage Fund

This fund as a project was a product of 1975 Architectural Heritage Year. Based on the ‘revolving’ fund principle, financed and managed jointly by Government and outside interests, it was intended to help the many preservation and similar trusts that sprang up at a time of greater environmental awareness. The Fund came into being in May 1976 and has now reported on ten years of activity, in which time the funds employed, loaned to Historic Buildings Trusts and the like, have increased from the initial £400,000 to a cumulative total of loans made of over £15m during the decade. Projects funded have mostly tended to be those involving housing accommodation where ready sales have been made after restoration, but some concern other uses. Among projects for which loans have been made over the decade are the following—

- Arkwright House, Stoneygate, Preston.
- The 1796 Grade II listed building once occupied by Richard Arkwright.
- Stone Cottages, Golden Valley, Riddings, Derbyshire, a row of 20 cottages built around 1796 by the Butterley Company for its employees and now restored and converted to 11 living units.
- Stleanor Bottom Toll House, Wilford, near Todmorden, West Yorkshire, a 150 year old hexagonal gritstone toll house,Listed Grade II.
- 33. Thorngate, Barnard’s Castle, Co. Durham, one of a group of 18th century weavers’ cottages; following completion of this restoration, numbers 27–29 were also restored. These were built with weaving shops on the upper floor and tenement accommodation below.
- The Arkwright Mills, Cromford, Derbyshire: in this case a loan to the Arkwright Society, who are developing a museum, was secured by a repayment guarantee. The mill was the location of the first successful water powered cotton spinning process.
- The Pearoom, Station Yard, Heckington, Lincolnshire: a former pea sorting room and warehouse of 1870, built next to the GNR, has been converted to a Craft Centre with exhibition space and accommodation.
- 5–7 Elder Street, London E1, two houses dating from 1725, originally built for Huguenot silk weavers.
- The Railway Cottages, Derby: a triangular site of 57 terraced cottages designed by Francis Thompson, and built in 1841–2 for the North Midland Railway Company, now converted into seventeen different housing types, varying from two-bedroom cottages to four-bedroom houses.
- Ware’s Warehouse, Bridgewater Docks, Somerset, a four storey former corn warehouse, converted for multiple usage.
- Pakenham Water Mill, near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, Listed Grade II, this late 18th century mill ceased working in 1794 but has been restored and is now open to the public.

The Old Brass Mill, The Shallows, Saffron Walden, Essex, this closed in 1925, and restoration commenced in 1981. The Listed Building has been the subject of a recent planning inquiry.>
NEW LIFE FOR GATEHOUSE
BOBBIN MILL

Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council is about to reconstruct the last standing ruined mill on the Fleet Mills site at Gatehouse of Fleet. It is intended that the restored building will be used for a Heritage and Visitor Centre. The Bobbin Mill is the only surviving building of the Fleet Mills complex. Begun in 1785 on the east bank, it used a water supply from Loch Whinyeart to drive an undershot wheel powering 130 mules and is probably the second mill to be erected there. Originally used by Birtwhistles, the mills were leased in 1834 to Davidson and Co and were then acquired by Thomas and William Heime, timber merchants of Cumberlaid, in 1850. They converted them to bobbin manufacture, which continued until the 1930s after which the mills fell to ruin.

Any assistance with material or personal reminiscences concerning the Bobbin Mill will be welcomed by the Department of Physical Planning, Dumfries and Galloway Regional Council, Council Offices, English Street, Dumfries DG1 2DD.

GIMSON’S VULCAN WORKS, LEICESTER

In November 1986, after more than 100 years continuous occupation of their purpose-built factory and engineering works, W Gimson (Engineers) Ltd moved to modern premises. Their Engine Works, dated 1878, are to be converted to small units. Happily some of the products made there have been preserved, which include the beam pumping engines at Abbey Pumping Station, Leicester, and Clay Mills, Burton-upon-Trent.

Bobbin Mill is leased by the Brunel Engineering Trust, and converted to an exhibition centre. The Stable Block, Milton Street, Saltburn, Cleveland: originally owned by the Zetland Hotel in this seaside resort, developed following the conversion of the Redcar to Saltburn Railway. It has now been converted to 8 flats and a house.

Grame Barn, Coggeshall, Essex, built around 1150 and now restored as a community hall and exhibition centre.

The Sunday School, Roe Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire, built 1813 and closed in 1973, has been restored by the Friends of Macclesfield Silk, Heritage to include the Silk Museum and assembly rooms.

Mill Court, Thorngate, Barnard Castle, Co Durham: this former chamois leather factory, dating from about 1850, has been converted to housing by the Teesdale Buildings Preservation Trust as their fourth project financed by the Fund.

The Old Silk Mill, Crown Yard, Wirksworth, Derbyshire has been converted as a Heritage Centre.

3. Quay Walls, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Northumberland: this stone granary has been converted for mixed residential, office and workshop accommodation.

The Quay, Exeter, Devon: here two projects have involved the conversion of warehouses for residential use.

Whitchurch Silk Mill, Hampshire, built around 1880, is now being restored as a working silk weaving mill with the replacement of derelict buildings on the site as old people's accommodation.

The Plains, Totnes, Devon: warehouses and other buildings beside the River Dart are being rehabilitated for commercial and residential use.

The Great Barn, Avebury, Wiltshire, dates from the 17th century and has been restored to house the Museum of Wiltshire Folk Life.

In total loans have been advanced to 109 projects over the past 10 years. 74 of these have been repaid in full and no bad debts incurred. There are 92 Building Preservation Trusts in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, two of them, Derbyshire Historic Buildings Preservation Trust and Teesdale Buildings Preservation Trust, are now on the fifth restoration project financed by the Architectural Heritage Fund.

FAKENHAM GASWORKS

A grant of £76,000 is to be given by English Heritage towards the cost of renovating Fakenham Gasworks, the only remaining Victorian gasworks in England and Wales. The project will be administered by Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust.

OFFICIAL REPORTS

Parliamentary Committee on Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments

On 23 July 1986, the Times published a letter from Mr Andrew Selkirk, editor of Current Archaeology, bemoaning the failure of the House of Commons Committee investigating historic buildings and ancient monuments to call for oral evidence from any archaeological society, although several societies (including AIA) sent in written submissions, the Committee appears to have ignored the importance of the leisure revolution which is rapidly approaching, Mr Selkirk hopes that it is not too late for the Committee to pay "a little more attention to the amateurs and a little less to the official bodies". This is a message that many members of AIA will echo.

FALSE USE OF STATUTORY DEFENCE

A recent successful prosecution by Bridgnorth District Council has led to the owner of a 17th century house at Much Wenlock being fined £1000 and £200 costs. The Court Hearing resulted from demolition works involving the interior of the building, with the removal of a large open fireplace, gutting the ground floor and the removal of first floor joists, doors and door frames. The defence had been based on Section 55 (6) of the Town and Country Planning Act which provides a defence where an owner of a building can prove to the satisfaction of the Courts that the works carried out without Listed Building Consent were necessary in the interests of public safety.

In another case heard at St Albans Crown Court, companies using the same defence were fined £5000 and £1000 costs. These cases are reminders to owners of buildings that such a defence can always be made subject to outside independent scrutiny and might prevent damage to industrial sites and monuments.

A.P.F. Stephens
**AFFILIATED SOCIETIES SPOT**

One of the major subjects for next March's Conference for the Affiliated Societies is to be publicity, and as a starter for the discussion here is an article from Derek Bayliss on the publicity advantages gained from Sheffield Environment Week. It may give you a few ideas.

Industrial Archaeology is a minority interest, and it is often uphill work to put across to the general public what a local society does. A preservation project makes a good 'story', but fieldwork and research are harder to explain.

The Sheffield Trades Historical Society thus faced the double challenge of publicising the ancient monument in our care, Wortley Top Forge, and of letting interested people know about our activities, which include lectures, trips, a journal and a Field Recording Group. Wortley is advertised in the local press and through Tourist Information Offices, but for other publicity we have to come to rely mainly on local events.

The most important of these is Environment Week, which is promoted by the Civic Trust, and organised by local groups throughout the country in late April or early May. Conservation, wildlife, and amenity groups are involved, often with the local council. We first joined in by opening Wortley Top Forge during the week; it normally opens only on Sundays. Saturday opening was a success, as was having one of our special interest Steam Weekends during the Week, but there was not much interest in weekday opening and we have dropped it.

Last year and this, we have also organised guided walks round areas of IA interest as part of the programme for the Week. One, to former water powered sites in the Rivell Valley, on a weekday afternoon, has attracted about 15 people, while evening walks round old industrial areas, beginning in the city centre, have drawn 60–70 people. Both at Wortley and on the walks; we have found several new members and, just as important, had a chance to explain what we do. We have also got publicity by taking part in the Week, including interviews on both the local radio stations, and a reconnaiss ance of one walk with a feature writer from the local paper.

For the last two years the City Libraries have organised a very successful Local History Fair in the Town Hall. A large number of local history societies, including ourselves, have had stalls. We have had a sales stand, a small display of old Sheffield products (surgical instruments last year, trade knives this) from a member's collection, and display panels behind the table.

Our member Peter Machin, in conjunction with the Leadmill Community Arts Centre (an adapted steam mill, now being extended by converting a cutlery works), has organised two Little Masters' Fairs. These have been celebrations of the Sheffield cutlery industry and opportunities for some of the remaining independent craftsmen in it to demonstrate their skills. We took our sales stand and display panels to the last one.

At both sorts of fair we have found sales disappointing, and recruited only one or two members. If the display panels are behind the stall, few people do more than glance at them. But the stalls have given us an opportunity to meet and talk to people who would not otherwise come across us. This has not only been good publicity, but most interesting to us. We have been told all sorts of odd facts and interesting working memories—a few of them to be taken with a pinch of salt. Indeed, one of our priorities at future fairs will be to take a more systematic note of what people tell us.

**Derek Bayliss**

The National Association of Mining History Organisations has begun to produce a newsletter, full of details on mining history as you would expect, but also with the information that their invaluable code for novice mining historians. Going down the Mine is to be revised and reprinted in conjunction with the National Cave Exploring Association. Details from A. J. Pearce, 162 Kingston Crescent, Lordwood, Chatham, Kent ME5 8YZ.

Two interesting developments are taking place in Gloucestershire. A feasibility study has been published for the formation of an aviation collection to reflect the county’s involvement; it is proposed to site it at Staverton. If members are interested, contact Derek Jackson on Cheltenham 510769 (home) or 533561 (office). Gloucestershire has also set up a working party to consider a Trust for the Stroud Valley Project, and GSIA are represented by Mr Harry Townley. If you wish to know more, contact him through GSIA.

As I am resigning as Affiliated Societies' Liaison Officer this year, I would like to thank all those of you who have supported the scheme, and who have sent material, comments and suggestions over the years. The job would be impossible without you!

**Janet Spavold**

I have been asked to take over the role of Liaison Officer, and would like to begin by recounting the thanks which I am sure we would all wish to offer to Janet for all her splendid work. I will find it difficult to do such a good job, but I will try! So do please send me any material—comments, suggestions etc; my address is 13, Bromley Road, Midanbury, Southampton SO2 2AA Hampshire.

Janet handed over to me at the Conference in Bath, where the representatives of Affiliated Societies—12 on this occasion—held a brief meeting. Various topics were discussed, with members suggesting a number of publicity initiatives, which I shall be passing on to our Publicity Officer. There were also comments about possible ways of strengthening ties between local groups and the AIA, these too will be considered.

We have received another offer to host visits. From Paul Swain of the Industrial Studies Section of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, these would be to sites in Surrey, including Batchworth and Brockham lime works, and several stone quarrying and mining sites.

To conclude, a note of the arrangements for the 1998 Annual General Meeting, which will be held at Cambridge. This will take place from 18–20 March 1998, and among the subjects under consideration this year are co-operation with mainstream archaeologists, the role of local societies in assisting the Endangered Sites Officer, and publicity. Copies of the programme and booking forms will be sent out to societies shortly.

**Pam Moore**

---

**SOCIETY CASH AND BUILDING SOCIETIES**

Several times in recent years I have said that no club or society should 'have money in a building society as interest is only paid with the tax deducted. The position has now changed to a limited extent and building societies are now able to pay interest gross to registered charities.

For example, Bristol & West are currently paying 10.63% on their Charity Account while Birmingham Midshires rates vary from 10.30 to 11.62%. These rates are very good, comparing favourably with the National Savings Bank Investment Account, currently 7.1% and if your society or association is also a registered charity it is worth looking at building society rates. Bear in mind that interest, if paid quarterly or half-yearly, is worth more than if paid annually.

---

*Michael Messenger*

Hon Treasurer

---

*Gimson’s Engine Works, Vulcan Road, Leicester.*
NEWS FROM BRITISH WATERWAYS

Paddington Basin, Grand Union Canal

BWB have submitted outline plans for the re-development of the Paddington Basin area. The 12.4 acre site includes the 4 acre basin linked to the Grand Union Canal at Little Venice which will be retained for pleasure boat purposes.

Leeds and Liverpool Canal

The Leeds and Liverpool Canal Corridor Project has been launched, it is a scheme to regenerate and expand the economy of the corridor of land running through the local authority areas of Wigan Metropolitan, Blackburn, Burnley, Chorley, Hyndburn and Pendle Borough Councils. Eleven pilot projects have been identified in the Study Report, they include the renovation of the 21 locks on the Wigan flight and the refurbishment of the warehouse at Leigh Wharf by the end on junction with the Bridgewater Canal. The tow path between Wigan and Burscough is to be used as a cycle way.

In Blackburn the Eamam Wharf warehouse is proposed for renovation and the Enfield Wharf warehouses in Accrington are suggested as suitable for office and pub/restaurant use. At Burnley, in the Weavers' Triangle area, the Clock Tower Mill and Slaters Terrace are suggested for refurbishment.

Beyond Nelson, at the eastern end, the Pendle Heritage environmental project includes water-based activities at Lake Burwain and on the Canal itself by the Foulridge Tunnel, at 1640 yards (1.5 km), the longest on the Leeds and Liverpool.

Gloucester Dock and the National Waterways Museum

The Listed Britannia Warehouse, owned by BWB, was gutted by fire in April last. The seven storey building was reduced to a dangerous state and no decision has yet been made on the rebuilding. It is understood that the fire was started deliberately by youths, a poignant reminder of the destruction of the Britannia bridge over the Menai Straits in 1970. The design contract for the National Waterways Museum has been awarded to Colin Mines Associates, who were responsible for Beale City in Liverpool and the City of Stoke-on-Trent Museum and Art Gallery.

Tony Conder, previously at Stoke Bruerne has been appointed Curator of the new museum. He is appealing for members of the public to come forward with their recollections or with items of interest that may be added to the inland waterways exhibits to be displayed there. If you think you can help, please contact Tony Conder at the National Waterways Museum, The Dock Office. The Docks, Gloucester GL1 2EJ. Tel: 0452 255524.

Kennet and Avon Canal

Following a public enquiry, planning permission has now been granted for the renovation and conversion of the lock house at Newbury as part of a scheme for a public house and restaurant.

The Listed Thirlebie Mill at Bath, beside the Widcombe Basin where the canal joins the River Avon, has been converted into a restaurant and bistro. It is believed originally to have housed water powered machinery for winding bobbins for the local textile industry, the building later served as a water pumping station.

Forth and Clyde Canal

The Maryhill Locks Refurbishment Partnership Scheme has been initiated by British Waterways with the support of Strathclyde Regional Council and the MSC. Sixteen new lock gates will be fabricated by Irvine Maritime Museum and installed by MSC staff. The flight climbs 40' (12m) from the Kelvin Aqueduct to Maryhill Road.

Anderton Lift

The restoration of the lift has now begun and the first phase will provide protection to the structure. The lifting tank will be lowered to the bottom level and the ropes and header gear will be removed. BWG plan to re-open the lift with one tank to take two boats by the end of 1989. The Anderton Boat Lift Development Group, formed in 1986, intends to develop the area around the lift whilst still protecting the village environment.

The Narroboat Oak

This boat has been selected for her historic and regional significance to represent narroboat-carrying among the floating exhibits at the National Waterways Museum. Oak was built in 1934 by Charles Hill & Sons at Bristol for the Severn and Canal Carrying Company and operated between Sharpness, Gloucester and Birmingham; until recently she lay unused at Northwich in Cheshire. Restoration will be carried out by the Warwickshire Fly Boat Company from Stockton.

Somerset Coal Canal

A short section of the Canal at the junction with the Kennet and Avon, by Dundas Aqueduct, has been restored by the land owner. The entrance lock chamber and lift bridge have been restored and private moorings have been provided.

The Royal Canal of Ireland

The restoration of this 90 mile canal from Dublin to the Shannon is still proceeding. The Canal closed in 1961 and was divided by a dam near Mulching; restoration of the 58 miles eastern section began in 1974 and it is hoped to re-open it during 1988. The work carried out, using National Manpower Services and AnCo finance, has included the rebuilding of the harbours at Maynooth, Kildock and Enfield. There is an effective Royal Canal Amenity Group overseeing the development of a linear park along the Canal which is now in the ownership of the Commissioners of Public Works. Restoration of the section to the west of the summit will present many problems due to road realignments and the construction of low level crossings.

Stour Navigation

The River Stour Trust is restoring the Granary at Gasworks Cut, Sudbury, as an interpretive centre and headquarters.

Birmingham City Centre Canal Walk

This was opened in May 1987 following the completion of restoration of the canal fabric and environment. The walk is 1.5 miles long and follows the BCN main line from Gas Street Basin to Old Turn Junction and then the Birmingham and Fazeley Canal down Farmer's Bridge Locks to Aston Junction. The walk passes the Birmingham Museum of Science and Industry which contains the working Boulton and Watt engine removed from Ocker Hill.

Montgomery Canal

The private Bill for the restoration of the Montgomery Canal received its third reading in the House of Commons on the 16 July. New gates have been installed at Frankton No 1 Lock in preparation for the re-opening, they have been financed by the Inland Waterways Association.

The Warwickshire Avon

The Higher Avon Navigation Trust has made proposals to build seven new locks and two weirs on the 10 mile stretch of river between Alveston and Warwick.

Scottish Industrial History

The above journal of the Scottish Industrial Heritage Society requires articles dealing with Scottish industrial archaeology, with an emphasis on productive technology. Would potential contributors please send abstracts to Ian Gentle, Co-Editor, Scottish Industrial Heritage, Royal Museum of Scotland, Department of Science, Technology and Working Life, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF. He will be pleased to offer guidance.
Six New Motor Canal Boats

30-ton Electrically Welded Craft with 10 h.p. Semi-Diesel Engines

The narrow boat 'Clyce'.

LOCAL SOCIETIES

SOUTHAMPTON UNIVERSITY INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP AND THE HAMPSHIRE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST

SUIAG is a very active society, both in terms of membership and meetings and with regard to practical projects. The reasons for the former are many—by name but two factors, we have concern for primarily, with cotton spinning mills in the north of England. In north and west Yorkshire 83 woolen mills were surveyed in detail by the Commission staff with documentary research partly funded by the West Yorkshire Archaeological Unit.

In Greater Manchester, a similar project run jointly with the regional Archaeological Unit is concerned with cotton spinning mills but also with the buildings associated with the finishing trades, dying and bleaching. Field work is about to commence on a small sample of the 1800 mills and sites which have been summarily recorded in the first stage of the project.

The third project, in east Cheshire, began with a survey of the mills, almost exclusively silk mills in Macclesfield. The survey has now been extended into the surrounding countryside and will involve the detailed study of virtually all the extant mills in the region and 24 sites have been examined during the year.

In all three projects, the potential of aerial photography, whether as a means of rapid record, an aid to field research or an effective way of illustrating complex sites, is being explored. The surveys described above will eventually be the subject of separate publications.

The Royal Commission, in conjunction with the City Museum of Stoke-on-Trent, are to publish jointly an MSC survey of pre-1922 buildings in the city. This will detail not only potteries but also associated housing and public buildings and transport undertakings.

The Threatened Buildings section of RCHME received 5735 notifications concerning Listed Buildings during the year. Full reports were made on 197 buildings. One of these, King's Stanley Mill, in Gloucestershire which includes an iron-framed building of 1813, has been fully recorded in conjunction with the Ironbridge Institute and the developer's architect with partial funding from English Heritage. On the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, lengthsmen's cottages at Gomersley and Gailey have been recorded.

Events

European Year of the Environment 1988

International Design Competition

A competition is being sponsored by the Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, West Midlands Arts Council and the Public Arts Commissions Agency for a design for a comprehensive redevelopment scheme for land beside the canal at Spon Lane South next to the elevated section of the M5 between junctions 1 and 2. The site is within the Smethwick Gorton Valley Heritage Area.

Practical Conservation

The Open University is producing the first of a series of study packs on Practical Conservation partly funded by the Nature Conservation Council. They should be of use to all museum sites and waterway groups with the care of woods and grassland.

The EYECatcher Awards

These are sponsored by the National Westminster Bank with prizes of £20,000 and are open to voluntary and non-commercial bodies carrying out projects connected with natural conservation, control of pollution and waste and urban regeneration.
AIA NEWSDESK

March 12 1988
SERIAC CONFERENCE
at University of Surrey, Guilford.
Subject: Extractive Indutries.

March 18–20 1988
AFFILIATED SOCIETIES WEEKEND
This will be held at Ironbridge from Friday evening
March 18 to lunch Sunday March 20. Further details
from Affiliated Societies Liaison Officer: Mrs Pamela Moore, 13 Bromley Road, Midan-
bury, Southampton. Hampshire SOZ 2AA
Tel: Southampton 558376
See the Affiliated Societies’ Spot for details.

May 14 1988
WEST MIDLANDS INDUSTRIAL
ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE
at Stourbridge. Hosted by the Black Country
Society, the lectures will cover industries of the
Black Country with local visits.

May 21 1988
FAST MIDLANDS INDUSTRIAL
ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE
at Chesterfield. Hosted by the Derbyshire So-
ciety, the theme is ‘No fuel like an old fuel and
is concerned with solid fuel manufacture.

AIA – DOROTHEA AWARD 1987
This was awarded to the project of the Oxford
House Industrial Archaeology Group for their
restoration of the water wheel powered pump at
Magglesfield near Cardiel. The pump raised
water after use in the titlago works back into
the Glimorganshire Canal. It is hoped to pub-
lish an account of the work in a forthcoming
issue of Industrial Archaeology Review.

AIA PRESIDENT’S AWARD
This was awarded to the Claverton Pump on the
Kennet & Avon Canal, visited during the Bath
Conference, it was formally presented on Sun-
day October 18 at the pumphouse.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE BULLETIN
Further notice all contributions for AIA
Bulletin should be sent to the Editors, Depart-
ment of History, Loughborough University,
Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TU. They
will welcome all items of interest to other mem-
ers of the Association.

AIA Bulletin Copy Dates:
December 15 for publication February.
March 15 for publication June.
June 15 for publication August.
September 15 for publication November.

PUBLICATIONS

Houses of the North Yorks Moors
Another new publication from the RHUME, this
study covers 80 civil parishes over an area of
1500 sqkm and includes details of hundreds of
fine examples, lavishly illustrated with plans
and photographs. The survey examines all
 types of buildings, including the market towns
of Helmsley, Kirkbymoorside and Pickering.
From manor houses and halls of the gentry to
the dwellings of the professional classes, from
yeoman’s longhouses to the cottages of the
labouring poor, this book charts the effects of
social, industrial and agricultural change on
the vernacular building styles. Documentary
sources have provided valuable information on
the possessions of the inhabitants and the sub-
division of land and dwellings.
A full review of the book will be appearing in
Industrial Archaeology Review.

Interpreting the Industrial Past
This Research Paper No 19 from the Ironbridge
Institute includes papers prepared for a short
course on the theme in 1987, dealing with the
interpretation and presentation of in-
dustrial monuments to the public. The publi-
cation is available from the Institute at Ironbridge
for £4 75 inc P & P.

British Waterways 1988 Calendar
1986 will be European Year of the Environment
and BWB’s large pictorial calendar is now avail-
able to purchase. The theme is Waterway
Landscapes and the photographs and line
drawings demonstrate the many aspects being
taken by British Waterways to conserve and
develop sensitively their canals and river navi-
gations. The calendar is available for £4 50 inc
P & P from the Information Office and Canal
Shop, BWB, Malbury House, Malbury Terrace,
London NW1 6JX

Through Staffordshire in Verse
Poet’s England 8; Staffordshire, compiled by A
Simcock (an AIA member) is the first in this
series to cover an industrial county which em-
bodies the Black Country and the Potteries. It
includes selections by Erasmus Darwin praising
‘a new Etruria’ and of the unknown George
Evans’ graphic description of the industrial
workers of Walsall in the 1840s. The 80 page
paperback book with map and line illus-
trations is available from Brencham Press, 137
Fowlers Walk, London W5 1BQ for £3.90.

Miscellaneous
MILLSTONES WANTED
David Mountford, who is restoring the watermill
at Claybrook Magna near Lutterworth in
Leicestershire, wishes to purchase two or three
pair of stones which were originally in the mill.
He has completed the rebuilding of the overshot
wheel and is now rebuilding the drive system.
If any one has a pair of 4’ (1.2m) French bur-
stones for disposal, or knows of any, would they
please contact Mr Mountford, Claybrook Mill,
Claybrook Magna, nr Lutterworth, Leicestershire LE67 4DS
KENT COALFIELD CLOSURE
British Coal have announced the closure of
Snowdown Colliery at Betteshanger near Deal.
This is the last working pit on the Kent Coalfield
<
Operation Engine House in progress at Hawke’s shaft
85 inch pumping engine house at Killibright, enclosed in
scafolding during conservation work by Carrick Dis-
District Council, Cornwall.

AWARDS

HERITAGE AWARDS 1987
The Sandford Heritage Awards for 1987 have been
won by the Castle Museum, York; Horn-
sea Museum, North Humberside; Quarry Bank
Mill, Styal; the Shugborough Estate,
Staffordshire and Wigan Pier. The Awards
administered by the Heritage Education Trust
are intended as a public and national recogni-
tion of high standards of educational provision
at Heritage properties.

THE BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL
AWARDS 1988

Heritage Communication Award
A new addition to the biennial scheme is an-
nounced, the Hepworth Heritage Communica-
tion Award, sponsored by the Hepworth Iron
Company Ltd. The purpose of this new award is
to encourage those involved in the many orga-
izations and archaeological excursions in Britain
to communicate their projects to the public in an
interesting and stimulating way. It is the inten-
tion of the organisers that this should create a
greater understanding of, and care for, the
country’s heritage and its historic environment.
The competition is open to all those organisa-
tions, or indeed, individuals, involved in manag-
ing excursions including those of the ‘lively’ and
methods of presentation used by the teams, or
individuals, involved in pro-
jects to interpret their progress and find-
ings and communicate them to visiting public. This
will vary according to the point reached at the
time of the project’s assessment which will be in
two stages. After a preliminary stage, five con-
tenders will be selected as winners of £1500
each towards their projects; from these the win-
er will be selected at the final assessment for
the Hepworth Heritage Communication Award
which will involve a cheque for £10,000 for their
activities and a major trophy to commemorate
their achievement.

Further information on this and other British
Archaeological Awards can be obtained from

AIABulletin

ISSN 0309–0051
Edited from the Department of History, Lough-
borough University, Loughborough LE11 3TU.
The views expressed in this Bulletin are those of
the authors and not necessarily those of the
Association for Industrial Archaeology.

©Association for Industrial Archaeology; November 1987
TREVETHEADS PUBLISHING SERVICE