**EASIPOINT Restoration** was specially formulated to meet the need for an authentic English natural hydraulic lime mortar for the restoration of a historically important bottle kiln in South Derbyshire.

The Grade II listed structure in Woodville is the only substantial remnant of the former Rawdon Pottery, a 19th century sanitaryware works, and is one of only nine “hovels” - the traditional name for the structure housing kilns - still remaining in the county.

The brick-built structure had suffered severe deterioration due to attack by sulphurous fumes from repeated firings internally and weathering externally. WBM Restoration Ltd, of Lichfield, were appointed to carry out much-needed repairs.

The requirement for an English Natural Hydraulic Lime Mortar, which could replicate the appearance and characteristics of the original, gradually hardening to a strength that would not cause any damage to the old handmade bricks, was central to the success of the scheme.

WBM consulted EASIPOINT and a series of trials led to the formulation of a Restoration mortar blend containing local Trent Pea aggregates typically used in the area.

The mortar was then demonstrated for the approval of South Derbyshire District Council, who oversaw the scheme as a condition of the grant approval. A £15,500 grant was made from the Government’s Single Regeneration Budget, with the remainder of the cost being met by site owners Donald Ward Ltd.

Heritage Officer Philip Heath, of South Derbyshire District Council, who made the funding application, commented: “When we first inspected the hovel it was like a colander and from the inside you could see daylight coming through the brickwork in certain sections where the mortar had turned to dust.”

By specifying EASIPOINT, WBM benefited from the advantages of gun injection, which meant the mortar could be fed deep into the joints for a clean, void-free fill.

WBM raked out the joints to a general depth of about 40mm, but had to remove considerably more in the worst affected sections.

The restoration project, which took approximately three months, involved raking out loose pointing on the internal and external elevations, prior to repointing with Restoration Mortar.

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**PROJECT DATAFILE**

**Location:**
Former Rawdon Pottery, Woodville, South Derbyshire.

**Description of works:**
Grant-aided refurbishment of Grade II listed 19th Century bottle kiln, requiring authentic English natural hydraulic lime mortar.

**EASIPOINT product used:**
EasiPoint Restoration Mortar (Trent Pea)

**Contractor:**
WBM Restoration Ltd, Lichfield, Staffs.

**Client:**
South Derbyshire District Council.

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