

Industrial Archaeology

4 & 25 July 1989

Four stamps showing noted industrial landmarks of Great Britain are to be issued on 4 July; a miniature sheet will follow on 25 July. This will be the second of three such sheets issued in connection with "Stamp World London 90" – the international stamp exhibition to be staged at London's Alexandra Palace next May.



The **19p** stamp (basic inland first class and EEC rate) features Ironbridge in Shropshire; this, the first iron bridge in the world, was cast in 1779 by the ironmaster Abraham Darby III. The bridge is now part of the extremely popular Ironbridge Gorge Museum. Ironbridge is one of the most important sites in the story of Britain's "Industrial Revolution" of the 18th century.

The **27p** stamp (airmail postcard rate) shows a tin mine at St Agnes in Cornwall, one of many that can be seen along the Cornish coast. The ruins of the great beam engines are often impressive; such engines were used to pump the workings dry or to power winding machinery or drive ore-crushing plants.

The **32p** stamp (Airmail Zone B) depicts the Mills at New Lanark in the Scottish region of Strathclyde. A cotton spinning mill was opened at New Lanark by one David Dale (a name not unknown to collectors of modern definitive stamps) in 1786, employing many dispossessed Highland crofters. He housed them in well-designed tenements. In 1799 the business was taken over by Robert Owen who further improved the lives of his workforce.

The **35p** stamp (Airmail Zone C) features the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct near Llangollen in Clwyd – Telford's 1,000 foot (305 metres) masterpiece of engineering that carries part of the Shropshire Union Canal over the River Dee.

Technical Details

The stamps were designed by Ronald Maddox, VPRI, FCSD, FSAI who designed the 1972 Village Churches and 1978 Historic Buildings stamps and, with Trickett & Webb Ltd, the 1984 Urban Renewal set. He is also responsible for the designs of many stamp book covers – the 1971/4 10p Letter box designs, the 1981/2 £1.15 and £1.25 Museum designs and, most relevantly to the Industrial Archaeology stamps, the 1978/9 90p Canals series.

The stamps were printed in photogravure by Harrison & Sons Ltd in sheets of 100 on phosphor coated paper. They measure 30 x 41mm, are perforated 14 x 15, and have PVA Dextrin gum.



Royal Mail Stamp Cards

Royal Mail Stamp Cards (formerly referred to as PHQ cards), featuring each of the four stamps will be available from 19 June, price 16p each. They are numbered 119A-D.

Presentation Pack

The presentation pack (No. 200) will cost £1.35. It was designed by Brian Delaney Design Associates with text by Tim Shackleton. It was printed by Litho-Tech Colour Printers. The

pack includes photographs of the sites featured on the stamps with portraits of Thomas Farnolls Pritchard (designer of the Iron Bridge), Richard Trevithick (Cornish engineer), David Dale and Robert Owen (New Lanark) and Thomas Telford (Pontcysyllte Aqueduct).

First Day Cover

The Royal Mail first day cover will be available from the British Philatelic Bureau, philatelic counters, the National Postal Museum and main post offices from 19 June, price 17p. Two pictorial postmarks will be used for the first day cover service – one for the Bureau (cog wheel design) and one for Telford (Iron Bridge).

A first day cover service will be provided by the Bureau with the official Royal Mail cover addressed to the destination required with the four stamps cancelled with either postmark. Application forms, available from the Bureau and main post offices, should be returned not later than 4 July.

Customers requiring only the special pictorial postmarks may obtain them under the reposting facility by sending on the first day of issue a stamped addressed envelope under an outer cover endorsed “Special First Day of Issue handstamp” to:

British Philatelic Bureau 20 Brandon Street
EDINBURGH EH3 5TT

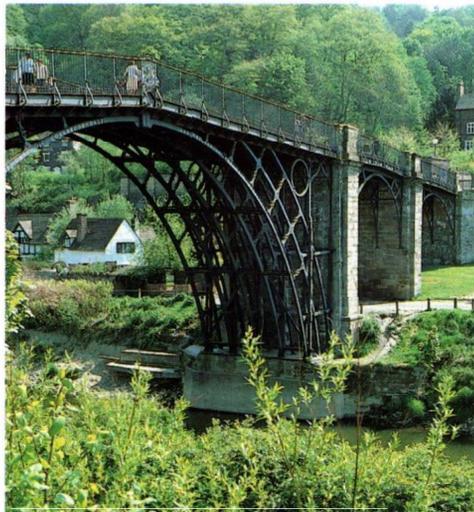
Telford Special Postmark Duty
Customer Services
LDO
Castle Foregate
SHREWSBURY SY1 1AA

First Day Posting Boxes will be provided at most main post offices for those collectors who wish to post covers to receive the standard, non-pictorial “First Day of Issue” handstamps. In addition pictorial First Day handstamps will be available at the London Chief Office (arms of the City of London) and Durham (Cathedral). Covers to receive these handstamps should be sent to: Special Postmark Duty, City of London LDO, King Edward Street, LONDON EC1A 1AA (marking outer envelope “City of London Pictorial Handstamp”) and Pictorial First Day of Issue Postmark Duty, 33 Silver St, DURHAM DH1 3RE.

A number of special handstamps, sponsored

by stamp dealers and others, will be used on 4 July – full details of these will be found in the *British Postmark Bulletin*.

Royal Mail Stamp Cards may be given any of the First Day of Issue and sponsored special handstamps. Collectors wishing to have their first day covers/cards returned under cover should enclose a large self-addressed envelope when sending covers/cards in to the relevant Special Postmark Duty for handstamping.



Souvenir Cover

A souvenir cover, of similar design to the first day cover, will be available from all philatelic counters from 5 July, price 17p. This can be used to obtain relevant Industrial Archaeology postmarks after the first day of issue and will be on sale for one year.

Miniature Sheet

A miniature sheet containing four stamps, values 19p, 27p, 32p and 35p, will go on sale on 25 July, price £1.40. The price includes a premium which will be used to guarantee the “Stamp World London 90” exhibition, the exhibition logo appears in the bottom margin of the sheet.

The sheet measures 122 x 90mm and contains four horizontal (landscape) format stamps which have an expanded view of the four sites shown on the vertical (portrait) format stamps issued in sheets of 100. The design of these horizontal stamps is continued into the borders of the miniature sheet. The sheet was designed by Ronald Maddox and printed by Harrisons.

£1.40

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY



A first day cover will be available, price 17p and a first day cover service provided with special pictorial handstamps for the Bureau and New Lanark (not Telford as previously announced). Application forms, available from the Bureau and main post offices, should be returned by 25 July.

Customers requiring only the special pictorial postmarks may obtain them under the reposting facility by sending on the first day of issue an addressed envelope bearing the miniature sheet under an outer cover endorsed "Special First Day of Issue Postmark" to:

British Philatelic Bureau 20 Brandon Street
EDINBURGH EH3 5TT

New Lanark Special Postmark Duty
Customer Care Unit
1-5 George Square
GLASGOW G2 1AA

Souvenir Cover

A souvenir cover, of similar design to the first

day cover, will be available from all philatelic counters from 26 July, price 17p.

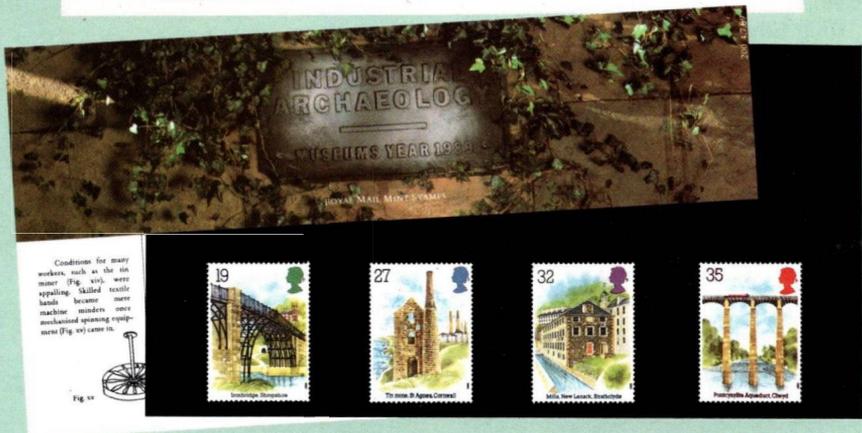
Earlier Related Issues

There have been a number of stamps featuring our industrial past. The Forth Rail Bridge, celebrating its centenary next year, was featured on the 6d stamp in the 1964 Forth Road Bridge issue and Telford's famous Menai Bridge was shown on the 1s 6d stamp in the 1968 Bridges set. The four Social Reformers stamps of 1976 remind us of the hardships of life during the "Industrial Revolution"; the 10p stamp in that set features cotton mill machinery and is dedicated to Robert Owen. The Railway stamps of 1980 recall the early days of the Liverpool & Manchester Railway; the final stamp in the seven-tenant strip showing smoking chimneys - as does the 17½p stamp in the Famous People (Authoresses) set of the same year.

Six stamp books issued between October 1979 and March 1981 had Industrial Archaeology as the subject for their cover designs. The first in the series featured the Iron Bridge and the third depicted Cornish tin mines.



Mrs J Robinson
 200 Manorbier Road
 ILKESTON
 Derbyshire
 DE7 4AB



Conditions for many workers, such as the tin miner (Fig. xv), were appalling. Skilled textile hands became more machine menders once mechanised spinning equipment (Fig. xv) came in.

