

Samuel Oldknow and the Peak Forest Canal.

Derbyshire Archaeological Society - High Peak Railway



Description: -

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So who is Samuel Oldknow?

Samuel Oldknow had faith in his own ideas.

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He picked up the tools of his trade from his family connections and quickly become a pioneer of specialisation in the industry.

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Samuel Oldknow came to this district in 1787 and remained for over 40 years, until his death at the age of 72. The construction of Mellor Mill, which commenced in 1790, was a massive undertaking.

The Story of Samuel Oldknow

By the early 19th Century the mill had over 500 employees, including a number of parish apprentices who were brought up from London. She unfortunately suffered from ill health and it is thought that this prevented Oldknow from pursuing matters beyond friendship. Got a story about Marple Aqueduct, a love of the Lime Kilns or a burning desire to dig at Mellor Mill? They will also be the site for community archaeology digs, where anyone of any age can learn how to be an archaeologist.

High Peak Railway

He was widely known as a great employer - providing thousands of jobs, housing, vegetable gardens and a sustainable community life for those living in Mellor and Marple.

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Visting the Oldknows sites at Marple and Mellor Getting here By train: Marple Station is the nearest, on the Manchester Piccadilly to Sheffield line. He subsequently moved to the Manchester area where he became a cotton manufacturer and to enable him to do this he purchased a number

of spinning mules that had been invented by Samuel Crompton in 1779. Whilst his attention was first focused on the mill and his estates at Mellor, he soon became involved in several other local developments.

Samuel Oldknow and the Peak Forest Canal. (1977 edition)

At Bugsworth, limestone brought down the tramway was either put into boats to be taken to and beyond or it was put into lime kilns to be burnt to produce.

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A petition to Parliament was considered but, finally, £24,000 was borrowed from Arkwright and the work was completed in 1805. Of course, this had its downsides.

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