Samuel Oldknow and the Peak Forest Canal.

Derbyshire Archaeological Society - The Story of Samuel Oldknow



Description: -

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Notes: Extract from the Derbyshire Archaeological Journal, Vol. 97.

This edition was published in 1977



Filesize: 41.106 MB

Tags: #The #Samuel #Oldknow

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It was decided not to interfere with the ongoing construction of the aqueduct, so the railway ran from its Marple end to the proposed top lock. However the one train per day each ways did little to produce extra revenue and, when a passenger was killed in 1877, the service was discontinued. Tea, coffèe, bar snacks, and pork pies are available.

The Samuel Oldknow

His phenomenal success in the middle of the cotton boom shaped the beautiful town we see today- from Marple aqueduct to Marple Lime kilns, from the tranquil Peak Forest canal to the remains of the record-breaking Mellor Mill - his legacy lives on. Forced to contract his business empire, Oldknow was nevertheless determined to retain his interests at Mellor. Much of the line has now been converted into a walking and cycling trail.

Revealing Oldknow's Legacy: What will we do?

James Anderson, the Scottish agricultural expert, to write a treatise on the benefits of lime in farming, which they published. There he purchased a house, warehouse and land on Upper Hillgate from Giles Walmsley; allowing him to increase production at lower costs. Margery later in 1770 married John Clayton, a farmer, with whom she had three children: Margery, Samuel and John.

Peak Forest Canal

A new mill erected on the land at Hillgate was completed in 1790, this included the first Boulton and Watt steam engine for turning the winding machine. He was known as a good employer. He, however, had grander ideas.

Samuel Oldknow, Businessman of Marple, Cheshire

He also invested in a which went to. Oldknow used his own system of paper money to pay his workforce which could be exchanged for goods at the village shop or for cash via third parties.

So who is Samuel Oldknow?

There was a smaller factory at Carrs in Stockport; a bleaching plant at and finishing factories at and Waterside in. Nestled in the centre of Marple pedestrian precinct, The multi-award-winning Samuel Oldknow provides a cosy refuge from the hustle and bustle of Market Streets shops.

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Mellor Mill In 1787 Oldknow began to acquire a number of adjoining estates in Marple and Mellor, including the Bottoms Hall Estate and the water rights of the River Goyt.

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