

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 country 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 woollen 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 his subject.

Many of the faster-flowing tributaries of the Seven and Avon provided ideal sites for water-mills, 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



Preserved 1902 Glenfield and Kennedy Beam Engine at Bristol Waterworks Company's Blagdon Pumping Station.

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 I K 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 Devises and other sites on the Kennet & Avon Canal.

The theme of Sunday morning's Rolt 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 Mellangriffith 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



At the source of the River Chew, at Chewton Mendip, from whence comes water for the City of Bristol, Conference Organiser Joan Day points out some of the features.

EVENTS

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.

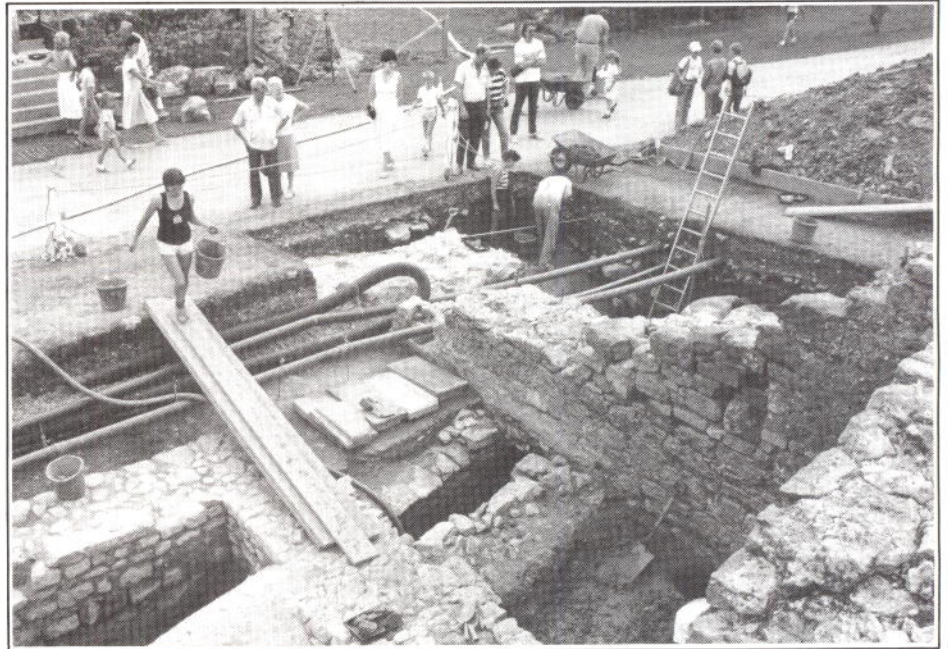
In addition a feasibility study has been prepared for the Exeter City Council on the possible use of buildings in the riverside area of Exeter as an interpretation centre.

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 17th 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 Atlantis 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 65,000sqft 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



Excavations at 'The Winepress', Beaulieu Abbey, August 1987.

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 Leatherworks 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 OPENING

During August the South Cove Brickworks, near Southwold, 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

Kingswood 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 was sold to the Bristol Brass Company and run down. A garden landscape, including grottoes, was constructed on top of the demolished brassworks and it has been the task of Lesley Howes, the archaeologist employed by AIBT, to unravel the various periods of development on the Warmley site. Alan Bryant of Kingswood Local History Society, Dave Sutton, John Cornwell 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 Clock Tower on the Warmley site contained an eighteenth century turret clock which was recently damaged by fire but has now been 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.



Copyright Bristol Observer

Tony Woolrich explaining the Warmley Turret Clock to the AIA President.

RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION

ROBBINWOOD MILL, CALDER VALLEY, WEST YORKS.

The Secretary of State for the Environment has decided to refuse Listed Building consent for the demolition of Robinwood Mill following a public enquiry in October 1986. The mill is listed Grade II★ and is one of four Listed mills in the Todmorden area. The recent RCHME mills survey showed that 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.

RE-USE IN CHESTERFIELD

Work is now in full swing on the conversion of the Holm Brook Mill on Chester Street at Brampton to housing. The mill was acquired by the East Midlands Housing Association Ltd with financial support from the Borough Council in 1985. Some demolition has taken place, but two four storey blocks will be converted to flats and new buildings on the cleared site will provide 12 flats making 60 in all, 36 of them forming a Sheltered Scheme for the elderly. The site was originally used as a boiler factory until taken over by Robinson and Sons Ltd, the cardboard packaging and surgical dressing manufacturers, who are still major employers in Chesterfield.

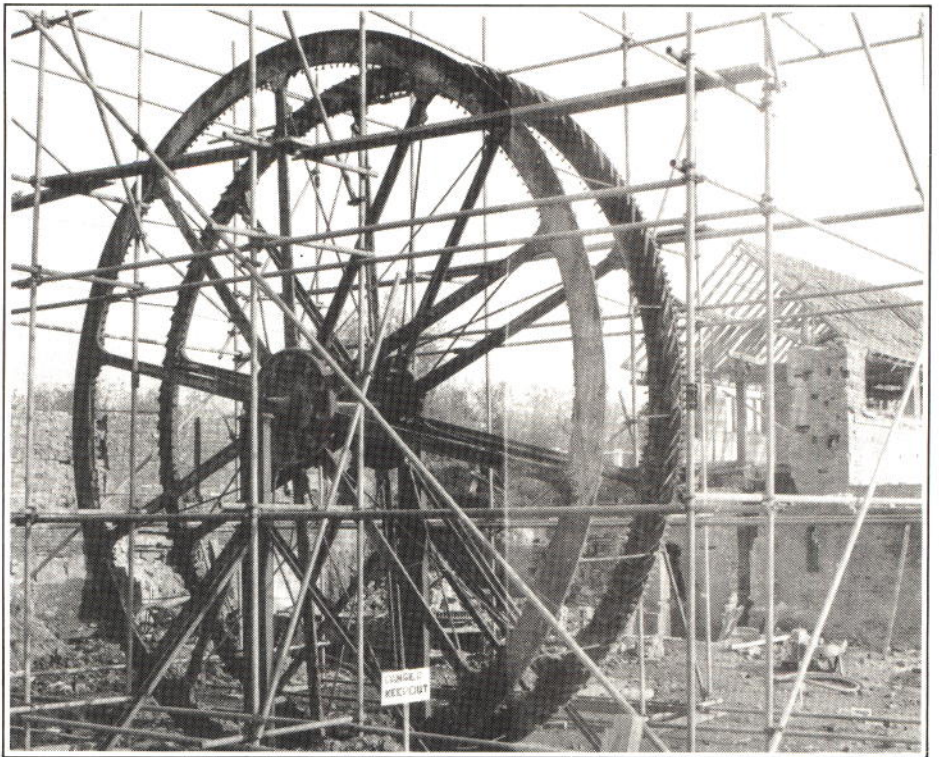
GREEN'S WINDMILL, SNEINTON, NOTTINGHAM

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 1860s, 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 Challis 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 was again ground using wind power in December 1986. A Science Centre has also been built nearby which chronicles 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.



Sneinton Windmill after restoration.



THE SCREW MILL, HEARTSHORNE, DERBYSHIRE

The Wheel at Hartshorne, removed for restoration.

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 water wheel 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 £4.5m 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 1728 Grade II Listed Building once occupied by Richard Arkwright.

Stone Cottages, Golden Valley, Riddings, Derbyshire: a row of 20 cottages built around 1795 by the Butterley Company for their employees and now restored and converted to 11 living units.

Steanor Bottom Toll House, Warland, near Todmorden, West Yorks, 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,

J & W Wyatt were using the mill from the 1770s for the manufacture of wood screws under their Patent No 751 of 1760; they also operated a mill at Tatenhill. Insurance schedules of 1793 show the Hartshorne mill to have 36 screw cutting lathes, with nearly 60 employees producing 1200 gross of screws per week. Manufacture of screws here had ceased by 1835 following the introduction of patent gimlet pointed screws in 1834 by J S Nettlefold: the pointed ends had obvious advantages over the blunt ends of the Wyatt patent screws.

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 1726, 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 1974, has been restored and is now open to the public.

The Old Brass Mill, The Shallows, Saltford Avon: this closed in 1925, and restoration commenced in 1981. The Listed Building has been the subject of a recent planning inquiry. >

Restoration and preservation

Willsbridge Mill, Kingswood, Avon: an early 19th century rubble-built water mill which operated until 1968, has now been restored as the headquarters of the Avon Wildlife Trust.

Caudwell's Mill, Rowsley, Derbyshire, on the River Wye, ceased commercial operation in 1978, and is now operated as a working museum by a charitable trust.

The Old Lockhouse, Drumbeg, County Down, a Listed cottage built around 1764 beside the Belfast to Lisburn Canal, has been restored for residential use.

99, Southwark Street, London SE1, Kircaldy's Testing Works, restored and converted as a museum exhibit with office and workshop accommodation.

Craven Dunhill's Decorative Tile Works, Jackfield, Telford, Shropshire: this 1875 factory, closed in 1952, has been restored by the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust as a tile museum and workshop for tile production.

The Toll House, Gisburn Road, Barrowfield, Lancs, situated on a former turnpike road, has been converted as a tourist and information centre.

Brunel's GWR Station, Temple Meads, Bristol,

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 completion of the Redcar to Saltburn Railway, it has now been converted to 8 flats and a house.

Grange 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 retail uses.

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 embarked on their fifth restoration project financed by the Architectural Heritage Fund.

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 Whinyeon 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 Helme, timber merchants of Cumberland, 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.

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

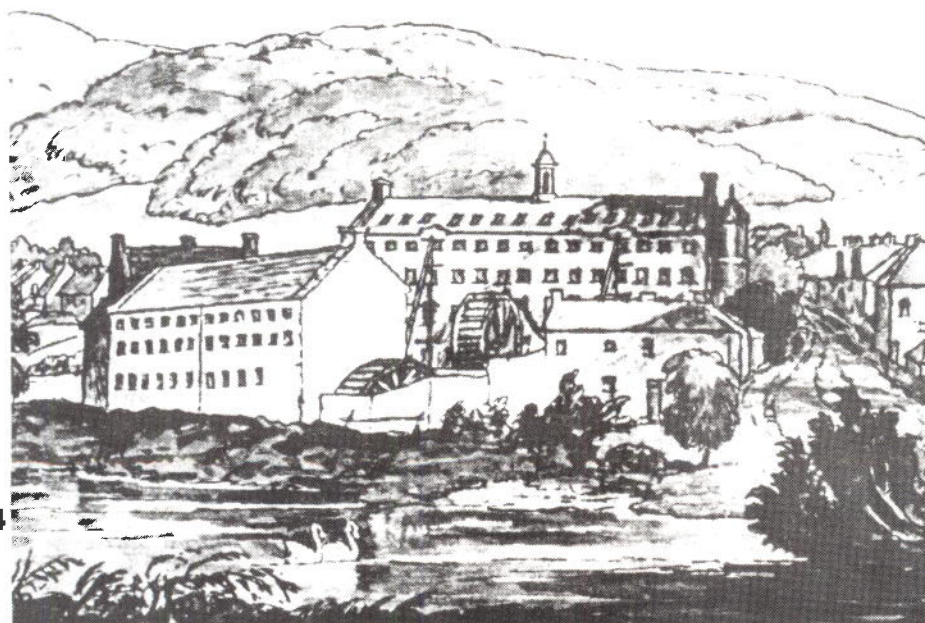
On 23 July 1986, *The Times* published a letter from Mr Andrew Selkirk, editor of *Current Archaeology*, bemoaning the failure of the House of Commons Committee investigating historic buildings and ancient monuments to call for oral evidence from any archaeological society. Although several societies (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.

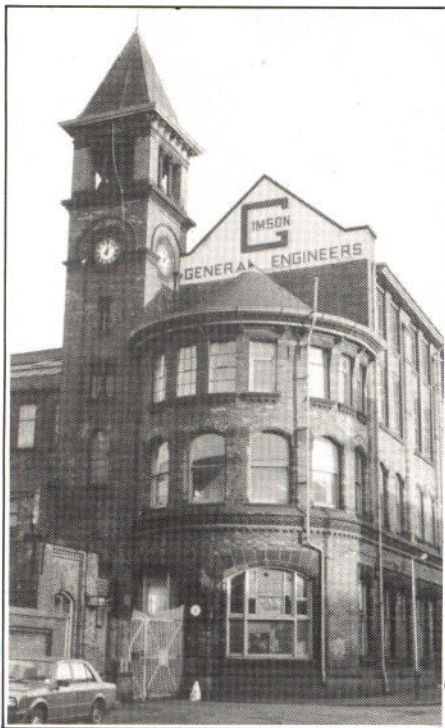
FALSE USE OF STATUTORY DEFENCE

A recent successful prosecution by Bridgenorth 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.

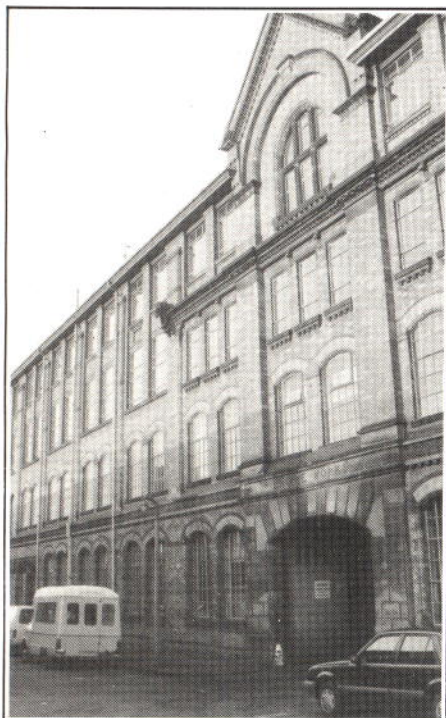
In another case heard at St Albans Crown Court, companies using the same defence were fined £5000 and £1000 costs. These cases are reminders to owners of buildings that such a defence can always be made subject to outside independent scrutiny and might prevent damage to industrial sites and monuments.

A. P. F. Stephens





Gimson's Engine Works, Vulcan Road, Leicester.



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 10%, 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

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 an active 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 Rivelin 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 reconnaissance 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 Machan, in conjunction with the Leadmill Community Arts Centre (an adapted steam cornmill, 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 newsheet, 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 Caving Association. Details from A. J. Pearce, 162, Kingston Crescent, Lordswood, 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 readers 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 recording 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 Sowan 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 1988 Affiliated Societies' Weekend at Ironbridge. This will take place from 18–20 March 1988, 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. Bookings should be made through Stuart Smith, AIA Assistant Secretary, c/o Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust, The Wharfage, Ironbridge, Shropshire TF8 7AW, by 4 March 1988 at the latest. I do hope you will support the Weekend; Janet has organised an excellent programme for us, before handing over to me. I look forward to meeting you there.

Pam Moore

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 Eanam 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 (1.5km), 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 Milnes 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, ☎ 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 Thimble 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 Aquaduct 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 tanks will be lowered to the bottom level and the ropes and header gear will be removed. BWB 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 Narrowboat Oak

This boat has been selected for her historic and regional significance to represent narrowboat-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 Mullingar; restoration of the 58 miles long 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, Kilcock 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.

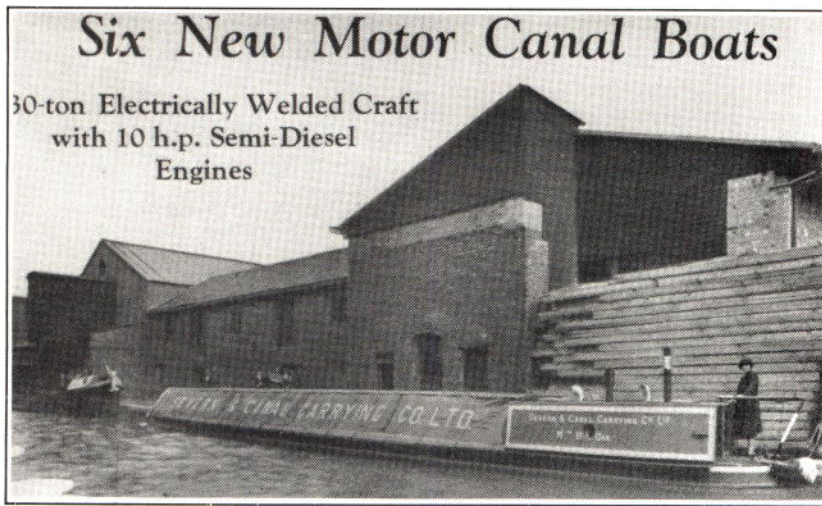
Scottish Industrial History

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 EN1 1JF; he will be pleased to offer guidance.



Copyright British Waterways Board Photo Library

6 The Llanthony Warehouse in 1986, before work commenced, in 1986, to convert it to house the National Waterways Museum.



The narrow boat *Oak*.

Copyright British Waterways Board Photo Library

Six New Motor Canal Boats

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

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—to name but two factors, we have been in existence for more than 20 years, and have many long-standing and loyal members. Our success with practical projects has, however, been partially due to our good fortune in the other bodies with whom we have co-operated. We have worked with companies, such as Gales' Brewery, with public bodies like the Southern Water Authority, and with individual concerns such as Southwick Estates. It is, however, fair to say, that our main source of assistance has been from having a County Council with a particular awareness of, and positive attitude to, conservation needs, and due to their far-sightedness, the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust. Although we do have a liaison with District Councils, and some other local government departments, such as Southampton City Museums, it is with the Trust we mainly work.

The Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust,

one of a number of such bodies in the country—there are now almost a hundred—was set up in 1975. European Architectural Heritage Year, through the sponsorship of the County Council, it is an independent charitable company, which has the backing of the County Council and has been able to expand its activities steadily.

The Trust is, of course, concerned with historic buildings of all kinds, but it has an excellent record of involvement in the preservation and restoration of industrial structures. This activity can take a number of forms, depending on circumstances. For example, in the case of Southwick Brewhouse, the HBPT not only provided financial aid and professional advice, but also acted as a catalyst, bringing together the various bodies involved in the restoration of the brewhouse to full working order.

This 'agency' role has also been applied to Twyford Pumping Station. The Trust, with help from various departments of the County Council, assisted in the formation of the Twyford Waterworks Trust, by securing grant aid and acting as the liaison body with the Southern Water Authority, owners of the site.

At Bursledon Windmill, the situation has been somewhat different. The Trust purchased the then-derelict mill in 1980, and has since been

engaged in its restoration, with the intention of bringing it to full working order. The carpentry has been undertaken by the Trust's master carpenter. Other officers of HBPT have been associated with the project, which is now moving towards completion. The mill last worked in the 1880s, and just over a century later, it is hoped that it will grind corn once more.

Without doubt, the most ambitious project undertaken by the HBPT was the purchase, in 1985, of Whitchurch Silk Mill, one of Hampshire's finest industrial buildings, which at that time was threatened with closure. The mill has continued in operation, producing silk of a very high quality, day to day running being undertaken by a Company set up by the Trust. Extensive restoration work has already taken place, and more is planned, together with the provision of improved facilities for visitors. An Appeal, launched in 1986, has been very successful in helping recoup some of the Trust's considerable investment. Like most similar bodies, the HBPT runs on the principle of 'revolving funds', that is, with the purchase, repair and, where appropriate, sale of buildings, thus releasing capital for new projects.

The future of Bursledon Brickworks is still far from settled, but here too the Trust has, for some years, assisted in an advisory capacity, encouraging the owners in the aim of turning part of the complex into a national museum of brickmaking. A feasibility study is currently in hand.

HBPT has advised and lent support in many instances where historic industrial buildings have been at risk. It has contributed to the preservation of the county's industrial heritage by helping to give many buildings a new lease of life. A forward-looking body, the Trust is concerned with the past as a worthwhile investment for the future. As the Chairman of HBPT, Maldwin Drummond, commented in his Annual Report for 1986, 'the future of Hampshire's historic buildings depends on people, on their skills, and on their commitment. It is, eventually, up to all of us'. SUIAG feel indeed fortunate and proud to be able to work with such an excellent body as the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust.

Pam Moore, SUIAG

RCHME ANNUAL REVIEW FOR 1986-7

IA Contexts

During the year under review the most important part of the Royal Commission's architectural work concerned three surveys of textile mills in the north of England.

In north and west Yorkshire 83 woollen mills were surveyed in detail by the Commission staff with documentary research part funded by the West Yorkshire Archaeological Unit.

In Greater Manchester, a similar project run jointly with the regional Archaeological Unit is concerned primarily 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 air 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 Gothersley and Gailey have been recorded.

[Editors' Note. Readers may be interested to know that the Spring 1988 issue of *Industrial Archaeology Review* will largely be devoted to textile mills.]

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 Galton Valley Heritage Area.

Practical Conservation

The Open University is producing the first of a series of study packs on *Practical Conservation*, part 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 nature conservation, control of pollution and wastes and urban regeneration.

AIA NEWSDESK

March 12 1988 SERIAC CONFERENCE

at University of Surrey, Guildford.
Subject: Extractive Industries.

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, Midanbury, Southampton, Hampshire SO2 2AA, ☎ Southhampton 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 EAST MIDLANDS INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE

at Chesterfield. Hosted by the Derbyshire Society, 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 Mellanriffith near Cardiff. The pump raised water after use in the tinplate works back into the Glamorganshire Canal. It is hoped to publish 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 Sunday October 18 at the pumphouse.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE BULLETIN

Until further notice all contributions for *AIA Bulletin* should be sent to the Editors, Department of History, Loughborough University, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 3TU. They will welcome all items of interest to other members 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 RCHME, 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 at the Institute earlier in 1987, dealing with the interpretation and presentation of industrial monuments to the public. The publication is available from the Institute at Ironbridge for £4.75 inc P & P.

British Waterways 1988 Calendar

1988 will be European Year of the Environment and BWB's large pictorial calendar is now available to purchase. The theme is Waterway Landscapes and the photographs and line drawings demonstrate the many steps being taken by British Waterways to conserve and develop sensitively their canals and river navigations. The calendar is available for £4.50 inc P & P from the Information Office and Canal Shop, BWB, Melbury House, Melbury Terrace, London NW1 6JX

Through Staffordshire in Verse

Poet's England 8: Staffordshire, compiled by A V Simcock (an AIA member) is the first in this series to cover an industrial county which embraces 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 illustrations is available from Brenham Press, 137 Fowlers Walk, London W5 1BQ, for £3.50.

Miscellaneous

MILLSTONES WANTED

David Mountford, who is restoring the watermill at Claybrook Magna near Lutterworth in Leicestershire wishes to replace the three pairs 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 burr stones for disposal, or knows of any, would they please contact Mr Mountford, Claybrook Mill, Claybrook Magna, nr Lutterworth, Leicestershire, ☎ Leire 202443.

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 Killifreth, encased in scaffolding during conservation work by Carrick District Council, Cornwall

AWARDS

HERITAGE AWARDS 1987

The Sandford Heritage Awards for 1987 have been won by the Castle Museum, York; Hornsea 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 recognition of high standards of educational provision at Heritage properties.

THE BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL AWARDS 1988

Hepworth

Heritage Communication Award

A new addition to the biennial scheme is announced, the Hepworth Heritage Communication Award, sponsored by the Hepworth Iron Company Ltd. The purpose of this new award is to encourage those involved in the many ongoing archaeological excavations in Britain to communicate their projects to the public in an interesting and stimulating way. It is the intention 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 organisations, or indeed, individuals, involved in managing excavations in the UK. It will be judged on the quality and methods of presentation used by the teams, or individuals, involved in projects to interpret their progress and findings 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 contenders will be selected as winners of £1500 each towards their projects; from these the winner 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.

For further information on this and other British Archaeological Awards please contact Victor Marchant, Hon Secretary, The British Archaeological Awards, 317, Norbury Ave, London SW16 3RW, ☎ 01 764 2943.

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The views expressed in this Bulletin are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Association for Industrial Archaeology.