Values and Attributes

In response to advice from ICOMOS UK a statement has been produced identifying the values for which the Site was inscribed on the World Heritage List and the physical attributes of those values. These should be used as a key 'tool' in the management of the Site, particularly in the field of planning development control.

VALUES

- The successful harnessing of natural energy to deliver the power to drive newly devised machines housed in mills to produce goods of superior quality at an unprecedented rate.
- The creation of a new way of life resulting from the need for people to congregate together (in factories) producing goods of superior quality at an unprecedented rate, sometimes in formerly rural (non urban) locations, with attendant intensification of agriculture for provisioning. In the early 19th century the new way of life was further developed with the adoption of new modes of transportation.

 The dissemination of the new technology and new mode of mass production, from the Derwent Valley to other parts of the UK, Europe and North America, prior to the introduction of steam power and the transference of mill development to the coalfields of Lancashire.

ATTRIBUTES

- Watermills, water courses, mill ponds, aqueducts, culverts, weirs, leats, soughs, launders, waterwheels, mill yards, bleach mills, tentering grounds, warehouses, barracks, counting houses, offices, chimneys.
- Mill workers houses (new forms of housing built in planned campaigns), pigsties, allotments, overseers houses, mill owners houses and service buildings, mill owners parks and gardens, clergy houses, shops, chapels, churches, schools, inns, farms, field barns etc. The relationship of the industrial installations and their dependent housing settlements to the river and its tributaries and to the topography of the surrounding rural landscape has been preserved, especially in the upper reaches of the valley, virtually intact. Similarly, the interdependence of the mills and other industrial elements, such as the canal and railway, and the workers' housing, is still plainly visible.
- A 'relict' industrial landscape, where late 18th and early 19th century industrial development may still be seen in an 18th/19th century agricultural landscape containing evidence of other early industrial activity such as hosiery, iron founding, nail making, quarrying, lead mining and smelting.

- The further development of industry including the introduction of new modes of transportation and utilities.
- Canals, canal wharfs, canal bridges, aqueducts, winding holes, weighbridges, tramways, pumping houses, turnpike roads, toll houses, toll gateposts, railways, railway stations, railway bridges, railway cuttings, railway junctions, railway workshops, gas works, metalled roads, paved causeways, street lighting, reservoirs, flood bunds.