

## Association for Industrial Archaeology Conference, Lackham College PROGRAMME OUTLINE – Friday to Sunday

### Friday 22 August Seminar 'Modern Military Matters, the twentieth century defence heritage of Britain

9.45 Introduction Professor Marilyn Palmer

10-10.30 Terry Crawford Wiltshire and the Great War

10.30-11 Rex Sawyer Little Imber on the Down

11-11.30 Coffee

11.30- 12 Jane Phimester Underground Tunnels in Corsham

12-12.30 Sue Morecroft St. John's School air raid shelters, Redhill, Surrey

12.30-1.30 Lunch

1.30-2 Dr Sally Foster and Dr Elizabeth McCrone The designation of 20<sup>th</sup> century militaria in Scotland

2 -2.30 John Scofield Modern Military Matters – interpretations of the 20<sup>th</sup> century military landscape in England

2.30-3 Alan Johnson Recent work by English Heritage on the defence estate

3-3.30 Tea

3.30-4 Jon Lowe The Archaeological Contractor and modern military sites

4-4.30 Jeremy Lake Interpreting Bletchley Park

3.30-6 Lackham Agricultural Museum open (free for delegates)

6-7 Dinner

7.45-8 Professor Marilyn Palmer Welcome

8-9 Peter Stanier Wiltshire Welcomes You – an introduction to industrial archaeology in the county

9-11 Bar

### Saturday 23 August

7.30-8.30 Breakfast

9.15-10 Ken Rogers The Wiltshire Woollen Industry.

The lecture will give a summary view of the physical remains of the woollen industry, from Tudor clothiers' houses and fulling mills to 18th century workshops, and the development of the factory will be linked to the mechanization of the various processes from 1780 onwards.

10-10.45 David Hyde The Great Western Railway in Wiltshire

10.45-11.15 Coffee

11.15-12 Mike Stone Roland Brotherhood and Westinghouse at Chippenham

12.30-1.30 Lunch

2-2.30 John Selby IA from unexpected sources

2.30-3 Geoffrey Wallis Unforgiving machines

3-3.30 Tea

3.30-4.50 Awards

6-6.30 Reception of guests

6.30-8 Dinner

8-12 Bar

### Sunday 24 August

7.30-8.30 Breakfast

9-10 AGM

10-10.30 Overseas visits and 2009 conference

10.45-11.15 Coffee

11.15-12.30 Wayne Cocroft Rolt Memorial Lecture 'Dan Dare's lair – the industrial archaeology of Britain's post-war technological renaissance'

12.30-1.30 Lunch

**Welcome to Wiltshire.**  
**The Industrial Archaeology Committee of the Wiltshire Archaeological and  
 Natural History Society hopes you have a very interesting and enjoyable  
 conference.**

### TOUR PROGRAMME

Day	Tour ID	Venue	coach leader
Sunday	A	Claverton and Dundas	Nick McCamley
	B	Crofton	Doug Roseaman
	C	Pewsham and Lacock	Pam Slocombe
Monday	D	Honeystreet, Beckhampton, Blunsdon	Ivor Slocombe
	E	Bradford-on-Avon, Avoncliff, Chippenham	Pam Slocombe
Tuesday	F	Trowbridge, Bradford-on-Avon	Pam Slocombe
	G	Melksham, Salisbury	Nicol Smith
	H	Devizes, Calne	Doug Roseaman
	I	Chippenham	
Wednesday	J	Warminster, Devizes	Pam Slocombe
	K	Corsham or Bradford-on-Avon, Seend	David Pollard and Ivor Slocombe
	L	Chippenham, Malmesbury	Nicol Smith
Thursday	M	Swindon, Pewsey	Pam Slocombe

Please do your best to keep to time as directed by coach leaders.

Overall times; Sun 1.45 - 5  
 Mon-Wed 9.15 - 5  
 Thurs 9.15 - 4

## TOUR NOTES FOR WILTSHIRE

Visits August 24th – 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008

**Sunday 24th August**

**TOUR A - CLAVERTON and DUNDAS**

**Claverton Pumping Station, Bath and Northeast Somerset**

Map O.S. 172 Bristol and Bath

Site condition: *care alighting from coach next to busy road, short walk downhill to pumping station and return uphill to coach*

Leader Nick McCamley

The pumping station on the River Avon was installed by engineer John Rennie in 1810 to raise water from the river into the Kennet & Avon Canal 48 feet above. It is the only one of its kind on British canals. The beam pump is operated by a giant waterwheel driven by the river. The pumping station is managed and run by Kennet & Avon Canal Trust volunteers.

**Dundas Aqueduct, Winsley.**

Gazetteer; WW125

Site condition: *general care in car park and adjacent to canal*

Visit to a short stretch of the narrow Somerset Coal Canal, Monkton Combe (with a small interpretation centre and the Angelfish Cafe) and a walk along the canal to where it emerges into Brassknocker Basin of the Kennet & Avon Canal adjoining Dundas Aqueduct. Here the canal crosses the River Avon, the railway (in a short divided tunnel) and the county boundary. At the west side of the basin, there is a stone canal building and a cast iron crane.

**TOUR B - CROFTON**

**Crofton Pumping Station, Great Bedwyn SU 264624**

Map O.S. 174 Newbury and Wantage

Gazetteer ref. K29

Site condition: *short walk from road down to pumping station, site may be busy, access for wheel chairs severely restricted*

Coach leader Doug Roseaman

The station, listed grade I, was built in 1807 to raise water 40 ft from streams near Wilton (later a reservoir) to the summit of the Kennet & Avon Canal and return it by a feeder leat to the summit level just above the top lock. It has two magnificent Cornish beam engines; an 1812 Boulton & Watt with a 42 in. cylinder, the oldest Boulton & Watt beam engine still in use in its original setting anywhere in the world and a Sims combined cylinder engine made by Harvey & Co of Hayle in 1846 to replace an earlier Boulton & Watt engine of 1809. Both engines are in working condition and steamed from a coal-fired Lancashire boiler on bank holidays and other special days. There are also a number of stationary steam engines in the boiler house. Alongside the building there is a flue (LII\*) of brick with iron banding, flared towards the base. It was built by the GWR after their purchase of the canal in 1851. Nearby is **Crofton railway crossing**, SU 265624, a former level crossing on the Berks & Hants extension line. It is an 'accommodation' crossing for the farm track (Roman Road), with vehicular gates of traditional type, padlocked, and pedestrian

gates to access the Kennet & Avon canal running parallel to the railway. The former crossing keeper's cottage is still occupied, with 'totem' name plate 'Crofton Crossing'. The cottage is built of red brick, with stone surrounds to windows and slate roof.

**Wilton Water, Crofton, SU 263620, LII** Reservoir made for the Kennet & Avon canal in 1836 and fed by existing streams. It has an outfall and three controlling sluices at various levels. The water is pumped into the canal by the Crofton Pumping Station.

### **TOUR C – PEWSHAM and LACOCK**

Coach leader Pam Slocombe

**Pewsham Locks, Wilts & Berks Canal, near Chippenham**

Map *O.S. 173*

Gazetteer ref. NW56

*Site condition; 15-20 minute walk on hard level path to site. Beware cyclists on cycle path adjoining the canal. At site some deep excavated holes. Waterproof footwear advisable in the pounds and canal areas off the track.*

The Wilts & Berks Canal was fully opened in 1810 and branched from the Kennet & Avon at Semington. Through traffic ceased when the Stanley Aqueduct collapsed in 1901 and the canal was abandoned by Act of Parliament in 1914. The Wilts & Berks Canal Trust are embarking on the largest canal restoration project in the UK. It is an essential link in the Wessex Waterways Network joining the Kennet & Avon Canal, the Thames & Severn canal and the River Thames. Some eight miles of the canal have been restored since 1997. Three locks at Pewsham raised the canal 25 feet to reach the level of the Chippenham branch. In the working life of the canal the area was a repair and maintenance depot and the structures include a rare shallow dry dock and saw pit. A lock-keeper's cottage is partially excavated.



Dry dock, Pewsham

This is followed by a visit to Lacock.

**Fox Talbot Museum, Lacock**

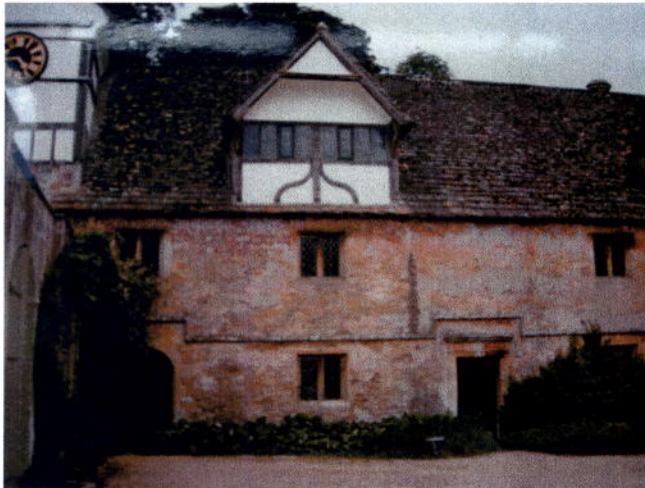
Gazetteer refs. NW85 and NW86

Site condition; *level walks, but busy tourist site*

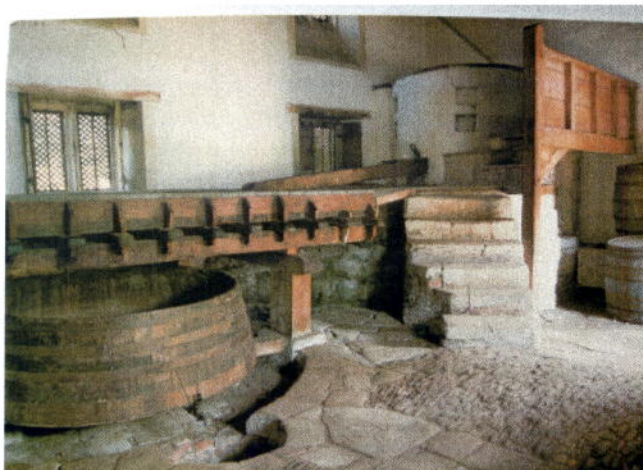
The **museum** opened in 1975 to celebrate the pioneer of photography who invented the positive/negative process. A short walk away inside the grounds of Lacock Abbey is the mid 16<sup>th</sup> century brewhouse in the Abbey stableyard. Both sites are owned by the National Trust.

William Fox Talbot was born in 1800. After a brilliant education he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1831. He travelled abroad, particularly to Italy and used a camera lucida and a camera obscura to aid his drawing. In 1834 he started experiments to fix photographic images. He was a rival to the Frenchman Daguerre who developed his own system.

The **Lacock brewhouse** (ST 919685 LI) is probably the best early example of its type surviving. The Abbey was converted to a country house by William Sharington in the mid sixteenth century and the stable yard was built. The brewhouse contains a single copper, the firebox (in the adjacent room), underworks, tap, chutes, lead-lined cooler and a fermenting tun below the cooler. A tap in the fermenting tun drained into a wooden bucket placed in a hollow in the stone floor. There is a first floor walkway from which people could observe the brew.



Abbey stableyard



Brewhouse

8-9 'Wiltshire Agriculture – the chalk and the cheese' Pam Slocombe

**Monday 25th August**

**TOUR D – HONEYSTREET, LOCKERIDGE, BECKHAMPTON and BLUNSDON**

Coach leader Ivor Slocombe

**Honeystreet wharf, Kennet & Avon Canal**

Map O.S. 173

Site condition; *care and single file needed crossing narrow canal bridge. Watch out for traffic. On south side of canal there are boat pegs all along next to the towpath. Fairly short, level walks during the visit.*

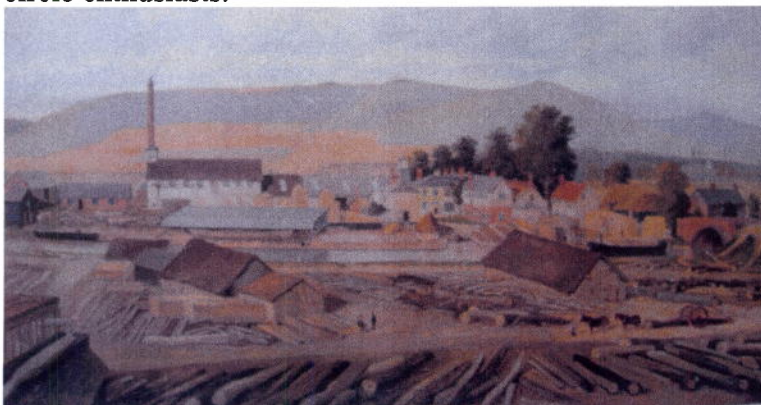
The Kennet & Avon Canal here was constructed in 1810 and a private wharf was built in 1811. The north (Alton Barnes) bank of the wharf was the barge building yard of Robbins, Lane & Pinniger, established 1811. Some features have been lost in the last 50 years and there has been new development, but there is still much of interest.

On the road outside, beside the bridge, there is a World War II defensive drum of concrete. To the east of the bridge is the early 19<sup>th</sup> century Huntley's Yard (now Old Builder's Wharf) which remained with the Huntley family until 1986. North of the bridge and beside the road is a wharf warehouse with the date picked out in brickwork.

In the lane north of the canal is the Mill House (formerly Honeystreet House) which was built about 1812 by Samuel Robbins. A chimney, reduced in height and shown on a painting of the 1870s, is in the grounds of the house. It appears to have been part of a building, now gone. It was finally used to heat a greenhouse, still attached and there is said to be ducting across, under the lane, to the buildings on the other side. The painting also shows a narrow boat being constructed under cover.

Ebenezer Lane, son-in-law of Robbins, built cottages in 1874 for his boat builders which have EL on them.

On the south (Woodborough) bank is a sawmill and now also Honeystreet Country Store. In 1889 there was a chemical manure works close to the road. To the west is the Barge Inn of 1810, repaired in 1858 after a fire. It formerly had a glass belvedere on the roof as a look-out for barges. Parish boundaries have been redrawn in recent years to follow the canal and the Barge is now wholly in Woodborough. It was built by Samuel Robbins and Ben Biggs on the parish boundary so that the bar which was in Stanton St Bernard was in the Devizes licensing area and drinking was allowed until 11 pm instead of 10.30 in the Pewsey area. The Barge was originally a staging post on the canal for the change of horses, had its own brewhouse and was a bakery and grocery as well as a bar until 1957. Some of the stable buildings remain and there was a bakery oven below the pub. The Barge is now the International Centre for crop circle enthusiasts.



Painting 1873/8