**University of Manchester - National Trust ESRC CASE studentship.**

**Fully funded ESRC CASE Studentship University of Manchester/National Trust at Quarry Bank Mill:**

**“Understanding the Impact of Injury and Infection among the Workers and the Wealthy of the Quarry Bank Mill (1847-1920), and the use of heritage for contemporary communities.”**

**Project Description**

This full time, three year PhD studentship, starting in September 2017, is fully funded by the ESRC through the North West Social Science Doctoral Training Centre, together with the University of Manchester and the National Trust. CASE studentships involve a PhD student working in partnership with an organisation to undertake a study that is designed to be relevant to the organisation. This creates an invaluable opportunity for students to undertake a PhD that bridges academic and professional concerns, having a direct impact in a professional context whilst also producing a PhD thesis.

This PhD will explore the lifestyle, sickness and quality of life among paid workers, indentured apprentices (often children from orphanages and poor houses) with that of the Quarry Bank Mill’s wealthy owners, the Greg family (on the Styal Estate in Cheshire). It will draw on the extensive medical records, accident records, Sick Society documents (relating to workers’ illnesses), Women’s Society documents (relating to childbirth and maternal health) in order to build a unique picture of the changing experience of the wealthy and poor who lived and worked at the Mill between the 19th and 20th centuries.

The project will situate the findings within the wider historical context, using other records, such as medical texts, local hospital records, and recorded oral testimonies. Working in partnership with QBM, the student would work both on site, and at the University of Manchester, and the findings would be shared with the public culminating in a public exhibition at the Mill.

This PhD will be supervised through the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures at University of Manchester by Dr Ana Carden-Coyne (History) and Dr Sheena Cruickshank (Immunology, Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health) and by Amanda Lunt of the National Trust.

**The studentship project**

Quarry Bank Mill, Styal is a site of major historical importance. It is one of Britain’s leading industrial heritage sites. It was a prime cotton-spinning and weaving estate, housing an industrial community. In 1845, Friedrich Engels described its intense working environs and ‘family run’ class structure as a site of ‘patriarchal servitude’. This PhD examines the health and wellbeing of its community - comparing and contrasting the health, occupational injury and community infection of the wealthy owners, the Greg family, with the workers. Some of the records span the 19th and 20th centuries, periods of rapid change in Britain’s industrial landscape. This will enable the project to consider changes over time in health and well-being, in treating wounds and infections, as well as the attitude to disabled workers, and the social environment in which mill medicine was constructed parallel to changes in workers’ rights. In the context of increasing regulation of sanitation, ventilation, and working conditions the PhD can explore what effect this had on the QBM community, such as examining: 1) sanitation and hygiene 2) injury and disability 3) infection and illness and 4) childbirth and maternal care. These areas will underpin the investigation into the quality of life of both the workers and the owner family, who lived in close proximity to each other.

The project will use current scientific research to inform historical understanding. The Mill can be used to explore the wider question of how ill-health and injury traps people in poverty both in the past and present. The use of heritage for informing contemporary communities is a significant aim of the partnership with the Mill museum and its curators.

This project will also engage with the current £9.5m expansion project at Quarry Bank, and the student will be an integrated member of the Quarry Bank interpretation team during the duration of their studentship. This project would thus result in a doctoral thesis that combines an innovative historical study with an examination of cultural practice, and specifically the ways in which academic history and historical site interpretation can interact.

**Person specification**

* Applicants must hold a Bachelors degree equivalent to a First Class or Upper Second Class Honours UK degree.
* They must also have (or expect to gain) a Masters degree (or overseas equivalent) at minimum Merit level (with a coursework/examination average of 60% or more **and** a dissertation mark of 60% or more, with no mark below 50%) or above in a **relevant historical discipline**. Preference will be given to candidates who performed at distinction level (70% or higher) or equivalent. The Masters programme should include training in research methods (qualitative and quantitative) sufficient to satisfy the ESRC’s expectations for core research methods training set out in its Postgraduate Training and Development Guidelines 2015. (See <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/files/skills-and-careers/studentships/postgraduate-training-and-development-guidelines-2015/>). In the absence of methods training within the Masters the candidate will need to demonstrate extensive research experience and will be expected to undertake appropriate methods training in the first year of the PhD.
* Applicants will preferably have research experience of the social and medical history, with a keen interest in science/medicine and disability, and be familiar with archival work using a variety of primary sources and/or heritage applications in public history.
* Candidates must satisfy the ESRC's academic and residential eligibility requirements and be UK (full award) or EU citizens (fees only). Find out more about eligibility here (Annex 1):   
  <http://www.esrc.ac.uk/files/skills-and-careers/studentships/postgraduate-funding-guide-for-accredited-doctoral-training-centres/>

**Financial support**

The ESRC CASE studentship and the support from the University of Manchester covers academic fees (see above about residential eligibility); provides a stipend (£14,553 for 2017/18); and an allowance for travel expenses funded by the National Trust. Continuation of the award is subject to satisfactory performance.

**Further information**

* Further details about the project can be obtained directly from: Dr Ana Carden-Coyne (a.cc@manchester.ac.uk)
* Applicants should be aware that the nature of this project will involve travel between the University of Manchester, Quarry Bank Mill (where they will have desk space) and other archives as necessary.
* The successful applicant will be required to submit a full application for a PhD in History, University of Manchester.
* Interviews are expected to take place at Quarry Bank Mill mid-morning on Wednesday 10th May, 2017. Candidates invited for interview are expected to cover their own travel expenses.

**Application**

Apply by **Wednesday 12th April 2017 5pm GMT by emailing the following to**

[**phdfunding-salc@manchester.ac.uk**](mailto:phdfunding-salc@manchester.ac.uk)**:**

* A full academic CV: including two named referees (one of whom should be your most recent academic tutor/supervisor)
* A copy of your first degree and Master’s degree transcripts (or anticipated grade if masters is on-going)
* A letter of application (not exceeding two pages) outlining your suitability for the CASE studentship and how you would anticipate approaching the research.