

THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE FUND

CASE STUDY

East Midlands

For 25 years the Architectural Heritage Fund has helped voluntary organisations regenerate historic buildings, creating community and education facilities, workspace and homes. This has often been a catalyst for further regeneration. We have supported relevant voluntary groups with grants, loans and advice on more than 700 projects to date. This is an example:

Community and Education resource, Cromford Mill, Derbyshire

The Cromford Mill site is one of the most important relics of the Industrial Revolution. Richard Arkwright, inventor of the water-powered spinning process and the factory system, developed it in the late eighteenth century. The Arkwright



Society has regenerated the whole site over a number of years and converted the buildings into shops, offices, restaurants and conference spaces. One example is Cromford Wharf, originally used to store factory goods prior to transportation. It has now become an educational study and craft centre, incorporating

the building's existing ramps to allow disabled access. Whereas in 1979 the site had been abandoned, over 100 people are now employed and 100,000 people a year visit. The society has worked in partnership with local government to train people participating in government training schemes, primarily in traditional building skills but also in catering, photography and graphic design. Small businesses have grown with the site, moving from smaller to larger office units within it. Off-site local businesses have also been involved in the project, and local people and educational groups are also encouraged to use the facilities.



Organisation: *The Arkwright Society*

Contact: *John Charlton – 01629 824297*

Grade I, II* and II listed buildings throughout the site

Architectural Heritage Fund assistance: *over £200,000 has been loaned for various different developments on the site over a number of years*

The Architectural Heritage Fund – Registered Charity No 266780

We provide grants, loans and advice to voluntary organisations regenerating historic buildings.

Further information is available from:

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