

New Lanark: A Living Legacy Anniversary Conference

From Robert Owen to World Heritage and Beyond

A Celebration of the Legacies of Social Reform, Heritage-led Regeneration and World Heritage









newlanark.org/conference-2021



Introduction

Initially founded as a cotton mill in 1785, New Lanark has in turns been a social experiment, a decaying site earmarked for demolition, an exemplar of heritage-led regeneration, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

From the owners: David Dale and Richard Arkwright; Robert Owen; Charles and Henry Walker; The Gourock Ropework Company; and New Lanark Trust, to the people who have lived and worked in the village, each has left their own mark or story on New Lanark, helping to create an ethos which resonates with us today.

New Lanark means many things to many people. For some, it is their home and their community. For others, it is a place to visit, explore and enjoy. Thousands of people have been actively involved in supporting the site, and many thousands more remember fondly their school visits. Millions more people who have never visited or never even heard of New Lanark will have nonetheless benefitted from the legacy of the site and Robert Owen.

As New Lanark marks three important milestones-The 250th anniversary of the birth of Robert Owen, the site's most famous advocate, the 20th anniversary of UNESCO World Heritage Site inscription, and the completion of the restoration of the former millworkers' housing in the village, this conference provides us with a unique opportunity to reflect on our past, and plan for our future in a rapidly changing world.

Our conference speakers come from across the globe and from a broad range of disciplines, but are united in their celebration of New Lanark's legacies of social reform, heritage-led regeneration, and World Heritage.

We hope you enjoy the conference, whether virtually or in person, and are able to return soon.

New Lanark Trust



Thursday 3rd March Our Heritage: Looking to the Future

Corra Linn Room

14.45-15.15pm Saltaire World Heritage Site

Professor Andrew Wilson

Drawing inspiration from the pioneering digital documentation research by Historic Environment Scotland that saw New Lanark as the first site to be scanned as part of the Scottish Ten project in August 2009, we present work from Bradford's Visualising Heritage team at Saltaire World Heritage Site conducted since 2018. Saltaire has also been used to trial innovations using different 3D capture methods to record and monitor the fabric of the historic environment, drawing from recent projects such as the 'Virtual Bradford' project which is creating an open access digital twin and ultimately which will create a new digital representation of this 'model village' for a variety of different uses.

15.15-15.45pm The Future of Live/Work in New Lanark

Luca Brunelli and Neil Mochrie

Taking New Lanark as an early example of live/work urbanism, over the past 3 years the 2nd year studio at the Mackintosh School of Architecture, Glasgow School of Art, asked the students to reflect on Robert Owen's legacy within contemporary social and economic conditions. Studio-based practice is at the core of the Glasgow School of Art's approach to teaching and learning, and the Mackintosh School of Architecture challenged students to apply their creative thinking to re-imagine the site to attract and host new residents and activities.

Bonnington Linn Room

14.45-15.15pm

Repowering the Valley: Past , Present and Future of Waterpower in the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

Ian Jackson

With the early Derwent Valley Mills factories using renewable energy and the development of local 'model' farms to feed their communities, can these, and other similar industrial world heritage sites, become best practice locations that we can learn from, leading by example and supporting a fair and just transition to a net zero future?

15.15-15.45pm Industrial Heritage Conservation in China

Weiwei Xiao

Different from its model in Western countries, which includes bottom-up initiatives facusing on industrial heritage and a combination of various social forces, industrial heritage conversation in China is usually government-led without social consensus and participation of other stakeholders. Due to different geographic conditions, economic development levels, and industrialisation bases, the state of industrial heritage conservation varies from region to region and city to city in China.



In front of Institute / In front of School

16.00-16.45pm Tour of New Lanark World Heritage Site or Archive Visit

Nathalie Wood / Helen Martin, Heritage Officers

Bonnington Linn Room

15.45-16.30pm Roundtable Discussion: Documenting Heritage for the Future

Jane Masters, David Willis, Prof. Andrew S. Wilson, Dr Ruxandra Stocia, Sophia Mirasharif