

SUPERFAST **STEEL STICK**

Case Study

19th Century Candle-Lit Lantern Restoration

Superfast Steel Epoxy Putty is used in the restoration of a lantern dating from the 1870s or 1880s, enabling it to light up spaces as it did in its Victorian heyday



The original candleholder inside the lantern was too small to support larger, modern candles and tea lights



Superfast Steel was used to form a new platform with a spike allowing it to be held by the existing fitting



The new candleholder slotted into the original fitting, enabling the lantern to support bigger candles



Metal wire, plastic tubing and Superfast Steel fixed a new latch in place to lock the door. All new parts were then painted black for a seamless restoration

Defect

Two areas of the candle-lit lantern from famous Birmingham lamp maker Arthur J. Poole required attention to restore it to working order.

A new latch needed to be fabricated to lock the lantern door. Whenever there was a breeze or the lantern swung as it was carried, the door would blow open and the candle end up extinguished.

The owner also wanted to fabricate a new platform and holder to support larger, modern day candles and tea lights. The original fitting inside the lantern could only take small, thin Victorian-era candles.

Solution

Superfast Steel Epoxy Putty Stick was used to form a new candleholder. The putty was mixed by hand, moulded into the required shape and left to cure into a material as hard as steel.

A spike was then fabricated which could fit into the existing holder using more Superfast Steel. This spike was bonded to the new platform made from putty, creating a holder capable of supporting large candles.

To fix the broken lock, a metal wire was bent into a T-shape and attached to the door using plastic tube and more Superfast Steel. This wire could now drop into the existing latch, locking the door in place.

Result

Once the newly made candle holder and latch were painted black, they appeared seamless with the rest of the lantern.

The restoration was completed for under £20 and the lantern is now lighting up a garden in Sussex, just as it would have done in its Victorian heyday.