

EXCURSION REPORT 1995

CROFTON PUMPS - On a glorious day in July a large number of us met at the Crofton Pumping Station at the highest point on the Kennet and Avon canal for our first Industrial Archaeology Excursion.

The two beam engines were "In Steam" and we were fortunate to see the complete start up procedure of the second one. The Boulton and Watt engine built in 1812 had been brought back to life after 4 years restoration work completed in 1972.

We then divided into two parties. One group went on to see the restored Wilton Windmill where some climbed right up to the dust floor and were shown the brake and rack hoist mechanisms. The other group went to see the 13th century thatched Chisbury Chapel recently rescued from use as a farm building.

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