

# Royal Hartley Bottleworks

**Seaton Sluice**

You may think that the Co-op is the most exciting thing to happen in Seaton Sluice, but you're wrong! It hasn't always been so quiet here. Once upon a time, there was **A LOT** going on! It's hard to imagine now, but it looked very different here in the past. Let's find out all about it!

In 1763 (how many years ago was that?), Sir Francis Blake Delaval decided to build a **glassworks**. He got permission from the government and brought trained men from Germany over to teach the men of **Hartley** their skills.

He knew that the things that were needed to run a successful glassworks were

Sea sand

Sea kelp

Clay

Coal

A port so that the products could be taken to other countries.

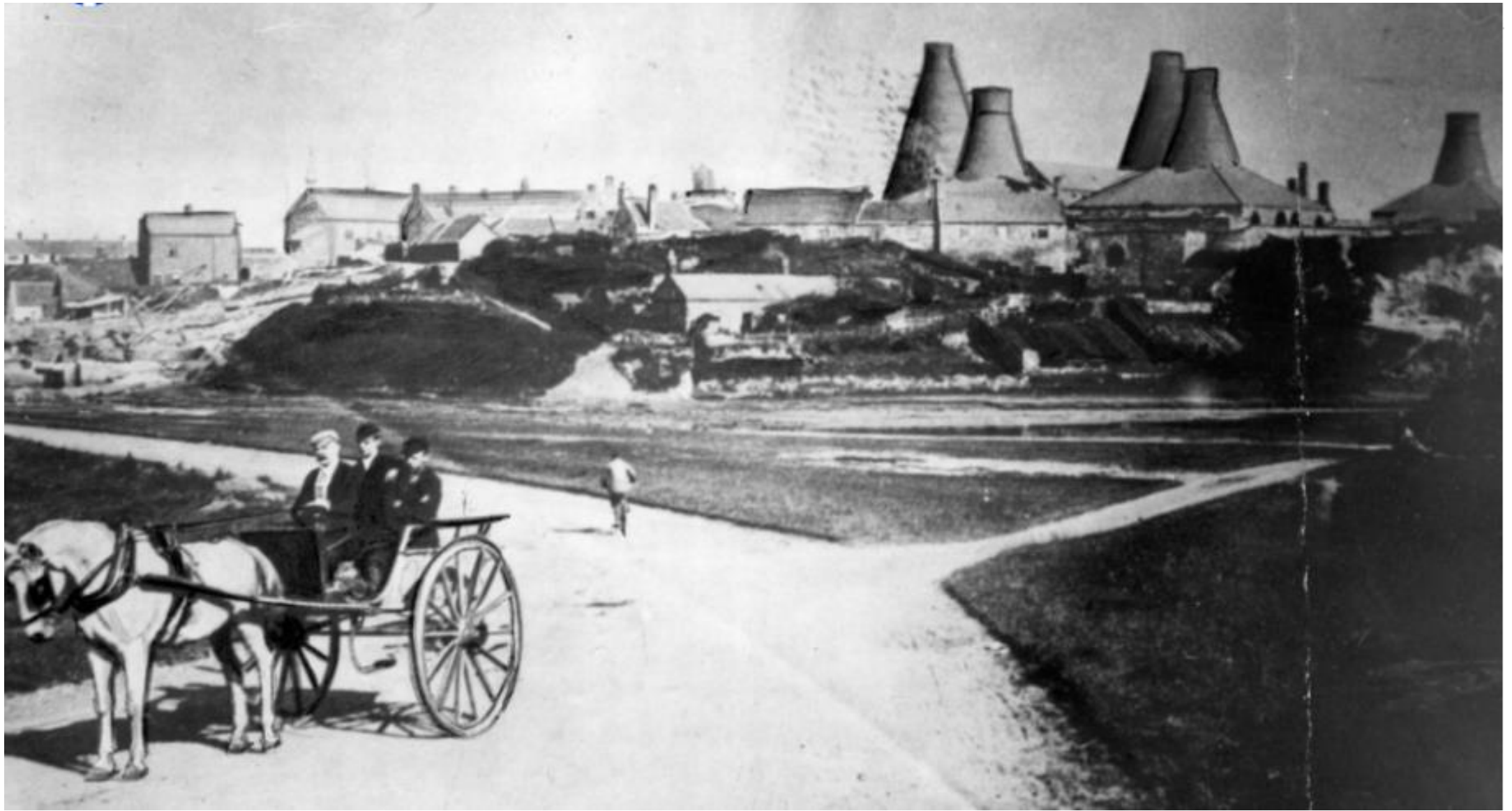
*Can you tell why he thought that this area would be ideal for a glassworks?*

Can you work out where  
the Glassworks were?

They took over a huge  
area of land.

Do you want to see what  
it looked like back then?





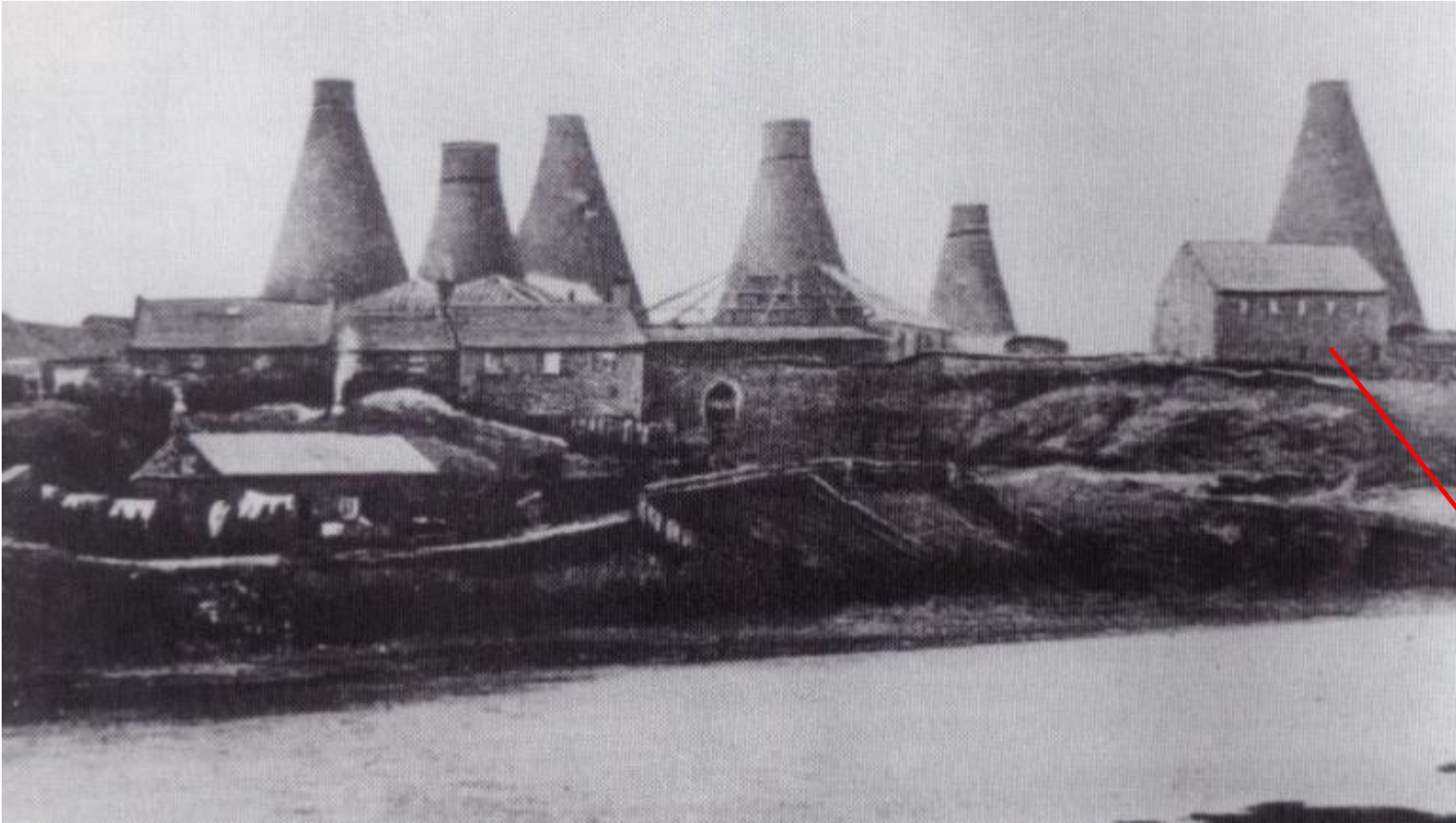
This was taken from the left side of where the Melton Constable is now.





How cool is this image?  
You can see the both the  
old and the new area.

Can you believe how  
different it was?



The six cones  
were behind where the  
fish and chip shop  
is now.

This was the old  
Melton Constable  
pub. It is on the  
other side of the  
river now.

# The City

The Bottleworks was referred to as 'The City' because it was more than just a bottle making factory. It had a marketplace, a granary, a brickyard, a brewery and a quarry. The workers lived in the stone houses in Glasshouse Square, Delaval Street, John Street and Hussey Street.



The streets were eventually demolished- but we'll come to that later!





This is the Market Place.

Workers were told to only spend  
Their earnings in Seaton Sluice and  
nowhere else, to keep the money in  
the village. *What do you think about  
that?*

The Glassworks could make up to 1,740,000 bottles a year! It was the largest glass manufactory in England at the time.

There was an underground narrow gauge railway to transport the Bottles around the Bottleworks. It was said to be the first of its kind to run on iron rails and was designed by **George Stephenson**.

Do you know who that is?



A railway tunnel that  
was last accessed in 1980.



Other **tunnels** connected different buildings in the Glassworks.

One led down to the harbour so that the bottles could be put onto ships, then transported to other places.

The tunnels were sealed up but then uncovered and used as air raid shelters during WW2.

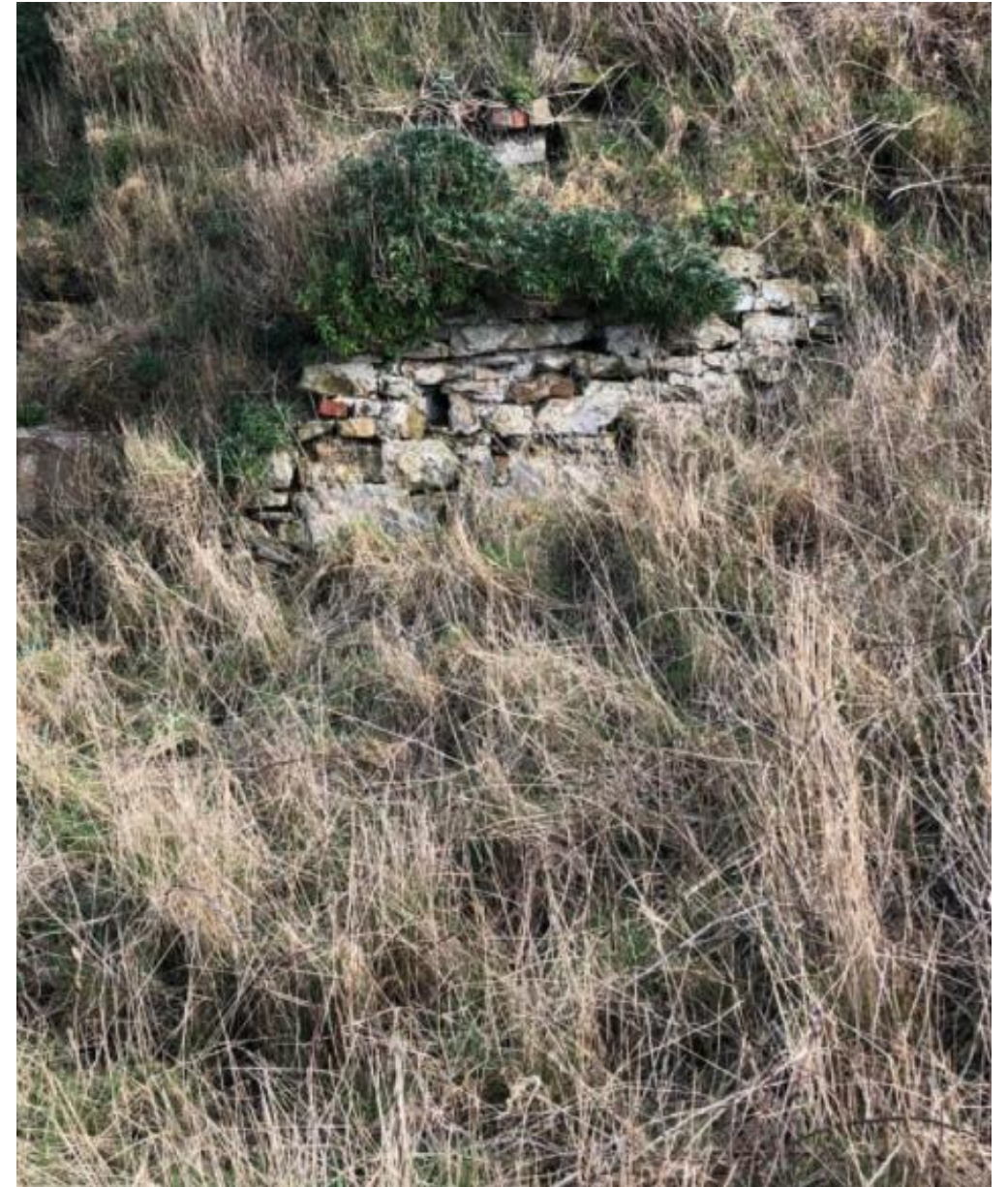


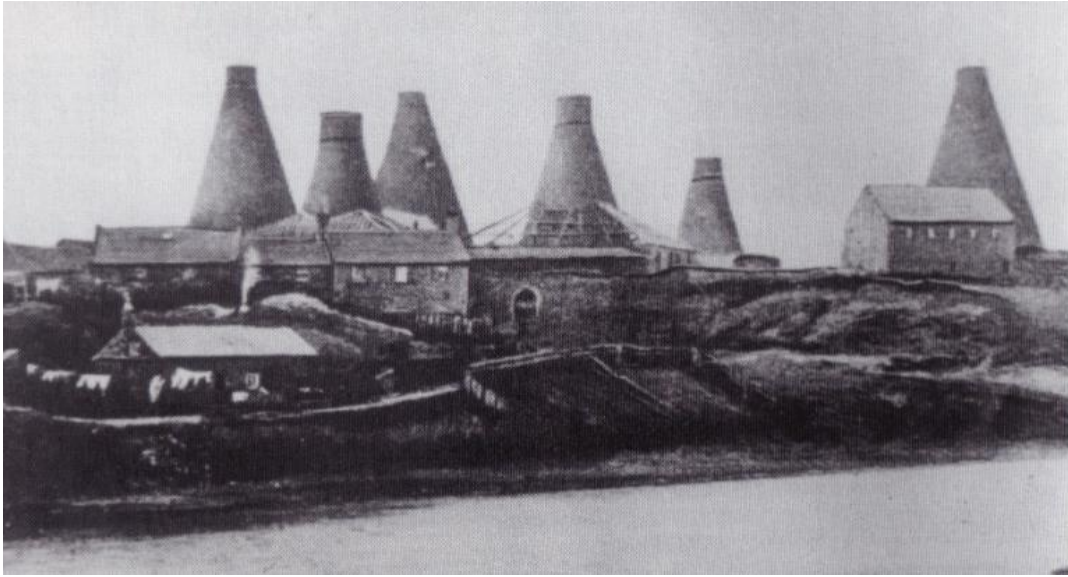


You can spot some of the blocked  
Up entrances to the tunnels in  
Seaton Sluice now.

Have a look in the corner of the car  
park beside the church!

Why don't you do some investigating of  
your own when you're out for a walk?





When the Harley Pit closed, Seaton Sluice port wasn't used as much. This meant that the Bottleworks didn't get as much business. New ways of making glass were discovered by other glassworks and there was a lot of competition from other countries, so Hartley Bottleworks stopped making enough money and was forced to close in 1871.

'The City' was demolished in 1896 and 1897 and that was the end of the industrial life of the village. Look out for signs of the old bottle making history of Seaton Sluice when you are out and about!



The Royal Hartley Bottleworks are a very important part of the history of Seaton Sluice. I wonder what else you can find out about it? There is so much more to discover!

Why not create your own **fact page** about it? You could add photos from this presentation or from the internet? You could write easy-to-understand facts for someone who has never heard of the Bottleworks? Make your fact page colourful, interesting and informative! Send us a photo and we will share it with the staff at school.