



The Historical Metallurgy Society Limited

Conservation Officer

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Paul has been a member of Council of the Historical Metallurgy Society since 2002, and the Conservation Officer since 2003. He has also been a member of the Society's Archaeology Committee since 2001. Paul works as the Head of Archaeology and Monuments at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum. As well as being responsible for the curation of Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other sites within the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site, he also runs Ironbridge Archaeology – the Museum's archaeological contracting unit which works on sites throughout the west midlands. Paul is also the curator of the National Slag Collection. Although specialising in post-medieval ferrous industries, Paul has undertaken work on a number of non-ferrous and other metallurgical sites of all periods.

Career summary

Paul gained a BSc from the University of Sheffield in 1992, and subsequently worked on a wide range of sites of all periods throughout the UK and overseas. In 1995 he returned to Sheffield and commenced part-time study of an MA in Historical Archaeology under the tutelage of David Crossley (completed in 1997). At the same time he became a Project Officer with ARCUS. Paul managed a series of substantial projects during this period, including excavations on prehistoric, Roman and medieval sites – but increasingly specialising in the excavation of post-medieval and industrial sites and landscapes.

In May 2000 Paul became the director of Ironbridge Archaeology, and has developed the academic and commercial roles of the unit, which is now one of the leading specialist archaeological consultants and contractors in historical and industrial archaeology. As a member of the senior management team of the Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Paul is also responsible for the management, curation and interpretation of scheduled monuments and archaeological remains within the World Heritage Site. Paul has developed the Coalbrookdale Historical Archaeology Research and Training Programme (run in collaboration with UK and overseas universities from 2001-2006), and since 2004 has run a field school in Bermuda with the Bermuda National Trust.

Some of the metallurgical highlights of Paul's archaeological career include working on the site of a gold hoard in Norfolk, surveying early lead mining remains in Derbyshire, excavation of blast furnaces and grinding mills in Yorkshire and Derbyshire, the excavation of a sixteenth century forge in Staffordshire – and the excavation in Coalbrookdale of the first cementation steel furnace built in England (c.1619).

Other memberships

Paul is a Member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. He is a current and former Council member of the Society for Post-medieval Archaeology (2002-2005, and 2007 onwards) and is also a member of the Association for Industrial Archaeology.

Some recent metallurgy-related publications

'English steemaking in the seventeenth century: the excavation of two cementation furnaces in Coalbrookdale', *Historical Metallurgy*, 41(2), 105-123 (2007) (with R.A. Ross)

'Sublime Cascades: Water and Power in Coalbrookdale', *Industrial Archaeology Review*, 29(2), 133-148 (2007)

'The World of the Workshop : Archaeologies of Urban Industrialisation', in Leech, R and A. Green (eds) *Cities in the World*, Leeds: Maney Publishing, SPMA Monograph 3, 133-150 (2006)

'Upper Forge, Coalbrookdale', in *English Heritage, Science for Historic Industries*, 6 (2006) (with R. A. Ross)

'Extra Special Best Best: Black Country iron puddling and wrought iron manufacture in the nineteenth century', *Historical Metallurgy*, 38(1), 47-59 (2004)

'Industry and domesticity: exploring historical archaeology in the Ironbridge Gorge', *Post-medieval archaeology*, 38(2), 215-225 (2004) (with R. A. Ross)

'Monasteries of Manufacture: Questioning the Origins of English Industrial Architecture', *Industrial Archaeology Review*, 26(1), 45-62 (2004)

'Urban Industrial Landscapes: Problems of Perception and Protection', in Barker, D. and D. Cranstone (eds), *The Archaeology of Industrialisation*, SPMA Monograph 2, 165-180 (2004)