TYNE & WEAR Building Preservation Trust

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The Old Low Light, Fish Quay, North Shields



From lighting the way to providing a beacon for a vibrant community

Sited on the very point to which North Shields can trace its historic beginnings many centuries ago, the light provided a vital navigational aid safely guiding ships into the River Tyne.

The building housed the light from around 1727 before becoming redundant in 1805. A number of different uses followed with the building gradually deteriorating before finally becoming empty and derelict in 2011. We completed an 18 month restoration in 2014 before handing the building over to a local heritage group and charity, who run it as a thriving museum, gallery, cafe and community art, causes and performance space.

"Taking over this building meant our days of taking historical objects to schools were over. Now people from all walks of life can come to us and see them in our own gallery. And people can use our other spaces for anything from yoga to performing arts. We've even got our own coffee shop. We never imagined we would grow to this"

Pearl Saddington, Manager, The Old Low Light.







Building Managed By: TWBPT

Project Cost: £400,000

Owner: North Tyneside Council and held by TWBPT on a 99 year lease

Funders: North Tyneside Council, Heritage Lottery Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund, TWBPT

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