



ENGLISH HERITAGE

PENDLE TEXTILE MILLS

THE BUILDINGS OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN THE
BOROUGH OF PENDLE
LANCASHIRE

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INTRODUCTION

The Pendle area of Lancashire developed as a specialised cotton-weaving district during the 19th century, almost entirely forsaking wool and worsted production, the climate and the abundance of water from a network of small rivers and streams and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, also important to the mill economy as a transport link, making it an ideal location. Supplied with yarn from the cotton-spinning towns to the south, and finding markets in the commercial centre of Manchester, the industry became the economic backbone of such towns as Colne, Foulridge, Earby and Barnoldswick, and gave rise to the new town of Nelson, creating a wave of new housing and urban expansion. The rural communities also saw the economic possibilities of cotton weaving, and many villages clubbed together to build and run weaving mills, often causing an influx of people to otherwise remote and closed communities. The cotton-weaving industry thrived in the area for much of the 19th century but by the end of the First World War had begun a decline which prompted some manufacturers to diversify into artificial silk and rayon manufacture, but which was ultimately to see virtually the complete abandonment of all textile production by the end of the 20th century.

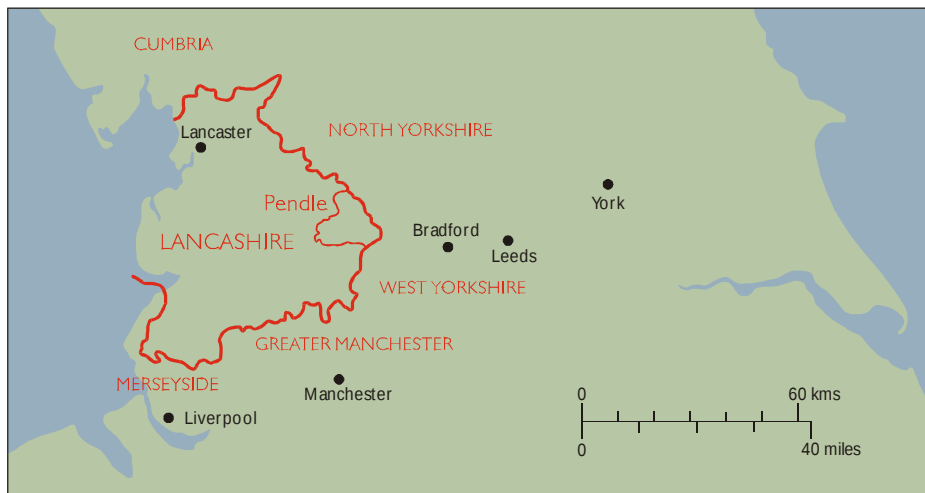


Fig 1. Map showing the location of Pendle.

SCOPE, LIMITATIONS AND METHODOLOGY

This report is drawn from the findings of a rapid survey of all of the textile industry sites within the modern Borough of Pendle conducted by the then Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME), part of English Heritage since April 1999, in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle between autumn 1998 and spring 1999. The aim of the survey was to identify, understand and record the built remains of former textile industries of the Borough in the face of serious threat in the post-industrial era, to interpret their contribution to the understanding of the buildings of the textile industry in a national context, and to help inform conservation strategies locally. Due to the nature of the funding for the project and the requirements of these partners, the study area was strictly limited by the modern boundaries of the Borough of Pendle, which incorporates the urban centres of Nelson and Colne and the civil parishes of Barley-with-Wheatley Booth, Barnoldswick, Barrowford, Blacko, Bracewell and Brogden, Brierfield, Earby, Foulridge, Goldshaw Booth, Higham-with-West Close Booth, Kelbrook and Sough, Laneshaw Bridge, Old Laund Booth, Reedley Hallows, Roughlee Booth, Salterforth, and Trawden Forest. The historic townships of Dotcliffe, Fence, Newchurch in Pendle and Spenbrook also lie within these parishes. No surviving mill sites were identified in the parishes of Bracewell and Brogden or Reedley Hallows. The need to limit the survey by modern local government boundaries meant that neither the important nearby cotton-weaving centre of Burnley nor any other part of the Lancashire cotton region was included.

The study was also restricted in the range of buildings examined. Only extant textile mills and related works were included; it did not extend to such buildings as workers' housing, millowners' houses, workers' institutions, schools and churches, except where they had a direct contribution to make to the understanding of mill sites. Domestic workshops and industrial structures not connected with the textile industries were not recorded. However since this survey was completed, English Heritage has undertaken a study of the historic urban landscape of Nelson through an analysis of its surviving domestic, social and ecclesiastical architecture.

The methodology employed on the mill survey drew on experience gained during the RCHME's Yorkshire Textile Mills survey and similar previous surveys. Initial identification of sites was made using the Ordnance Survey 1:10560 scale maps of 1844 and the 1:2500 scale maps of 1890-1, 1910, and 1929-30, and was followed by a rapid survey. In all 170 sites were identified and visited, of which 131 were found to have survived to a greater or lesser extent. All the surviving sites were recorded in greater detail than had been the case with previous rapid surveys and, where possible, interiors, as well as exteriors, were noted and photographed using a conventional 35mm camera. The physical evidence of the surviving structures was reinforced with cartographic, trade directory and other documentary evidence, including previous research, information to be found in published histories and the testimony of established owners and occupiers. Forty-five selected sites were also photographed using a large format camera. Files created for each site contain an illustrated written

report, which varies in length from one to ten pages, RCHME photography and copies of relevant source material. These are held in the National Monuments Record in Swindon, and for each site a record was created on English Heritage’s national database of monuments, NewHIS.

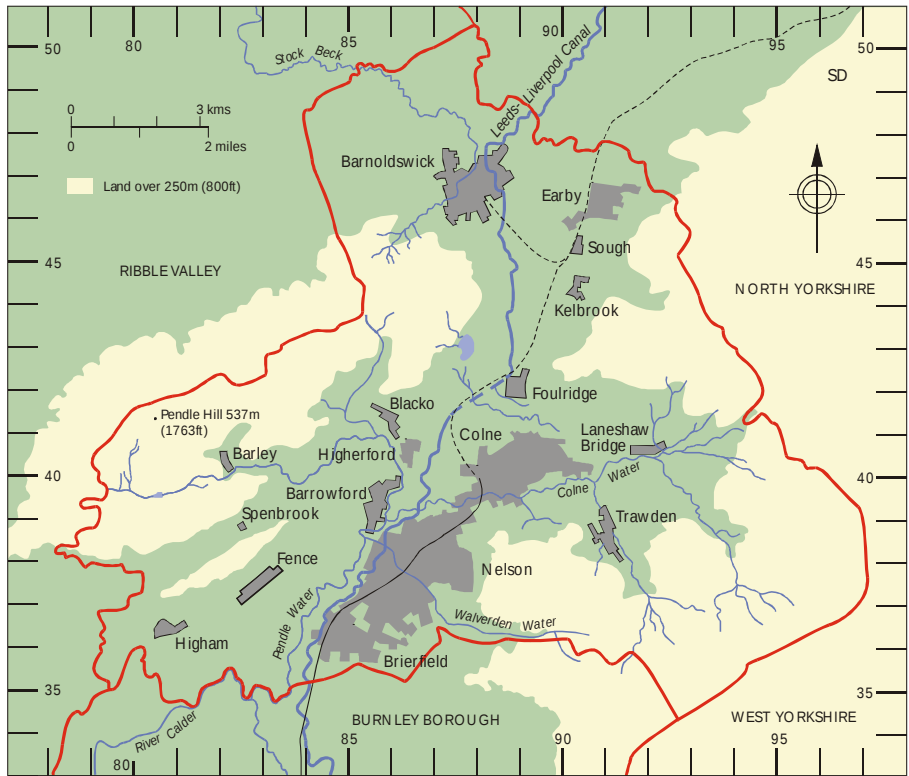


Fig 2. The Borough of Pendle.

TOPOGRAPHY

The Borough of Pendle (Fig 2) lies in the north-east corner of Lancashire and is an amalgamation of part of the historic West Riding of Yorkshire and, the larger part, of historic Lancashire, created by the Local Government reorganisation of 1974. The topography of Pendle Borough varies from the heights of Pendle Hill at 557 metres above sea level in the west to the central low lying valley of Pendle Water, occupied by the town of Nelson, in the south, with high moor to the east. To the north of Nelson the older settlement of Colne straddles a ridge running east to west, with Colne Water, a tributary of Pendle Water, flowing at its foot on the south side. Both the railway and canal continue north, skirting Colne and Foulridge on their western sides. The railway then continued north past Kelbrook to Earby with a branch line linking west to Barnoldswick. The canal runs through a mile-long tunnel at Foulridge then skirts Salterforth and continues through Barnoldswick.

Topography, most importantly the availability of water, has arguably been the dominant factor in determining the location of textile mills in Pendle. In the late 18th and early 19th centuries water, flowing in sufficient quantity, was needed as a source of power to drive water wheels and machinery, and water-powered textile mills were accordingly located on the banks of the numerous fast flowing streams in the region. Amongst these are Narrowgates Mill, Barley, built about 1799 in the upper valley of Pendle Water, Old Mill, Barrowford, on Barrowford Beck, County Brook Mill, Foulridge, built in the late 18th century on the County Brook, and Walk Mill, Colne, probably, as its name suggests, a fulling mill in origin.

With the introduction of steam power in the area in the early 19th century, new textile mills no longer required flowing water for power, although a plentiful supply of water was still needed. Apart from the relatively modest amount needed for boiler feed, since many textile mill engines were condensing engines, a plentiful supply of cold water was needed for condensing purposes.¹ Steam engines also required good transport links to maintain a continuous supply of coal. In the cotton towns of Pendle these joint needs came to be met in two different ways. In the mid 19th century the two main freight transport links were the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, completed in 1816 and running north to south through the centre of the Borough, and the East Lancashire Railway, which by 1849 had extended its line up from Burnley and through Colne to link up with the Midland Railway's Bradford to Skipton Branch. Many of the textile mills built in the new town of Nelson were situated, as elsewhere in the area, along the banks of the canal which then served the dual role of supplying constant cold water for the mill engine² and as the route by which coal supplies were transported in. Wood and Wilmore writing in 1927 stress the importance of the canal in determining the distribution of textile mills following the complete conversion from water to steam power.

Water was still necessary, of course, no longer for power, but for use in the condensers of the steam engines and in the numerous washing operations of the industry. Hence mills began to appear in considerable numbers adjacent to the canals as well as on the banks of the small rivers. Taking as examples four cotton weaving

towns of quite different type - Blackburn, Burnley, Nelson and Barnoldswick – one has only to walk on the towing-path of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal through those towns to see the important part played by that canal in determining the location of many cotton mills.³

Dickinson and Hills writing in 1984 and 1988 respectively have also commented on the influence of canals, both as a transport link for coal and as a convenient source of cool condenser water, on the siting of steam-powered textile mills, outside of Pendle. Dickinson points out that the location of mills in Blackburn and Burnley was heavily influenced by the line of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal but that in Preston the lack of a canal meant that a large number of mill reservoirs had to be constructed. Hills observes the use made of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal by the textile mills situated between Leigh and Manchester. Williams and Farnie, writing in 1992, also make the point that in the Greater Manchester area canal-side sites continued to be favoured by mill builders even into the twentieth century, as at Monton Mill, Eccles, built in 1905 beside the Bridgewater Canal.⁴

Towards the end of the 19th century, as Nelson in particular expanded and canal-side sites became scarcer, the railway became more utilised as a transport link for raw materials and finished goods and many mills were built along the lineside, water being supplied from artificially constructed reservoirs. Other mills were built in linear expansion along the banks of the various streams that flowed from east to west through Nelson to enter Pendle Water, most notably Walverden Water, which supplied Valley Mills, and Hendon Brook which was itself dammed to create a reservoir on the eastern edge of the town which then fed the mill reservoirs of six weaving mills built in the valley, via the gradually culverted stream, between 1893 and 1923.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRIES

Textile production has a long history in the constituent settlements that make up the modern Borough of Pendle. From the medieval period until the 18th century domestic woollen textile production was an important part of rural life, in common with most of the rest of England, and by the 17th century had become an important part of the local economy as well, with the rise of the yeoman-clothiers.⁵ The coming of mechanisation in the 18th century and the increasing national demand for cotton textiles saw, in south-east Lancashire, a wholesale change to mass cotton production. Even within south-east Lancashire a split developed between those areas that specialised in cotton spinning and those areas that specialised in cotton weaving, the former concentrated in and around Manchester, the latter further north in Pendle and in towns like Blackburn, Burnley and Preston.⁶ In Pendle the 18th century saw some fustian and worsted production before, by about 1800, the inexorable Lancashire trend towards cotton manufacture spread to the area. At first both spinning and weaving were undertaken but as the industry grew they tended to separate and by the end of the 19th century cotton weaving had become virtually the only branch of the industry in the area, spinning being concentrated in the satellite towns around Manchester. In Pendle different towns even came to specialise in different branches of the cotton-weaving industry, sateens, gaberdines and poplins in Nelson, and shirtings, blouse materials, and other fancy goods in Colne.⁷ Some smaller subsidiary industries, serving the main cotton-weaving industry, also developed in Pendle such as specialist tape sizing firms, dyeworks, as well as foundries and factories producing steam engines, looms, loom components and other mechanical apparatus for use in the mills. After the First World War, with the cotton industry entering a state of national decline, many of the Pendle manufacturers diversified into silk manufacture and the production of cloth from new man-made fibres such as rayon. Textile production in the Borough of Pendle did continue in one form or another for much of the 20th century but by 2000 only a very small number of manufacturers in any branch remained. This section provides a brief historical and technical introduction to contextualise the succeeding architectural analyses.

The textile industries in the Borough of Pendle began, as in other areas, with woollens. A fulling mill had been built in Colne by 1296,⁸ and the town had a thriving wool trade in the 16th and 17th centuries. By the second half of the 18th century it was established as the centre of the north-east Lancashire woollen trade, having a cloth hall built in 1775.⁹ To the south, in the region of Great and Little Marsden, woollen manufacture had been part of the economic life of the area since the 14th century. Spinners and weavers worked from their own cottages up to the end of the 18th century, and as the national demand for textiles, particularly cotton, began to rise in the 1780s¹⁰ the cottage spinners and weavers of Marsden merely intensified their labours and although the industry did significantly expand here at this time it was facilitated not by the building of textile factories but of rows of handloom weavers' cottages containing up to three handlooms each.¹¹ The first mill in the Marsden area, Ecroyd's worsted mill at Lomeshaye, was built in 1780, but by 1825 there were still only three textile mills in the whole of Marsden. Some woollen mills were built in

Pendle, for example Dotcliffe Mill, Kelbrook, a water-powered woollen mill built in the early 19th century, but they were few in number. The area was also slow, in comparison with other parts of Lancashire, to adopt cotton as opposed to woollen manufacture as its primary occupation. Although from about 1740 some handloom weavers wove fustians (cloth with a linen warp and cotton weft which had been woven in other parts of Lancashire as early as the 1560s)¹² cotton manufacture did not replace woollen manufacture until the beginning of the 19th century. By then many of the handloom weavers of Marsden were employed in 'dandy shops', proto factories that consisted of a row of three-storey weavers' cottages with a single long loomshop over the whole row on the third floor managed by a manufacturer.¹³ They were called dandy shops after the dandy loom, an improved type of handloom patented in 1805.¹⁴ Lack of incentive to change from woollen to cotton production and embrace the factory system of working was echoed in Foulridge where, in 1851, woollen handloom weaving was still the principal occupation of the village: the first cotton mill was not built there until 1855.¹⁵ In Colne cotton was already becoming established amongst the domestic manufacturers by 1795 and a wholesale switch was to follow. It was to prove the end of Colne's handloom driven woollen industry, its cloth hall and its role as a centre of the textile trade, and the West Riding of Yorkshire came to dominate the woollen industry and Manchester became the centre of the cotton trade.¹⁶

As cotton rose to prominence in Pendle more industrialists took advantage of the new technologies and the escalating demand for cotton goods by building first water and then steam-powered cotton mills and employing workers to operate them. From the late 18th century until the middle of the 19th century many new cotton mills were built in Pendle. The first mills were water-powered spinning mills like Lodge Holme Mill and Jewel Mill in the Trawden and Brierfield areas whose spun yarn was put out to handloom weavers, but with the introduction of the power loom, which had become generally accepted by the 1820s, a few integrated spinning and weaving mills began to be built. One such was Brierfield Mills, Brierfield, built before 1844: the earliest mill buildings here have all been demolished but are shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844¹⁷ identified as 'Cotton Factory' and appear to have been a wide rectangular spinning mill built along the side of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and a large square building, evidently a weaving shed, overlapping the north-east corner. Another example is Spring Bank Mill, Colne, built between 1844 and 1854 within a meander of Colne Water by Nicholas England who, in 1832, had built the nearby and now demolished St Helen's Mill at Waterside. England began as a cotton spinner and later moved into weaving too, Spring Bank Mill being one of the few mills in the Pendle to have remained an integrated cotton-spinning and weaving mill from its foundation through until the 1930s.

The die-hard handloom weavers who refused to enter the factories found themselves more and more incapable of competing with the cheap, rapidly produced, bulk output of the mills and as early as 1838 a proposal was made to form a joint stock company to build cotton spinning and weaving mills in Marsden. The idea was to relieve the suffering of the handloom weavers as the circular proposing the idea, issued in May 1838, makes clear:

The distressed state of the hand loom weavers in Marsden, whose suffering has repeatedly been before the public during the last 12 months, and who, from the depressed rate of wages, are still unable to obtain a livelihood even when fully employed, and are therefore obliged to eke out their scanty pittance at the vestry board; has at length induced the Inhabitants and Owners of property to project the formation of a Company for the above purpose, with a view of providing more profitable employment and thereby relieving the existing pressure, which is felt in degree by every class of society. Already the Weavers are emigrating to more favoured districts and whilst Trade has been diminishing, Parochial assessments have greatly increased; Tradesmen and others, whose means of subsistence depend on the labouring population are more or less injured in their circumstances, and unless means are devised of checking the evil, a general depression of property must ensue. It is therefore proposed to raise a fund in shares of £50 each for the erection of two or more mills with steam engines of 30 Horses' Power each, and other necessary appendages, which shall be let to respectable Tenants who will provide their own Machinery.¹⁸

The project was never completed as the necessary capital could not be raised, and it was not until 1857 that a room and power company went into business in the Nelson and Marsden area. In that year Mr Smith Whitehead of Bradley Hall and Mr Holland of Woodlands built the now demolished Victoria Mill which stood beside Walverden Water near Leeds Road, Nelson, installed a steam engine and power transmission system, and leased room and power to any with looms to install.¹⁹ Room and power mills were not new; they were operating in Manchester in the late 18th century and mills specifically for room and power use were being built in Yorkshire in the 1830s.²⁰ In Pendle however, they were a relatively late arrival.

The system of mill companies building and owning mills and offering room and power to paying tenants was to dominate the second half of the 19th century in Pendle. Many mills built by and originally managed by their owners had become room and power premises by the end of the 19th century. An example is Butts Mill of 1846, Barnoldswick, built and run by William Bracewell until, in 1887, following his death, it was sold by auction and went over to room and power working, having two tenants in 1893 and five in 1902. In the late 19th century the Butts Mill Company was formed, consisting chiefly of tenants, and it continued to run the mill until it was bought by the Calf Hall Shed Company in 1902. Most, but not all, of the new mills built in the second half of the 19th century were built by room and power companies. Pendle Street Shed was built in 1885 by the Pendle Street Room and Power Company Limited, which in 1887 had four firms of cotton manufacturers as tenants. The same phenomenon occurred in rural districts as the success of room and power concerns inspired local consortiums to form and erect weaving sheds of their own to operate on a room and power basis. One such was Black Carr Mill, in the village of Trawden, built on the initiative of the villagers as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill to be let on a room and power basis. The mill was built between 1880 and 1882 following a public meeting in Trawden in February 1880, chaired by the village schoolmaster, George Sowerby. A committee was elected to canvass the inhabitants of the village, and subscriptions sufficient to float a Limited Liability Mill Company were obtained. Such was the success of the venture that by 1885 the mill was extended to double its original size.²¹ Similarly in Foulridge in 1890, presumably inspired by the success of similar ventures elsewhere and of the existing owner/occupier-managed cotton-weaving mills in the village, the Foulridge New Shed Company Limited (room and

power) was formed²² and had, by 1893, built New Shed, a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill. This proved such a success that between 1902 and 1910 it doubled in size.

The success of textiles, especially cotton, during the 19th century promoted the growth of a number of smaller service industries including tape sizers and dyers. Warp thread to be used in cotton weaving needs to be impregnated with size, a glutinous mixture of starch, flour and other ingredients, to give it strength on the beam while weaving. This process had been made easier in 1803 when Thomas Johnson produced a machine that applied size to the warp threads while on the warping mill²³ and again in 1839 when Hornby and Kenworthy patented a tape sizing machine that divided the warp into tapes of only a few threads which were then passed through a trough of size and dried by a pair of heated rollers.²⁴ In Pendle there were a number of sizers working independently of the mills; there were five in Colne in 1854 although by 1897 this number was reduced to two. There were also a number of dyeworks in operation, including Lodge Holme Dyeworks in Trawden Forest. Originally a water-powered spinning mill built in the late 18th or early 19th century, it was converted to a dyeworks sometime in the 19th century. Other related industry included loom manufacture, the best example of a loom works in Pendle being Primet Foundry in Colne, built in 1861.

By about 1900 the room and power system of working was well established and room and power companies continued to be formed and to build new steam-powered cotton-weaving sheds well into the first quarter of the 20th century. Many of the early 20th century mills were large in size and housed numerous manufacturers. Typical of them is Crow Nest Shed, Barnoldswick, built in 1914-15 by the Crow Nest Shed Company Limited, which in 1917 had five tenants running a total of 2080 looms. Another example in the same town is Fernbank Shed, built in 1915 by the Fernbank Shed Company. Four cotton manufacturers with 2200 looms had taken up space in this room and power mill ahead of its anticipated opening in September 1915 and by 1917 there were five occupiers. The onset of the First World War greatly slowed the proliferation of new mills and few were built after the 1920s. Those that were built just after the Great War and in the 1920s tended to be smaller than the vast cotton sheds built previously, and they often specialised in branches of the textile industry other than cotton weaving itself. Boundary Mill in Nelson, for example, was built between 1923-30 as a taper and sizer mill. Boundary Mill, Colne, was built between 1924-30 as a silk and rayon weaving mill and at Valley Mills, Nelson, Valley Mills No 4 was built as an artificial silk mill in 1924. As the century progressed new mill building virtually ceased, although many of the existing mills remained in production until the early 1970s, diversifying, as the market demanded, into synthetic materials and into more specialist products. Glen Mills, Colne; and Brierfield Mill, Brierfield; manufactured surgical dressings, and label weaving was carried out at Excelsior Works, Colne, which began as a laundry became a tape sizing works and later adopted label weaving. By 1998 only a very small handful of manufacturers were still in business in Pendle. Many of the mill buildings had been put to new uses or demolished entirely to make way for new housing and new urban development.

THE BUILDINGS OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRIES AND THE PROCESSES THEY HOUSED

Worsted

Worsted²⁵ manufacture came to prominence in Pendle during the 18th century but, given the growing country-wide popularity of cotton, was inevitably abandoned in most instances in favour of cotton weaving. Of the worsted manufacturing concerns that did endure, Ecroyd's of Lomeshaye Mill is the most notable. Ecroyd's continued to manufacture worsteds, latterly alongside cottons, before finally switching completely to cotton just before closure in 1933. The Ecroyds had come to Marsden during the 16th century. In 1721 Richard Ecroyd founded a wool combing, spinning, dyeing, and handloom weaving business, and in the 1780s he reportedly erected a new three-storeyed stone-built mill at Lomeshaye, harnessing water power from Pendle Water. Richard Ecroyd's son, also Richard, joined the business and was appointed to the Worsted Committee in 1800. The business at Lomeshaye declined, however, and in 1818 or 1819 control was handed over to William Ecroyd under whom the firm established international recognition. A seven horse power steam engine was installed in 1836, new buildings were erected and powerlooms were eventually successfully installed. In 1849 William's son, William Farrer Ecroyd, became a partner, the firm trading as William Ecroyd and Sons and undertaking major rebuilding and expansion during the second half of the 19th century.

The earliest detailed cartographic evidence for Lomeshaye Mill is on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844²⁶ which names the site as 'Lomeshaye Mill (Worsted)' and shows an irregular U-shaped building set some distance back from the river. It also shows large reservoirs and names a chimney, gasometer and weir as well as showing Lomeshaye House, the now demolished residence of the Ecroyds. A more detailed depiction of the mill in 1890 shows that by then it had been massively extended and several terraces of workers' houses built to its immediate north. Comparison of this map with that of 1910 shows rebuilding on the site of the gasometer, but there is no observable change of plan between then and 1929-30 (Figs 3a-c).

Lomeshaye Mill is unusual within Pendle for its scale, architectural complexity and its many phases of construction, largely caused by the fact that family which built the mill remained in occupation from its earliest days in the 18th century through until 1933, concentrating primarily on their original product, worsteds, but also diversifying into cotton. The buildings which now occupy the site mostly date from the rebuilding that took place in the second half of the 19th century and none of the original buildings survive. It is also doubtful whether any of the buildings shown on the 1844 map survive, although a one-bay wide beam-engine house with round-headed windows in both its east and west walls remains within a multi-storey building which fronts the river on the 1890 map, but now fronts a car park; it equates with a new mill, West Mill, said to have been built in the early 1850s. The building incorporates some fine architectural detailing such as the Italianate office building which fronts a shed, the use of dentilled copings and round-headed ventilators with

ashlar surrounds in shed walls, the monumental boiler openings in a later boiler house, the tall octagonal stone chimney and, internally, the use of cast-iron columns with composite heads and I-section bridging beams with pierced guilloche detailing.

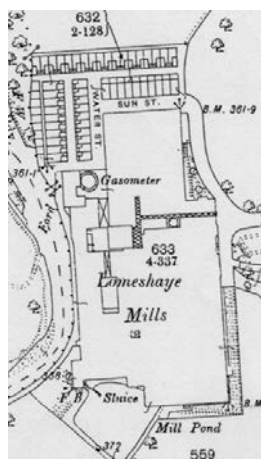


Fig 3a. Ordnance Survey map of 1890.



Fig 3b. Ordnance Survey map of 1910.

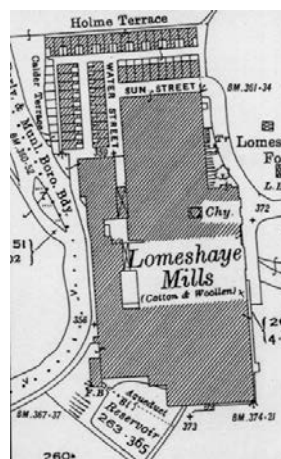


Fig 3c. Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30.

A handful of other worsted mills were built in Pendle during the 19th century, but by the end of the century they had all switched to cotton weaving. Field Top Mill was built as a steam-powered worsted mill in the outlying village of Fence before 1844, but had been rebuilt as a cotton mill by 1891, and by 1910 had mostly been demolished. The original worsted mill was a small rectangular block behind a school house. Trade directory evidence suggests that Albert Mills, built in Nelson on the south-east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal between 1844 and 1879, was built as a worsted weaving mill but had mostly switched to cotton weaving by 1887.²⁷ Albert Mills is unusual in that the mill chimney was situated across a public road from all of the other mill buildings and was connected to the boiler house by means of an underground flue. In 1876 Standroyd Mill was built in the district of Cotton Tree, a little to the east of Colne, and was occupied by the Hartley Brothers, James and John William, of Standroyd House, and by John Holdsworth of Keighly Road, who together formed the firm of Hartley Bros and Holdsworth. They evidently started out as worsted manufacturers, as a trade directory of 1879 so describes them, but by 1887 had taken to cotton manufacture.²⁸ The original mill was built of coursed and random stone rubble and consisted of a rectangular single-storey shed with a four-storey warehouse and preparation block to the rear and an engine house, boiler house and detached chimney to the front.

Cotton

Spinning mills

The first cotton-spinning mills in Pendle, built in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, served the cottage-based handloom weaving industry and were multi-storeyed and built of stone rubble with pitched slate roofs. The earliest were water-powered although steam engines were often installed in water-powered mills in the first half of the 19th century, sometimes as a direct replacement for the water-powered system but sometimes as a support for use in times of low flow. Few of the early spinning mills survive in Pendle, as cotton weaving came to prove the more profitable undertaking, and many that could not be adapted were abandoned. Old Coates Mill, Barnoldswick was a substantial four-storeyed steam-powered stone-built spinning mill which spun yarn for the local handloom weavers. It was allowed to fall into disuse, presumably as the handloom industry gave way to factory-based production; Coates New Mill, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, was built in 1864; Old Coates Mill was still standing in 1892 but had been demolished by 1907.²⁹ Many small mills, requiring less capital outlay, were also erected, including Lodge Holme Mill (Fig 4), built in the late 18th or early 19th century to the north of Trawden village. The original mill here was water-powered, built of random stone rubble and three storeys high with a slate roof with lights and simple stone copings. It had an internal waterwheel chamber at the north-west end fed by a large adjacent mill pond that took water from Trawden Brook via a weir. Throstle Nest Mill, Nelson, built before 1844 as a water-powered cotton-spinning mill, comprised a single rectangular block evidently with a waterwheel house or chamber across its south-east end. It was probably similar to Lodge Holme Mill in layout. It was rebuilt in 1851, the date on the building, and this was probably when it was converted to steam power, and may have been when the first single-storey weaving shed was added on south-west side. The mill then functioned as a combined spinning and weaving mill in single occupation, at least until 1893, but by 1902 had switched to cotton weaving only, on a room and power basis. By 1910 a second weaving shed, balancing the first, had been added to the north-east side.



Fig 4. Lodge Holme Mill, Trawden Forest. (NMR: AA99/039914)

Spinning and weaving mills

Purpose-built mills that could undertake the processes of both spinning and weaving cotton represent a bridging point in the development of factory-based textile production in Pendle. They stand between the period in which steam-powered spinning mills produced yarn that was put out to handloom weavers and the later realisation that specialising in weaving promised the greatest economic return. Higherford Mill, Higherford (Fig 5), previously known as Grimshaw's Mill and then Higherford Shed or Sheds, is said to have been built in 1824, on the basis of a reset datestone in the side wall of a later weaving shed, and to have been a four-storey building in which weaving took place on the third and second floors.³⁰ Since Thomas Grimshaw, whose family is known to have built the mill, was putting work out to local handloom weavers in 1814,³¹ he may have founded a spinning mill and later turned its top two floors over to the weaving of the cotton yarn spun below. This may have followed the purchase of some of the newly available powerlooms or may simply have been the transfer of handloom operations into the mill itself. In either case it would seem to represent a transition between the by then established dandy shop system of working, in which the top floor of a three-storeyed building or terrace was a large handloom shop and the two floors below provided domestic accommodation, and the full integration of the weaving process into the mill system whereby powerlooms were housed in large single-storey sheds built beside a multi-storey block that housed the spinning process.



Fig 5. Higherford Mill, Higherford. (NMR: AA99/03949)

Spinning and weaving mills employing the latter arrangement were built in fairly small numbers across Pendle during the early and mid 19th century, reflecting the high capital cost of building a large mill complex - Brierfield Mills, Brierfield, built before 1844, Albert Mills, Barrowford, built between 1844 and 1879, Spring Gardens Mill, Colne, built between 1844 and 1854, and Victoria Mill, Earby, built in 1856. In Barnoldswick integrated cotton production was chiefly motivated by a single entrepreneur William (Billycock) Bracewell who built Butts (1846) and Well House

(1854) Mills in the town, both cotton-spinning and weaving mills and both now largely demolished.

Weaving mills

By the second half of the 19th century weaving had become almost the only viable branch of the cotton industry in Pendle, as cotton spinning became concentrated in and around Manchester, and consequently large steam-powered weaving sheds proliferated in most urban and in some rural areas. The weaving mills of the 19th and early 20th centuries shared many features in common and most had a fairly standard set of components and characteristics. These were a multi-storeyed block, usually two or three storeys high and often fronting the main street or road on which the mill stood, an engine house, a boiler house, chimney and sometimes an economiser house, and a single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof usually glazed to the north. Almost all the purpose-built weaving sheds in Pendle had these components in various combinations, some with additional buildings or features such as offices, reservoirs, or gasworks. Pendle is a hilly district, and to overcome the problem of steeply sloping land, to be found even in most of the urban areas, weaving sheds were often deeply terraced into the ground in order to create the huge level floor area required. In these cases the rear of the weaving shed was usually terraced, the other component buildings being sited at the front on the downhill side. In some extreme cases such as Bankfield Mill (1853-1879) in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, the land falls so steeply that the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block were built underneath the front of the weaving shed (Fig 6).



Fig 6. Bankfield Mill, Colne. (NMR: MF98/02787/23)

The multi-storey block was an important part of most of the cotton-weaving mills in Pendle. Usually long, fairly narrow and mostly two or three storeys high it acted as a warehouse for both spun yarn and woven cloth, housed the yarn preparation processes, sizing and beaming, and provided office accommodation for the administration of the mill. Often built of stone rubble, it had an internal structure of cast-iron columns and timber beams or, in later mills, I-section stanchions and steel beams. It was well lit on all sides, except where it butted against an engine or boiler houses, and often included roof lighting of one form or another. The multi-storey block joined a single-storey shed to its rear, and the two were usually connected

internally to allow beamed warp, weft bobbins and woven cloth to be transferred between the two. To the front there were separate entrances for both vehicles and mill operatives, often arranged in a repeated pattern, especially in mills built for room and power working where it was necessary to have several points of access for the workers and merchandise of more than one manufacturer. This is the case at Pendle Street Shed, Nelson, built in 1885 by the Pendle Street Room and Power Company, where there are two office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks, one of two and one of three storeys, serving two weaving sheds. That to the west fronts Pendle Street and is on the main front of the mill, whereas that to the east backs onto the canal. The west block has vehicle entrances in the first, seventh, thirteenth and twenty-seventh bays from the north and pedestrian entrances in the fifteenth, twentieth and twenty-eighth bays from the north. Multi-storey blocks were usually supplied with power from the steam engine to run tape sizing and beaming machinery.

Weaving was undertaken in weaving sheds which were generally large, single storeyed and had roofs of saw-tooth profile with slated long slopes and glazed near vertical slopes orientated to face as close to northwards as possible to provide even natural lighting throughout the day. Depending on the orientation of the shed the last roof bay was either a long slated slope or a glazed south-facing slope to ensure that there was natural light at the end of the shed. Roofs were drained by valley gutters between each of the roof bays, and these discharged either through rainwater heads into external downpipes or into box gutters running the length of the exterior wall before discharging into a single downpipe. Roofs were usually hidden behind parapet walls of either coursed or random stone rubble which were usually blind. Ventilation was important in weaving sheds, to help maintain suitable atmospheric conditions, and most had rectangular ventilators set within the parapet walls. Ridge ventilators in the roof were a later innovation. Access to the weaving shed was usually through the multi-storey block which fronted the street, but most also had a pedestrian entrance into the shed itself, usually in a far corner. Internally what was usually a timber, but occasionally a cast-iron or steel, roof structure was supported by a series of cast-iron columns or, later, steel stanchions, often with a cast-in flanged D-section bolting head to take a bracket that carried geared drive shafts taken from the main line shaft that ran the whole length of the mill from the engine. In effect each row of cast-iron columns carrying a drive shaft defined the position of a rank of looms taking power by belt drive from the shaft. At Primet Mill in the Primet Bridge area of Colne the cast-iron columns supporting the roof of the 1844-1891 weaving shed are particularly ornate, having composite capitals, and carry I-section bridging beams with pierced guilloche decoration which in turn carry the valley gutters of the roof (Fig 7). In a few later weaving sheds steel stanchions supported the roof.

Weaving sheds had to be supplied with water since the process of weaving relied on a fairly plentiful supply of water to maintain the right atmospheric conditions. A high moisture content in the air was necessary and early forms of air conditioning included the dowsing of weaving shed floors with water. When Surat cotton, which could only be woven under extremely moist conditions, began to arrive in Nelson from India in July 1862, following the cessation of cotton supplies from America, jets of steam were used to maintain humidity.³² This meant that even those later cotton-weaving mills, designed and built with oil rather than steam engines, still tended, if possible, to be positioned in close proximity to water, as in the case of Valley Mill, Laneshaw

Bridge, built between 1910 and 1930: although it was powered from the very beginning by an oil engine it was still situated on the banks of a tributary of Colne Water.



Fig 7. Interior of Primet Mill, Colne, showing cast-iron columns and bridging beams. (NMR: MF98/02788/04A)

In a steam-powered weaving mill the engine was usually housed in an engine house with an attached boiler house. The engine house was naturally characterised by the type and size of the engine it was built to house. If built for a beam engine, as early steam-powered weaving mills were, the engine house was usually tall and narrow, reflecting the size and shape of the engine. If the engine was of the later horizontal type, the engine house was still likely to be tall, but broader. At Lob Lane Shed, Brierfield (Fig 8), the original mill, built in the mid 19th century, was equipped with a beam engine and had a tall narrow engine house with a narrow rectangular window, but between 1891 and 1910 when the mill was extended and needed increased power, a second engine was installed. This was a horizontal engine, and the new engine house was built beside the old beam engine house. Although not typical of later horizontal engine houses, in that it does not have large narrow round-headed window, its size and proportions contrast with those of the earlier beam engine house beside it. The boiler house was generally single-storeyed with wide arched boiler openings to facilitate coaling. Chimneys were built either of stone or brick, stone being used in early mills and brick later, and were often circular or rectangular respectively. The chimney was connected to the boiler house by means of a flue which could be of some length, and even underground, allowing the chimney to be detached from other mill buildings and, if necessary, some distance from them. The disposition of the component buildings varies with the size and date of the mill and the original layout can of course be unbalanced by enlargements, but most adhere to one of a small number of common patterns.

The earliest surviving purpose-built cotton-weaving mills in Pendle were built around the middle of the 19th century and are to be found in the more rural areas rather than in the towns. There are several reasons for this. The first cotton mills of any kind to be built, either in the towns or in rural areas, were spinning mills and when powered



*Fig 8. Lob Lane Shed,
Brierfield. (NMR:
AA99/03979)*

cotton weaving first became economically viable these spinning mills were adapted and enlarged to house the new process. When, slightly later, weaving-only mills were built in the towns they tended to be built close to what was the town centre and consequently have, in recent years, been demolished as part of redevelopment schemes while rural mills have been left standing. This is certainly true of early cotton-weaving mills in Nelson such as Walverden Mill on the Leeds Road, owned and managed by Joseph and Benjamin Smith and employing 126 weavers in 1850.³³ Survival has been greater in rural areas although there is now little which dates from before 1850. The early mills were built of locally sourced stone, including the chimney which was usually fairly short, square or rectangular, tapered and evidently without an oversailer,³⁴ its size and design reflecting the relatively low power of the engine and size of the steam plant.³⁵ Although most of the components are present, the refinement of layout to be found in mills built later in the 19th century are absent. Mills of the early and mid 19th century, such as Spring Field Mill, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built about 1850 in a semi-rural position on the outskirts of the linear village of Blacko, contained these elements, but their position in relation to each other tended to be more haphazard. At this mill, the original warehouse and yarn preparation block is modestly sized and two storeys high with the narrow beam engine house and boiler house attached. All are positioned to the rear of the weaving shed and well away from the main road. At Hollin Hall Mill in Trawden, dated 1855, the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block and the engine and boiler house are positioned side by side and front the main road with the weaving shed to the rear, backing onto Trawden Brook, in a pattern that was to become common in later urban mills.

By the 1870s most new cotton-weaving mills were being built for room and power operation, and a fairly standard layout had been established for the smaller mills. The simplest arrangement was to have a long multi-storey block with a single-storey weaving shed attached to the rear and an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to the side. This arrangement was employed at many of the medium-sized

cotton-weaving mills built in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. By this time horizontal engines rather than beam engines were the norm, the former usually requiring a wider and generally larger engine house than the latter. The increased size and predominance of the horizontal engine house within the mill complex provoked the use of greater architectural embellishment and, as many of these fronted main streets, they were often used to bear name and date stones. Chimneys were also built of brick, which could be built taller, rather than of stone, and were generally circular and tapered, often with elaborate oversailers. Office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks of the mid and late 19th century had pitched slate roofs, often with rooflights, rectangular windows with rectangular sills and lintels and sometimes full stone surrounds, and rectangular pedestrian and vehicle entrances with stone surrounds and, sometimes, interrupted jambs. Vehicle entrances were usually narrow, presumably reflecting the horse drawn nature of the vehicles that used them. Some were widened in later years as steam and then petrol and diesel-powered lorries took over. Engine houses were also often built fronting the street and, together with the associated boiler houses, they formed an elaborate grouping facing the public at large. Boiler houses were sometimes built with the boiler openings facing onto the street also to facilitate coaling from the road.

In Barnoldswick, cotton weaving on the room and power system only really became established following the death in 1885 of William Bracewell, after which both of his former spinning and weaving mills, Butts and Well House Mills, switched to cotton weaving only, on the room and power system. At roughly the same time in Barnoldswick the Long Ing Shed Company built Long Ing Shed (1887) and the Calf Hall Shed Company built Calf Hall Shed (1889).

Some mills were seemingly built with the capacity for expansion built in, some with sufficient power built into the first phase to power an equal sized second phase with little or no enhancement, others with the space to expand with the addition of a second engine. Hollin Bank Mill, Brierfield, is an example of the former. Built between 1887 and 1891 on the south bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, it was originally built with a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with an engine house and boiler house attached side by side to one end and a single-storeyed weaving shed behind. By 1910 it had doubled in size, and in effect a mirror image of the front office, warehouse and yarn preparation block and rear weaving shed was built back to back with the original. No new engine house was built, and it must be assumed that the existing engine either already had enough spare capacity to power the second phase or was enhanced in some way. At Vale Street Shed, Nelson, built in the valley of Walverden Water between 1886 and 1887, the second arrangement applied. Following expansion, which occurred within four years of the original building, the mill consisted of a boiler house flanked by a pair of engine houses attached in turn to two two-storeyed office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks, altogether forming a continuous range fronting Vale Street, behind which and backing onto Walverden Water are a pair of single-storey weaving sheds which are thus each powered by a dedicated engine. The second weaving shed to be built, that on the north-west side of the site, is unusual in the architectural quality of its parapet walls which are of coursed stone rubble with bracketed stone copings and rusticated quoins to the corners. This form of planned expansion was also undertaken at the later and larger Marsden Mill further up the valley, on the edge of urban Nelson. Marsden Mill was first built in

1908 and was extended in 1912. The first phase comprised a long north-east facing two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to the north-west end and a single-storey weaving shed to the rear. Unlike at Vale Street Shed the second phase was not equal in size to the first, but smaller, although the overall arrangement of mill buildings was the same, with a second engine house being built beside the original boiler house, with an attached office, warehouse and yarn preparation block and weaving shed behind (Figs 9a-b). At Holker Street Mill in the Primet Bridge area of Colne two-phase expansion is in evidence, the mill, built between 1879 and 1887, expanding in equal-sized portions to the west, first between 1891 and 1910 and then again between 1910 and 1930. The original mill and the two extensions all evidently powered by the original power source attached to the east side of the original mill.

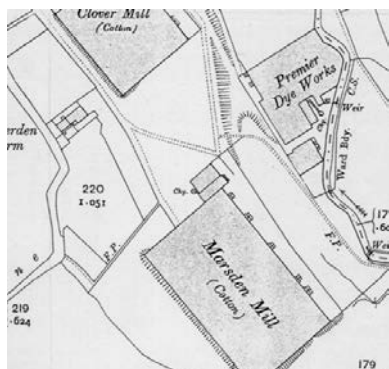


Fig 9a. Ordnance Survey map of 1909.

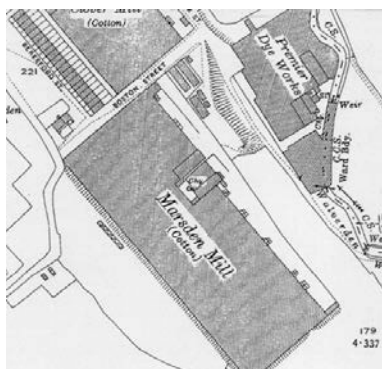


Fig 9b. Ordnance Survey map of 1929.

Larger single-phase mills built in the second half of the 19th century employed a variety of alternative layout arrangements, depending on the size and nature of the site. Pendle Street Shed, Nelson, built in 1885 by the Pendle Street Room and Power Company had two office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks, three weaving sheds, one engine house, one boiler house (for three boilers), and a tall brick chimney. One office, warehouse and yarn preparation block was two storeys high and fronted Pendle Street itself. Attached to the rear were two weaving sheds divided by a shaft alley that took power from the engine and boiler house complex at the rear between the sheds, which were themselves powered by means of secondary line shafts, into the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block. The third weaving shed was positioned behind the engine house, and one of the other two weaving sheds and had a three-storeyed office, warehouse and yarn preparation block of its own, backing onto the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Pendle Street Shed is something of an exception however as few single-phase mills were built with such a large and irregular plan. In this instance the largest engine locally available was purchased and the rest of the mill simply built to accommodate processes that utilised the engine's full capacity. In other words the mill was built to its largest economic size at the outset, no expansion has been necessary.³⁶

Between about 1890 and the end of the First World War, at a time when the cotton industry was entering a state of general decline nationally, Pendle saw a considerable boom in urban cotton-weaving mill building as the remaining undeveloped suitable sites were exploited. In Nelson the valley of Hendon Brook was developed as six new mills were built within the space of 30 years between 1893 and 1923. The towns of Barnoldswick and Earby were populated by many very large weaving sheds powered by big engines in what can be seen as the last stage in the refinement of steam-powered cotton-weaving mill design. In contrast with the cotton towns of Greater Manchester³⁷ later weaving sheds in Pendle continued to be built with a multi-storey block attached to the single-storey weaving shed although from about 1890 the pitched roof with rooflights was replaced by a roof of saw-tooth profile drained by valley gutters through parapet walls, very much as the single-storey weaving sheds themselves had always been. The main difference was that the glazed slopes evidently did not have to be north facing, presumably because an even quantity of light, all day long, was not necessary. This change in the trends in roof design is best illustrated at the previously mentioned three-phase Holker Street Mill in Colne. The first phase had an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a conventional pitched roof of slate, while the second phase has a block of equal height but with a saw-tooth roof glazed to the north east and drained by valley gutters through a parapet wall into downpipes that are clearly visible on the front elevation. The third phase has a saw-tooth roof set at right angles to the roof of the second phase and is drained by downpipes on the end wall. Spring Bank Mills, Nelson, built in 1893, is a largely single-phase cotton weaving mill built from the outset with a saw-tooth roof to its office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig10). This appears to be an early example, however, as Scholefield Mill, Nelson, built between 1893 and 1910 (Fig 11) has the usual pitched roof with rooflights. It seems that the majority of new mills built after 1900 favoured a saw-tooth roof for their office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks.



Fig 10. Spring Bank Mills, Nelson. (NMR: AA99/03973)



Fig 11. Scholefield Mill, Nelson. (NMR: AA99/03957.)

In the north of Pendle, the end of the 19th century and the first two decades of the 20th century saw a new phase of mill building in the towns of Earby and Barnoldswick. In contrast to the relatively modest sized mills being built in the large towns of the south, Nelson and Colne, mills such as Moss Shed (1903), Westfield Mill (1911) and Fernbank Shed (1915) (Fig 12), in Barnoldswick, and Spring Mill (1893-1902), Albion Mill (1887-1893), and Brook Shed (1906-7) (Fig 13),³⁸ in Earby, utilised the large areas of fairly flat land on the urban fringes and were large mills

with big powerful engines and run on a room and power basis. These developments may have reflected recognised need to produce a greater quantity of cotton goods faster and more cheaply in a changing economic climate.³⁹ As the Lancashire industry began to face competition from foreign producers who proved much quicker than those of Lancashire to adapt to using new weaving technology such as the automatic loom which had become fully accepted in North America by 1946, a time when many Lancashire manufacturers were still relying on the antiquated Lancashire loom of the previous century.⁴⁰



*Fig 12. Fernbank Shed,
Barnoldswick. (NMR:
MF98/02795/24)*

Cotton weaving continued to be a viable industry in Pendle until the end of the Second World War, although no new mills were built after about 1830, when economic conditions nationwide meant that many traditional British manufacturing industries entered a terminal decline.



*Fig 13. Brook Shed,
Earby. (NMR:
AA99/03992)*

Tape sizing and beaming mills

Cotton yarn for weaving that has been processed to the stage where it is ready to be treated as warp and weft⁴¹ must undergo further processing before it is ready for the loom. Yarn for the warp had to undergo beam warping, a process in which a pre-determined number of warp threads were carefully wound onto a beam or roller from which they were later fed onto the loom (Fig 14). Warp yarn needed to be stronger than that for the weft as it had to withstand greater strain, and the correct balance between the relative strengths of warp and weft was critical in order to prevent abrasion. In order to strengthen the warp the yarn was impregnated with size, a glutinous mixture containing various starchy ingredients. The object of sizing was to impart strength to the yarn, make it weave better, impregnate it with antiseptics to prevent mildew, and to impart the desired smooth feel. The ingredients in size varied greatly, most sizers having developed their own recipes to meet the needs of the particular class of yarn they dealt with. A recipe of 1799 called for ‘... a quantity of calcined gypsum, or plaster of Paris, to be reduced to a very fine powder, and then mixed with alum, sugar, and farina or starch of potatoes, or any other vegetable farina’. This powder was then mixed with cold water to form a paste which was then added to boiling water and stirred until it acquired a sufficiently gelatinous consistency. Another recipe, patented by Mr Wilks in 1801, ran as follows:

The starch or flour is to be extracted from any kind of potatoes which are mealy when boiled, by grating them while raw (but washed clean) into a tub of water. The water thus impregnated with the grated potatoes, is run through a sieve or strainer, which will retain the coarser and fibrous parts of the potatoes but admit the finer particles, constituting the starch or flour to pass with the water into a vessel beneath the sieve or strainer. This water must remain in the vessel several hours undisturbed, to permit the starch to subside to the bottom; then the water is poured off, and the starch so obtained is put into fresh water, and passed through a finer sieve into another tub, where the starch is left to subside to the bottom as before, and the water is again poured off.

About two-thirds the quantity of potatoes, which furnished the starch, are also boiled without peeling, so as to make them mealy when boiled; they are then mashed, and diluted with water, so that they will pass through a sieve into a boiler. In this mashed potatoes are heated until they almost boil; and the starch from the grated potatoes is then to be added, and the whole boiled and stirred for 20 minutes, when it will become paste proper for use. It should be spread in a flat open vessel to cool.⁴²

Prior to 1803 size was brushed directly onto the warp threads by the weaver as it unrolled from the beam on the loom, and early powerlooms were slowed by the need for the weaver to stop the loom every few minutes to do this.⁴³ Thomas Johnson’s invention of 1803 greatly speeded up the operation of the powerlooms of the day by sizing whole webs of warp at once by machine, early in the warping process, so that warp beams were presented to the loom ready sized. The process was refined further in 1839 when Hornby and Kenworthy patented a tape-sizing machine in which the warp was gathered into bands, or tapes, of relatively few threads before being passed through a trough of size and dried by rolling around a pair of heated cylinders.⁴⁴

By the 1920s sizing mixtures had advanced somewhat and a wide variety of advanced ingredients were available to the sizer for its concoction. These included sago, starch,

flour, farina, zinc chloride, magnesium chloride, Epsom salts, salicylic acid, boric acid, kaolin or china clay, and barytes.⁴⁵

In Pendle the warp beaming and tape-sizing processes were usually housed within the two or three-storeyed blocks attached to most cotton-weaving mills and which were powered in each case by the main mill engine. In some cases the process was evidently undertaken in separate size houses such as that at Dotcliffe Mill in Kelbrook, the contents of which are described in particulars pertaining to the sale of the mill by auction on 8th July 1903, as follows:

IN SIZE HOUSE

HORIZONTAL DONKEY ENGINE, by J. Knowles

Cylinder, 6-in. diameter.

Stroke, 12-ins.

Fly Wheel, Lubricators, Patent Governors, Ashlar Foundation, Steam and Exhaust

Pipes complete, and Driving Strap.

OVAL CLAY PAN with 2 Agitators, Brass Tap, Top Driving Apparatus and Driving Strap

2 Wood Warp Becks, 7-ft. × 3-ft. × 2-ft. 6-in., with 2 Heavy Brass Mangle Rollers, 4 small Brass Rollers, Wood Lattices and Carrier Rollers, Wood Trunks, &c.

Old Beck and Piping.
Sundry Tubs.

SET OF 24 DRYING ROLLERS, with

Cast Iron Side Brackets.

Each Cylinder 12-ft. long, 27-in. diameter.

With all requisite Steam Piping, Driving Apparatus, and Driving Strap.⁴⁶

However, there was evidently a demand for specialist tape-sizing and beaming works as a small number were built from the mid 19th century through to the early 20th century. One of the earliest was Garden Vale Works built between 1854 and 1879 in Colne. Originally a sizing works it had become a dyeworks, bleaching and sizing works by 1887, and was eventually rebuilt as a cotton-weaving mill between 1923 and 1933, its name changing to Calder Bank Mill. The sizing works has been largely rebuilt or demolished and its original form and extent is not known. Also in Colne, but much later, the Excelsior Laundry of 1904 had, by 1923, been extended, converted to a tape sizing works and renamed Excelsior Works, for the firm of Fisher, Ridehalgh and Duckett. The tape-sizing works extension was a single-storeyed block built of coursed squared stone rubble with chamfered gutter blocks set above a band. The front wall has a wide rectangular vehicle entrance and a pair of flat-headed windows with flush stone surrounds. The roof is of saw-tooth profile and has three brown glazed ceramic ridge ventilators across the front. Fisher, Ridehalgh and Duckett moved from Excelsior Works to the new purpose-built and much larger Crescent Works built in the late 1920s. Crescent Works is single-storeyed and rectangular in plan and has a north-glazed saw-tooth roof over the whole, including the well-lit office and warehouse area at the front. It is built of stone to the front and of brick to the rear, apart from a gabled boiler and engine house in one corner.

The main requirement of a sizing works was the provision of large clear areas for the accommodation of machines and materials, and a fairly high roof to allow vapours to

dissipate. In Nelson Boundary Mill (Figs 14-15) was built between 1923 and 1929-30 as a steam-powered tape and size mill by Howorth's (Nelson) Ltd who were still in occupation in 1999. The original mill is built of brick with a slate roof and has a tall, single-storeyed shed of unusual form. It is rectangular in plan, faces south east and had a broad gabled range at its eastern end and a narrower range with a single-pitch roof at its western end. The gabled roof has brown ceramic ridge ventilators and the front wall had windows along it. The side walls are both six bays long and of pier and panel construction. An engine house, boiler house and chimney project from the north-east corner.

Comment [EH1]:



Fig 14. Boundary Mill, Nelson. (NMR: MF98/01721/28)



Fig 15. Boundary Mill, Nelson. Interior of 1950's extension showing warp beams and the original exterior wall. (NMR: MF98/01721/22)

Silk and rayon

The production of silk and rayon (artificial silk) was a branch of the textile industry that came to Pendle in the first half of the 20th century, although such was the dominance of cotton that few new mills were actually built to service this new industry. In the 1925 edition of *The Silk and Rayon (Artificial Silk) Directory & Buyers' Guide* the only Pendle advertiser was Mark Nutter Ltd,⁴⁷ otherwise a cotton manufacturer of Parkfield, Vale Street, and Brunswick Street Mills (Fig 16). Artificial silk first appeared before the public at the International Exhibition in Paris in 1889 and Viscose silk (developed by the British scientists Cross and Bevan using cellulose derived from wood pulp) and rayon were spun and woven throughout the country: the industry does not seem to have been concentrated in Lancashire in the way that cotton was.

In Pendle experimental work to produce viscose yarn began at the laboratories of James Nelson Ltd's Valley Mills complex towards the end of 1923 and in early 1924 plant was installed in a new mill building, Valley Mills No 4, added to Valley Mills complex, had opened by Christmas of the same year for the spinning of viscose yarn (artificial silk).⁴⁸ It has been completely demolished except for some fragments of the boundary wall but is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30⁴⁹ as a long but very narrow building behind Valley Mills No 2. In Colne, Boundary Mill (Fig 17) was built for the manufacture of silk and rayon in the late 1920s, probably by A and F

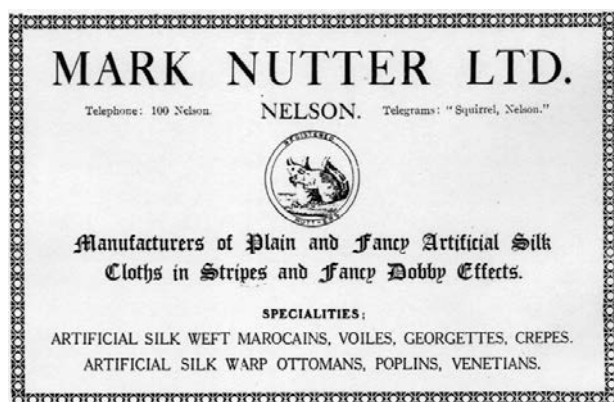


Fig. 16. Advertisement for Mark Nutter Ltd, 1925.

Mercer Ltd. The original mill survives, although it has undergone considerable expansion and some rebuilding. It consists of a single-storey weaving shed and an engine house and chimney. The shed is rectangular in plan and relatively small in area. It has a 12-bay saw-tooth roof of angle-iron construction supported internally by only four stanchions. Attached to the north-east side is a diminutive engine house and rectangular chimney which, given its size and date, the apparent lack of a boiler house or water supply, and the size of the mill, may have been for an oil rather than a steam engine.



Fig 17. Boundary Mill, Colne. (NMR: AA99/03965)

Dyeworks

Pendle came to specialise so heavily in cotton weaving that it never developed as a centre for textile chemical industries such as bleaching, mercerising, dyeing, and printing. Manchester and the nearby towns to the north (Radcliffe, Bury, Rochdale, and Bolton) took on this duty; nevertheless some dyeing was undertaken in the region. Cotton can be dyed as yarn, before it goes to the weaver, in the form of a hank, in the cop or other role, or on the beam, or as woven cloth. Cop and beam dyeing requires the dye liquor to be drawn through the wound-on yarn by suction, while with warp dyeing the yarn is arranged in a long even rope with its threads straight and parallel and drawn slowly through tanks of dye liquor.⁵⁰ Dyeing required space for dye vessels

and for the movement of dyewares and the product to be dyed. Height and good ventilation is also needed to allow fumes, steam and heat from the process to be dispersed. To this end dyehouses of the mid 19th century and later were typically tall buildings with undivided interiors open to a pitched roof with a distinctive louvered, raised-ridge ventilator. Dyeing was a hot water process and boiler plant was needed in specialist dyeworks. Dyehouses that formed part of larger textile mill complexes were generally able to take their hot water from the mill boilers.⁵¹

Few specialist dyehouses were built in Pendle, and still fewer survive. In Nelson, Premier Dyeworks, built between 1902 and 1909 has been almost completely demolished. It was evidently built by Penny Brothers and Winder Ltd who were described in 1911 as cop and warp dyers, in 1924 as dyers of all fast washing and fast bleaching colours in cop and in bundle, and in 1963 as dyers on warp and cheese, and winders of cotton yarn on beam, cheese and cone. Also in Nelson Elder Street Works, built between 1910 and 1924, probably in 1923, is single-storeyed and double-gabled and built of coursed stone rubble. The north-east gable-end elevation, which fronts Elder Street, is symmetrical with smooth stone quoins to the corners and one surviving kneeler. Only the fenestration of the left gable survives in anything like its original form and suggests a façade of simple but elegant demeanour. It has a large central window flanked by a pair of smaller oculi and keyed in windows at a lower level. The original roof has been lost but presumably it included the characteristic ridge ventilators. Attached to the south-east side of the main range was a narrow rectangular boiler house and circular chimney.

Ironically the best surviving example of a specialist dyeworks in Nelson, Albion Dyeworks, was originally built as Victoria Works, its function unknown, between 1844 and 1890, and was enlarged between 1890 and 1910 on conversion to Albion Dyeworks. This conversion saw the addition of a dyehouse as a northern extension to the original building and the construction of a new boiler house. The dyehouse is single-storeyed, built of brick and has been rendered. It has a slate roof, is tall and gabled, and has the characteristic louvered long ridge ventilator (Fig 18).



*Fig 18. Albion Dyeworks, Nelson.
(NMR AA99/03969)*

The integrated cotton mills of early origin which combined the processes of both spinning and weaving such as Brierfield Mills, Brierfield, and Spring Gardens Mill, Colne, may have at one time included dyehouses as part of the integrated succession of processes but little physical evidence remains for them. Glen Mills, Colne, however, built in 1906, was a combined cotton-weaving shed and dyeworks and was occupied by two separate firms, William Cox and Sons, cotton manufacturers, and the

Glen Dyeing Company, the latter listed as cop dyers in 1911. The dyehouse at Glen Mills consists of three tall gabled single-storeyed ranges which open into each other, each having a basement under its south front. All three ranges had raised and louvered long ridge ventilators before they were re-roofed (Fig 19).

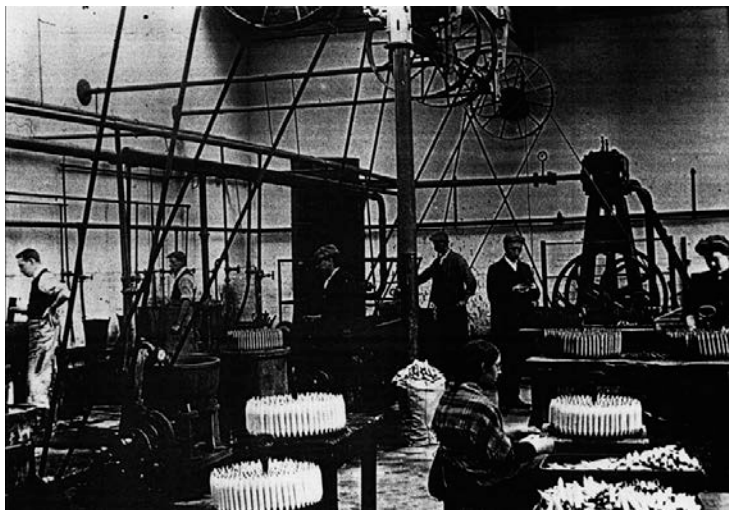


Fig 19. Interior of the dyehouse at Glen Mills, Colne, 1907.

It is known from the Sales Particulars of 1903 that Dotcliffe Mill, Kelbrook, had a dyehouse, although it can no longer be physically identified. Its contents were described thus:

IN FANCY DYE HOUSE.

VERTICAL DONKEY ENGINE, with

Cylinder, 6-in. Dia.

Stroke, 12-in.

Fly Wheel, 3-ft. 6-in. Dia., Driving Strap, Patent Governors, Lubricators, and Steam and Exhaust Piping.

Size Mixing Beck, 12-ft. × 4-ft. × 4-ft., in 3 Compartments, with 2 Divisions, 3 Agitators, 2-in. Brass Pump, Top Driving Apparatus, and Copper and Iron Piping.

Large Wood Tub.

CAST IRON BOILING BECK, 9-ft. × 2-ft. 4-in. × 3ft-deep,

with Pitch Pine Boiling Beck attached, 4-ft. × 2-ft. 6-in. × 2-ft. 6-in., including 5 Large Wood Rollers, 10 Small Wood Rollers, 12 Small Brass Rollers in Becks, Wood Lattices and Carrier Rollers, and Copper and Iron Piping to Mains.

WOOD DYE BECK, by Edward Davies, 17-ft. × 2-ft. 6-in. × 2-ft. 6-in., in 4 Compartments, with 8 Large Wood Rollers, 15 Small Wood Rollers, 20 Small Brass Rollers in Beck, Wood Lattice and Carrier Rollers, and Copper and Iron Piping to Mains.

PITCH PINE WASHING-OFF BECK, 9-ft. × 2ft. 6-in. × 2-ft. 6-in., with 4 Large Mangle Rollers, 15 Small Wood Rollers, Wood Lattice and Carrier Rollers, and Copper and Iron Piping to Mains.

2 SMALL CIRCULAR DYE BECKS, 3-ft. diameter and 2-ft. 6-in. deep, with 2 Large Mangle Rollers, Taking-off Rollers, Copper and Iron Piping and Valves.

2 PITCH PINE BECKS, 7-ft. long × 2-ft. × 2-ft. with Copper Jet Pipes, Brass Taps, and Piping to Main.

1 Old Pitch Pine Beck.

1 Pitch Pine Beck, 6-ft. 3-in. long × 2-ft. 6-in. × 3-ft. 6-in.

3 Boxes on Wheels, each average 3 ft. × 2-ft. 6-in. × 2-ft. 6-in.

7 Various Dye Tubs.

2 Double Cast Iron Shakers, with upright pillar to each.

1 Wood Stillage.

8 Tin Warp Cones.

Sundry Copper Measures.

Sundry Small Tubs.

Sundry Dyers Sticks.⁵²

Foundries and engineering works associated with the textile industries

Mill furnishing industries naturally grew up to serve the flourishing Lancashire cotton industries and a number of foundries, factories and engineering works producing steam engines, looms, loom components and other machinery and equipment such as bobbins and shuttles were built in Pendle during the 19th century. During the first half of the 19th century the industry was somewhat fragmented, small workshops setting up in different areas, sometimes on farms as an activity secondary to farming itself, much as handloom weaving sometimes was, and specialising in different components servicing local needs. Clough Mill, Higham, was built before 1844 as a water-powered shuttle works, and, near Trawden, John Pilling of Alderhurst Farm was in business in 1819 making handlooms.

By the middle of the 19th century the mill furnishing industry in Pendle had become more consolidated and appears to have centred on the Primet Bridge area of Colne where a number of foundries and engineering works came to coexist with the textile mills of the area. It was the location of Primet Foundry, Red Scar Loom Works, Primet Bridge Foundry and the Atlas Iron Works.

John Pilling of Trawden evidently had some success with his loom manufacturing venture. In the 1830s he was one of the first to produce the Lancashire powerloom, which at that time was wooden framed, and he obtained his wooden parts from Thomas Foulds, also a handloom maker of Trawden, and, lacking a foundry of his own, obtained his castings from Clitheroe. Then, in 1852, he bought the site of Primet Foundry beside Colne Water at Primet Bridge. At that time the site was occupied by an industrial building, of unknown use, built during the early 19th century, which he retained and converted for his own use. Primet Foundry stands on the north bank of Colne Water and is bordered to the north by Greenfield Road. The original building, shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844, is L-shaped in plan and the east end of the site was identified as a machine shop on a plan entitled 'Plan of

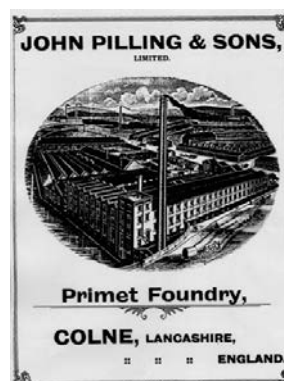


Fig 20. Advertisement for John Pilling's Primet Foundry.

recent erections at Primet Bridge 1853'.⁵³ The longer north-south arm is recognisable as the 13-bay, gabled, three-storeyed range of stone rubble with quoined corners, which remains at the end of the site. In 1861 a new foundry was built on the site, enabling Pilling to undertake his own castings, and by 1891 the original building had been doubled in depth and heightened (Fig 20). A new series of buildings were erected along the southern boundary of the site, backing onto Colne Water, as well as more built along the Greenfield Road frontage leaving a rear yard. The range along Colne Water is 11 bays long and three storeys high except for the two easternmost bays which rise up as four storeys and incorporate an engine house in the northern part. The chimney is of stone and octagonal in plan, and tapers gently to a moulded cap. The long range running back beside Colne Water has a saw-tooth roof of nine bays with glazed east-facing slopes. The foundry of 1861 (Fig 21) runs back from Colne Water and projects into the foundry yard. It is broad, single-storeyed and rectangular in plan, built of stone rubble with a slated roof with a louvered ventilator along the whole of its ridge.



Fig 21. Foundry building of 1861 at Primet Foundry, Colne. (NMR: AA99/03967).

On the other side of Colne Water from Primet Foundry, on the far side of Burnley Road, was Red Scar Works, built by William Bell White between 1854 and 1879. White began as a spindle maker in 1849 and, on the evidence of trade directories, had built Red Scar Works by 1879.⁵⁴ White's firm continued at Red Scar Works until at least 1941, loom manufacturing having been introduced between 1902 and 1911. Full scale loom manufacture was underway by 1933, the works name changing from the earlier Red Scar Spring Works to Red Scar Loom Works, when the firm was described as 'loom and dobby makers, iron and brass founders, weft fork, shuttle peg, spring and all textile accessories'.⁵⁵ The original works is known from the evidence of a letterhead to have consisted of a long range extending southwards from Burnley Road comprising a gabled two-storey block, end-on to Burnley Road, with a tapering square chimney in the south-east corner, and a single-storey gabled block, with a smaller square chimney on its east side, labelled as the forge behind. The two-storey

block has a gable-end elevation three bays wide with, at ground floor, a central segmental-headed pedestrian entrance below a single-light rectangular window with a monolithic stone surround, both the window and door flanked by a pair of two-light mullioned windows, with two rectangular attic windows over all. The attic was also lit by rooflights. The west elevation was nine bays long with segmental-headed windows with stone surrounds. The third bay from the north was occupied by a pedestrian entrance with a taking-in door above with hoist beam over. The single-storey block behind was gabled with six rectangular windows in the west elevation. Unfortunately little remains of the original buildings since later remodelling and demolition has left the site much changed. There is a two-storeyed block, square in plan and built of well coursed and squared, and also random stone rubble with, behind, a tall single-storeyed foundry block built of random stone rubble. Unlike the 1861 foundry building at Primet Foundry, this building has a slated roof of four gabled bays with ceramic ridge ventilators.

To the north of Red Scar Works is Primet Bridge Foundry, later Primet Bridge Works, an iron and brass foundry established in the mid 19th century. Rushworth Brothers, its occupiers, were described as engineers and millwrights in the late 19th century⁵⁶ but also as steam and hand crane and stone-sawing machine makers.⁵⁷ The surviving buildings consist of a tall and rectangular office and warehouse block, three storeys high with a top-lit second floor. It is of squared stone rubble and has taking-in doors at first and second floor levels, above the ground-floor entrance. There is also a cast-iron wall crane mounted beside the taking-in door on the second floor which had the dual role of both serving the building and acting as an advertisement for the company product. A foundry shed originally stood behind it, but has been replaced by a modern structure.

A number of other works were built in Colne in the early 20th century including Stanley Street Works, Spring Works and Albert Works, all small and medium scale engineering works producing loom components, built of stone rubble and mainly single storeyed.

Power and power transmission

Water power

Waterwheels had been the major source of mechanical power in pre-industrial England wherever the mechanical demand for power was greater than that available from human or animal muscles. In the 18th and early 19th centuries water-power technology was greatly enhanced by the fruits of scientific study. Pre-1700 waterwheels rarely produced more than 10 horse power. However the efforts of, amongst others, John Smeaton, John Rennie and Thomas Hewes in improving the construction of wheels, using iron to replace wooden parts and the development of the suspension wheel; the redesign of buckets and gearing and the use of sluices to regulate water flow, allowed for improved control of water flow and increased power output. By the early 19th century some waterwheels could produce in excess of 100 horse power.⁵⁸

The first textile mill sites in Pendle were water powered; in 1927 Wood and Wilmore identified 25 early water-powered mill sites in the Nelson and Colne area, and in 1984 Stanley Graham identified 34 former water-powered mill sites Pendle.⁵⁹ Few of the identified water-powered sites retain any significant physical evidence of this phase to be recorded. The wholesale switch to steam that had taken place by the mid 19th century, the later use of electrically-powered machinery and, in the last two or three decades, the almost complete abandonment of textiles and the wholesale conversion of the mills for other purposes, has in most cases caused the loss of waterwheel houses, associated mill dams, leats and races.

At Higherford Mill, however, much of the structure and landscape features from the mill's water-powered phase remain. The original mill was destroyed by fire in 1844 but the wheel pit and waterwheel survived and were incorporated into the rebuilt mill which survives today. Unfortunately the waterwheel itself has been lost. Higherford Mill was built in Higherford at the foot of the valley slope on the west side of Pendle Water, opposite the crossing point of the Gisburn Road. The Ordnance Survey map of 1890-1 shows how water was drawn from Pendle Water to supply the mill (Fig 22). A weir and sluice were constructed some way up the valley feeding water into a leat which fed into an iron pentrough, either directly or, in times of low flow, via a mill pond, and on to an overshot waterwheel. The tailrace was culverted beneath the rest of the mill and discharged through a stone portal into Pendle Water beside Barrowford Bridge.

Amongst other mills in Pendle that were originally water powered Lodge Holme Mill, Trawden, retains its waterwheel chamber but later conversion to a steam-engine house has removed most of the features from the earlier phase, and County Brook Mill, Foulridge, also retains an internal end wheelhouse for the water wheel although this, too, has been removed.

Steam power

The first known application of rotative steam power to a textile mill was in 1785-6 when two Nottinghamshire millowners were supplied with engines by Boulton and Watt.⁶⁰ In the Pendle area textile mills began to be equipped with steam engines in the first half of the 19th century. Higherford Shed was equipped with a steam engine in 1832, to complement the waterwheel, and at Lomeshaye a seven horse power steam engine was installed by William Ecroyd in 1836.

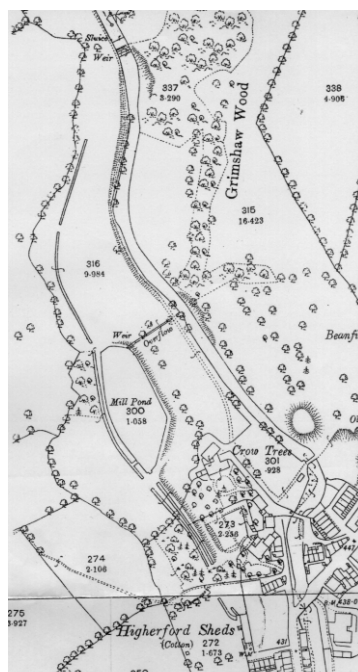


Fig. 22. Ordnance Survey map of 1890-1 showing Higherford Mill (here labelled Higherford sheds), the remains of the weir, leat and mill pond that formerly powered it.

A steam power plant consisted of two main components, the steam engine and its boiler, or boilers. The buildings required were an engine house, boiler house and chimney. In the case of mills that were not sited beside abundant sources of water such as rivers or canals, one or more reservoirs, known as lodges, had to be specially constructed to store and cool water obtained from municipal mains supplies, bore holes or street run-off. The design of engine houses was generally dictated by the nature of the engines they contained. The early steam engines employed in textile mills were beam engines, housed in tall narrow buildings reflecting the proportions of the engines themselves such as that surviving at Lomeshaye Mills, Nelson (Fig 23). Spring Field Mill, Blacko was built in about 1850 as a cotton-weaving mill powered by beam-engine. The engine house is attached to the north-west side of the weaving shed with the boiler house and a detached chimney behind it. The rear wall of the engine house, adjacent to the weaving shed, has a large high-set bearing box for the pivot of the entablature beam, its monolithic stone seating clearly visible externally (Fig 24). The introduction of more powerful horizontal engines in the 1860s required larger and much broader engine houses and increased boiler capacity as a greater amount of steam was needed. Horizontal engines had initially been considered unsuitable for use in textile mills as it was thought that horizontal cylinders would be prone to excessive wear, but when locomotive, maritime and portable engines proved this fear unfounded horizontal engines were widely applied, especially in the 1870s when boilers for higher pressures were available.⁶¹ In Pendle, horizontal engines were often installed into existing beam-engine powered mills as an upgrade, horizontal-engine houses being built alongside existing beam-engine houses. This happened at Lob Lane Shed, Brierfield where the different types of engine house can be easily distinguishable and can be compared side by side (see Fig 8), and also at Spring Field Mill, Blacko, where a horizontal-engine house was built onto the existing beam-engine house in such a style that the two externally indistinguishable. In some mills the beam engine was simply decommissioned and dismantled when a horizontal engine was installed, the beam-engine house being put to other uses, but sometimes a



Fig 23. Beam-engine house at Lomeshaye Mills, Nelson. (NMR: MF98/01720/19)



Fig 24. Rear of beam-engine house at Spring Field Mill, Blacko. (NMR: MF98/02794)

horizontal engine was installed as a pusher engine to work with the original engine. This happened at Thomas Mason's Primet Mill at Primet Bridge in Colne where a very unusual arrangement was employed. When new weaving sheds were built and more power was required at the mill there was found to be no room for a conventional horizontal-engine bed to be built beside the beam engine so the horizontal pusher engine was instead made to bolt on to the engine room wall, which was built of substantial ashlar blocks and therefore made a good bed.⁶²

From about 1870 onwards all new cotton-weaving mills were built with horizontal-engine houses and, depending partly on the size of the shed, the disposition of the steam power plant relative to the rest of the shed had a number of variations. At large regularly planned mills it was sometimes the practice to attach the steam power plant centrally at the rear of the weaving shed, the multi-storey block being built full-length across the front of the shed. The main drive from the engine ran through a brick-walled shaft alley running from the engine house through the centre of the shed and on into the multi-storey block. The shaft itself was carried at a level above head height, such that a man could walk from the engine house to the multi-storey block without having to enter the loom sheds themselves, on iron brackets. Gearing mechanisms set at short intervals, level with the main shaft, took secondary shafts at right angles through bearing boxes set in the alley walls left and right into the weaving areas where they were supported by brackets bolted onto the specially moulded heads of the cast-iron columns that support the roof. This arrangement was employed at Holmefield Mills, Barrowford, and at Fernbank Shed, Barnoldswick. Holmefield Mills, built in 1908, had an engine house and boiler house attached lengthways in line with each other to the shed and a circular brick chimney with a foot that protruded into the boiler house and had a round-headed opening for the flue from



Fig 25. Base of the chimney at Holmefield Mills, Barrowford, showing the opening for the boiler flue. (NMR: 301/U/3A)

the boiler (Fig 25). The interior of the engine house was originally open to the roof and had a tall dado of green glazed tiles under a brown glazed dado strip, the wall above painted. The shaft alley ran between two weaving sheds and the walls had bearing boxes for 21 line shafts taking power off at right angles from the main shaft into the sheds (Fig 26). Fernbank Shed, built in 1915, had a similar arrangement, a

shaft alley (Fig 27) running from the engine house at the rear, between a pair of weaving sheds of unequal size, into the multi-storey block at the front.



Fig 26 (above). Weaving shed wall at Holmefield Mills, Barrowford, showing wall boxes for line shafts. (NMR: 301U/21A).

Fig 27 (right). Shaft alley at Fernbank Shed, Barnoldswick. (NMR: MF98/02795/16)



Textile mill steam engines were almost always built as condensing engines, that is engines in which exhausted steam from the cylinder is condensed back into water by contact with cold water in order, ultimately, to increase efficiency by reducing the pressure on the exhaust side of the cylinder to below that of atmospheric.⁶³ A source of cold water to act as the coolant was essential. As has been stated this was most conveniently achieved by siting a mill beside a substantial body of flowing water, such as a river or large stream, or alternatively beside a canal. If a river or canal-side site was not available there would be a problem with recycling condensate from the engine as coolant. To overcome this many mills were built with one or two lodges. The purpose of the mill lodge was to recycle coolant and condensate by allowing it to circulate with cooler water before its reuse. To this end heated water from the engine was discharged back into the lodge at the furthest point possible from the inlet, ensuring that it had as much time as possible to cool. Ideally the lodge had to contain at least the volume of water used by the condenser in a day, and where two lodges were used the heated water was circulated in each in turn. One disadvantage of using canal water was the extremely slow flow of the water such that condensate and heated water discharged back into the canal was not immediately circulated away from the mill's inlet and replaced with cold. Some mills were built with lodges even when they occupied canal-side sites.⁶⁴ The majority of the mills in the Pendle area seem to have made do with only one lodge for the recycling of condensate and they were usually rectangular, but not always, and built of stone rubble with banked sides. Very few mill lodges survived in Pendle to be recorded, the lodge being the most obvious waste of space as soon as a mill's steam plant ceased permanently to function. That at Fernbank Shed, Barnoldswick, (1915) survives (Fig 28) and is long and narrow running the complete length of the south side of the mill. Another survivor is the lodge at Westfield Mill, also in Barnoldswick, (1911) which is rectangular and situated at the south-west corner of the mill and is fed by a small stream running off the adjacent hillside (Fig 29).



Fig 28. The lodge at Fernbank Shed, Barnoldswick. (NMR: MF98/02795/23)



Fig 29. The lodge at Westfield Mill, Barnoldswick. (NMR: AA99/03941)

Gas plants and electric lighting⁶⁵

Coal gas as a source of light had become a commercial possibility by the beginning of the 19th century, spurred on by factory demand for a superior light to that supplied by candles and oil lamps in order that mills could continue working more efficiently for longer each day, especially during the winter months. Gas supplies to textile mills generally came from two sources, either a town's gas company or a gas plant on site at the mill. By 1826 in Yorkshire few towns of over 10,000 inhabitants were not served by a gas works and in Pendle the *Colne Gas, Light & Coke Company* was formed in 1838, and by 1853 had 2 gasometers.⁶⁶ Rural mills with the necessary capital available, unable to benefit from town gas company supplies, built their own gas plants. In Nelson the situation was, for a time, reversed. The Nelson Gas Company was formed in July 1860 but did not build its own gasometer until 1863, prior to which it bought gas for supply to the town from the gas plants owned by the local textile mills.⁶⁷ A gasometer is shown at Ecroyd's Lomeshaye Mill on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844 and the gas plant there was used to supply the model village, consisting of four terraces, built between 1844 and 1850, to the immediate north of the mill.

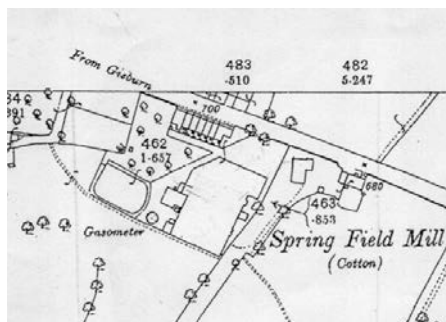


Fig 30a. Ordnance Survey map of 1891 showing the gasometer at Spring Field Mill, Blacko.



Fig 30b. Ordnance Survey map of 1891 showing the gasometer at Clover Croft Mills, Higham.

Although no gas plants on textile mill sites survived in Pendle to be recorded, it is known from the Ordnance Survey maps of the 1890s that a large number of mills, mainly in rural locations and in the smaller towns and villages, had their own gas plants which included at least one gasometer. Clover Croft Mills at Higham and Spring Field Mill at Blacko are examples (Figs 30a - b), but these, as usual, were taken down when electric lighting became available. At Lomeshaye, for example, the gasometer was still there in 1893 but had been removed by 1912.

The evidence of the 1903 sales particulars for Dotcliffe Mill, Kelbrook supports the cartographic evidence that suggests that electric lighting replaced gas lighting in Pendle textile mills between about 1890 and 1915. A building described as the 'OLD GAS HOUSE' is included in the inventory but by then its contents amounted to no more than an 'Iron Ashes Barrow. Sundry Old Iron. Barrel of Gas Tar. 2 Barrels and Sundries'. The gas plant had evidently given way to a steam-powered electric lighting facility as the same inventory includes, under the heading of 'FIXED MACHINERY' the following:

ELECTRIC LIGHT INSTALLATION

Put in in 1893, by Spagnoletti & Crookes, including
High-Class Dynamo, speed 784 revolutions.
Switch Board.
Switches.
Wiring, Casing Lamps, &c., for 265 lights, namely:...

—

New Horizontal Steam Engine and Dynamo, in Grey Room, by Davey and Paxman, to
Work 65 of the above lights separately.⁶⁸

CONCLUSION

The built legacy of the textile industries that dominated so much of the economy of Pendle over the last three centuries represents an important body of evidence of the development of many types of textile mill, but most significantly of the cotton-weaving mill, the branch of the industry in which the area came to specialise so heavily. They contribute greatly to the understanding of the ways in which the industry transformed both the urban and rural life of the area, influencing both the development of towns and the settlement of remote areas, and elevating small villages and hamlets from inconsequential farming communities to important manufacturing centres. The buildings themselves reflect changes in technology and economy; from water to steam power and the effect of advances in steam-engine design and ultimately the adoption of oil engines, along with the rise of the room and power companies.

Although many of the mills at the very centre of towns have been demolished to make way for recent retail and commercial initiatives many more on the urban fringes have survived and have been put to new uses. In more rural areas the survival rate has been better still with a small handful still involved in textile production, in one instance still with Lancashire looms! Despite the apparently good survival rate to date few mills are legally protected and as pressure to redevelop the large and potentially profitable sites they occupy intensifies so more and more gaps begin to appear, as elsewhere in the former cotton districts, where mills formerly stood, starkly illustrating the shift in industrial and economic emphasis in the former textile producing regions.

NOTES

- ¹ Condensing engines usually needed 25 to 30 times more water for condensing purposes than for boiler feed, see Roger N Holden, Water Supplies for Steam-powered Textile Mills, *Industrial Archaeology Review* XXI.1 (June 1999), 41.
- ² Holden 1999, 45.
- ³ L S Wood and A Wilmore, *The Romance of the Cotton Industry in England* (London, 1927), 169-170.
- ⁴ T C Dickinson, *Lancashire under steam* (Lancaster, 1984), 32; Richard R Hills, *Power from Steam: A History of the Stationary Steam Engine* (Cambridge, 1989), 3; Mike Williams with D A Farnie, *Cotton Mills in Greater Manchester* (Preston, 1992), 22.
- ⁵ Sarah Pearson, *Rural Houses of the Lancashire Pennines 1560 to 1760* (London, 1985), 34-5.
- ⁶ Wood and Wilmore 1927, 177-79.
- ⁷ Wood and Wilmore 1927, 176-79.
- ⁸ Fay Oldland, *The Story of Foulridge* (Barrowford, 1990), 33.
- ⁹ W Bennett, *The History of Marsden and Nelson* (Nelson, 1957), 128.
- ¹⁰ Williams and Farnie 1992, 3.
- ¹¹ Bennett 1957, 130.
- ¹² Bennett 1957, 129; Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 31.
- ¹³ Bennett 1957, 130.
- ¹⁴ Harrison (ed) 1988, 190; Julia de L Mann in Charles Singer *et alii* (eds), *A History of Technology* volume IV c1750 to c1850 (London, 1958), 299.
- ¹⁵ Oldland 1990, 34.
- ¹⁶ Harrison (ed) 1988, 38-39.
- ¹⁷ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.
- ¹⁸ Circular of May 1838 proposing the formation of a room and power company at Marsden, quoted in Bennett 1957, 196.
- ¹⁹ Bennett 1957, 196.
- ²⁰ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills, 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 107-10.
- ²¹ Fred Bannister, *The Annals of Trawden Forest* (Colne, 1922, reprinted Staining, Blackpool, 1992), 33-4.
- ²² Oldland 1990, 34.
- ²³ A machine that wound warp threads from the spinners' bobbins onto a reel. Introduced in 1760.
- ²⁴ Mann 1958, 300.
- ²⁵ A fabric made from combed long staple wool.
- ²⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.
- ²⁷ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 154, 157, 161-2; *ibid.*, 1887, 251, 254, 263, 269. The 1879 directory lists the occupiers of Albert Mills as W Holland and Co and S Whitehead and Sons, both worsted manufacturers.
- ²⁸ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 201; *ibid.*, 1887, 286.
- ²⁹ Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster (ed) *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 47; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXVI.16, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1907, published 1909.
- ³⁰ Jesse Blakey, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 217.
- ³¹ E M J Miller (ed), *A walk through Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1983), 13.
- ³² Bennett 1957, 198-9. The blockade of the cotton ports of the Southern States of America by the Northern States during the American Civil War caused the supply of raw cotton to Lancashire to be suddenly cut off causing the cotton famine of 1862-4.
- ³³ Bennett 1957, 195.
- ³⁴ An overhanging lip at the top of a chimney intended to prevent smoke from being sucked down the chimney's leeward side.
- ³⁵ Dickinson 1984, 30.
- ³⁶ Anthony Pilling, Nelson, Barrowford & Barley. Growth and Change (manuscript, 1969).
- ³⁷ Williams and Farnie 1992, 97.

- ³⁸ Brook Shed was one of the few cotton-weaving mills to be built in Pendle without a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, although by this time this was common practice further south.
- ³⁹ For a full account of the economic situation in the cotton industry at the end of the 19th century see D A Farnie, *The English Cotton Industry and the World Market 1815-1896* (Oxford, 1979), 171-205.
- ⁴⁰ Anna Benson and Neil Warburton, *Looms and Weaving Shire Album* 154 (Aylesbury, 1986), 29.
- ⁴¹ Warp are threads stretched lengthways in a loom, weft being the threads woven across the warp to produce fabric.
- ⁴² Abraham Rees *Cyclopaedia* (1819-20, the entries on Manufacturing Industry reprinted in Cossons 1972), Volume Five, 380.
- ⁴³ Chris Aspen, *The Cotton Industry Shire Album* 63 (Aylesbury, 1981), 23.
- ⁴⁴ Mann 1958, 300.
- ⁴⁵ Wood and Wilmore 1927, 196.
- ⁴⁶ 'Descriptive Particulars of the Dotcliffe Mill ... to be sold by auction at the Crown Hotel, Colne, on Wednesday 8th July, 1903.' Reproduced in Stanley Graham, *Pendle Area: Water Power Sites* (1984), unpaginated. Typescript in Heritage Trust for the North West, Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford (1984), unpaginated.
- ⁴⁷ Arnold Henry Hard, *The Silk and Rayon (Artificial Silk) Directory & Buyers Guide of Great Britain* (Manchester and London, 1925), i, 32.
- ⁴⁸ James Nelson Limited, *Nelsons of Nelson: The Story of James Nelson Ltd 1881-1951* (London, 1951), 22.
- ⁴⁹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LV1.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.
- ⁵⁰ Wood and Wilmore 1927, 194.
- ⁵¹ Giles and Goodall 1992, 49-51.
- ⁵² 'Descriptive Particulars of the Dotcliffe Mill...to be sold by auction at the Crown Hotel, Colne, on Wednesday 8th July, 1903.' Reproduced in Stanley Graham, *Pendle Area: Water Power Sites*, typescript in Heritage Trust for the North West, Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford (1984), unpaginated.
- ⁵³ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848. Copy in Colne Library.
- ⁵⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 210.
- ⁵⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1933), 623.
- ⁵⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 293.
- ⁵⁷ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 573; *ibid.*, 1911, 649; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 677.
- ⁵⁸ Giles and Goodall 1992, 125.
- ⁵⁹ Wood and Wilmore 1927, 169; Stanley Graham 1984, unpaginated.
- ⁶⁰ Giles and Goodall 1992, 135.
- ⁶¹ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine. Parts 1 & 2* (Ashbourne, 1999), 12.
- ⁶² Watkins 1999, 40.
- ⁶³ Holden 1999, 41.
- ⁶⁴ Millowners would have had to negotiate use of canal water from the canal company.
- ⁶⁵ For an account of the application of gas plant to the Yorkshire textile industry see Giles and Goodall 1992, 60-61.
- ⁶⁶ Harrison (ed) 1988, 54
- ⁶⁷ Bennett 1957, 178; Jeffery Hill, *Nelson. Politics, Economy, Community* (Edinburgh, 1997), 40.
- ⁶⁸ 'Descriptive Particulars of the Dotcliffe Mill...to be sold by auction at the Crown Hotel, Colne, on Wednesday 8th July, 1903.' Reproduced Graham 1984.



Narrowgates Mill

Barley Road

Barley-with-Wheatley Booth

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 99026

NGR: SD 8250 4036

Surveyed: 6 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99026

Barley-with-Wheatley Booth

NGR: SD 8250 4036

Narrowgates Mill, Barley Road

SUMMARY

Narrowgates Mill, a water-powered cotton-spinning mill, was built by the Hartley family of Barley in about 1799. A steam engine was added during the first half of the 19th century. The main mill building burnt down in 1867 and was rebuilt in stone rubble as a three-storey, seven-bay long, three-bay deep building. The attached waterwheel house has been demolished, as has a two-storey block and the engine and boiler houses. The stone chimney with its tapering square shaft survives as do two rows of workers' houses to the immediate east. The mill is now a private dwelling.

HISTORY¹

Narrowgates Mill was built in about 1799, the year in which William Hartley obtained a 999 year lease for land on which to build steps onto his cotton twist (spinning) mill and for land for a lodge or mill dam. The Hartleys had already built another cotton-spinning mill, Barley Green Mill, closer to the hamlet of Barley, and Narrowgates Mill was at that time called New Mill. Parish registers contain the name of Peter Hartley as a cotton spinner in 1807 and as a cotton manufacturer of

¹ The historical information in this section, unless separately referenced, has very kindly been made available by Robert Hayhurst, the present owner of Narrowgates Mill.

Narrowgates in 1809 and of Barley in 1811/12. The Hartleys ran a 'Dandy shop' for looms at Barley Green House, where they lived. In 1819 the mill was owned by John Moore and in 1834 was offered for sale by auction. By 1840 a gasometer had been constructed to light the mill. It is shown on the 1844 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) on which the mill is identified as a cotton factory, as too is Barley Green Mill. This map shows the two rows of workers' housing east of the mill: entries in the 1841 census indicates that the cottages existed then.

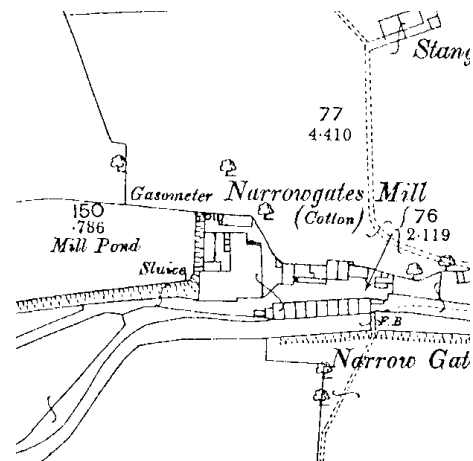
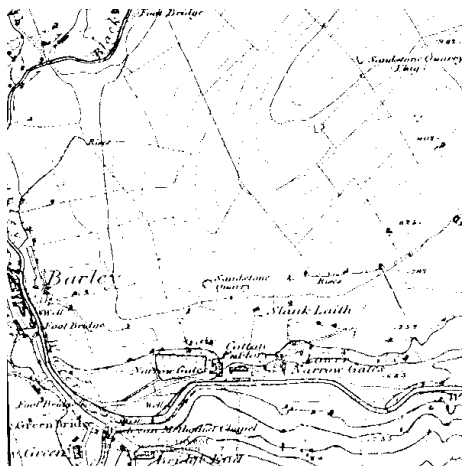
A fire in February 1867, reported in the *Burnley Advertiser* of 23 February 1867, burnt the main mill building down, the newspaper report noting that the building belonged to William Roberts of Thorneyholme and the stock and machinery to Mr Leaver, surgeon, of Padiham. The fire engine from Fence Mill attended but was unable to prevent the roof falling in and the mill being completely gutted. The building was repaired or rebuilt and from the 1860s until 1891 the mill was run by the Moorby family, John Moorby of Narrowgates being described in the 1881 census as a cotton manufacturer who was 25 years old. In 1881 a flood affected the mill, the shed filling with water and the boiler house collapsing. In 1891 John Moorby advertised Narrowgates Mill for sale in the *Bacup Times* of 5 September as a going concern, specifying the cotton, waste, spinning and manufacturing machinery, and later that year Bentley Brothers of Haslingden, manufacturers, signed a draft tenancy agreement for ten years for the mill. Directories of the 1890s list Bentley Brothers as cotton waste spinners at the mill, followed by other cotton manufacturers in the early 20th century. The extent of the buildings is shown on Ordnance Survey maps of 1892 (Fig 1b), 1910 and 1930, there being few differences between them. In 1920 the mill warehouse next to the cottages was gutted by fire. By 1923 the mill was occupied by the Narrowgates Mill Company who were still listed there in 1963 when they had 75 looms weaving fancy ticks and flannelettes.² The mill closed in 1967 and the main building was subsequently

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 48, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.14, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1910,

converted into domestic accommodation.

DESCRIPTION

Narrowgates Mill was built in the valley bottom on the north side of White Hough Water, a large rectangular lodge or mill dam being built to its west with the mill across but set away from its eastern end.



Most of the buildings shown on the successive Ordnance Survey maps have been demolished but the main mill building, rebuilt after the 1867 fire, survives. It is built of stone rubble with a slate roof and is three storeys high, gabled to north and south. The south gable wall is three bays wide with windows on all three floors, whereas the east wall (Fig 2) is seven bays long with no second-floor openings. The fenestration on the west wall has been altered, but it includes some windows on the second floor. The water wheel house, which later housed a water turbine, was evidently built against the west end of the north gable wall, as maps confirm, and in consequence the first floor door and taking-in door over (Fig 3) are set off-

published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 625; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 700; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 557; *ibid.*, 1941, 508; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 357.

centre to the east. Both have monolithic stone surrounds and a timber hoist beam projects above the doors. The interior of the mill has timber beams, and the roof is supported on six queen strut trusses.



A two-storey, four-bay wide building with a double span roof once ran west from the southern end of the mill but it, like the engine house and boiler house, has been demolished. The mill chimney (Fig 4) which stood at the western end of the boiler house survives, however, and is square and built of stone rubble with a tapering shaft and moulded cap. It is likely to be of early 19th-century date.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former

RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Bancroft Shed

Gillians Lane

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62148

NGR: SD 8747 4608

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62148

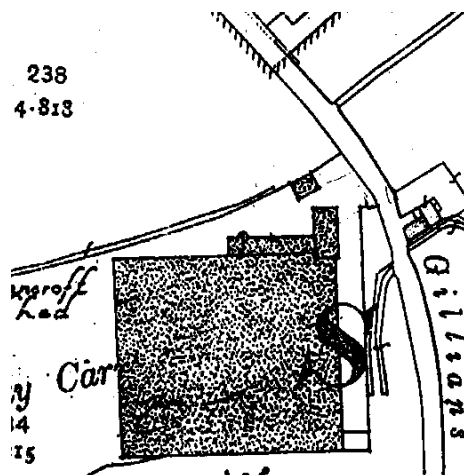
Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8747 4608

Bancroft Shed, Gillians Lane

SUMMARY

Bancroft Shed was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1914 but not operated until the 1920s. It remained in the same ownership, Nutter Brothers Ltd and later James Nutter and Sons Ltd, until closure in 1978 when the weaving shed was demolished. The surviving buildings consist of the engine house with its



engine, the boiler house with its boilers, the chimney, a garage and a number of ancillary blocks. In 1999 they were all in good condition being owned by a charitable trust which operates the buildings as a museum, occasionally steaming the engine.

HISTORY

Bancroft Shed was built in 1914 but was not in production until at least 1927 when the mill is mentioned in Kelly's Directory, the owners and occupiers being Nutter Brothers Ltd, cotton manufacturers. The mill is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 but is shown on an independent revision of 1940 (Fig 1) when it is shown to have an engine house, boiler house, chimney, a large square-plan weaving shed and a small detached block. The firm

of James Nutter & Sons Ltd continued to work the mill until its closure in 1978, listed in 1963 as cotton manufacturers with 822 looms, when the weaving shed was demolished. The engine house, boiler house and chimney survive as does the steam engine and in 1999 they were owned by a charitable trust and run as a museum, the engine is still steamed occasionally.¹

DESCRIPTION

Bancroft Shed was built in one phase as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill in a semi-rural position to the south west of Barnoldswick close to the hamlet of Gillians with Gillians Beck running past it. The weaving shed has been demolished but the engine house and engine, boiler house and one of the boilers, chimney and a small detached garage survive.

The gabled engine house (Fig 2) is built of random stone rubble with rock-faced quoins to the corners. The north gable end has a single large round-headed window with smooth stone voussoirs and quoins and a rusticated keyblock. The east elevation is six bays long with rectangular windows at two levels. The south elevation is featureless except for a pedestrian entrance on the east side. West elevation has a wide pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround in the first bay from the north, giving access to the engine floor and reached from steps. The engine is a horizontal cross compound engine with high and low pressure cylinders, named James and Mary Jane respectively, by William Roberts and Son Ltd of

¹ I Fozzard, *The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick* (no date). Typescript in Barnoldswick Library; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1927), 68; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, surveyed 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd, Manchester; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963) 271.

Phoenix Foundry, Nelson.

The single-storey gabled boiler house (Fig 3) is built of random stone rubble and has a slate roof with laylights. It projects at right angles from the west side of the engine house. There are lower ancillary blocks on either side. The chimney is attached to the north-west side of the boiler house and is of red brick, circular and tapering with a moulded cap.

Slightly to the north of the complex, across a cobbled yard, is a small detached single-storey gabled block, probably a garage, built of random stone rubble with three-bay side elevations and a tall wide entrance in the south-east gable end.

METHODOLOGY

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Bankfield Shed

Skipton Road

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62152

NGR: SD 8815 4745

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62152

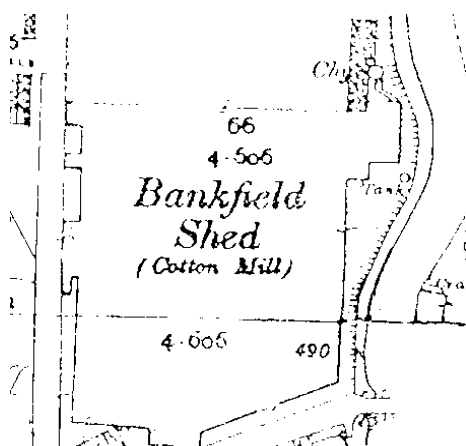
Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8815 4745

Bankfield Shed, Skipton Road

SUMMARY

Bankfield Shed is a steam-powered cotton weaving mill built in 1905 by the Barnoldswick Room and Power Company and extended in 1909. Built of stone rubble, the original mill had a two-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block and



a single-storey weaving shed with an attached engine and boiler house, the first two replicated and the last altered in the 1909 extension. There have been some additions to the mill whose chimney has been demolished.

HISTORY

Bankfield Shed was built in 1905 by the Barnoldswick Room and Power Company, was extended in 1909. The original shed is shown on the 1907 Ordnance Survey map but the 1940 revision (Fig 1) erroneously stipples only an addition next to the chimney. In 1911 the shed was occupied by eight cotton manufacturers, and Atkinson records that it had 3080 looms in 1915. In 1917 the number of cotton manufacturers was six, in 1927 five, but by 1936 none were listed. During the Second World War it was intended that the Rover Car Company use it for the manufacture of aircraft engines, but Rolls

Royce took on the work and the site is now occupied by the Rolls Royce



Aerospace Group and known as the Bankfield Site.¹

DESCRIPTION

Bankfield Shed was built in 1905 on the then eastern outskirts of Barnoldswick and occupies a flat site beside the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. It is of two main phases dating to 1905 and 1909 (Fig 2, 3). It is built of randomly coursed stone rubble and has slate roofs.

The 1905 mill

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheets CLXVI.16 and CLXXXIII.4, revised 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd., Manchester; W P Atkinson, 'Old Barlick', (1915), 94-5, manuscript in Barnoldswick Library; Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster, *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 689-91, 694-5, 697; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 53-4; *ibid.*, 1927, 66, 68; *ibid.*, 1936.

The steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1905 comprised a multi-storey block with a weaving shed to its rear and a power block attached to the rear corner of the latter. The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block is a gabled, two-storey building, 32 bays long and three deep. Its front elevation has later buildings obscuring it, so the arrangement of pedestrian and vehicle doors is not known. The weaving shed attached to the rear of the warehouse block is single storeyed and trapezoidal in shape because to the south it has to respect the line of Skipton Road. It has a flat-topped parapet wall all round and a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. The engine house and boiler house are set side by side against the north-east corner of the weaving shed. The engine house is a tall, rectangular building with a hipped roof, its south end wall with three round-headed windows, the central one wider than the outer ones, all with keyed-in ashlar heads and quoined sides. The east side has two windows with rectangular windows in the length south of the boiler house. The original steam engine was a cross compound engine made by Burnley Ironworks.² The boiler house shown on the 1907 map has been enlarged and heightened but the original building, attached to the east wall of the engine house, had three wide openings with cast-iron lintels in its south wall. It extended north beyond the end of the engine house, and at this end has a water tank with cast-iron side panels. The chimney, set to the north of the boiler house and with an angled flue leading to it, was circular and of brick but was demolished in the late 1960s.

The 1909 extension

In 1909 the mill was extended north, the addition being a multi-storey block with a weaving shed to its rear. The power block was altered.

² I Fozzard, 'The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick' (Barnoldswick, no date), 19. Typescript in Barnoldswick Library.

The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block was built in continuation of the original warehouse though it is deeper, its front wall being set further forward. It is a two-storey building 18 bays long, 3 bays deep. It has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing lights over the first floor. The ground-floor front wall has three wide vehicle doors, each with an associated pedestrian door. The weaving shed behind the warehouse is single storeyed and rectangular in plan. It has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. The three-bay rectangular building linked to the north end of the original engine house may be the engine house of the new shed. The second steam engine, like the original one, was a cross compound engine made by Burnley Ironworks. The boiler house was remodelled, perhaps at this time. It was extended by one bay towards the canal and raised to the same height as the engine house. It contained four Lancashire boilers.³

Later alterations

The principal later external change was the addition of a two-storeyed block against the front wall of the original warehouse. This has a wartime look-out tower at their south-east corner with pairs of machine-gun embrasures in the top room and a rooftop observation platform.

METHODOLOGY

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³ Fozzard no date, 19.



Butts Mill

Butts

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No.62146

NGR: SD 8750 4670

Surveyed: 5 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62146

Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8750 4670

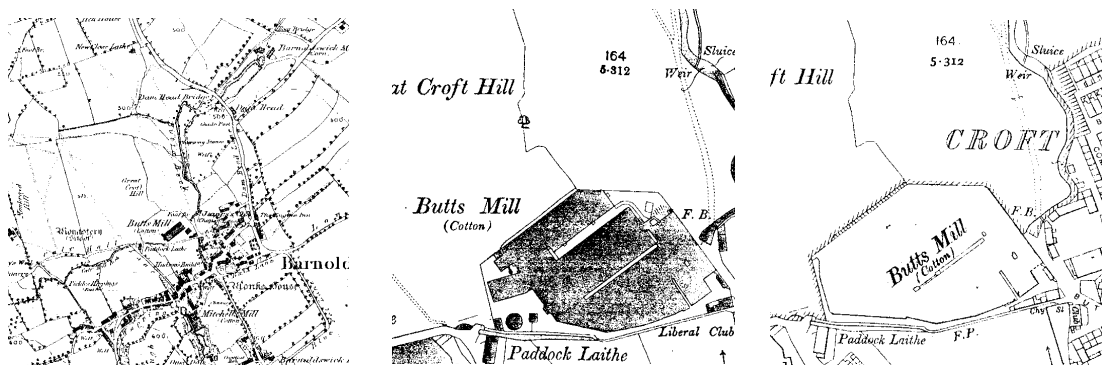
Butts Mill, Butts

SUMMARY

Butts Mill was built by William Bracewell as a steam-powered cotton mill in 1846 and from 1854, when Wellhouse Mill was built, the two were run as a cotton-spinning and weaving business. After the sale of both mills in 1887, Butts Mill was used for cotton weaving, running on the room and power system. In 1905, after its purchase by the Calf Hall Shed Company, the buildings were rationalised and the original mill demolished, but the mill was still run on the same basis. There has been some demolition but a number of late 19th and turn of the century weaving sheds still survive.

HISTORY

Butts Mill is shown on the 1849 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) as Butts Mill (Cotton), and is said to have been built in 1846 by William Bracewell who in 1854 built New, later Wellhouse, Mill. In 1887 these two mills were recorded as belonging to the executors of William Bracewell and Sons, cotton spinners and manufacturers, and in that year they were both sold by auction. Butts Mill subsequently went into multiple occupation, worked on the room and power system by differing numbers of cotton manufacturers, two in 1893 and five in 1902. In the late 19th century the Butts Mill Company was formed, consisting chiefly of tenants,



and this company continued

until the Calf Hall Shed Company bought the mill in 1903. After alterations and pulling down parts of the mill not required for warehouse or preparation purposes, the whole of the ground floors were utilised for looms. Maps of 1892 and 1907 (Figs 1b and 1c) show the site more densely infilled at the later date. In 1911 there were three cotton manufacturers named in the mill, and four in 1915, when 1,930 looms were run, and in 1917. By 1927 there were two cotton manufacturers in the mill but none were listed in 1936.¹ The site is now in non-textile use.

DESCRIPTION

Butts Mill stands on a valley side site which has probably been subject to some terracing. The early mill, built in 1846, has been demolished, and the rationalisation of the site after it was purchased in 1903 by the Calf Hall Shed Company must have caused other buildings to be lost.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Yorkshire, Sheet 183, surveyed 1849, published 1853; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1907, published 1909; *Burnley Express*, 1887 [undated cutting in Barnoldswick Library, but pre 23 July 1887]; W P Atkinson, 'Old Barlick' (1915), 93-4; Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster, *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45, 47, 49; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 314; *ibid.*, 1893, 438; *ibid.*, 1902, 611-13; *ibid.*, 1911, 691, 693, 696; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 52-55; *ibid.*, 1927, 66; *ibid.*, 1936.

The site was only viewed from the outside during the current rapid survey, and air photographs make it clear that the site comprises a series of single-storey weaving sheds all with saw-tooth roofs and north-facing glazed lights. The earliest sheds are in the centre and at the south side of the site: they appear on the 1892 map, and that in the centre has an associated multi-storey warehouse block. The shed infilling much of the west end of the site (Fig 2) had been built by 1907 as had that in the north and east corners.

METHODOLOGY



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Calf Hall Shed

Calf Hall Road

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62147

NGR: SD 8739 4661

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62147

Barnoldswick

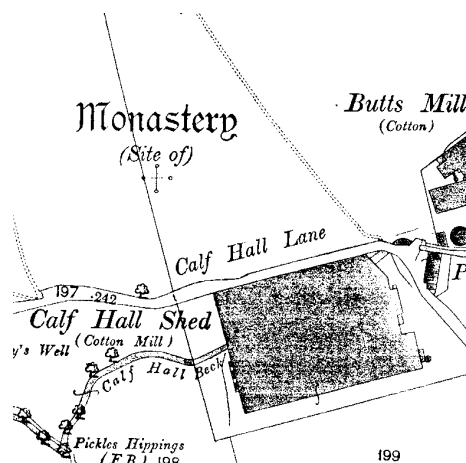
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Calf Hall Shed, Calf Hall Road

SUMMARY

Calf Hall Shed is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built in 1889 by the Calf Hall Shed Company and extended the following year to double its loom capacity. It was extended again sometime after 1940. It is built of coursed and random stone rubble and comprised a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, a single-storey weaving shed, engine house, boiler house and

chimney. The mill has been much rebuilt and the chimney and part of the weaving shed have been demolished. In 1999 the surviving structures were in good condition and in use as a print works.



HISTORY

Calf Hall Shed was first built in 1889 by the Calf Hall Shed Company, formerly 'The Room and Power Company', and contained 800 looms. The original tenants were Stephen Pickles & Sons, Windle & Bailey and B & E Holden. The mill was extended in 1890 to hold 1600 looms in total and in 1893 the tenants were B & E M Holden, James Nutter & Son and Stephen Pickles & Sons. By this time the

Calf Hall Shed Company had bought Wellhouse Mill and Butts Mill and had become the largest room and power company in Barnoldswick. The mill is shown, with its first extension, on the Ordnance Survey map of 1892 (Fig 1) and is unchanged on the revision of 1907 and on an independent revision of 1940. The mill was again extended sometime afterwards. The mill remained in multiple occupation as a cotton-weaving mill for much of the 20th century but by 1963 had a single tenant, Blin & Blin Textile Fabrics Ltd, and had evidently switched to wool and worsted manufacture.¹ The surviving mill buildings were in good condition in 1999, although the chimney has been demolished, the first and second phases of the weaving shed have been rebuilt behind the parapet walls and third phase of the weaving shed has been demolished except for the parapet walls. The mill is now in use as a print works.

DESCRIPTION

Calf Hall Shed is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built in a semi-rural position on the western edge of Barnoldswick. Calf Hall Beck is culverted beneath it. The weaving shed backs on to Calf Hall Lane, its side wall, the power block and the end of the multi-storey block facing Calf Hall Road. The last block faces fields to its south.

The original mill

¹ Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster (ed), *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45, 53; W P Atkinson, *Old Barlick* (1915, manuscript in Barnoldswick Library), 92; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 439; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd, Manchester; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 271.

The original mill, built in 1889, comprised a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a weaving shed to the rear and a power block on the east side.

The south-facing gabled two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) is 21 bays long by four wide and built of stone rubble coursed to the front and random to the east side, with quoined corners. The front elevation has pedestrian entrances with monolithic surrounds in the seventh, sixteenth and eighteenth bays from the east and vehicle entrances with dressed-back sides and flat steel lintels in the eighth and seventeenth bays from the east. The boiler house is semi-attached to the east side of the weaving shed and partially internal to the east end of the office warehouse and yarn preparation block. The semi-attached portion is two storeys high, two bays long by one wide, flat roofed with a water tank on top. The double boiler doors faced north, at the rear of the block. To the rear of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block is the weaving shed with the engine house occupying an internal corner position in the south-east



corner. The east elevation of the gabled engine house (Fig 3) is of random stone rubble and is four bays long with tall round-headed windows with rusticated voussoirs and keyblocks. The roof structure comprises four queen-post trusses with staggered purlins. The engine house originally contained a slide valve cross compound engine by William

Roberts & Co of Nelson.² The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 4) has parapet walls of random stone rubble with quoins to the corners. The interior has been

² I Fozzard, *The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick*, (no date). Typescript in Barnoldswick Library.

completely rebuilt but the shed originally had a saw-tooth roof of 14 bays, glazed to the north. The mill chimney



has been demolished.

stood beside the boiler house but

The addition of 1890



The weaving shed and the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block were both extended to the west in 1890. The latter (Fig 5) is gabled and two storeys high. It is built of coursed stone rubble in similar style as the earlier block, the junction is marked by a ragged joint. The south elevation is nine bays

long with a vehicle entrance in the seventh bay from the west and pedestrian entrances, with monolithic surrounds, in the eighth and ninth bays from the west. The extension to the single-storey weaving shed also has parapet walls of random stone rubble, but constructed of larger blocks than the earlier shed, with quoined corners. The west parapet wall retains eight rectangular vents to the former roof bays. The east wall is shared with the first phase.

Post 1940 additions

Some time after 1940, the date of the independent revision of the 1907 map, the

office, warehouse and yarn preparation block and the weaving shed were again extended to the west. The extension to the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block is two storeys high and built of stone rubble, coursed to the front and random to the rear and west side. It originally had a nine-bay saw-tooth roof, behind parapet walls with rectangular vents on the south side, but this has recently been rebuilt. The south elevation is nine bays long with a vehicle entrance in the fifth bay from the west and a pedestrian entrance in the sixth bay from the west. The upper floor was originally blind, light coming from the glazed roof, but four first-floor windows have been inserted. The west elevation was four bays wide. The windows have been blocked but the lintels remain. The extension to the single-storey weaving shed was accessed from the two-storey block via a series of round-headed connecting doorways in the rear wall (Fig 6). The interior of the shed has been demolished but most of the random-rubble parapet walls survive. The junction with the earlier build is defined in the north wall by a straight joint.

METHODOLOGY

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Coates New Mill

Skipton Road

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62153

NGR: SD 8822 4746

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62153

Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8822 4746

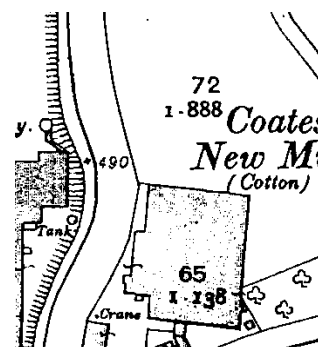
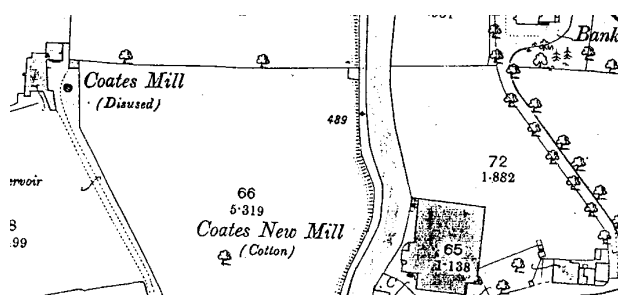
Coates New Mill, Skipton Road

SUMMARY

Coates New Mill was built in 1864 by James Nutter and took its name from the earlier and nearby Coates Mill, a spinning mill which had served the handloom weaving industry. Coates New Mill was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill located on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal close to Coates Bridge which carried the Skipton Road. The weaving shed and much of the power block have been demolished and the surviving buildings have been rebuilt following a fire. The mill is now used for light engineering.

HISTORY

Coates New Mill was built in 1864 by James Nutter, a short distance to the south east of the earlier Coates Mill, a water-powered, later steam-powered, spinning mill which had supplied yarn to the local handloom weavers. Both Coates New Mill and Coates Mill are shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1892 (Fig 1a), the latter labelled 'Disused', but the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 (Fig 1b) shows only Coates New Mill, Coates Mill having been demolished. Coates New Mill is mentioned in a trade directory of 1893, here called Coates Shed, when the occupiers were Bell & Russell, cotton manufacturers. Dewhurst & Harrison were there in 1911, the mill then referred to as Coates Mill, and in 1911 the listed



occupier was the Coates Manufacturing Company. W P Atkinson writing in 1915



records that Coates Shed was then 'by far the oldest company enterprise in this parish and now has 400 looms. The present firm is constituted as follows:- messrs. J.Wm. Myers, Wilkinson, & Harrison'. The listed occupiers in 1917 were Coates Manufacturing Co Ltd and

Monkswell Manufacturing Co and in 1927 the Coates Manufacturing Co Ltd and Ghyll Manufacturing Co.¹ The mill was later used cheese factory, when the weaving shed was rebuilt as a cooling plant. In 1999 it was use as a light engineering plant.

DESCRIPTION

Coates New Mill (Fig 2) is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal on the north side of Skipton Road in a then rural position to the north east of Barnoldswick. It has been significantly fire

¹ Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster (ed) *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXVI.16, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *Ibid.*, revised 1907, published 1909; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 437; *ibid.*, 1902, 611; *ibid.*, 1911, 691; W P Atkinson, *Old Barlick* (1915). Manuscript in Barnoldswick Library 'Presented to Mr & Mrs A Atkinson by his father W P Atkinson, 1917'; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 53, 54; *ibid.*, 1927, 66, 67.



damaged and much rebuilt and the phasing is difficult to determine although map evidence indicates that changes have taken place.

The original mill

The original mill, shown on the map of 1892, consisted of a south-facing multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a weaving shed to the rear with the power source, engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to the west side. The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) has been rebuilt after a fire. It is now gabled and two storeys high with an eight-bay long south elevation with a vehicle entrance with a flat steel lintel in the fifth bay from the west. It is of random stone rubble but the stones are of different colours and textures suggesting rebuilding. Many are fire reddened and many of the stone window lintels and sills are cracked and split.



The power block was attached to the west side of the shed, beside the canal, and is represented by a tall roughly

rectangular block (Fig 4) built of random stone rubble with quoined corners and a saw-tooth roof of five bays, drained by valley gutters through the south wall, behind parapets. The west elevation, facing the canal, has a wide rectangular window with

a cast-iron lintel with the name of the mill 'COATES MILL' cast into it. There is a smaller rectangular window above. The scale of this block and the large rectangular window bearing the name of the mill suggest that this was the engine house, probably for a beam engine, although it is otherwise stylistically untypical.

The rectangular weaving shed, to the rear of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, has been demolished but was no doubt single storeyed with a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north.

Additions of 1892-1907

The map of 1907 shows that a small block had been added to the south-east corner of the mill, across the east side of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, and this is represented by a two-storey gabled block built of random stone rubble which butts against the earlier block. Its purpose is unknown.

Later additions

At a later date, probably in the mid 20th century, an irregular series of random rubble buildings with saw-tooth roofs was added to the south side of the engine house, possibly to provide additional weaving or yarn preparation space when a second manufacturing firm moved to the mill.

METHODOLOGY

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Crow Nest Shed

Skipton Road

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62151

NGR: SD 8795 4730

Surveyed: 5 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62151

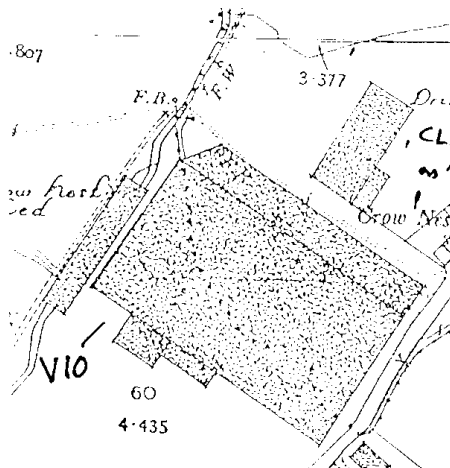
Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8795 4730

Crow Nest Shed, Skipton Road

SUMMARY

Crow Nest Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1915 by the Crownest Shed Company Ltd. and worked on the room and power system. The mill is built of stone rubble and though the multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block has been almost entirely demolished and replaced by single-storey buildings, the large weaving shed with its central shaft alley and attached engine and boiler houses, and chimney, survives.



HISTORY

Crow Nest Shed was built by the Crownest Shed Company Ltd, construction beginning on 3 February 1915, although the engine was built in 1914. It was run on the room and power system, in 1917 being occupied by five cotton manufacturers who ran a total of 2080 looms.

The number of manufacturers declined over the years and by 1963 it was in the single occupation of Albert Hartley Ltd., cotton goods manufacturers. The site of the mill is clear on the 1907 Ordnance Survey

map but is shown on the 1940 revision (Fig 1).¹

DESCRIPTION

Crow Nest Shed occupies a flat site on the outskirts of Barnoldswick and is built over the course of the Crow Nest Syke which is culverted beneath it. The mill is of a single phase but has been partly rebuilt.

The original mill

The original mill, built in 1915, was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill with a warehouse block along the north-east side of a single-storey weaving shed, the latter with the engine and boiler house attached to the outside of its rear wall. It is

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, revised 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd., Manchester; W P Atkinson, 'Old Barlick' (1915), 96; Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster, *A Way of Life Gone by in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 53-5; *ibid.*, 1927, 66-7; *ibid.*, 1936, 51 John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 271.

built of random stone rubble.

The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) along the north-east side of the mill has been rebuilt, perhaps after a fire, as a series of eight single-storey gabled blocks. The end wall to Skipton Road has rusticated quoins, six ground-floor windows with quoined sides and suggestions of first-floor openings. The block was certainly storeyed, as this and the rear wall indicate, and maps show that it extended the full length of the weaving shed, but that the end away from the road was set at an angle.

The weaving shed (Fig 3) is large, single storeyed and rectangular in shape. It has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights, the ridges with brown ceramic ventilators. The south-west side wall is a flat-topped parapet wall. Power entered the shed along a central shaft alley, with countershafts running from it down both sides, and came from an engine house attached to the rear wall of the shed. The



engine house is a tall gabled eight-bay long building, one gable set on the line of the shaft alley. The steam engine has been scrapped, but it was a cross compound engine built in 1914 by Burnley Ironworks, and it was supplied with steam by three Lancashire boilers in the adjacent boiler house.² The boiler house, a lower broader building than the engine house, is

² Notes and photographs in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Crow Nest Shed, Barnoldswick, Lancashire, WAT1104; I Fozzard, 'The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick' (no date), 17.

attached to the north-west end of the latter. Next to it is the chimney, of red brick with a tapering shaft, its top now lost.

Alterations to the mill

The principal alteration to the mill was the demolition of all but part of the rear and one end wall of the warehouse block and the building on its site of a series of seven single-storey gabled brick buildings.

METHODOLOGY

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Fernbank Shed

Fernbank Avenue

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62145

NGR: SD 8705 4715

Surveyed: 5 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62145

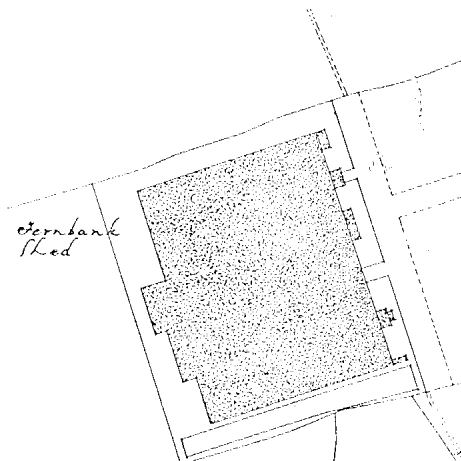
Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8705 4715

Fernbank Shed, Fernbank Avenue

SUMMARY

Fernbank Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1915 for room and power working by the Fernbank Shed Company. The mill, built of random stone rubble, had a two-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block, now partly rebuilt after a fire, with small office ranges projecting to the front and to the rear a single-storey weaving shed in two unequal parts either side of a shaft alley. The engine house and boiler house are attached to the centre of the rear wall of the shed and are set in line. The chimney survives, but reduced in height.



HISTORY

Fernbank Shed was built in 1915 by the Fernbank Shed Company, Atkinson reporting that it was expected to commence running in September 1915. Four cotton manufacturers with 2200 looms had taken up space in this room and power mill in anticipation of its opening, and in 1917 it housed five cotton manufacturers. The site is vacant on the 1907 Ordnance Survey map but is shown on the 1940 revision (Fig 1). The mill continued in multiple occupation into the second half of the 20th century,

housing three cotton manufacturers in 1963 with a total of 866 looms. It was subsequently occupied by ICI but is presently empty.¹

DESCRIPTION

Fernbank Shed stands on a flat site on the north-eastern outskirts of Barnoldswick. It is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of 1915 with some rebuilding after a fire. It is built of random stone rubble.



Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, revised 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd., Manchester; W P Atkinson, 'Old Barlick' (1915), 97, manuscript in Barnoldswick Library; Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster, *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 52-3; *ibid.*, 1927, 65, 67; *ibid.*, 1936, 51; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 271.

The original mill had a warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) across the full width of the eastern side of the weaving shed. The northern part of this block burnt down and has been replaced by a modern single-storey block, but the 14-bay south part, beyond a cross wall, survives. It is two storeys high with large front windows and six narrower ground-floor windows in the south end wall. This wall has no first-floor windows since the block has a saw-tooth roof with glazed east-facing lights set behind a parapet wall. Gutters discharge into downpipes on the south wall. The front wall, now hidden by modern extensions, has on the ground floor a pedestrian door and adjacent wide vehicle entrance in the eighth and ninth bays from the south. The weaving shed is single-storeyed, large and rectangular in plan. The flat-topped parapet wall to the west screens the saw-tooth roof with its glazed north-facing lights. The shed is in two unequal parts, 14 bays long to the south, 21 bays to the north, divided by a brick-walled shaft alley (Fig 3) running across it. The shed has cast-iron columns with D-shaped bolting heads to support the line shafting. The engine house, boiler house and associated chimney (Fig 4) are attached to the centre of the rear wall of the shed, and are set in line.

The engine house, whose north end is level with the shaft alley, is a tall and wide rectangular building gabled to north and south. It has a wide round-headed window with a quoined surround and rusticated keyblock in the south gable wall and is eight bays long. There is no window at the south end of the east wall above the shaft alley. The interior is floored over across the tops of the engine beds and has corbelled-out tracks for the travelling crane made by Herbert Morris Ltd. of Empire Works, Loughborough. The boarded roof is supported by triangulated angle-iron trusses. The engine, now scrapped, was a horizontal cross compound engine made by Pollitt and Wigzell, and the boiler house housed three Yates and Thom Lancashire boilers.² The boiler house is attached to the north end of the engine house but is broader and lower. It has rectangular cast-iron lintels over the two

² I Fozzard, 'The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick' (no date), 15. Typescript in Barnoldswick Library.

wide openings in its north wall and windows in the west wall. The chimney at the south-west corner of the boiler house is circular, of red brick, and tapers to a now-lost cap. There was a long, narrow lodge or mill dam along the south side of the mill which is now partially infilled. Offices, gabled and single storeyed, project in front of the warehouse block. One is sited across the end of the shaft alley and so enabled the same building to serve both parts of the shed. A further office was set towards the north end of the warehouse block.

METHODOLOGY

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Long Ing Shed

Long Ing Lane

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62155

NGR: SD 8840 4690

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62155

Barnoldswick

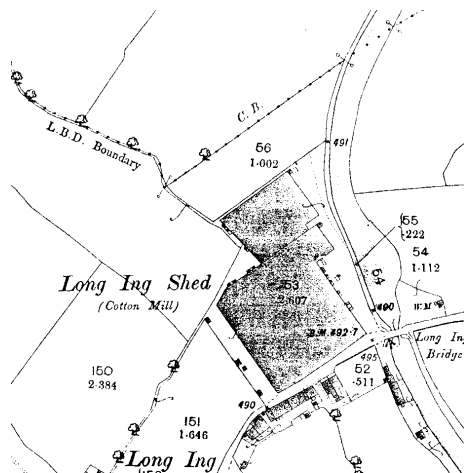
NGR: SD 8840 4690

Long Ing Shed, Long Ing Lane

SUMMARY

Long Ing Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1887 by the Long Ing Shed Company. The mill, built of stone rubble, was let on a room and power basis and was extended between 1887 and 1892, again in 1914/15, and partially rebuilt after a fire in 1944. The original mill had a three-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block, a weaving shed and an attached corner power block. The first addition was of a shed with its own warehouse, the second just of a shed; both

used the existing power source, suitably enhanced. The original warehouse block and part of the weaving shed appear to have been damaged by fire in 1944, a new area of shed being built. The site is now a foundry.



HISTORY

Long Ing Shed, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, was built in 1887 by the Long Ing Shed Company, to be worked on the room and power system. It is said to have been erected to house 1188 looms divided into three sections of 396 looms, and soon afterwards to have been extended for another 421 looms. It was

enlarged to house a further 470 looms in 1914/15. The mill is shown with its first extension, to the rear, on the 1892 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1), and appears with the same shape on the 1907 map. The 1940 revision, however, does not show the second addition which was on the west side of the first extension. Directories show that the mill was rented out to a succession of cotton manufacturers, five in 1887 and 1893, and between three and five between 1902 and 1936. The mills suffered a fire in 1944 and by 1963 one of the firms already in it in 1936, Stephen Pickles and Sons, were sole occupiers.¹ The mill is now Ouzledale Foundry.



DESCRIPTION

Long Ing Shed occupies a flat site beside the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, outside the then built-up area of Barnoldswick. A steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, it is of three phases, the

first on the road front, the second an addition at the rear, the third an addition on one side. The mill buildings are of squared stone rubble with slate roofs.

The 1887 mill

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1907, published 1909; W P Atkinson, 'Old Barlick' (1915), 91-2; Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster, *A Way of Life gone by in 'White Rose' Lancashire* (Colne, no date), 45; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 314-15; *ibid.*, 1893, 438-9; *ibid.*, 1902, 611-12; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 53-5; *ibid.*, 1927, 65-7; *ibid.*, 1936, 50, 52-3; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 271.

The original mill, built in 1887 on the north side of Long Ing Lane, comprised a multi-storey block, a weaving shed and an attached corner power block. The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block stands at the south-west corner of the mill (Fig 2) and runs up the side of the site. It is a three-storey gabled building, four bays wide by seven long, but was originally longer since the north end wall is not the original end wall. It may be that this building was one of those damaged in the 1944 fire. The ground-floor west wall has a pedestrian door in the first bay in and a now-blocked wide vehicle entrance with a steel plate lintel in the seventh bay. A chimney on the apex of the south gable wall may have served an office. Whether the warehouse block ran the full length of the contemporary weaving shed is uncertain, since there has been rebuilding of the western part of the shed. The shed to the east of the warehouse block is single storeyed and has a saw-tooth roof with north-west facing glazed lights. It has flat-topped parapet walls, that to the east with gutters projecting through it and discharging into downpipes. This wall has a pair of pedestrian doors with monolithic surrounds in it, probably into demolished toilets. The engine house and boiler house were set side by side against the north-east corner of the weaving shed. The engine house is a tall rectangular building with a hipped slate roof, four windows set high up in the east side wall and two or three round-headed windows in the south end wall. The steam engine has been scrapped but it was a pair of tandems made by Yates and Thom and supplied by two Lancashire boilers.² The boiler house shown on the maps attached to the side of the engine house has been demolished but the springing of the first arched south opening confirms its position. The chimney has also been demolished: maps show it to have been circular and set against the north-east corner of the boiler house.

The first mill extension

² I Fozzard, 'The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick' (no date), 25.

The first extension of the mill was made in its first years of use: the mill was built in 1887 and the extension is shown on the 1892 map. The extension comprised a warehouse and yarn preparation block and a weaving shed, and it was built against the north wall of the original mill in a position where power could easily be diverted into it from the existing engine house. The weaving shed is virtually rectangular in shape, its west wall slightly angled to take account of a field boundary, and it is single storeyed with a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. The warehouse and yarn preparation block occupies most of the east side of the weaving shed and is a two-storey building with a hipped slate roof. It is eleven bays long by three deep, and in the middle of its east wall there is a wide vehicle entrance with a steel plate lintel with a narrow pedestrian door next to it. The east end of the south wall has another pedestrian door with a monolithic surround.

The second mill extension

The second mill extension was in 1914 or 1915: Atkinson called it recent when writing in 1915. The extension seems to have been a westward extension of the first shed extension and is single storeyed and roofed like all the other sheds. The



west wall of the first shed extension was not taken down when the new building took place.

Later alterations

The 1944 fire almost certainly affected the original warehouse block and perhaps part of the shed, since the west side of the original mill shows signs of having been remodelled. The shortened north end of the warehouse block is built up to and around by a single-storey shed which extends north to the line of the original shed. Its gutters project through the west parapet wall, against which a

single-storey office (Fig 3) is built. This is gabled and has a door and a four-light window in its south gable wall and a pair of three-light windows in its west side wall.

A group of three tall gabled single-storey buildings has been built against the east wall of the original shed, abutting the end wall of the engine house.

Ouzledale Foundry occupies the mill and there is a purpose-built foundry attached to the north end of the complex.

METHODOLOGY

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Moss Shed

Long Ing Lane

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62146

NGR: SD 8845 4675

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62156

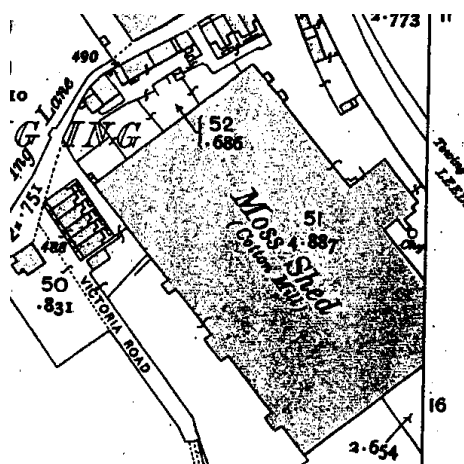
Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8845 4675

Moss Shed, Long Ing Lane

SUMMARY

Moss Shed is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built in 1903 in a canal-side location to the east of Barnoldswick. It consists of an engine house, boiler house and weaving shed, all built of random stone rubble. A warehouse block was added later. In 1999 the original mill was largely obscured



by modern extensions but survived in good condition with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished.

HISTORY

Moss Shed was built in 1903 by the Moss Shed Company as a room and power cotton-weaving mill. The Ordnance Survey map of

1892 shows the site as undeveloped fields and meadows but the mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 (Fig 1). A trade directory of 1911 lists the occupiers of the mill as Thomas S Edmondson (executors of), B Holden, Ormerod Edmondson Ltd and J Widdup and Sons, all cotton manufacturers and all still there in 1936, with the exception of Ormerod Edmondson Ltd.¹ In 1999 the mill survived

¹ Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster (ed), *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose'*

in good condition, with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished, although much of the original mill was obscured by modern buildings.

DESCRIPTION

Moss Shed is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built on level ground on the west side of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, to the south of Long Ing Bridge, in a semi-rural position to the east of Barnoldswick. It comprises a large weaving shed with an engine house and boiler houses attached side by side to its north-east side, next to the canal. A warehouse block was later added to the north-west side. The circular brick chimney has been demolished.

The original mill

The gabled engine house is of random stone rubble with a slate roof with laylights.

The boiler house (Fig 2) is also of random stone rubble with quoined corners and a smooth stone band at eaves level. The original roof has been lost and the present roof is hipped and of corrugated metal. The north-east elevation is four bays long with a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround in the fourth bay from the south. The south-east elevation is two bays wide and is largely obscured

Lancashire (Colne, no date), 45; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1907, published 1909; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 692, 694, 696; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1936), 51, 52.

by a modern extension. At the north-west end was a slightly taller rectangular block with a water tank on top.

The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 3) has a saw-tooth roof of 24 bays behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. The roof was drained by valley gutters which discharged through the north-west wall.

Later additions

Sometime after 1940 a warehouse block was added to the north-west side. It was originally built of random stone rubble but has been almost completely rebuilt in modern materials and is now in use as offices.

METHODOLOGY



This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Well House Mill

Well House Road

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62149

NGR: SD 8800 4706

Surveyed: 5 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62149

Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8800 4706

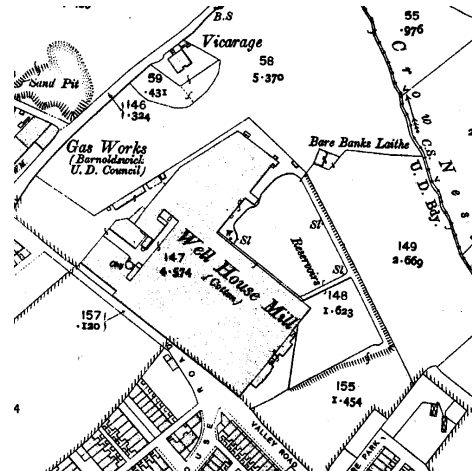
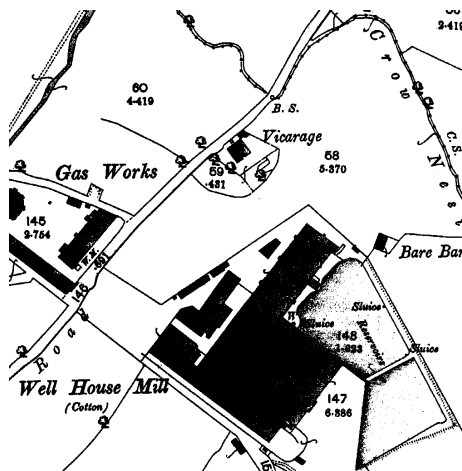
Well House Mill, Well House Road

SUMMARY

Well House Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-spinning mill by William 'Billycock' Bracewell in 1854. By 1893 the mill had switched to cotton weaving and room and power working, three weaving sheds being added. From 1957 until 1976 the mill was occupied by Rolls Royce and was latterly used as a bedding warehouse. The chimney was demolished in 1982 and little now remains of the rest of the mill buildings.

HISTORY

Well House Mill, known at first as New Mill, was built in 1854 by William Bracewell, a Barnoldswick entrepreneur locally known as Billycock who had previously built Butts Mill in Barnoldswick. It was built as a cotton-spinning mill but by 1893, following the death of Bracewell, had switched to cotton weaving and room and power working. A trade directory of 1887 lists the executors of William Bracewell & Son, cotton spinners and manufacturers, also of Butts Mill, as the occupiers. The mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1892 (Fig 1a) with weaving sheds, presumably added, and a trade directory for 1893 lists Christopher Brooks & Sons, Alfred Pilkington and Windle & Bailey, all cotton manufacturers, as the occupiers. By 1902 the number of cotton manufacturing firms had risen to eight in addition to



a steam laundry and the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 (Fig 1b) shows that the mill had been extended to the south west and north west. By 1917 an engineering firm, Henry Brown & Sons, occupied part of the mill, along with the laundry and four cotton manufacturing firms.¹ The mill remained in multiple occupancy, mixed textile and engineering, until 1957 when Rolls Royce moved in and remained there until 1976. The chimney was demolished in 1982 and in 1999 the site had been largely cleared and only ruinous buildings remained.

DESCRIPTION

¹ I Fozzard, *The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick*, (no date). Typescript in Barnoldswick Library; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 438, 439, 440; *ibid.*, 1887, 314; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, surveyed 1907, published 1909; *Kelly's Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917) 52, 53, 54.

Well House Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-spinning mill and converted to cotton weaving, on a room and power basis, in the later 19th century. Part of the mill is shown in a photograph (Fig 2) taken during the occupancy of Rolls Royce (1957-1976) and it was recorded in 1988 as part of RCHME's rapid survey of Yorkshire textile mills. At its fullest extent it consisted of the original three-storey spinning mill, engine house, housing a twin tandem engine by Burnley Iron Works, boiler house, for three Lancashire boilers, and a tapering circular chimney of squared stone. A three-storey, 13-bay long warehouse and yarn preparation block and three weaving sheds were later added. In 1999 only parts the random rubble walls, some with rectangular vents, of the weaving sheds survived.

METHODOLOGY



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objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Westfield Mill

Gisburn Road

Barnoldswick

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62144

NGR: SD 8735 4735

Surveyed: 5 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62144

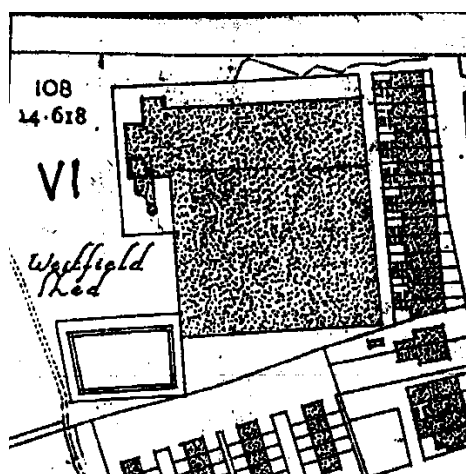
Barnoldswick

NGR: SD 8735 4735

Westfield Mill, Gisburn Road

SUMMARY

Westfield Mill is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built in 1911, the date on the building. It is of coursed and random stone rubble and comprises an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, an engine house, boiler house and



chimney, a weaving shed and a rectangular reservoir. All the mill buildings survived in good condition in 1999 and were in use for the production of wall and floor coverings.

HISTORY

Westfield Mill was built 1911 by the Westfield Shed Company. It is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1907 but is shown on an independent revision of 1940 (Fig 1) and the occupiers in 1917 were Brooks Robinson and Whiteoak & Co Ltd, both cotton manufacturers, also there in 1927. The number of cotton manufacturing firms at the mill had risen to three by 1936 but in 1963 it was occupied by a single firm of commission hair combers and scourers, Isaac Holden (Hair Combers) Ltd.¹ All the mill buildings survived in good condition

¹ Dorothy Carthy and Margaret Lancaster (ed), *A Way of Life Gone By in 'White Rose'*

in 1999 and were in use as a factory producing vinyl wall and floor coverings.



DESCRIPTION

Westfield Mill is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill in a semi-rural position on the north-west edge of Barnoldswick. It is of single-phase construction and comprises an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with the engine house and boiler house, with chimney behind, attached side by side to the west end and a weaving shed to the rear. There is a large reservoir to the south-east.

The two-storey north-facing office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) is of random stone rubble and has a saw-tooth roof of 22 bays, glazed to the east with slated return slopes, behind parapet walls, with rectangular vents, to the front and rear. The roof is drained by valley gutters which discharge through the rear wall into an iron trough supported by full length brick corbeling. The front elevation is 22 bays long and originally only had windows at ground floor, the first floor being top lit. There are pedestrian entrances with quoined sides and stone lintels in the sixth and twelfth bays from the east and vehicle entrances with quoined sides and cast-iron lintels with fielded panels in the seventh and thirteenth bays from the

Lancashire (Colne, no date), 45; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIII.4, revised 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd, Manchester; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 53, 55; *ibid.*, 1927, 66, 69; *ibid.*, 1936, 50, 53; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 271.

east, the latter with 'WESTFIELD MILL 1911' cast into the lintel. The east elevation is three bays wide.

The gable engine house (Fig 3) is attached to the west side of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block. It is of coursed stone rubble to the front and west and random stone rubble to the east elevation. The roof is of slate with laylights. The front elevation, similar to that at Brook Shed, Earby, is dominated by a large central round-headed opening with a keyed-in archivolt, fluted impostes and tooled stone quoins. Above is a rectangular vent below a wide rectangular recess with stone voussoirs and a keyblock. Rectangular windows flank the central opening with blind recesses with decorative corbels over. The engine was a cross compound engine by Burnley Iron Works.² The adjacent boiler house is also of coursed stone rubble and has a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north, behind parapet walls, to the front and a water tank over to the rear. The front elevation has a pair of boiler doors with smooth stone quoins and a continuous I-section cast-iron lintel. There are two blind recesses with decorative corbels over. To the rear of the boiler house and connected by a flue is the tapering circular red brick chimney. It has been cropped close to the top.



The single storey weaving shed (Fig 4) is to the rear of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block. It has an 18-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north and drained by valley gutters through the west wall, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble with tooled stone quoins to the corners. The south wall has no parapet. To the south-west of the weaving shed is the large rectangular reservoir, or lodge (Fig 5), which supplied

² I Fozzard, *The Cotton Industry in Barnoldswick* (no date), typescript in Barnoldswick Library.

water to the mill for boiler feed and for the condenser. It is fed by a stream and protected by a stone rubble wall with a shaped stone coping and wrought-iron railings.

METHODOLOGY



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Albert Mills

Mill Street

Barrowford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98931

NGR: SD 8584 3973

Surveyed: 11 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98931

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8584 3973

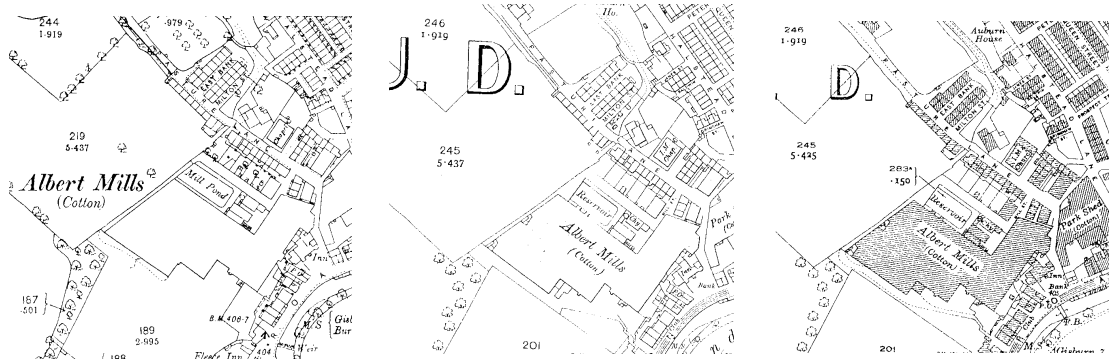
Albert Mills, Mill Street

SUMMARY

Albert Mills is a cotton-spinning and weaving mill built between 1844 and 1879 on steeply sloping land above Barrowford Beck. It is a complex site of multi-phase construction but much has been cleared and the evolution of the site is now difficult to determine. It consisted of a large, roughly rectangular, south-east facing spinning block at least five storeys in height which towered over the White Bear public house which stood just in front of it and fronted Gisburn Road. Behind this block, and forming a roughly L-shaped plan with it, stood a multi-storey block, probably used for yarn preparation, and behind this a single-storey weaving shed, the grouping indicating a succession of processes as cotton moved through the mill, spinning followed by yarn preparation and then by weaving. Power was supplied from a tall narrow engine house and a boiler house, for two boilers, and a chimney, attached side by side at the north-east end of the yarn preparation block. At a later date, but before 1890-1 a second weaving shed was built, butting against the south-west side of the first. In the mid or late 20th century an extension to the second shed was built to the south in red brick. In 1998 the surviving mill buildings were occupied and in good condition but the spinning block had been completely demolished as had the chimney and the second weaving shed, although its external walls survived.

HISTORY

Cartographic and trade directory evidence indicates that Albert Mills was built



between 1844 and 1879.

The mill is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844¹ but is listed in a trade directory of 1879 when a single occupier is named, Thomas Barraclough, cotton spinner and manufacturer. The Ordnance Survey map of 1890-1² (Fig 1a) shows the mill at almost its fullest extent and only minor additions are shown on the revisions of 1910 and 1929-30³ (Figs 1b and 1c). By 1902 the mill had evidently begun to operate on a room and power basis and three occupants are listed in a trade directory of that year, Robert Cook & Co and East Bank Manufacturing Co Ltd, both cotton manufacturers, and Vine Spinning Co Ltd, cotton spinners. In 1911 the mill was occupied by three different firms, Barritt & Wilkinson and John East & Co Ltd, both listed as cotton manufacturers, and the Sunfield Manufacturing Co Ltd.⁴ In 1998 the surviving parts of the mill were occupied by a motor vehicle repair workshop and a light engineering firm.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1890-1, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 164; *ibid.*, 1902, 525, 527; *ibid.*, 1911, 569, 571, 574.

DESCRIPTION

Albert Mills was built between 1844 and 1879 on sloping land to the north west of Barrowford Beck in the locality of Lowerford, directly behind the 17th-century White Bear Inn which fronted Gisburn Road.

The site is multi-phase and complex in its evolution and much has been demolished making interpretation difficult and it was not possible in the context of a rapid survey to fully determine its evolution. The following description is therefore brief and not definitive.

As far as can be determined the original mill comprised a large roughly rectangular south-east facing spinning block of five storeys in height. It is shown on early photographs looming directly behind the White Bear and appears to have been built of coursed stone rubble.⁵ Behind this was a single-storey weaving shed, probably with a yarn preparation and storage block between it and the spinning block, with an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached side by side to the north-east and a reservoir behind them. At a later date, but before 1891, a second weaving shed and yarn preparation block were built to the south west butting against the original shed and utilising the existing power source. In the mid or late 20th century the second shed was itself extended to the south, the addition being of red brick.

Of the original mill only the single-storey weaving shed, the engine house and the boiler house survive. The multi-storey spinning block, the yarn preparation block, the mill chimney and reservoir have all been lost. The second weaving shed has been cleared except for its external walls but the red brick extension survives. The

⁵ John Bentley, *Old Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1985), unpaginated and archives of the Heritage Trust for the North West, Barrowford, Lancashire.

upstanding buildings were in good condition in 1998.

The original mill

The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 2) is built of coursed squared rubble with an eight-bay saw-tooth roof glazed to the north east with slated returns. The north-east, north-west and south-west walls have a series of round-headed ventilation openings with ashlar surrounds. The south-west wall became an internal wall when the second shed was built although it was evidently not rendered and retains its characteristics. Two large wall boxes were inserted to carry the power transmission shafts into the new shed and the wall below one of them remains heavily stained



with oil (Fig 3). The south-east wall is heavily rendered and now featureless. It was originally the partition wall between the shed and the yarn preparation block. Internally the roof was supported by cast-iron columns with D-section bolting heads to carry line shafting.

Attached to the engine house with continuous eaves



The engine house, narrow and built of coursed squared stone rubble with a course and large round-headed windows with stone voussoirs and quoined sides to front and rear. It projects

north-east side of the shed is the boiler house adjacent (Fig 4). The boiler house, designed for a beam engine, is tall and coursed squared stone rubble with a course and large round-headed

slightly forward of the weaving shed where it originally butted against the yarn preparation block and this part is now rendered. The rest of the side elevation, rising above the weaving shed, is featureless except for a small rectangular opening with a stone surround, probably to seat the pivot of the entablature beam within. There are two such openings in the north-west elevation, rising above the boiler house, which has four bays inserted windows. The adjacent gabled boiler house is also built of coursed squared rubble with a slate roof with stone copings and a shaped finial. The front elevation is dominated by a pair of side by side round-headed boiler arches with ashlar keyblocks and quoins.

The second weaving shed

The second weaving shed, added to the south-west side of the first by 1891, has been cleared except for the exterior walls which are of coursed squared stone, some of which carry shaped stone blocks for line shafting on the interior faces. The later red brick extension survives and has a saw-tooth roof of six bays.

METHODOLOGY

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Calder Vale Shed

Sandy Lane

Newbridge

Barrowford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98932

NGR: SD 8553 3886

Surveyed: 10 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98932

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8553 3886

Calder Vale Shed, Sandy Lane, Newbridge

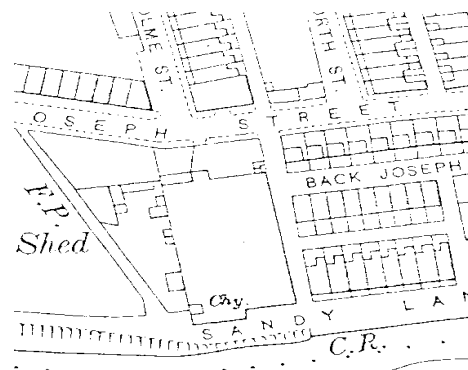
SUMMARY

Calder Vale Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1867 and extended between by 1890-1, on the north bank of Pendle Water. It is built of random and roughly coursed rubble and comprised a two-storey warehousing and yarn preparation block with internal end engine and boiler houses and chimney and a single-storey weaving shed. Some time before 1890-1 the weaving shed was extended by five bays and a lean-to boiler house was built across the front of the two-storey range. All the mill buildings remain almost completely intact and there has been no significant twentieth century development.

HISTORY

Calder Vale Shed, or Mire Holes Shed, was built on level ground to the west of Reedyford Bridge and on the north bank of Pendle Water, separated from it by Sandy Lane, a small lane or trackway connecting Reedyford Bridge with the Lowerford to Padiham road, in 1867 by Abraham Robinson and first let to Sutcliffe and Atkinson, cotton manufacturers.¹ Christopher Atkinson was the tenant in 1887 and Hartley and Ainsworth in 1893. By 1902 the mill was in multiple occupancy

¹ Jesse Blakey *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 227.



with three firms of cotton manufacturers listed in a trade directory of that year.² The Ordnance Survey map of 1844³ shows the site of the present shed as undeveloped fields and meadows with Reedyford Bridge and Sandy Lane as the only notable nearby features. By the time of the re-survey of 1890-1⁴ (Fig 1a) Calder Vale Shed had been built, here named as 'Calder Vale Shed (Cotton)', adjacent to Calder Vale Saw Mill. The much larger Lower Clough Mill to the north west had also been built by this time and an area of new terraced housing, presumably to house mill workers, was developing to the east as the new mill town of Newbridge. The map revision of 1910⁵ (Fig 1b) shows no significant change to Calder Vale Shed but the adjacent Calder Vale Saw Mill had by this time been demolished and replaced with a new terrace of housing, fronting onto Sandy Lane. In 1924 Calder Vale Shed was occupied by Barritt and West Ltd, cotton manufacturers.⁶ In 1998 it was still in use as a weaving shed and was occupied by Vale Weavers Ltd.

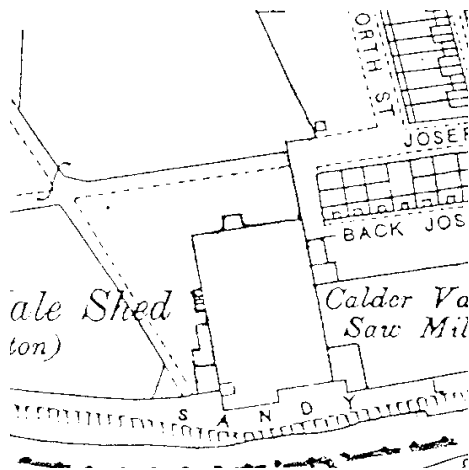
² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 301; *ibid.*, 1893, 277; *ibid.*, 1902, 525, 527.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1890-91, published 1893.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁶ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 109.



DESCRIPTION

Most of the original mill, shown on the 1890-1 map, survives intact with minor additions and comprises a gabled, two-storey south-facing warehousing and yarn preparation block with an internal end engine house, boiler house and chimney, and a single-storey rear weaving shed. At a later date the weaving shed was extended to the north and it is probable that a larger engine was installed at the same time, necessitating the re-fenestration of the ground floor of the west elevation of the two-storey block and the building of a single-storey lean-to addition across part of the south elevation which evidently served as a replacement boiler house.

The original mill

The original mill, built in 1867, consisted of a gabled two-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) built of roughly coursed rubble with roughly tooled quoins to the angles and a slate roof with gutter brackets. The south elevation is eight bays wide with tooled stone lintels and sills to all windows. A wide segmental-arched entrance way occupies the fourth bay from the left, the original boiler door or else a wagon way for receiving or dispatching goods, it is uncertain which, and the fifth bay is occupied by a first-floor taking-in door with a monolithic surround. There are two existing pedestrian doors but these are later insertions and it is not clear if there was originally any provision for pedestrian-only access. The two-bay east gable elevation has been re-fenestrated. The interior has cast-iron columns with lugged D-section bolting heads supporting timber beams.

The boiler house and engine house (Fig 3) are located side by side within the west end of the two-storey block, the engine house being nearest to the weaving shed. The west elevation of the two-storey block betrays some of the elements associated with engine and boiler houses, most notably a pair of narrow, ground-floor window lintels, offset to the left, which may originally have headed two small engine house windows. These were blocked when, arguably, a larger engine was



installed and a single lower, wider opening with a smooth continuous lintel was created. No significant internal features survive within the original engine and boiler houses as these areas have long been put to other uses. The south-west corner is occupied by a square, tapering chimney, built of random rubble with tooled quoins. It is flush with the south and west elevations of the two-storey block but is a discrete build and



butts against it on both sides.

The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 4) is built of roughly coursed rubble and has a saw-tooth roof, originally of six bays, glazed to the north and slated to the south.

The west parapet wall has a gutter end and fall pipe between each bay and a ventilator to every other bay. The east wall has no parapet and the saw-tooth profile of the roof bays is prominent, with heavy stone copings to the original six.

On either side a straight joint marks the beginning of the extension. The interior consists of cast-iron columns with lugged D-section bolting heads, with south-facing bolting faces in the six original bays.

The pre-1891 extensions

The weaving shed was at some point extended northwards by five bays as evidenced by the straight joints in both the east and west walls. The additional bays were built in the same style as the existing bays except that the heavy stone coping on the original east wall is absent from the addition. This must have happened before 1891 as the map revision of that date shows the mill already extended. Internally the weaving shed extension reflects the structure of the original except that the bolting faces on the cast-iron columns in the five later bays face north.

The added loom capacity required, it seems, a larger engine and this evidently meant that new provision had to be made for the housing of the boiler. The later boiler house was originally single storey and is constructed of random rubble. It is simply a lean-to, built against the chimney and the south elevation of the two-storey block.

Subsequent extensions

A gabled, single-storey red brick block was at some time built across the north end of the weaving shed and a modern second storey has been built onto the lean-to boiler house.

METHODOLOGY

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Higherford Mill, formerly Higherford Sheds

Gisburn Road, Higherford

Barrowford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98933

NGR: SD 8622 4010

Surveyed: 6 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98933

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8622 4010

Higherford Mill, formerly Higherford Sheds, Gisburn Road, Higherford

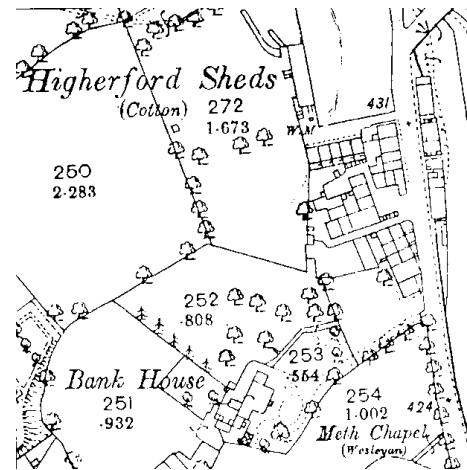
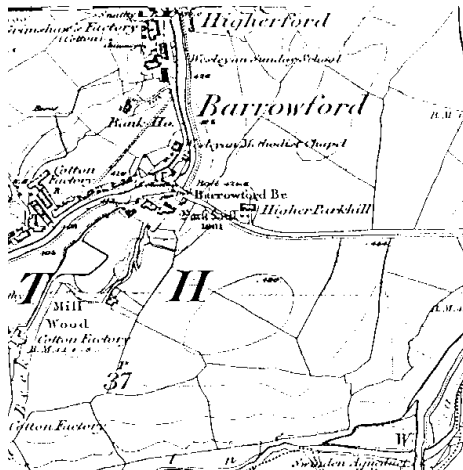
SUMMARY

Higherford Mill, previously known as Higherford Shed or Sheds, and before that as Grimshaw's Mill, may have been built in 1824, perhaps as a four-storey spinning mill to which a weaving shed was later added. The mill was water powered, with a substantial mill pond, but a steam engine was added in 1832. The mill was seriously affected by a fire in 1844 and following this at least part of the original multi-storey mill was demolished, the existing central three-storey building replacing it. The single-storey north weaving shed was evidently built in 1844 after the fire. The south weaving shed was built on the site of the first mill, perhaps in 1882, together with the warehouse which was extended beside the latter weaving shed at about this time, incorporating an engine house for a new steam engine. The mill survives more or less completely and is in units.

HISTORY

Higherford Mill, also known as Higherford Shed or Sheds, is said to have been built in 1824 and to have been a four-storey building in which weaving took place on the second and third floors.¹ Whether it was originally a cotton-spinning mill, and even

¹ Jesse Blakey, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 217. I should like to thank Anthony Pilling for his comments on a draft of this report.



perhaps a wool-spinning mill of earlier date, should be considered. The 1824 date is evidently given on the basis of a piece of stone inscribed 1824 reset in the side wall of the south weaving shed, not on firm historical evidence. Since Thomas Grimshaw, who had a connection with the mill (see below), was putting work out to local handloom weavers in 1814,² he may have founded a spinning mill. The 1824 mill, water powered but from 1832 also with a steam engine, was partly demolished, evidently after a fire in 1844, but the Ordnance Survey map surveyed that year (Fig 1a) appears to show the site before the demolition. It is called 'Grimshaw's Factory (Cotton)' on this map and is shown as an extensive rectangular block occupying this southern part of the site. The 1844 map also shows the chimney on the hillside west of the mill. This has a datestone of 1832 and the engine house and boiler house which it served were built in a block which came to stand on the west side of the rebuilt south weaving shed. The mill is shown with all these buildings on the 1890-1 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1b), there being no changes on the 1910 and 1929-30 revisions.³

² E M J Miller (ed), *A walk through Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1983), 13.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheets 48 and 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.15 and LVI.3, surveyed 1891 and 1890-1, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30 and 1930, published 1932 and 1931.

The mill was built by the Grimshaw family, perhaps by Christopher Grimshaw, though Blakey's text does not make this clear.⁴ Thomas Grimshaw, whose name is associated with the mill, died on 11 February 1842, aged 77.⁵ In 1854 it was occupied by Grimshaw and Bracewell, cotton spinners and manufacturers, and in 1879 by Grimshaw and Holt, cotton manufacturers. It was subsequently tenanted by Smith and Wiseman, also cotton manufacturers, who were there from before 1887 until after 1941. In 1963 the buildings were occupied by Hartley Brothers (1926) Ltd. who ran 300 looms, but in 1969 it went into multiple occupation outside the textile industry.⁶

DESCRIPTION

Higherford Mill was built at the foot of the valley slope on the west side of Pendle Water, opposite the crossing point of the Gisburn Road, in origin a toll road. An earlier packhorse bridge survives slightly upstream. The mill was originally water powered, and a large mill pond was constructed some way up the valley with a leat feeding both directly into the mill and also via a pond for times when the river was lower.

⁴ Blakey 1929, 217-8.

⁵ Miller 1983, 13.

⁶ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 761; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 164; *ibid.* 1887, 308; *ibid.* 1902, 527; *ibid.* 1911, 574; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 631; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 110; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 564; *ibid.* 1941, 520; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 357. See also Blakey 1929, 217-19; Miller 1983, 13; John Bentley, *Old Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1985), unpaginated (photograph of interior of Higherford Mill in 1930s). See also photocopies of research supplied from the archives of the Heritage Trust for the North West, Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford.

The buildings have a complicated evolution, both structurally and in terms of power generation and distribution, and in the context of the present rapid survey the account below is brief and not definitive. More detailed historical research and investigation of the fabric is required.

The original mill is said to have been built in 1824 on the evidence of an inscribed piece of masonry reset in the south wall of the south weaving shed. The date is carved on a semicircular projection which is likely to have run around a downpipe from the gutter. As noted earlier, weaving is said to have taken place on the second and third floors of this building, but this need not indicate that it was originally built for this purpose. The mill stood to the south of the existing multi-storey block, part of whose south wall retains masonry from the north wall of the original four-storeyed mill. It stood over an area which is now partly cellared. The mill was water powered, and the wheelhouse was attached to the outside of the west end of the north wall. The wheelpit and other masonry survive. The extent of



the mill site on the 1844 map suggests that a weaving shed on part of the site of the present south weaving shed may have been built, perhaps in 1832. The 1844 fire is said to have left only the engine house, chimney, waterwheel and cellar intact, though whether this is based on contemporary records or deduced from building remains is uncertain. What was rebuilt was a three-storey block and the north weaving shed.

In 1832 a steam engine was added to the mill to complement the waterwheel. The engine house was probably within the west side of the later south weaving shed with the boiler house beside it. The chimney (Fig 2) is set on the hillside west of the mill, and is marked and identified on maps. It has a datestone

of 1832 set in it. It is built of squared stone rubble and has a tall square plinth rising to a band above which the shaft tapers gently to a cap with another plain band just below the top.



The three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) is ten bays long to the north, four to the south where to one side of a set-back it evidently reuses earlier masonry with four storeys of blocked openings. The east gable wall to Gisburn Road is notable for its Italianate detailing. This

elevation has, on the ground floor, a wide segmental-arched vehicle entrance, a pedestrian door with a moulded head and a two-light window into an office. The window heads are rounded, and there are similar windows on the first and second floors, although the latter has a central taking-in door. An elaborate chimneystack sits on the apex of the gable.

The north weaving shed is L-shaped in plan and has walls of coursed rubble, squared to the front. The front and rear walls have flat-topped parapets with rectangular ventilation openings into each bay of the shed's saw-tooth roof with its north-facing glazed lights. The shed is L-shaped because it is built round a short terrace of 17th-century cottages, but cast-iron columns built into the two walls which face the terrace indicate that the shed's builders foresaw the cottages' demolition and the extension of the shed over its site as a fully rectangular structure. The cast-iron columns have bolting heads which have a flat face and a projecting ledge, and they are identical to those in Springfield Mill, Blacko.⁷

⁷ RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 99026 (1999).

The south weaving shed, built against the south wall of the central three-storey building and the side wall of its engine house, is broadly rectangular in plan though its former frontage followed Gisburn Road at a slight angle but was demolished and a new wall rebuilt further back during the 1970s. The shed is said to date from 1882,⁸ and it is certainly on the map surveyed in 1890-1. It is single storeyed with a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights running between flat-topped parapet walls, the original west wall having rectangular ventilation openings into the roof. The walls are of coursed stone rubble. The south end wall has three pedestrian doors, that at its west end inserted, and two which could be original both with interrupted jambs. One is in the centre of the wall, one was cut away except for one jamb when the side of the shed towards Gisburn Road was taken back.

The warehouse extension along the west side of the south weaving shed is two storeys high, much of its ground floor taken up by the lateral 1882 engine house and boiler house. Its first floor is ten bays long with a two-bay wide north and three-bay wide south gable wall, the latter with a central first-floor taking-in door.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.

⁸ Information, via Anthony Pilling, from Mr Wiseman, descendant of the 19th-century owners and responsible for the mill when it closed as a textile mill in about 1969.



Holmefield Mills

Gisburn Road, Newbridge

Barrowford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98934

NGR: SD 8584 3905

Surveyed: August 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photography by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98934

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8584 3905

Holmefield Mills, Gisburn Road, Newbridge

SUMMARY

Holmefield Mills was built in 1907-9 as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, and was intended for room and power use. It had a single-storey weaving shed with a two and partly three-storey warehouse and processing block along one side. The weaving shed was built in two parts either side of a central rope alley powered from an engine house and boiler house attached to the outer wall of the shed. The warehouse range was originally in three separate parts, each with its own external door, all subsequently interconnected. Internal alterations were undertaken in the late 20th century when a south addition was also built. The mill closed in 1997 and was demolished in 1999.

REPORT

Historical background

Holmefield Mills occupies a flat, irregularly-shaped site bounded on the east by Pendle Water and on the west by housing fronting Gisburn Road.

Surveys of 1813¹ and the 1844 map² show the site occupied by f meadows next to what was then called the Barrowford Beck. which became known as Gisburn Road, which cuts across the field Gisburn to Marsden turnpike road, opened in 1807.³ On the 1844 identified as operated by the Marsden, Gisburn and Long Preston 1890-1 (Fig 1a)⁴ the settlement of Newbridge had been established on the western edge of Gisburn Road close to Reedyford Bridge to where it crossed Pendle Water. A substantial villa, Holmfield, la Holmefield, was built in its own grounds on the northern edge of Ne between it and Lowerford. It was built by the Berry family of Vict Lowerford,⁵ and though it gave its name to Holmefields Mill, it was in 1911 by a member of the Berry family.⁶

The construction of Holmefield Mills was begun in 1907, the build the date 1908, and it was opened in 1909.⁷ Holmefield Mills was room and power mill with space rented to tenants. Directories of 19

¹ E M J Miller (ed), *A walk through Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1983), 6.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, publi

³ Miller 1983, 7.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1890-1 1893.

⁵ RCHME Historic Buildings Report, NBR No. 98938 (1999).

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911),

⁷ Jesse Blakey, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929) Bowdin, 'A Barrowford Bibliography' (typescript, 1980), 47, 61 (copy in Nelson

and 1924⁸ all list the same four firms of cotton manufacturers one of which, Holden Brothers, shared it in 1933 with Holmefield Mills Ltd, a room and power company.⁹ By 1941 Samuel Holden Ltd, cotton manufacturer, was the only occupant, as they were in 1963 when they had 1000 looms there and wove shirtings, rayon and nylon dress and lining cloths.¹⁰ During the late 20th century the numbers of employees declined and the mill eventually closed. It was demolished in 1999.

The 1910 map (Fig 1b)¹¹ shows the original mill as well as a significant amount of terraced housing not shown on the map of 1890-1. By 1929-30¹² yet more terraced housing had been built, and a few more houses were built later in the 20th century.

The 1907-9 weaving mill

Holmefield Mills was built as a steam-powered cotton weaving mill in 1907-9, two pediments on the building bearing the inscription 'HOLMEFIELD

⁸ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 570, 572, 574; *ibid.*, (1923), 628, 630, 631; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 109-10.

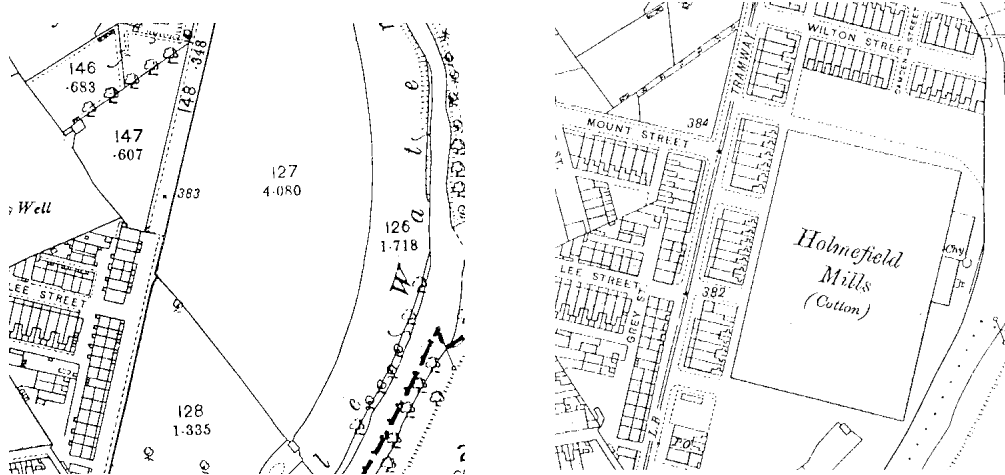
⁹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 562-3.

¹⁰ Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 519; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 357.

¹¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912.

¹² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

MILLS 1908'. It is identified on the 1910 and 1929-30 maps as 'H



Mills (Cotton)'.

The 1907-9 mill was rectangular in plan and consisted of a single-storey weaving shed with a part two, part three-storey warehouse and processing block along the whole of its west side. The weaving shed was set north and south of a central rope alley, powered from the engine house attached to the eastern outer wall of the shed, with a boiler house and chimney to its north.

The warehouse and processing block



The warehouse and processing block, built of randomly-coursed rough-faced rubble, as are all the buildings of 1907-9, is a rectangular building with a part-slatted north-light roof. It is six bays wide and 36 bays long, the northernmost 29 bays being two storeys high, the seven southern bays

three storeys high (Figs 2, 3). Inside this structure reflects an original division into three distinct parts, since opened into each other, namely an 18-bay long north part, an 11-bay long middle part and a 7-bay long south part. Each part had its own entrance door, wide and tall enough to take a vehicle, all three originally with curved cast-iron sheathing protecting the sides, that to the middle part having been removed. The entrances to the north (Fig 4) and middle parts are in the west wall, towards the south end of each and facing short access roads from Gisburn Road. Both these entrances are spanned

by a steel lintel, the wallhead over having a pedimented parapet inscribed

'HOLMEFIELD MILLS 1908'. Next to each wide entrance is a conventional doorway



for pedestrian access, set in the lower part of a window and with monolithic jambs and a rectangular lintel. The vehicular access into the south part of the warehouse is set in the centre of its south wall. Its upper levels are obscured by a later extension, but its cast-iron sheathing can be observed at ground floor level; no separate pedestrian doorway seems to have been provided. The windows on the warehouse have rectangular smooth lintels and projecting sills, the masonry dressed back to a narrow tooled margin on each side. There is no taking-in door or hoist in any elevation.

The interior of the warehouse and processing block is of identical basic construction on each floor with two rows of cast-iron columns supporting east-west I-section steel beams on the ground floor of the two-storeyed parts (Fig 5) and on the ground and first floors of the three-storeyed part, and timber tie beams on the top floors of all three. The columns are of two types, a more substantial one, 17cm in diameter, where steel beams are supported and a slighter one, 11cm in diameter, identical to those in the weaving shed, on the top floors where they support the north-light roof (Fig 6). The more substantial type has a moulded and flanged capital, a lugged D-section bolting head and a simply-moulded base, whereas the slighter one has an elongated rectangular top plate, a moulded capital and a lugged, square-sectioned bolting head. The function of the pierced lug and of the two slots through the bolting head above was to take bolts which, if required, would secure brackets supporting a line shaft taking power along the building. The fact that the columns have bolting faces does not necessarily mean that a building housed



powered processes: such columns were a standard form and their incorporation on construction offered flexibility of use. At Holmefield Mills,

however, wall boxes and structural evidence at the junction of the rope alley and warehouse indicate that power was indeed brought into this part of the mill. On the ground floor the bolting faces of the columns face east whereas on the first and second floors they face west, and in the cross walls between the three parts there are the cast-iron wall boxes, or their blockings, confirming that there was provision for shafting passing between them. In addition, in an unmodernised area on the first floor of the north part, cast-iron fittings on the underside of the tie beams existed to support three rows of line shafting in addition to the two rows which the columns could have supported. On the first floor of the middle part of the warehouse a pair of substantial iron castings (Fig 7) slung between tie beams must have supported bevel wheels which transferred power brought up from the ground floor.¹³ The position of the original staircases between the floors is not clear as a result of later



alterations. No evidence was noted to indicate that the warehouse had a lift or hoist originally, although it is possible that some provision was made and that it has been lost in modernisation. The north-east corner of the ground floor of the south part has a small rectangular brick-built storeroom. The roof of the warehouse has a series of north-light roofs identical to those in the weaving shed (see below).

¹³ For an illustration of similar brackets supporting an upright shaft in a textile mill see Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills. The Buildings of the Yorkshire Textile Industry 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 156, fig. 252.

The weaving shed

The single-storey weaving shed is built in two identical halves north and south of a central rope alley from which power was sent into the shed. Apart from one original doorway, the southernmost of three in the east wall of the north shed,¹⁴ the outer walls of the weaving shed are



featureless and provide no evidence for the support of line shafting. The walls also rise to coped parapets which hide the shed's north-light roofs: downpipes for the gutters are internal, so again the walls do not assist interpretation. The north-light roofs have one slope with blue slates and ceramic ridge tiles (some renewed) and one glazed (Fig 8), the latter north facing, to provide even light, except in the bays next to the north walls of each half of the shed, where they face south to avoid the shadow of the walls.¹⁵

¹⁴ The original doorway is in the fourth bay from the north and retains its threshold; the other doorways are insertions.

¹⁵ Such an arrangement was rare among the north-light roofs used on weaving mills and the upper floors of other mill buildings in Yorkshire: see Giles and Goodall 1992, *passim*.

The interiors of the sheds have been altered, with many columns removed and replaced by steel stanchions and beams in order to create larger working spaces, but enough evidence survives for it to be clear that each half of the shed had 17 rows of nine cast-iron columns (Fig 9). The columns, of the type already noted on the top floor of the warehouse, all have their bolting faces to the east, and they support the cast-iron gutters of the roof. The glazed slopes of the roof are supported by T-sectioned cast-iron mullions bolted at their base to the cast-iron gutters. These mullions support separate glazed panels, four-panes wide, between each mullion.

Twenty-one line shafts originally ran north and south along the two halves of the weaving shed, each powered from the rope alley by a pulley wheel supported on a bracket bolted to a cast-iron beam set between the side walls of the rope alley. Precisely how the wheels were arranged and power transmitted is uncertain, but cast-iron wall boxes for the 21 line shafts per shed, or the blocked openings which once held them, survive (Fig 10). The line shafts ran along the east side of each row of columns, mid-way down every bay, and next to the east and west walls of each shed.¹⁶

Cast-iron brackets attached to the bolting faces of the columns would have supported nine rows of shafting, the twelve



¹⁶ A few further wall boxes were inserted later.

other rows being supported by cast-iron hangers attached to mounts cast into the underside of the cast-iron gutters of the shed roof. There is no sign that the line shafts were supported at their outer end in the side walls of the shed.

The engine house, boiler house and chimney

The engine house, attached to the east side of the weaving shed, is rectangular in plan and shares its north wall with the boiler house, also rectangular but of greater width and built around the chimney at its south-east corner (Fig 11). It is a tall single-storeyed building with a slated, gabled roof, its east elevation, facing Pendle Water being seven bays long with a central, tall, wide, round-headed window with a door in



its base set between groups of three smaller windows with rectangular stone lintels. The windows are partly blocked, but the radial glazing bars in the head of the central window, which rises into a gable rising above the eaves, survives. The interior of the engine house, which now has an inserted floor, was originally open to roof and had a tall dado of green-glazed tiles under a brown-glazed dado rail, the wall above painted. The roof, of good quality, as was common in the engine houses of many textile mills, has six queen-post trusses with through-bolted queen posts and two sets of purlins, the tie beams, queen posts and collars all chamfered and stopped. The underside of the roof is boarded and three ventilators, the central one the largest, sit on the ridge. The engine has been lost, but the concrete engine bed, in two parts with bolts for the lost superstructure, survives. The south end of

the engine house projects beyond the rope alley, enabling power to be led directly into it through an opening which cuts the top of the dado tiling.

The boiler house is a tall, wide, single-storeyed building with a slated, gabled roof. The south gable wall, shared with the engine house, has two doors, one to the outside and one adjacent to it into the engine house. The east wall has five original windows and two inserted doors, the windows with steel frames, and the north gable wall has three wide flat-headed ground-floor openings under a Venetian window. The number of openings implies that three Lancashire boilers were housed in the building, but the interior has been cleared of these. The roof of the building is original, however, and has five angle-iron trusses.

The boiler-house chimney, circular in shape and built of red brick, is incorporated into the south-east corner of the boiler house where it contains an opening for the flue from the boilers and presumed



economiser. Above the eaves level of the boiler house it was demolished in 1979, a metal chimney within the boiler house replacing it.¹⁷

Alterations to the 1907-9 weaving mill

¹⁷ *Nelson Leader*, December 1979.

A number of alterations to the original mill have already been noted, including the linking through of the three parts of the warehouse and processing block, changes to the columniation of the weaving shed, the removal of the engine and boilers, and the insertion of a floor in the engine house.

Cast-iron fire escapes on the outside of the building, bearing the plate of 'G. MILLS & C^o L^{TD} RADCLIFFE' are probably additions of the early 20th century.

In the late 20th century an addition was built on to the south end of the mill.

Visited by Ian Goodall and Simon Taylor, 20 August 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

35mm photographs by Simon Taylor



Lower Clough Mill
Pendle Street, Newbridge
Barrowford
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98935

NGR: SD 8538 3894

Surveyed: 10 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98935

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8538 3894

Lower Clough Mill, Pendle Street, Newbridge

SUMMARY

Lower Clough Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built by The Barrowford Room & Power Company Limited in 1889 and opened in 1891. It is built of stone rubble, squared on the principal elevations. The original mill, severely damaged by fire in 1892, comprised a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a single-storey weaving shed to the rear. The engine and boiler houses, set side by side, and the chimney, are attached to one side, the engine house projecting from the shed, the boiler from the warehouse. The weaving shed was extended to the rear before 1910, the extension having its own warehouse block, and a further probable warehouse, of two storeys, was added at the front between 1910 and 1929-30. The mill has suffered some demolition, the original multi-storey block having been reduced to one and two storeys, and the chimney demolished, and is now in multiple occupation, but not for textiles.

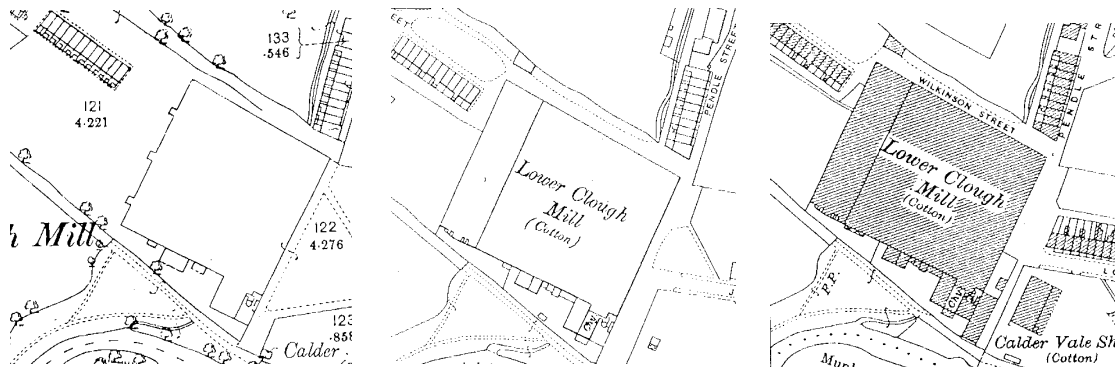
HISTORY

Lower Clough Mill was built in 1889 by The Barrowford Room & Power Company Limited, the 1889 date and inscription being set in the gable of the engine house, and the mill began to run in 1891. There was a disastrous fire on 5 January 1892,

the total damage being between twenty and thirty thousand pounds.¹ The fire is likely to have been in the multi-storey range, now largely demolished, but the mill cannot have been out of action for long since in 1893 it was occupied by two firms of cotton manufacturers. By 1902 there were three firms of cotton manufacturers in the mill, and this remained the number in every directory up to and including 1941. The mill is not listed in Worrall's 1963 Directory,² and is now in multiple occupation, but not in textiles.

¹ Jesse Hartley, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 227; John Bentley, *Old Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1985), unpaginated.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 275, 278; *ibid.*, (1902), 524, 527; *ibid.*, (1911), 569-70; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 627-9; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 109; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 560-1; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 517-8.



The original 1889 mill is shown on the map surveyed in 1890-1 (Fig 1a); it had been enlarged by 1910 (Fig 1b) and further small additions made by 1929-30 (Fig 1c).³

DESCRIPTION

Lower Clough Mill stands on the north side of Pendle Water, on a site which is largely flat but which slopes gently at the rear. The mill is close to the western edge of Newbridge, and historically is one of three weaving mills which provided much employment in this small settlement.

The 1889 mill

The original steam-powered cotton-weaving mill comprised a multi-storey block set along the eastern side of a single-storey weaving shed with the engine and boiler houses attached to the junction of the two. The buildings are all of stone rubble, the principal elevations of the multi-storey block and the engine and boiler houses being of squared rubble. Roofs are slated.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1890-1, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block along the east side of the mill is now partly one and partly two storeys high (Fig 2), both sections without their original roofs. Its original height is uncertain, as are the number of bays, but some 16 bays now survive, with a tall, wide vehicle entrance in the ninth bay from the south end and a pedestrian entrance with a window over it next to it. The vehicle entrance has a deep cast-iron lintel in contrast to the rectangular stone lintels of



the other openings.

The weaving shed, set behind the multi-storey block, is single-storeyed, its saw-tooth roof with glazed north-facing lights set behind parapet walls. Bolted to the inner face of the south wall, and secured to shaped plates on its outer face, are a series of cast-iron brackets which

support the main line shaft from the steam engine.

The engine house and boiler house (Fig 3) are set side by side and gable on to



the south side of the main mill building, the engine house just overlapping the corner of the weaving shed. The engine house is a tall, wide gabled building, three-bays long with a wide two-light window in its south gable wall lighting the engine bed. Smaller windows in the west side wall appear to be insertions,

although that to the south is set within a door with a shaped stone head. The south gable houses a large block of stone bearing the inscription, in raised letters, LOWER CLOUGH MILL 1889 THE BARROWFORD ROOM & POWER CO LD. The steam engine has been scrapped, but it was made by William Roberts of

Nelson and was a cross compound engine of 1889 with gear drive to the shed.⁴ The boiler house attached to the east side of the engine house is lower but is gabled and has a tall round-headed window in its south gable. Its lower part is not visible. The chimney, now demolished, stood on the east side of the boiler house.

Additions to the original mill

Map evidence indicates that by 1910 the original mill had been extended west by a small weaving shed with its own warehouse and yarn preparation block at its north end, all built of stone rubble (Fig 4). The extension was powered from the original mill, since it does not have its own power source, and clearly provided more space to be let out to tenants. The shed is single storeyed, its floor higher than that of the original shed. The warehouse and yarn preparation block is a single-storeyed, eight-bay long building which may have been reduced in height. The third and fourth bays from the west end of the north front have what appear to be a pedestrian and vehicle entrance respectively, the latter with a steel plate lintel.



The 1890-1 map shows two apparently open-sided buildings against the south wall of the weaving shed. The larger western one appears, on the 1910 map, to equate with the part one and part two-storeyed building now attached to the shed in this position. The single-storey part, to the west, is three bays long, the eastern part is gabled and two

⁴ See John Bentley, *Old Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1985), unpaginated, and a written and photographic record made in 1960 by George Watkins, now in the National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Lower Clough Mill, Barrowford, near Nelson, Lancashire, WAT979.

storeys high. It is three bays deep and has a ground-floor door and window in the south gable wall with a taking-in door over, implying its use as a warehouse.

Between 1910 and 1929-30 a further probable warehouse was built south of the mill, attached to its south corner. It is two storeys high, built of coursed stone rubble with a slated roof, is gabled north and south and is nine bays long. It was entered from the north from a walled yard created in front of the mill. In contrast to the other buildings on the site, its gable walls have simply-moulded timber barge boards, not stone coping.

METHODOLOGY

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Old Mill

Lowerford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98936

NGR: SD 8598 3955

Surveyed: 11 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98936

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8598 3955

Old Mill, Lowerford



Old Mill originated as a water-powered fulling mill but was sold in 1783 and converted into a cotton twist-spinning mill. Water was taken off the Barrowford Beck at a weir and was retained in a large mill dam mid-way along the mill race. In 1824 it was leased to William Brightmore and John Hudson who were given power to 'erect and build an engine house, and to put in an engine, to be worked by steam'. The engine house will have been accompanied by a boiler house and chimney. A photograph¹ shows the mill to have been three storeys high, with various additions, its chimney stone-built with a tall square base and tapering shaft. In 1924 the mill was bought by Barrowford Council and it was demolished in 1932. The sole remains, apart from the mill dam which was converted into a pond in a new park landscaped in the 1920s, are substantial ashlar blocks and associated iron locating rods from the engine bed (Fig 1).

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related

¹ Jesse Blakey, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 242-7.

industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Park Shed

Halstead Lane

Barrowford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98937

NGR: SD 8598 3976

Surveyed: 11 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98937

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8598 3976

Park Shed, Halstead Lane

SUMMARY

Park Shed was built between 1844 and 1890-91 and may originally have been part of Albert Mills to the north west. Approximately half of the site has been demolished and the surviving building has been largely rebuilt. Only a fragment of the original engine and boiler house survives.

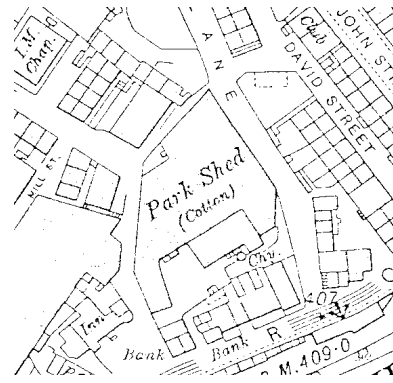
HISTORY

Park Shed was built close to the north-west bank of Barrowford Beck between 1844¹ and 1890-91² (Fig 1a). The Ordnance Survey map of 1890-91 does not name Park Shed, although the building is shown at its fullest extent, but does name Albert Mills to the north west and it is possible that at this time Park Shed was considered to be part of Albert Mills. The revision of 1910³ names Park Shed and shows that its plan had not changed (Fig 1b) and no further development is shown on the revision of

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1890-91, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912.



1929-30.⁴ In 1902 it was occupied by James Holden, cotton manufacturer,⁵ and in 1932⁶ Park Mill, as it is called in the trade directory, was occupied by V E Houghton Ltd who were 'makers of all kinds of shirtings, bleachers, dyers, calico printers.'. In 1950⁷ V E Houghton Ltd still occupied Park Mill and now also Albert Mills. By 1998



most of the south-west half of the shed and the chimney had been demolished, leaving only the perimeter wall as the wall of a car park with the foundations of the chimney still visible above the tarmac. The north-east half has been considerably altered and is

now occupied by the East Lancashire Towel Company.

DESCRIPTION

The map evidence available does not give any clue as to the phased

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1929-1930, published 1932.

⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 5.

⁶ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1932), 272.

⁷ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1950), 409.



development of Park Shed (Fig 2) and the plan of the site is irregular. In addition approximately half of the shed, the south-west portion, has been demolished leaving little indication of the age or function of this part of the building. The surviving north-east part comprises a partially rebuilt block which was at least two storeys high when

built. The northern section comprises a four-bay north-east elevation built of coursed squared stone with a bracketed gutter and a saw-tooth shed roof of five bays, originally glazed to the north west. To the south the shed has been rebuilt and now consists of a single-storey block with three large modern saw-tooth roof bays. This rebuild does incorporate the original south-east wall, the lower courses of which are built of very randomly coursed rubble as this was originally an interior wall face, incorporating a depressed segmental arch, now filled in below. The purpose of this arch is unclear but directly in front of it is a manhole cover and the loud sound of fast running water could be heard beneath it suggesting perhaps a culverted stream. Higher up the wall the building material changes to coursed squared stone. The south-west wall of the surviving part has been heavily rendered and it is not clear whether this is an original wall or a rebuilding following the demolition of the south west part of the shed. It does betray, as damp marks in the render, the outline of several saw-tooth roof bays.

The Ordnance Survey maps of 1890-91, 1910 and 1929-30 show that the engine house and boiler house at Park Shed were situated in an attached side position on the south-east side of the building (Fig 3) with the chimney just beyond. It is unclear from the map evidence which building is which and much has now been demolished. What does survive has been rebuilt

at roof level, the scar line of a former pitched roof is visible in the south-east wall of the main block against which it butts. What remains is built of coursed squared stone with smooth quoins to the corners and what appears to be a boiler door with a large cast-iron I-section beam, the lower flange wider than the upper suggesting a springing base for jack arches, now partially exposed due to demolition of the building or buildings adjacent. The base of the circular stone chimney survives in isolation amidst the tarmac of the new car park.

METHODOLOGY

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Victoria Mills

Riverway, Lowerford

Barrowford

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98938

NGR: SD 8594 3940

Surveyed: 11 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98938

Barrowford

NGR: SD 8594 3940

Victoria Mills, Riverway, Lowerford

SUMMARY

Victoria Mills was built in the early 19th century by Richard Berry who commenced business employing hand-loom weavers and then built a cotton-spinning mill. Berry was in business by 1824 and the mill, though not necessarily as early as this, is shown next to the Barrowford Beck on a map of 1844. It is two storeys high and eight bays long, is built of coursed stone rubble and must have been steam powered. During the second half of the 19th century warehousing was added to the mill which also converted to integrated working on site. A series of single-storey weaving sheds was built running south from the spinning mill and east across to Gisburn Road. The sheds are multi-phase and there are two warehouse and yarn preparation blocks, both of two storeys with attics. Offices were also built at the site entrance. All the buildings are of stone. The mill is in good condition although there has been some demolition of the weaving sheds.

HISTORY

Victoria Mills was built in the early 19th century by Richard Berry, who commenced business by employing hand-loom weavers. The site of the mill is shown as a vacant plot of land, owned by William Nutter and sandwiched between Barrowford Beck (later Pendle Water) and the old, pre-turnpike road, on a plan surveyed on

24 November 1813.¹ The inclusion of Richard Bury (Berry) in a list of cotton spinners and manufacturers in 1824² may not be sufficient evidence to date the mill to pre-1824, but it is shown on the 1844 map (Fig 1a),³ on which it is named 'Cotton Factory',⁴ and it continued in the name of Richard Berry and Son until the mid 20th century.⁵ In 1854 and 1879 the firm was described as cotton spinners and manufacturers, but subsequently they were just described as cotton manufacturers, implying that only weaving was undertaken. Manufacturing, that is weaving, was initially undertaken on hand looms, off site, but during the second half of the 19th century extensive steam-powered weaving sheds were built on the site, and these are shown on the 1890-1 map (Fig 1b).⁶ The sheds were built across the old, pre-turnpike road and up to the edge of what had originated in 1807 as the Gisburn to Marsden turnpike.⁷ Few changes are shown on the 1910 and 1929-30 maps.⁸ By 1963 the site was no longer used for textiles, and in 1998 the weaving sheds on its eastern half were demolished, most of the surviving buildings being occupied by the Talbot Plating Company Limited.

¹ E M J Miller (ed), *A walk through Barrowford* (Barrowford, 1983), 6.

² Baines, *History of Lancashire* (1824), quoted in Jesse Blakey, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 220.

³ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

⁴ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

⁵ See Mannex, Barrett and Kelly's *Directories* for 1854, 1879, 1887, 1893, 1902, 1911, 1923, 1924, 1933 and 1941.

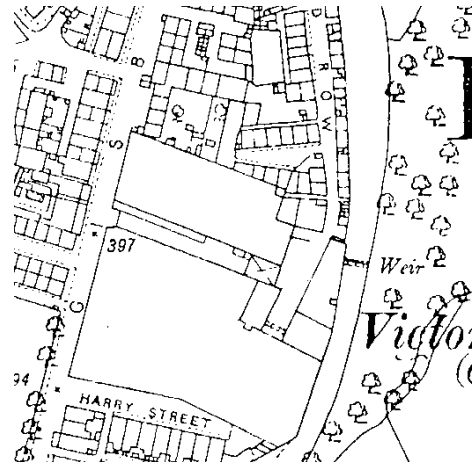
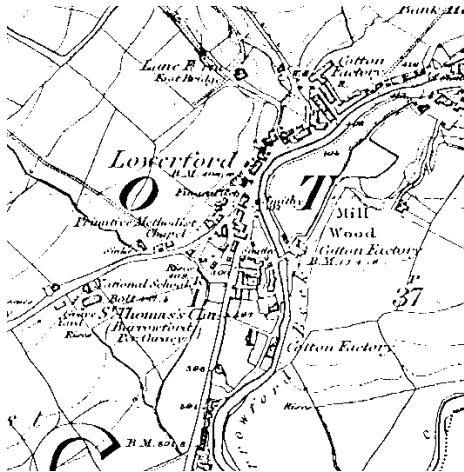
⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1890-1, published 1893.

⁷ Miller 1985, 6-7.

⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932.

DESCRIPTION

Victoria Mills stands on a flat site on the western bank of Pendle Water, formerly



Barrowford Beck, at the southern end of Lowerford. The earliest building stands next to the stream and there were then extensions along and away from the stream (Figs 2, 3).

The original mill

The first mill on the site, built in the northern half of a plot of land shown in 1813 and 1844 sandwiched between the stream on the east and the old, pre-turnpike, road on the west, is a steam-powered cotton-spinning mill. Gabled to north and south, and two storeys high, it is built of coursed stone rubble with a slate roof. Its west side wall to the former road is eight bays long but the southern end of the east side wall has been rebuilt leaving just seven bays of this elevation, the southern one with what appears to be a door into a lost privy. Windows have rectangular stone lintels, those on the road front more regular than the others, in particular those on the first floor which run as part of a continuous band. The northern bay on the road front houses a door with a monolithic surround on the

ground floor and a taking-in door over, while the two ground-floor bays at the south end are wide arched openings with keyblocks. They cannot be for waterwheels, since there is no evidence of water supply to the mill, and nor do they seem to relate to a steam engine, so they are likely to be for boilers, even though the chimney, a square, tapering stone rubble structure, is set against the outside of the north-east corner of the mill.



Additions to the original mill

Maps show that between 1844 and 1890 there was massive expansion on the site with storeyed additions to the north end of the original spinning mill and weaving sheds, evidently of three phases, built to the south and west, across the old road and up to what originated as the turnpike road.

The warehouse (Fig 4) added to the north end of the spinning mill is a gabled three-bay structure of stone rubble, squared to the mill yard to the west. It has irregular fenestration to the east but to the west is more regular and has in its southern bay a wide vehicle door with a taking-in door over, both abutting the corner of the original mill. The vehicle door has an interrupted jamb, the taking-in door a monolithic door.

The office and warehouse (Fig 4) added to the north end of the warehouse just described is also two storeyed though slightly lower. It is gabled with stone rubble walls squared to the mill yard. Its fenestration is irregular and includes several two-light windows, two of them to the first-floor office at the north end which is

reached by an external steps to a door with a monolithic surround set centrally in



the gable. The warehouse part has a pedestrian door with a monolithic surround and a wide vehicle door at the north end of the yard elevation.

There appear to be at least four or five distinct phases in the development of the weaving sheds on the site. The weaving shed built immediately south of the spinning mill, attached to its south end but built out across the site of the old road, may be the earliest even though it may incorporate parts of an even earlier building. The shed is single storeyed with squared rubble walls to the stream and has a saw-tooth roof with parapet walls to east and west and north-facing glazed lights. The wall to the stream has gutter-ends projecting through it and feeding into downpipes, but it also has a series of ten blocked windows with sills but not lintels which are likely to survive from an earlier building. The two-storey block at the north end, one bay wide, has different fenestration and seems to be a later remodelling.

The weaving shed attached to the west side of the shed just described has a saw-tooth roof with west-facing glazed lights and a nine-bay long warehouse and yarn preparation block of two storeys and attics across its north end (Fig 5). The south wall of the weaving shed onto Harry Street has squared rubble walls with the gable ends forming the wallhead. Square ventilation openings in them are not necessarily original. The westernmost bay of the five-bay shed has a door with a monolithic surround. The two west-facing bays west of the above shed may be an addition to that shed or be part of the larger shed which ran up to Gisburn Road, had north-facing saw-tooth roofs and a flat-topped wall to Harry Street (Fig 6). One gable end has a round-headed ventilation window with a monolithic surround.

A further freestanding weaving shed, now demolished, stood at the north-west corner of the site, running back from a two-storey warehouse and yarn-preparation block which still stands. The shed was single storeyed and had a main line shaft supported on corbels projecting from the inner face of the south wall and driven via gearing in the ground floor of the multi-storey block. This block is gabled, of two storeys and attics, and seven bays long. It is built of squared stone rubble with a slate roof. The interior has four brick jack arches on the ground floor.

METHODOLOGY

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Spring Field Mill

Gisburn Road

Blacko

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 99027

NGR: SD 8567 4166

Surveyed: 6 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99027

Blacko

NGR: SD 8567 4166

Spring Field Mill, Gisburn Road

SUMMARY

Spring Field Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill between 1844 and 1891, probably around 1850. Originally powered by a beam engine, a horizontal engine was later installed in a second engine house built beside the first.

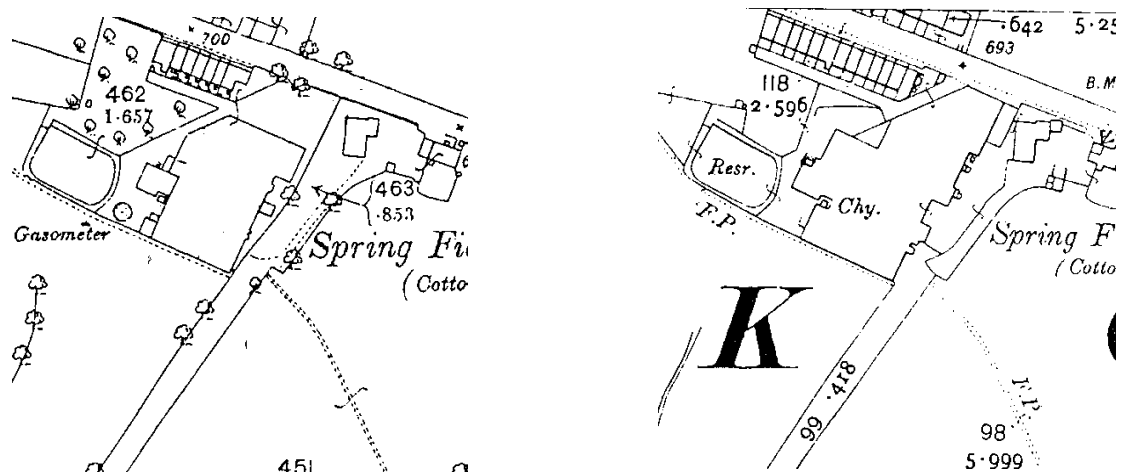
The mill was extended in two phases, reaching its fullest extent by 1910. It is built of coursed and random stone rubble and originally had a reservoir and gasometer to the west. In 1999 it was in use as a rag warehouse.

HISTORY

Spring Field Mill stands in the hamlet of Blacko which has been a civil parish in its own right since the Local Government Act of 1894 but was formerly part of the township of Barrowford. The mill is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844 but is shown on the map of 1891 (Fig 1a) and had reached its fullest extent by the time of the revision of 1910 (Fig 1b). The mill is listed in a trade directory of 1911 when R Trafford & Co, cotton manufacturers, were the occupiers, also there in 1923 and 1933.¹ Earlier directories do not mention the mill although it was

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 48, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.5, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *Barrett's General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 601; *Barrett's General and Commercial Directory*

undoubtedly operating before this its probable date of construction around 1850



being based on the evidence of its beam-engine house, which was later superseded by a horizontal-engine house. In 1999 the mill was in good condition, although the chimney had been substantially reduced, and was in use as a rag warehouse.

DESCRIPTION

Spring Field Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in three phases and occupying a sloping site in a rural position on the south side of Gisburn Road, to the north west of the linear hamlet of Blacko.

The original mill

The original mill, built around 1850, comprised a warehouse and yarn preparation block with a weaving shed to the rear, attached side beam-engine house, boiler house and chimney. There was a reservoir to the west and the map of 1891 also shows a gasometer between the mill and the reservoir.

of Burnley & District (Preston, 1923), 643; ibid., 1933, 577.



The gabled warehouse and yarn preparation block is two storeys high and built of random stone rubble with a slate roof. It is 12 bays long with rock-faced lintels and sills to the windows. Entry was via a large segmental-headed arched vehicle entrance in the west wall. The engine house, for a beam engine, is attached to the north-west side of the shed and part of the west gable of the multi-storey block. It was entered through a door in the narrow north-east side and is tall, narrow and evidently windowless, with a large bearing box set high in the south-east wall, its monolithic stone seating



is clearly visible externally (Fig 2), probably to take the pivot of the entablature beam. The boiler house is behind the engine house and is of roughly coursed stone rubble. It was originally detached from the square stone chimney (Fig 3) behind it and was probably gabled but it has latterly been built up to three storeys in brick and has been extended.

The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 4), to the rear of the multi-storey block, has a saw-tooth roof of 10 bays, glazed to the north east, and side walls of random rubble, buttressed to the south west and with rectangular vents, one to each roof bay, in the south-east wall. Internally the roof is supported by cast-iron columns with pronounced bolting brackets to carry line shafting.

Pre 1891-2 additions

By 1891-2 a second engine house, for a horizontal engine, had been added, side by side with the original engine house, and a second weaving shed had been added to the north east of the multi-storey block.

The rectangular-plan horizontal engine house has been engulfed in a later two-storey hipped block but it is shown on the map of 1891 as a small rectangular block attached to the north-west side by side with the position of the original beam-engine house. Internally the engine bed survives but it has been concreted over forming a ramped-up area in the centre. The recess for the flywheel is also



detectable, though it has been filled in, and retains a large central bearing box (Fig 5).

The single-storey northern addition to the weaving shed is sub-rectangular in plan and has a saw-tooth roof of four bays, glazed to the north west. It is built of coursed stone rubble.

1891-1910 additions

Between 1891 and 1910, perhaps in about 1905-6, the suggested date of the now-removed single horizontal tandem compound engine, by C Whittaker & Co Ltd of Accrington,² the weaving shed was again extended to the north, to meet the

² Notes and photographs by George Watkins in the National Monuments Record, George

Gisburn Road, and the horizontal engine house was incorporated into the building of a larger block on the north-west side.



The single-storey northern extension to the weaving shed, rope driven, is also sub-rectangular in plan and built of coursed stone rubble although the masonry used here is larger than that used elsewhere. There is a saw-tooth roof of seven bays, glazed to the north

east, behind parapet walls. The north-west corner has rusticated stone quoins and the north-east corner has smooth stone quoins. The south-east wall, now fronting an alley, includes an elaborate doorway and window, both now blocked, suggesting a formal pedestrian entrance into an office although the purpose of this in this position is unclear. The doorway has interrupted jambs and fluted corbels supporting a flat stone doorcase with cornice and the window, originally stone mullioned, has a smooth stone sill and lintel with cornice and quoined sides (Fig 6).

The engine house was incorporated into a four-bay two-storey block built of coursed stone rubble with tooled stone quoins to the corners and a double-span hipped roof of slate. The windows have monolithic surrounds.

METHODOLOGY

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Brierfield Mills

Glen Way

Brierfield

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98939

NGR: SD 8446 3652

Surveyed: 23,24 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98939

Brierfield

NGR: SD 8446 3652

Brierfield Mills, Glen Way

SUMMARY

Brierfield Mills stands on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. It was established before 1844 as a steam-powered cotton mill but the buildings shown on the 1844 map, evidently a spinning mill and a weaving shed, were demolished when the site was rebuilt and substantially extended between 1868 and 1907. These new buildings survive and comprise a multi-storey spinning mill dated 1868 parallel to but set slightly back from the canal, an attached two-storey building, three weaving sheds, two freestanding east of the spinning mill and terraced into the valley side, and both of pre-1891 date, and one south of the spinning mill dated 1907, and offices. The buildings are all of squared stone rubble and steam powered. The 1868 spinning mill is four storeys high, 39 bays long, with a central engine and boiler house; it is of fireproof construction. The two weaving sheds to its east are single storeyed, the sheds with three-storeyed warehouse and yarn preparation blocks at their downhill ends. The south-east shed incorporates a stair tower surmounted by a later clock tower and is built up to a two-storey range with a warehouse block formerly linked to the railway and a later Italianate office block. The south-east shed of 1907 is single-storeyed with its own corner engine house. The buildings survive in good condition although one of the weaving sheds is now just a facade with a modern interior.

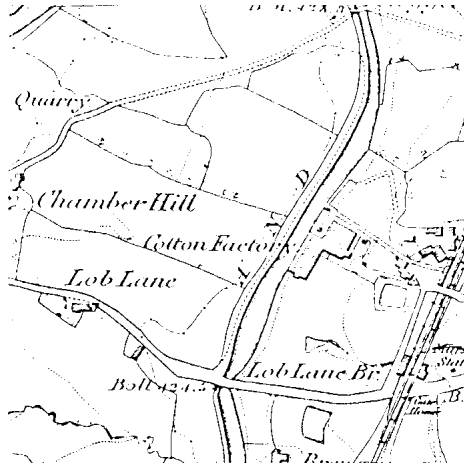
HISTORY

Brierfield Mills was built before 1844, its first cartographic depiction, on the bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. It is called 'Cotton Factory' on this map¹ but on later maps of 1891, 1910 and 1929 it is identified as 'Brierfield Mills (Cotton)'.² There was considerable rebuilding on the site between 1844 (Fig 1a) and 1891 (Fig 1b), and between 1891 and 1910 (Fig 1c), but only minor additions by 1929 (Fig 1d).

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

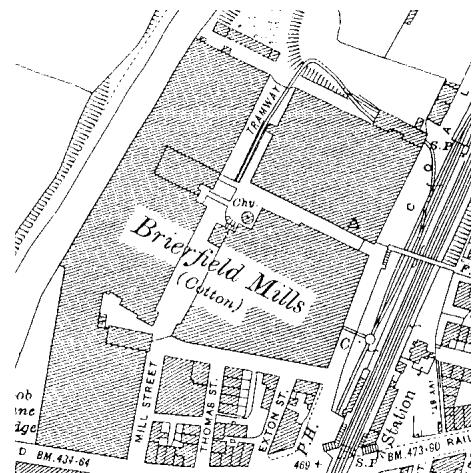
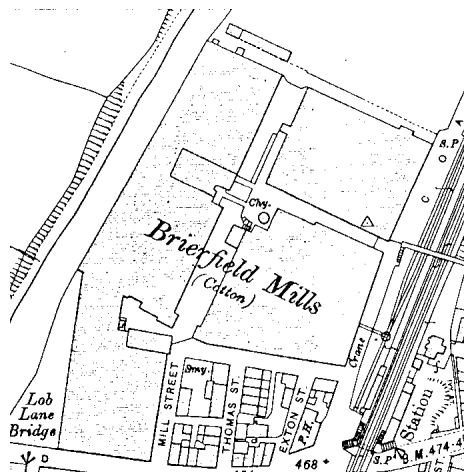
² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.10, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912, *ibid.*, revised 1929, published 1932.

Until the early 20th century the mill was occupied by Tunstill Brothers, cotton spinners and manufacturers, who were succeeded by Brierfield Mills Limited, who



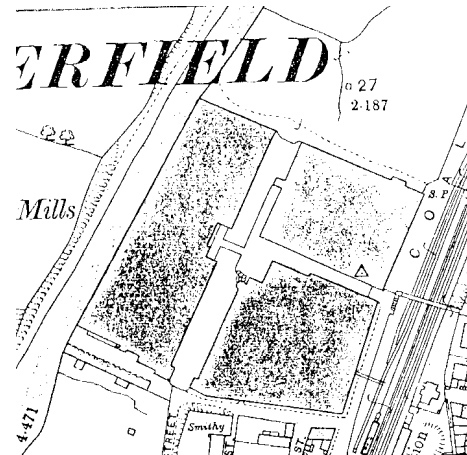
were in the same branches of the industry.³

By 1963 Smith and Nephew Textiles occupied the mill. They were spinners, weavers, dyers, bleachers and surgical dressing manufacturers who also ran Glen Mills in Colne, Coronation Mill, Burnley and Victoria Mills, Cloughfield, Rawtenstall.⁴ The same company still occupies the mill.



³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 147; *ibid.* 1887, 275; *ibid.* 1893, 284; *ibid.* 1902, 392; *ibid.* 1911, 579; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 453; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 357; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 363; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 534.

⁴ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 240.



DESCRIPTION

Brierfield Mills stands on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal on a site which slopes tolerably steeply up to the east.

The early mill

The earliest mill buildings are those shown on the 1844 map (Fig 1a) but they have all been demolished. They appear to have been a wide, rectangular spinning mill built along the side of the canal and a large square building, evidently a weaving shed, overlapping the north-east corner. There is no sign of a water source and it must be presumed that the buildings were steam powered. There was a reservoir for the engine on the hillside above the mill, close to the railway line. It is probable that the spinning mill was of early 19th-century date - its width would imply that, and that the powerloom shed must have dated from the 1820s or later.

The 1868 spinning mill and associated buildings

The spinning mill, dated by the inscription AD 1868 on the stair tower at its south-east corner, is a massive 39-bay long, 8-bay deep four-storey building (Fig 2) built of random stone rubble with an overall moulded and bracketed cornice. It has a four-bay wide near central engine and boiler house, recessed back very slightly on the frontage to the canal and more deeply towards the mill yard. Its windows have been altered on the canal side but to the yard there is a mixture of segmental and round-arched heads and two-light windows over wide ground-floor openings. The steam engine was scrapped after a change of ownership in 1959. It was not the original engine, which was probably a beam engine, but a triple expansion horizontal engine built in 1894 by John Petrie and Company of Rochdale.⁵ The main working areas of the mill to the north and south of the power source are 17 and 20 bays long, respectively, and have tall segmental-headed windows. The



return walls facing the engine house recess on the yard elevation each contain a tier of taking-in doors to service the north and south ends. A stair tower rises at the south-east corner and privy towers with small windows project at the south-west and north-west corners. The roof has four spans over

the working areas and three over the engine house. Inside, the two main working areas have two rows of cast-iron columns with D-sectioned bolting heads supporting cast-iron beams from which spring segmental brick jack arches.

⁵ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine* (Second edition, Ashbourne, 1999), 110, plate 73. See also notes and photographs in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Brierfield Mills, Brierfield, WAT549.

The spinning mill is built obliquely to the canal, some distance back from it, and the area between the two is filled by a phased two-storey building whose first floor is level with and now runs through into the ground floor of the mill. The building was probably used for some of the preparatory stages of the spinning process. Map evidence shows that this building had reached its present extent by 1891, although whether any of it is contemporary with that building is at present uncertain. The building, which is built up to the edge of the canal and is therefore trapezoidal in shape, is constructed of random stone rubble. It is of three main phases which comprise a central 14-bay block with a 12-bay south addition and a 16-bay north addition. The central block has windows with rectangular lintels and quoined sides, the south addition rectangular iron or steel lintels and thinner quoined sides, and the north addition segmental-arched heads. The north addition is in the style of the 1868 mill, which it nevertheless abuts, but it cannot be the earliest part of the two-storey building since it is clearly later than the central block whose north end wall it is built against. There is no equivalent junction at the south end of the central block, and it may be that the addition is in part a rebuild. The south end wall of the addition is of red brick, running back from a quoined corner, an arrangement which would have eased future extension had it been required. The parapet wall over the north addition and central block is of a single build, and may be contemporary with the north addition. The parapet over the south addition is later

than the rest of the parapet as well as of the building it surmounts.



South-east weaving shed and warehouses

The south-east weaving shed and associated warehouses fill the area

between the mill yard and Glen Way, formerly Coalpit Road. The site slopes quite steeply up to the east with the result that the main floor of the weaving shed is

level with the basement of the warehouse on Glen Way but with the first floor of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block facing the mill yard.

There are three distinct buildings under review: the multi-storey block facing the mill yard and the weaving shed behind it (Fig 3), and the warehouse at the southern end of the frontage to Glen Way. All are built of roughly squared random rubble with bracketed eaves cornices all round, in parts more elaborate than in others. They are stylistically similar to the 1868 spinning mill and may be close to it in date.

The three-storey block facing the mill yard served as the offices, warehouse and yarn preparation block. The offices and mill entrance are at the south end, with a side door onto Pendle Road set in a pavilion-like end bay which is distinguished from the rest of the range in its scale and detail. The main range to the north of this single bay is 16 bays long with a semicircular-ended stair tower projecting into the yard at its north end. The windows of the main part have segmental-arched heads, those of the staircase and the offices round-arched heads with smooth archivolt and keyblocks. The ground floor at the north end of the main range housed boilers and behind it and the staircase is the engine house. This is a tall structure with a two-bay wide north elevation, and it is placed against the outer face of the west wall of the weaving shed. It contained a steam engine made by John Petrie before it was scrapped (see George Watkins records noted above). The stone chimney, now demolished, stood to the immediate north.⁶ The stair tower is surmounted by a later Italianate clock tower with a pavilion roof and ornamental iron cresting.

The weaving shed is single-storeyed over a part basement at its downhill, west

⁶ The chimney can be seen in an old aerial photograph reproduced in John Bentley, *Old Brierfield* (Colne, 1984), unpaginated.

end. The shed has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights and hipped and slated return slopes. A parapet wall hides the roof, and to the south the end wall has five round-headed ventilation openings, all with ashlar surrounds. The basement under the weaving shed has segmental-arched windows to the exterior, a door next to the engine house and a wider one for vehicles and goods onto Pendle Road. The latter elevation has seven windows into the basement as well as the wide door.

The warehouse on Glen Way (Fig 4) abuts the weaving shed to its west but occupies only two thirds of the road frontage: the offices to its north are later, though pre-1891. The warehouse, which was originally linked to the nearby railway line, evidently served the whole mill rather than just the south-east weaving shed, no doubt being used for deliveries and despatch of materials and goods. The building is two storeys high over a basement, 10 bays long by four deep, with a slated hipped roof hidden behind a parapet wall. The building is of some architectural distinction since it faced the railway and public road. Its front and side windows are set in recessed bays, those at first floor round headed, those below with rectangular lintels. Off-centre on the street front, set in a shallow break



forward, is a wide goods entrance with a rusticated, round-arched head. There are two closely-spaced first-floor windows over it; the overall pediment is recent: it is not shown on an early photograph held at the mill. The maps of 1891 and later all show that a railway line ran directly into this warehouse,

through the wide door. There was a turntable where the line joined the track at the end of the siding near the mill.

Offices

The offices built against the north end wall of the warehouse on Glen Way were built before 1891. They are in a heavier style than the rest of the mill, having rather monumental detailing, particularly to the door and window heads. The building is two storeys high over a basement, six bays long by two deep (Fig 5). It is built of squared stone rubble, tooled rather than smooth, and has an off-centre front door in a bay surmounted by an original open pediment. The ground-floor openings all have round-arched heads with keyed-in and moulded archivolt, while



on the first floor, which has both a floor and a lintel band, the windows have stilted segmental-arched heads with moulded archivolt and keyblocks. There is an overall bracketed and moulded cornice and parapet to the hipped roof. The interior has a fireproof ground floor with segmental brick arches visible at

least at the north end. At the north-west corner a door opens into a covered passage down part of the north side of the south-east weaving shed.

North-east weaving shed

The north-east weaving shed runs back from Glen Way on its east to a multi-storey block facing the mill yard. Like the south-east weaving shed, its site slopes quite steeply and the main floor of the shed therefore runs in at the second floor of the multi-storey block. The interior of the shed has been completely removed and a new roof put in place, but the early aerial photograph shows it to have had a north-light roof. The east wall onto Glen Way has been rebuilt in a style different from the original walls: the latter are of random rubble with a simple bracketed cornice, while the new wall, evidently built forward, is of tooled squared rubble with a crenellated and moulded cornice. The shed may have taken its power from an

existing steam engine.

The multi-storey block to the mill yard is three storeys high and built of random rubble with rusticated quoins. It is 16 bays long by three deep, the eighth bay from the south being a single-bay wide projection containing the staircase. Round-headed windows light the stair while the other windows are segmental headed. The inner, north-east corner of the block has water closets, indicated by pairs of narrow round-headed windows.



South-west weaving shed

The south-west weaving shed (Fig 6) runs from the south wall of the spinning mill south to Clitheroe Road. Its walls are of roughly-faced squared stone rubble to all except the west, which is of red brick, and it comprises a basically rectangular single-storeyed shed with an engine house set at the north-east corner. The engine house is a tall rectangular building, four bays by two, with a bracketed cornice. The windows have segmental-arched heads and in the east wall there is a stone inscribed AD 1907. George Watkins records that there was an engine by John Petrie in this (see source quoted above). The shed is single storeyed with a saw-tooth roof glazed to the north.

Garage

Map evidence indicates that the garage at the north-east corner of the site, north of the weaving shed, was built between 1910 and 1930. It is a tall single storey building, gabled, and built of squared stone rubble. Its original function is not

entirely clear. The same maps shows that a tramway was laid into the site between the same two dates: a line was taken from the railway siding into a building added to the east end of the north side of the north-east shed. Wagons were evidently lowered down within this to the tramway which ran beside the shed and then along the mill yard as far as centre of the spinning mill.

METHODOLOGY

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Hollin Bank Mill

Hollin Mill Street

Brierfield

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98940

NGR: SD 8458 3691

Surveyed: 23 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor and Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98940

Brierfield

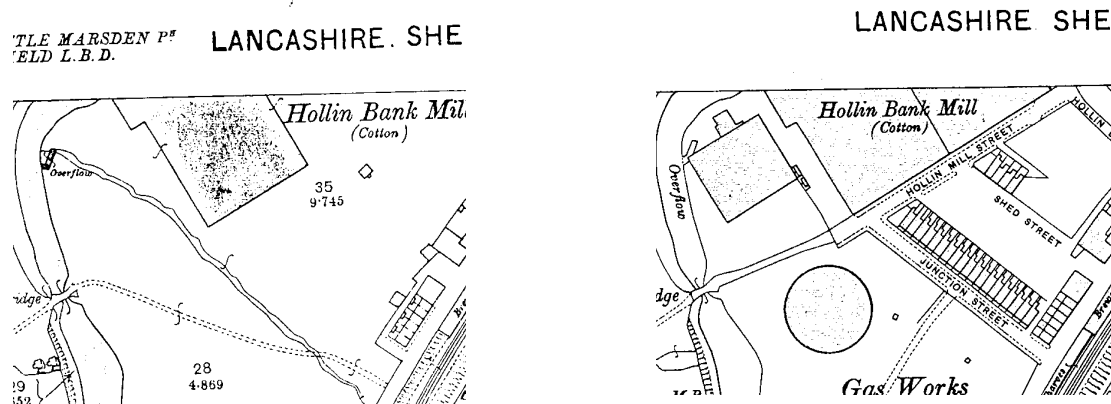
NGR: SD 8458 3691

Hollin Bank Mill, Hollin Mill Street

SUMMARY

Hollin Bank Mill is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill of at least two phases. It is built of coursed and random stone rubble on gently sloping ground on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The first phase, built between 1887 and 1891, consists of a south-west facing multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a tall engine house and broad boiler house, for three boilers, attached side by side to its north-west end. Adjacent to the boiler house, directly on the canal bank, is the circular red brick chimney which bears the name Hollin Bank picked out in white brick. Behind the multi-storey block is a large single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof glazed to the north east. The second phase, built between 1891 and 1910, saw the mill doubling in size as a mirror-image version of the first phase was built back to back against it. It consisted of a second weaving shed butting against the first and with its own multi-storey block across its north-east end. A straight joint in the south-east weaving shed wall suggests that this part of the mill might itself have been built in more than one phase. The original engine and boiler complex continued to supply power to the entire site. The mill was severely damaged by a fire in 1917 but was evidently rebuilt soon after. The multi-storey blocks have been much altered but otherwise all of the mill components survive in fairly good condition. A freestanding red-brick shed and warehouse immediately west of the mill, built between 1891 and

1910, may or may not have been associated with the mill. It is not individually identified on maps nor in directories.



HISTORY

Cartographic and trade directory evidence indicates that Hollin Bank Mill was built between 1887 and 1891. There is no reference to the mill in trade directories of 1887 or 1893¹ but it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891² (Fig 1a) and a trade directory of 1902³ lists two occupiers of 'Hollin Bank Mill', Dyson & Sons, sateen manufacturers, and George Shaw & Co, cotton manufacturers, and five occupiers of 'Hollin Bank Shed', John Greenwood & Sons, John Haythornthwaite, Townsley Bros, Samuel Walters & Co and Whitehead & Co, all cotton manufacturers. It is assumed that the Hollin Bank Mill and Shed here referred to are the same or possibly two halves of the same mill complex, as it had doubled in

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887); *ibid.*, 1893.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.10, surveyed 1891, published 1893; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.6 surveyed 1890-1, published 1893.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 398, 390.

size by 1910 as the Ordnance Survey map of that year shows (Fig 1b).⁴ It is possible, but perhaps unlikely, that the freestanding shed and warehouse immediately west of the mill is the shed referred to. The mill was severely damaged by fire on 9 June 1917, a photograph of the aftermath shows the south-west multi-storey block as a burnt out shell.⁵ The mill was rebuilt and continued as a room and power cotton-weaving mill at least until 1941 when J Greenwood & Sons Ltd, Taylor & Snowden Ltd, Edmondson & Co (Brierfield) Ltd, J Bates Ltd, and J Stansfield & Co, all cotton manufacturers, are listed in a trade directory of that year.⁶ In 1998 the mill was in retail and warehouse use.

DESCRIPTION

Hollin Bank Mill (Fig 2) is steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in two main phases, between 1887 and 1910, on sloping ground on the south bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

The original mill

The original mill, built between 1887 and 1891, consists of a south-west facing three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) built of coursed stone rubble, now with a flat roof. The front elevation is 20 bays long, the first two bays from the north have been extended forward, with vehicle entrances with cast-iron lintels with fielded panels in the 3rd, 8th, 13th and 18th bays from the left, each with a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround in the adjacent bay to

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.10, revised 1910, published 1912; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.6, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁵ John Bentley, *Old Brierfield* (Colne, 1984), 49.

⁶ Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 532.

the right and left. The south-east elevation is four bays wide but is largely obscured by modern plant housing. The rear elevation is 20 bays long with two storeys visible above the line of the shed. This block was severely damaged by the fire of 1917.



The engine house and boiler house (Fig 4) are attached side by side at the north-west end of the multi-storey block. The engine house is built of coursed squared stone rubble with a tall narrow round-headed window to the front and four round-headed windows to the north-west side.



It housed a 1000hp twin-cylinder horizontal steam engine installed in 1892.⁷ The adjacent boiler house is also constructed of coursed squared rubble and has been lowered but it retains three boiler doors with cast-iron lintels in the front elevation. It first housed a single boiler but two more were added in stages as the second part of the shed was built.

Beyond the boiler house is the detached circular tapering red brick chimney, originally attached by a flue, which has the name HOLLIN BANK picked out in white brick close to the top.

Beyond the boiler house is the detached circular tapering red brick chimney, originally attached by a flue, which has the name HOLLIN BANK picked out in white brick close to the top.

Behind the multi-storey block is the single-storey weaving shed which has a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north east with slated return slopes, behind parapet walls

⁷ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine: Volume 2* (Newton Abbot, 1971), 14.

to the north west (built of random rubble) and south east (built of coursed rubble).

The north-west wall has the ends of 14 valley gutters feeding into downpipes and terminates in a quoined corner against which the later weaving shed butts.



1891-1910

Between 1891 and 1910 the mill was doubled in size as a second weaving shed and multi-storey block were built back to back with the original mill, the original power source being enhanced

accordingly. The building of these additions was phased although the complete mill is shown on the map of 1910. The multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 5) has been substantially rebuilt and now has a triple-span hipped roof.

It is two storeys high and is built of coursed stone rubble, the front elevation is 26 bays long. It was built in two phases, the south-east section, 14 bays long, having been built first. The original end wall rises above the present roof line and the division between the two builds is marked on the front elevation by a straight joint between the 14th and 15th bay from the left. The earlier section has stone sills and inserted cast-iron lintels, replacing stone, to the windows and some of the stonework is fire reddened. The south-east elevation has a large segmental headed entrance, which may be inserted, with flanking windows.

The later section, 12 bays long, is of two-storeys high over a basement. The north-east elevation is of coursed stone rubble with smooth stone lintels and sills to the windows. The north-west elevation is of random rubble to the ground and first floor but of coursed squared rubble above. There are four downpipes with reset rainwater heads, probably of recent origin, each dated 1885.

To the rear is the second single-storey weaving shed, butting against the first. The north-west parapet wall is built of random rubble while the south-east wall is of coursed squared rubble although much of the facing stone has been stripped away.

A straight joint part way along suggests phased construction, probably related to the phasing of the multi-storey block.

The freestanding red-brick building (Fig 6) constructed immediately west of the mill, also between 1891 and 1910, has a two-storey warehouse block and single-storey shed. The warehouse block is 17 bays long, the upper storey a top-lit attic, and its outer walls are of pier and panel construction. Windows have stone sills and lintels. The shed has a north-east facing saw-tooth roof supported on cast-iron columns with D-sectioned bolting heads.

METHODOLOGY

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Lob Lane Shed

Clitheroe Road

Brierfield

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98941

NGR: SD 8438 3638

Surveyed: 23 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98941

Brierfield

NGR: SD 8438 3638

Lob Lane Shed, Clitheroe Road

SUMMARY

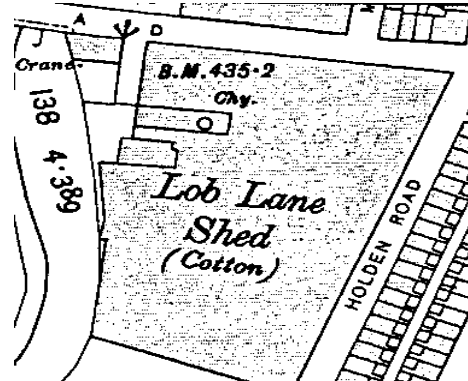
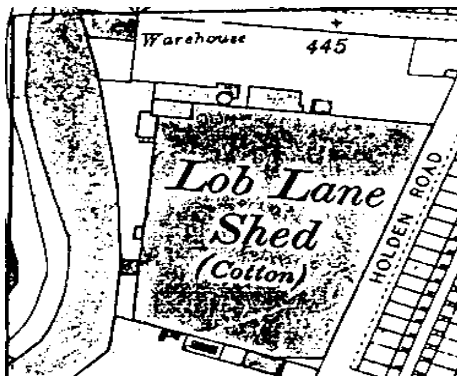
Lob Lane Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of at least two building phases on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The first phase, built between 1844 and 1879, consists of a single-storey weaving shed of random stone rubble with a tall, narrow beam-engine house in the north-west with an attached boiler house and circular chimney. The second phase, built between 1891 and 1910, saw a large multi-storey warehouse block with a multi-pitched roof built across the west side of the weaving shed, up to the canal side, and a second lower and wider engine house built next to the first. Further single and multi-storey buildings were also built, probably extensions to the shed, on the north side of the site infilling the land up to Clitheroe Road. All the mill buildings survived in good condition in 1998.

HISTORY

Lob Lane Shed is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844¹ but is listed in a trade directory of 1879 when the occupier was John S Veevers, cotton manufacturer, also present in 1887, 1893 and 1902.² The mill is shown on the

¹ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 148; *ibid.*, 1887,



Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Fig 1a)³ and on that of 1910⁴ (Fig 1b) by which time it had been enlarged to the north and west. The mill survived in good condition in 1998 and was used for light manufacturing.

DESCRIPTION

Lob Lane Shed (Fig 2) is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on a sloping site on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal on the western edge of Brierfield. It was built between 1844 and 1879 and substantially enlarged between 1891 and 1910.

The original mill

The original mill, built between 1844 and 1879 and shown on the map of 1891, comprised a single-storey weaving shed with a 13-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north with slated return slopes, with parapet walls of random stone rubble to the east, south and west. A tall narrow beam engine house (Fig 3) is situated within the north-west corner, built of coursed stone rubble with a narrow rectangular window facing the canal and a round-headed window, now mostly obscured, on the rear elevation. It is flat roofed and now bears a water tank. Adjacent to the

275; *ibid.*, 1893, 284; *ibid.*, 1902, 392.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.10, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.10, revised 1910, published 1912.



engine house was the boiler house which is shown on the map of 1891 to have been a long and narrow building attached to the side of the engine house and shed. Its original form was largely obliterated by the subsequent additions although the

vestigial remains of what appear to be double boiler doors with a continuous cast-iron lintel, facing the canal, do survive as part of the later building over. Incorporated into the rear of the boiler house is the circular tapering stone chimney.

1891-1910

Between 1891 and 1910 the mill was extended to the west and north, as shown on the map of 1910. A large four-storey block (Fig 4), probably a warehouse, with a multi-pitch gabled roof of ten bays was built along the western side of the shed



utilising and raising the existing parapet wall and infilling the land up to the canal onto which its principal, 19-bay, elevation fronts. It is built of well coursed stone rubble with quoins to the corners. The western elevation along the canal has some pretension, its windows set within recessed panels and its gables with banded masonry and shaped valley ends. A two-storey two-bay triangular projection even has a pierced balustrade. A door with

a wide canopy above occupies the 3rd bay from the south, presumably for the loading and unloading of goods directly from the canal.

A second, wide gabled engine house (Fig 3), for a horizontal engine, was attached to and set back from the north end of the warehouse but projecting forward, partly in front of and on the south side of the original engine house which it butts. It is built of coursed squared stone and the western gable end evidently had a three-light mullioned window with a panel above although the window has been blocked and the wall partially rebuilt. The panel is empty.

Continuing the range northwards is a large block of three storeys and part basement, probably a warehouse, with a double-span pitched roof facing Clitheroe Road. It is built of coursed squared stone to the canal front and of red brick to all other elevations. It is built over and incorporates the former boiler house, butting against the original engine house. The canal front is eight bays long with a pedestrian entrance in the first and second bays and a vehicle entrance in the third bay from the road. The former have monolithic surrounds and fanlights, the latter quoined sides and a cast-iron lintel. The east elevation is also eight bays long with taking-in doors in the fourth bay from the left culminating in a gabled top. The street elevation is six bays wide. The rest of the site appears to be an extension of the weaving shed and is bounded by a perimeter wall of red brick fronting Clitheroe Road to the north and partially returning along Holden Road to butt against the original shed wall.

METHODOLOGY

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surviving sites.



Richard Street Mill

Richard Street

Brierfield

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98942

NGR: SD 8490 3612

Surveyed: 24 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98942

Brierfield

NGR: SD 8490 3612

Richard Street Mill, Richard Street

SUMMARY

Richard Street Mill was built as a cotton-weaving mill between 1911 and 1923. It is of brick and comprises an irregularly-shaped single-storey weaving shed with an attached block at one corner which incorporates the engine house. The brick has been rendered and some changes made to the weaving shed.

HISTORY

Directory evidence indicates that Richard Street Mill was built between 1911 and 1923 since in the latter year Helm Brothers, cotton manufacturers, were listed as its occupants. They were still there in 1924 and 1933 but by 1941 had been replaced by another cotton manufacturer, William Starkie Limited. The mill was not listed in a 1963 textile directory.¹ The site of the mill is clear on the 1909 map but the mill is shown on that of 1929 (Fig 1).² In 1998 the mill was used for the production of items of pre-cast concrete.

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 456; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 357; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 538; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963).

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.11, revised 1909, published 1912; *ibid.* revised 1929, published 1931.

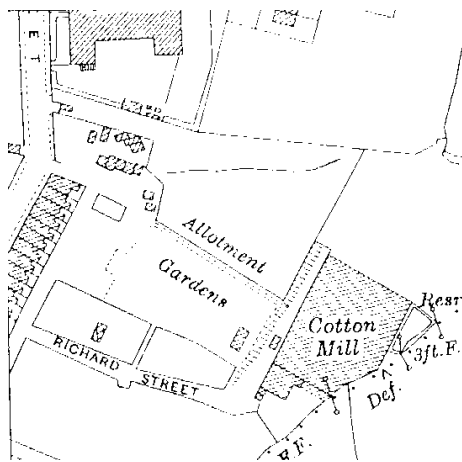
DESCRIPTION

Richard Street Mill was built between 1911 and 1923 on a flat site on the then eastern edge of Brierfield and comprises a weaving shed with a tall corner block which includes the engine house. There was originally a reservoir at the rear of the site.



Richard Street Mill is built of brick which is now rendered and scored to simulate ashlar. Its single-storey weaving shed (Fig 2) is sub-rectangular in shape, its south-east corner taken off to respect a field boundary. The shed has a flat-

topped parapet wall which hides the ends of the glazed north-west facing saw-tooth



roof. The roof is supported on cast-iron columns with south-west facing D-sectioned bolting heads. Some of the roofs have been replaced by pitched roofs, and a number of brown ceramic ridge ventilators have been removed, those surviving stamped with 'KNOWLES LTD DARWEN R^D No., 590883'. Power was taken into the shed along its north-west wall, the line shaft supported on cast-iron

brackets. A line of cast-iron plates to support these brackets is bolted to the outer face of this wall.

Power for the mill came from an engine house attached to its south-west corner and incorporated in a larger building. The engine house is rectangular in shape, taller than the weaving shed, and has a blocked round-headed window in its end wall. The engine may have been a diesel engine since the flue at the corner of the larger building which includes the engine house is small. Whether there was any storage space in the rest of the building is uncertain, but there is certainly no evidence for a conventional multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Albert Works
Wordsworth Road
Colne
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98943

NGR: SD 8863 4035

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98943

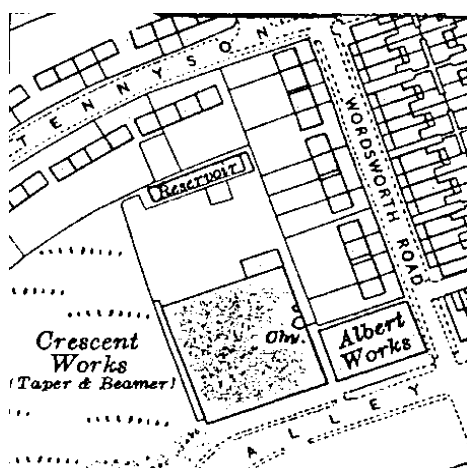
Colne

NGR: SD 8863 4035

Albert Works, Wordsworth Road

SUMMARY

Albert Works, an engineering works built for Ernest A Foulds in the late 1920s, is a tall largely single-storeyed seven-bay long building, rectangular in plan. It is built of



stone to the front and one side, and of brick elsewhere. The interior has a main, unimpeded working area, with angle-iron trusses, and stores and offices, the latter in a two-storeyed section along the rear.

HISTORY

Albert Works stands at the south end of Wordsworth Road at its junction with North Valley Road, which was opened in June 1901.¹ The Works was built in the late 1920s: it is not listed in the 1924 Directory but is shown on the 1930 map on which it is named (Fig 1). In 1933 it was occupied by Ernest A Foulds, in 1911, 1923 and 1924 recorded as a millwright at Windy Bank, but now as an engineer whose business involved electric lifts, hoists, elevators and runways, power

¹ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

transmission, structural steelwork. Foulds was still in Albert Works in 1941, later moving to Derby Street Mill, Colne, taking the site name with them.² In 1998,



together with the former Crescent Works to its immediate west,³ it was occupied by Cleveland Guest Engineering Ltd.

DESCRIPTION

Albert Works (Fig 2) stands at the junction of Wordsworth Road and North Valley Road, on a flat site. Its form is characteristic of an engineering works in being a tall, well-lit single-storey building with an unimpeded interior. It faces south with a yard to its rear and is rectangular in plan, gabled to east and west, its front and east gable walls built of coursed squared rubble, the west gable wall rendered but no doubt of red brick, the material used for the rear wall. The roof is slated.

The front elevation has seven tall windows each with a flush stone surround with a rectangular lintel, interrupted jambs and a projecting sill. Windows of smaller size but with identical surrounds flank and surmount the wide vehicle entrance with its concrete lintel, which is set in the east gable wall and opens off Wordsworth Road.

Towards the rear of the east elevation a door with a monolithic surround opens into a two-storeyed rear range which runs behind the main block, under a continuation of its roof slope, and is lit from a pair of windows with stone surrounds

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 630; *ibid.* 1923, 666; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 455; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 605; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 441.

³ RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 98951, (1999).

on both the ground and first floors. These rooms are likely to have served as offices, with stores further along this side. The rear elevation has a number of windows which, since they were at the rear of the building, have concrete rather than stone lintels.

The interior of Albert Works had one large unimpeded working area occupying most of its floor space and roofed with a series of angle-iron trusses. Stores and offices, as noted, were set to its rear.

METHODOLOGY

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Bankfield Mill

Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98944

NGR: SD 8784 3966

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98944

Colne

NGR: SD 8784 3966

Bankfield Mill, Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Bankfield Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill which was also used briefly in the late 19th century for worsted weaving. It was built between 1853 and 1879, perhaps in the 1850s, and was occupied by the same firm, John Pickles, until about 1968. Its sloping site dictated the unusual form of the original mill and its first extension which both had a single-storey weaving shed terraced into the ground to the rear but built over a basement office, warehouse and yarn preparation range to the front, one end of which housed the engine house and boiler house. Weaving capacity was enlarged in five distinct stages before the mid 20th century, none of the weaving shed extensions being of great size although incrementally they created a large shed whose power was enhanced by the construction of a new engine house at the time of the second mill extension and by the installation of a new steam engine in 1927. A new office range was added during the 1930s. In 1998 much of the mill was used for carpet weaving.

HISTORY

Bankfield Mill stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a

dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Bankfield Mill was built between 1853, when a map shows its site without any buildings, and 1879 when it is mentioned in a directory as occupied by John Pickles, cotton manufacturer whose house was called Bankfield. A John Pickles was listed among the cotton manufacturers in Colne in 1854, his address being New House, and it may be that he built Bankfield Mill. The firm bearing the name John Pickles, later John Pickles Ltd., continued to occupy the mill until about 1968, in 1887 and 1893 being described as cotton and worsted manufacturers but otherwise always as cotton manufacturers.¹ The buildings remained in textile-related use in 1998, the principal occupier being Bronte Carpets Limited.

Successive maps show the growth of Bankfield Mill from a basic rectangular shape, achieved in two stages, in 1891 (Fig 1a), enlarged by 1910 (Fig 1b) and further extended by 1929-30.² A boiler dated 1903 and a steam engine of 1927, both now removed but noted by George Watkins,³ may more precisely date some of these extensions, more of which were added during the mid 20th century. The mill is called Bankfield Mill on all three of the maps, the last two recording its branch as cotton. When first built the mill occupied one corner of a large field to the immediate west of which were two terraces of back-to-back houses, now

¹ Plan of the Recent Erections at Primet Bridge 1853 (supplied by David Morris); Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 216; *ibid.* 1887, 291; *ibid.* 1893, 412; *ibid.* 1902, 572; *ibid.*, 1911, 645; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 675; *ibid.*, 636; *ibid.*, 1941, 464; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267. Pickles ceased manufacturing here in about 1968.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

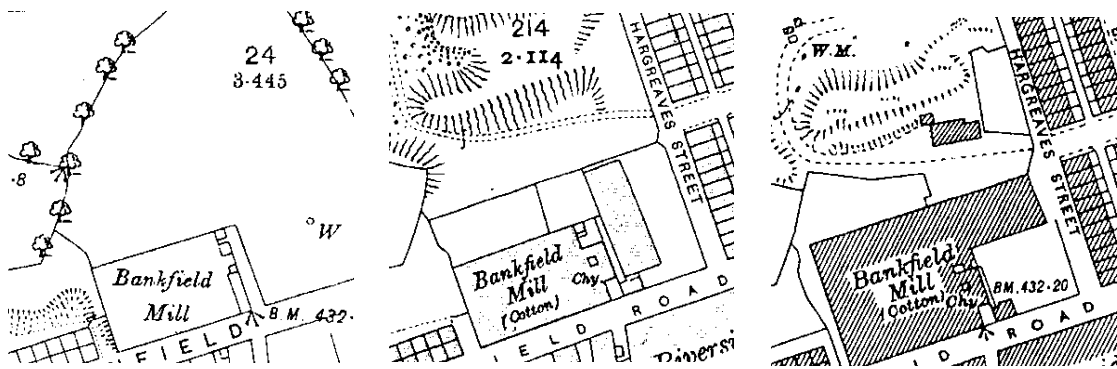
³ National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Bankfield Mill, Colne, Lancashire, WAT1100.



demolished, and no doubt occupied by workers from the various mills, etc., in the vicinity.

Further terraces were built to the immediate east of the mill between 1891 and 1910,

extending the existing housing there, but few were constructed after that date.



DESCRIPTION

Bankfield Mill stands on the north side of Greenfield Road on a valley-side site which slopes steeply up to the north and the buildings are consequently partly terraced into the slope and partly built up over it. The east side of the site is bounded by Hargreaves Street which did not exist when the mill was first built but was created between 1891 and 1910.

The original mill

The original mill was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1853 and 1879, perhaps in the 1850s if it was founded by the cotton manufacturer, John Pickles, noted in the 1854 directory. It is built of coarsely-tooled squared stone rubble and is unusual in form because its steeply-sloping site caused its builders to place its component parts in unusual positions. Its single-storey weaving shed is

terraced into the ground at the rear but is built over a basement at the front (Fig 2).

The basement contained the original boiler house and engine house at its east end, with the chimney behind, its remaining six bays being occupied by space used for warehousing and yarn preparation, and perhaps by an office. This storage and working space was entered at its east end, next to the boiler house, through a doorway with a monolithic ashlar surround; a window over it lit the interior which probably led to stairs up into the weaving shed. Five large windows to the west of the entrance door, all with rectangular lintels and now with small-pane glazing and pivoting top lights, light the rest of the basement. The boiler house was at the front where the side wall to the narrow access yard here has a tall, wide, round-arched opening with a voussoired head. This opening was used to get the boiler in and it also provided necessary ventilation. There was originally a narrow doorway in the front wall: it has been widened but its east jamb and rectangular stone lintel survive. The engine house is likely to have been to the rear of the boiler house, but this area was not examined and the picture is complicated by there being a later, adjacent engine house. The chimney, at the rear of the boiler house and the presumed original engine house, is of stone. It has a square base, of rubble, its top shaped to match the octagonal shape of the massive moulded ashlar base of the demolished chimney stack. It is possible that the chimney was rebuilt at the time of the second mill extension.

The weaving shed which runs back from the Greenfield Road frontage is single storeyed, its front end, as noted above, raised over the basement warehouse and power block, and its rear terraced into the valley side. It has a nine-bay saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights and slated return slopes, the saw-tooth profile forming the top of the east side wall. The front wall has seven rectangular ventilation openings, each with a rectangular lintel, set towards the top of the wall



which has a rectangular-sectioned eaves course. The six to the west are evenly spaced, but the eastern one breaks the pattern perhaps because there is a staircase associated with the

ground-floor door.

The first mill extension

The first extension to the mill, undertaken before 1891 on map evidence, saw the original mill doubled in size to the west. The extension is of squared stone rubble and again has a basement under the front with the weaving shed over it terraced back into the valley side (Fig 3). It is not known whether the power source was enhanced to meet the requirements of the enlarged mill or whether the original engine and boiler had spare capacity.

The warehouse and yarn preparation area in the basement is seven bays long and has six windows as well as a tall and wide vehicle entrance in the eastern bay.

The windows are similar to those in the original mill but that next to the vehicle entrance has been converted to a door. The pedestrian door into the basement is in the west return wall, in the second bay in, and has a stone surround with interrupted jambs. The other openings in this wall are all secondary.

The weaving shed extension was the same depth and form as the original shed and it is therefore nine bays deep with a north-facing glazed saw-tooth roof whose ends form the west gable wall. Cast-iron gutters project between each roof bay, emptying into downpipes. The front wall has eight ventilation openings which are



much smaller than those serving the original shed and set close to the wallhead where there is an eaves course.

The second mill extension

Map evidence indicates that between 1891 and 1910 the mill site was extended north and east to its present boundaries, and a new weaving shed was built and the power source enhanced. Since the two elements of building work were interdependent, and the mill had a boiler made in 1903, this could well be the date of its construction.

The weaving shed has been demolished but the 1891 map (Fig 1b) shows it to have been a rectangular building set slightly back from and at right angles to Greenfield Road, immediately east of the existing mill. Since the enlarged weaving mill required more power than the existing steam engine and boiler could provide, a new engine house was built at the inner end of the yard along the east side of the original mill and a new boiler, made in 1903, was installed. The engine house (Fig 4), built of squared rubble like the earlier buildings, had a tall round-headed window in the centre of its south wall: this is now partially blocked, but its dressed stone voussoired head with its flush keyblock and shaped haunches show clearly. The steam engine was replaced in 1927 (see below) and the interior of the engine

has been cleared and a floor inserted. The boiler house may have been extended into the area of the presumed original engine house, and it is likely that the narrow doorway in the front wall was widened at this time to ease service access to the



boiler house. The boiler, seen by George Watkins in 1962, was made by J K & A Lord of Bury in 1903.⁴

The third mill extension

The third extension of Bankfield Mill, dated on map evidence to between 1910 and 1929-30, saw the extension of the first two weaving sheds north to the rear boundary of the site. The weaving shed extension (Fig 5) is single storeyed with walls of stone rubble, squared to the west and quoined at the corners, and has a north-facing glazed saw-tooth roof whose gables form the top of the west wall.



Pairs of I-section steel girders link the roofs together at ridge level, a feature noted elsewhere, including Bradford Mill, Colne.⁵ The ridges have brown-glazed ceramic ventilators on them.

The fourth mill extension

⁴ Information in the George Watkins Collection, noted above.

⁵ RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 98947 (1999).

The fourth extension of the mill, undertaken on map evidence between 1910 and 1929-30, but after the third extension which it abuts, was built across the site of the second mill extension (Fig 6). Either this or the previous extension must date to 1927, the date of a new steam engine. This steam engine, seen by George Watkins in 1962⁶ but since scrapped, was a horizontal tandem engine made by William Roberts and Company of the Phoenix Foundry in Nelson.⁷ The new weaving shed extension is single storeyed with a squared rubble wall to Hargreaves Street to the east and a random rubble wall to the field to the north. The north and east walls are both flat topped, the east wall being a parapet wall to the five-bay roof whose cast-iron gutters pass through it to downpipes. The roof repeats the form and detailing of the shed it extends, but the ridge ventilators are different in form.

The fifth mill extension

The fifth extension of Bankfield Mill took place after 1929-30, on map evidence, and probably during the 1930s, and saw the construction of yet another weaving shed extension and a suite of offices.

The three-bay weaving shed extension (Fig 7) was built along the south side of the previous shed extension, presenting saw-tooth profile roof gables to Hargreaves Street. The addition has a random rubble base or plinth with a rendered wall above; the roof slopes are glazed to the north, slated to the south, and have ceramic ridge ventilators. There is a door with quoined sides into the east end of the middle bay; the south wall has altered fenestration.

⁶ Information in the George Watkins Collection, noted above.

⁷ The firm supplied steam engines to other local textile mills, including Hollin Bank Mill, Brierfield and Hendon Mill, Nelson. See RCHME Historic Building Reports, NBR Nos. 98940 and 98994 (1999).

The offices were built at the corner of Hargreaves Street and Greenfield Road and



are an L-shaped block with an upper floor raised over a basement (Fig 8). The basement is of rubble, squared to the front, random to the side, with a rendered upper storey. The main range along Greenfield Road is gabled and eight bays long by two deep, its roof slated, with a one-bay single-storey gabled east return wing. The building incorporates some of the walls and the side door of an earlier building, shown on the 1929-30 map, at its west end, but otherwise its quoins, door and window detailing, coping and eaves course and brackets are of reconstituted stone.

The main front door is cleanly detailed in the style characteristic of the mid 20th century, its ground-floor double-leaf doors each of four fielded panels and the first-floor window over of opaque glass blocks. The casement windows are of steel or aluminium.

METHODOLOGY

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Birchenlee Mill

Lenches Fold

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98945

NGR: SD 8896 3954

Surveyed: 30 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98945

Colne

NGR: SD 8896 3954

Birchenlee Mill, Lenches Fold

SUMMARY

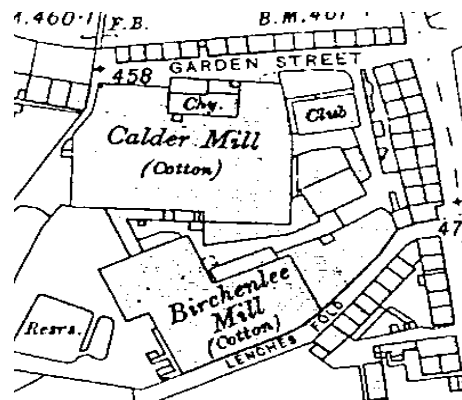
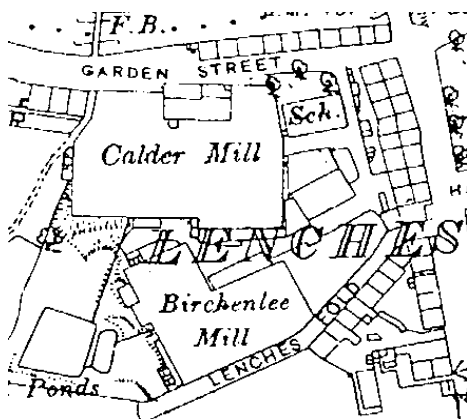
Birchenlee Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of at least three building phases, situated on gently sloping land to the south of Colne Water. The original mill, built between 1887 and 1891, consisted of a single-storey weaving shed, terraced into valley side, with a detached engine house and a detached multi-storey warehouse block, all built of coursed and random stone rubble. At a later date the weaving shed was extended to the north, in coursed stone rubble, and a two-storey, gabled red brick block, probably for yarn preparation or a warehouse, was in turn added to the west end of the extension. Much of the mill survives in good condition except for the engine house and power transmission apparatus which have been largely destroyed.

HISTORY

Cartographic and trade directory evidence indicates that Birchenlee Mill was built between 1887 and 1891. There is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1887¹ but it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891² (Fig 1a) and is listed

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887).

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.



in trade directory of 1893 when the occupiers were Crabtree & Ryecroft and J & B Watson, both cotton manufacturers.³ The mill is shown little changed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910⁴ (Fig 1b) the only differences being enlargement of the shed to the west and the addition of a narrow building apparently linking Birchenlee mill with Calder Mill across the yard. In 1998 the mill was in fairly good condition, although the power source had gone, and was in use as car repair workshops.



DESCRIPTION

Birchenlee Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of at least three building phases in a valley side position on the southern edge of Colne close to Calder Mill and Spring Gardens Mill.

The original mill

The original mill was built between 1887 and 1891 and consisted of a single-storey weaving shed (Fig 2) terraced into the valley side. It is rectangular in plan, runs

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 401, 419.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.



back from Lenches Fold, and has a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north west with slated return slopes, behind parapet walls of stone rubble, random to the south and west but coursed to the north and east facing into the mill yard. The power source was detached from Birchenlee Mill and instead butted against Calder Mill, to the north, power being transmitted across the yard by an external shaft which entered the shed at its east end where a large wall box remains. It has largely been lost but vestigial remains (Fig 3), apparently of the engine house, survive comprising a small roughly triangular block built of random stone rubble with a pedestrian entrance and a large wall box set in ashlar blocks in the south wall.

Adjacent to the position of the power source is a gabled two-storey block (Fig 3) presumably used for yarn preparation and as a warehouse. It is built of random stone rubble with quoined corners. The eastern gable end has a pedestrian entrance on the left with a roughly tooled monolithic surround. The fenestration is irregular with only two windows, in staggered positions, surviving. A further building with a single-pitch roof evidently butted against the right side and there is a wall box in this area for the transmission of power through the range. The south elevation is six bays wide with two taking in doors, with a hole for the hoist beam above, occupying the fourth bay from the left.

Later additions

At a later date but before 1891 an extension to the shed was built butting against the north wall. It is of coursed stone rubble and has a saw-tooth roof of five bays

glazed to the north west. There is a blocked pedestrian entrance in the east wall. There is a wide inserted entrance in the north wall, with the scar of a pitched roof above, corresponding with the position of the narrow block linking with buildings butting against the side of Calder mill, now demolished, as shown on the map of 1910. Shortly afterwards, before 1910, a gabled two-storey yarn preparation block was built across the west side of the shed extension. It is built of red brick and is six bays long by two wide.

METHODOLOGY

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Boundary Mill

Burnley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98946

NGR: SD 8723 3908

Surveyed: 4 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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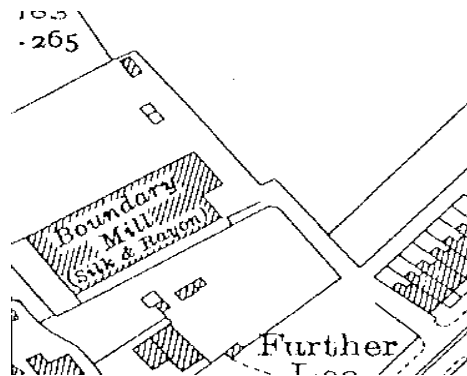
Colne

NGR: SD 8723 3908

Boundary Mill, Burnley Road

SUMMARY

Boundary Mill was built as a silk and rayon-weaving mill between 1924 and 1929-30. It is of brick and originally comprised a single-storey weaving shed with an



engine house and chimney attached to its north-east side. It has been greatly extended on the north-west side and is now occupied by Boundary Mill Stores and used as a retail outlet.

HISTORY

Trade directory and map evidence suggests that Boundary Mill was built between 1924 and 1929-30. The mill is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910¹ but it does appear on the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30 (Fig 1),² named 'Boundary Mill (Silk and Rayon)' and Barrett's Directories of 1933 and 1941³ refer

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 614; *ibid.*, (Preston, 1941), 447, 464.

to A and F Mercer Ltd, silk manufacturers, of Burnley Road and Swinden Lane. Worrall's Directory of 1963⁴ also lists A and F Mercer Ltd, of Boundary Mill, as



manufacturers of silk and rayon goods. No mention is made of either Boundary Mill or A and F Mercer Ltd of Burnley Road in trade directories of 1923 and 1924.⁵ Boundary Mill has been greatly enlarged during the course of the twentieth century and in 1998 was occupied by Boundary Mill Stores and used for retail outlet purposes.

DESCRIPTION

Boundary Mill (Fig 2) is a silk and rayon mill built on level ground to the south west of Colne on a previously undeveloped site set back on the north-west side of Burnley Road. The original mill



John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 269.

⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923); Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924).

The original mill is rectangular in plan and comprises a weaving shed with an engine house and chimney attached to the north-east side. It is uncertain whether the mill was powered by steam or, given its date, by a diesel engine, certainly the low and narrow rectangular chimney is more in keeping with exhaust emissions from a diesel engine rather than smoke from a boiler chimney and there is no conspicuous boiler house. It was built between 1924 and 1929-30 and as shown on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1929-30, was relatively small in size and consisted simply of a weaving shed and engine house. The single-storey weaving shed is built of red brick and has a 12-bay saw-tooth roof with glazed north-east facing lights with slated return slopes and two rows of steel girders linking three sets of four roofs together at ridge level. Internally the angle-iron roof structure is supported by just four stanchions. The gabled engine house (Fig 3) is built of red brick in English garden wall bond with gutter brackets to the north-east wall. The fenestration has been much altered but it seems that there were originally a number of tall round-headed windows in the north-east and north-west walls, most of which have been blocked or obscured by later building. The roof of the south-east part of the engine house has been altered, possibly to accommodate a water tank as the altered area is square in plan and is now flat roofed and parapeted. If the mill was steam powered then this may have been the boiler house as the low rectangular brick chimney is behind it.

Later additions

Since 1929-30 the mill has been almost doubled in size, most of the extension being on the north-west side. An extension to the shed with three broad gabled pitched roof ranges, one shorter than the other two, and a stylish flat-roofed one and two-storey brick block (Fig 4), were added to the north west side in the 1930s. Air photos held at the mill show that the single-storey portion of the front block was raised to two storeys between 1986 and 1998.

METHODOLOGY

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industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Bradford Mill

Phillips Lane, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98947

NGR: SD 8752 3944

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

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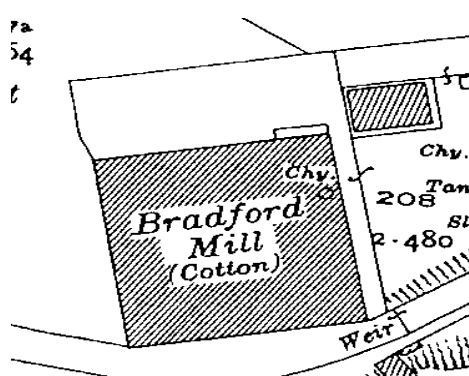
Colne

NGR: SD 8752 3944

Bradford Mill, Phillips Lane, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Bradford Mill was probably built shortly before 1924 as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill. Its multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, now almost entirely demolished, stood in front of a 20-bay long single-storey weaving shed with an engine house, boiler house and chimney within a long range down



one side of the shed.

HISTORY

Bradford Mill stands on the western edge of the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Bradford Mill was evidently built shortly before 1924 when J Cawthra and Co Ltd, cotton manufacturers, were listed there.¹ Neither the mill nor J Cawthra are

¹ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 454.

mentioned in the 1923 Directory, but the firm still occupied it in 1933 and 1941. They were not there in 1963.² The site of the mill is shown vacant on the 1910 Ordnance Survey map but is shown on that of 1929-30 (Fig 1)³ on a site off Phillips Lane, behind Colne Corporation Electricity Works. It is identified on the 1929-30 map as 'Bradford Mill (Cotton)'.



DESCRIPTION

Bradford Mill occupies a flat valley-bottom site on the north bank of Colne Water which forms its southern boundary.

The cotton-weaving mill, built by 1924, is rectangular in plan and comprised a multi-storey block, weaving shed, and attached engine house, boiler house and chimney.

The multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2), set along the north side of the weaving shed and now reduced to a rump, faces the mill yard to its north with the site entrance off Phillips Lane at the east end of the yard. This block was at least two storeys high, on the evidence of what survives of the rear wall, but all that now stands is a two-bay deep, four-bay long fragment of the east end of the ground floor. Built of coursed squared rubble, now white-washed and with a modern flat roof, this has rectangular stone lintels to its windows. A door in the second bay of the front elevation must have opened into offices since it

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923); *ibid.*, 1933, 601; *ibid.*, 1941, 463.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

is elaborate, having a projecting stone surround surmounted by a moulded cornice.

Attached to the rear of the multi-storey block is a weaving shed which runs across all but its very eastern end which is occupied by a separately-roofed range which includes the engine and boiler houses. The weaving shed (Fig 3) is single storeyed, has flat-topped parapet walls, and is built of coursed roughly-squared rubble. It has a 20-bay saw-tooth roof with steep, glazed, north-facing lights and slated return slopes; to north and south long, slated, single-pitch slopes rise to the end walls. The interior of the shed, which was not seen, is likely, given the late date of the mill, to have relatively few upright supports cluttering it. The evidence suggesting this comes from the form of the roof structure which has seven north-south rows of I-section steel girders linking three sets of four roofs together at ridge level, a form of roof structure found at other mills in the area and elsewhere, including Park View Mills, North Bierley, West Yorkshire.⁴ The ridges of the roof all have brown glazed ceramic ridge ventilators; there are no ventilation openings in the gable ends of the roof although the cast-iron gutters do project and drain into downpipes along the west elevation.



The engine house, boiler house and chimney which provided the power for the mill were set in a long gabled range which ran down the east side of the shed and abutted the rear of the multi-storey block (Fig 2). The engine house stands at the south end of this range, rising above it as a tall gabled single-storey structure with a doorway and four

⁴ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 42-3, Figs 71 and 74n.

tall windows with rectangular stone lintels in the east wall. The rest of the range, which is also gabled and has ridge ventilators like the shed roof, must have contained the boiler house since the chimney, now demolished, is shown on the 1929-39 map towards the front of the range.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Bridge Shed

Burnley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98948

NGR: SD 8802 3960

Surveyed: 4 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor and Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98948

Colne

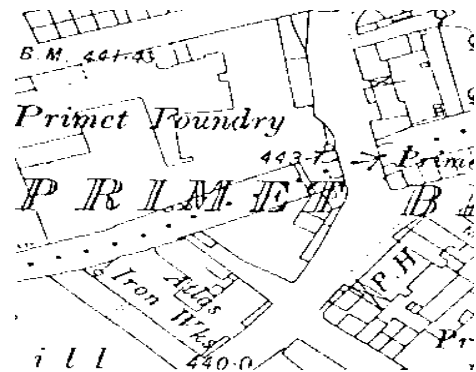
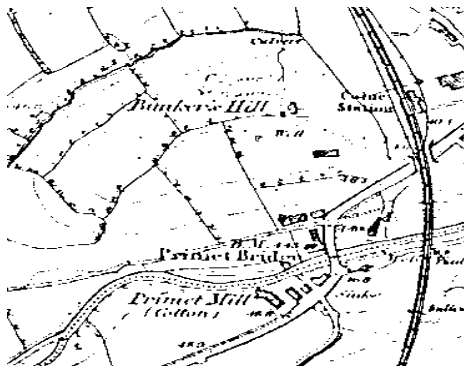
NGR: SD 8802 3960

Bridge Shed, Burnley Road

SUMMARY

Bridge Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on the site of the Atlas Iron Works on the south bank of Colne Water. The Atlas Iron Works is mentioned by name in trade directories of 1902 and was occupied by Joseph Thompson and Co although Thompson and Preston, engineers and millwrights of Primet Bridge, are listed as early as 1887. Bridge Shed was built on the site between 1902 and 1910, possibly incorporating part of the iron works as well as earlier buildings dating from before 1844. The present mill is shown and named as Bridge Shed on the map of 1929-30, and is of at least two phases. It is roughly triangular in plan, occupying a plot between Colne Water to the north and Burnley Road to the south, close to the intersection. The first phase consists of a rubble-built weaving shed of trapezoid plan built on the eastern half of the iron works site, possibly with an engine house attached to the east end although this has been demolished. This build is shown on the map of 1910 and the western half of the former Atlas Iron Works, is here shown to be in use as a warehouse. The second phase incorporates an extended and much-altered gabled multi-storey block on the western shed built of coursed stone rubble, keyed into the masonry of the multi-storey block and butting against the earlier shed to the east, being built over a narrow roadway that formerly ran between the two halves of the site. In 1998 the mill was in use as a print works.

HISTORY



Bridge Shed stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

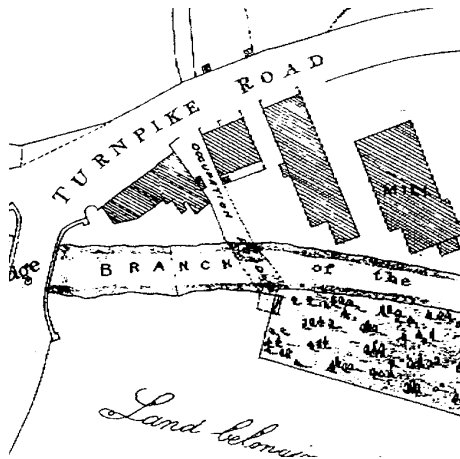
Bridge Shed was built on the site of and partly incorporated the buildings of the Atlas Iron Works between 1891 and 1910. The iron works itself was a split site, divided by a narrow lane. The Ordnance Survey map of 1844¹ (Fig 1a) shows the site occupied by an L-shaped range to the east and two detached blocks to the west, the form of each is similar to the iron works which is shown and named on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891² (Fig 1b). A plan dated May 1846 (Fig 2) shows the lane dividing the site to have been an occupation road linking the Blackburn and Cocking End Turnpike Road to a plantation on the north side of Colne Water.³ A similar layout of buildings is also shown on the site in a plan of

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

³ Plan of an occupation road leading from the Blackburn and Cocking End Turnpike Road near Primet Bridge. Copy held by David Morris of Pendle Borough Council.

1853 (Fig 3).⁴ The Atlas Iron Works is listed in a trade directory of 1902, when it



was occupied by Joseph Thompson & Co although in trade directories of 1887 and 1893 Thompson & Preston, engineers and millwrights, Primet Bridge, and Joseph Thompson & Co, engineers and millwrights, Primet Bridge, are listed but without the works name.⁵ The Ordnance Survey map of 1910⁶

(Fig 4a) names the north-eastern part of the site as Bridge Shed and shows that the south-

west part retained the plan of the iron works but identifies it as a warehouse. Bridge Shed is also listed in a trade directory of 1911 when it was occupied by Mitchell & Son, manufacturers of cotton and worsted goods, but by 1923 the mill was used only for cotton-weaving and was occupied by Pickles and Son.⁷ The Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30⁸ (Fig 4b) shows the site rebuilt and consolidated under the title 'Bridge Shed (Cotton)' and the former lane dividing the two halves of the site built over. In 1998 the mill was in use as a print works and was in fairly good condition with the exception of the power source which had been cleared.

⁴ *Plan of Recent Erections at Primet Bridge 1853*. Copy held by David Morris of Pendle Borough Council.

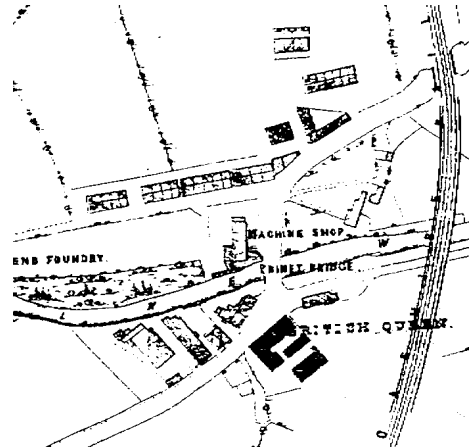
⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 594; *ibid.*, 1887, 295; *ibid.*, 1893, 417.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

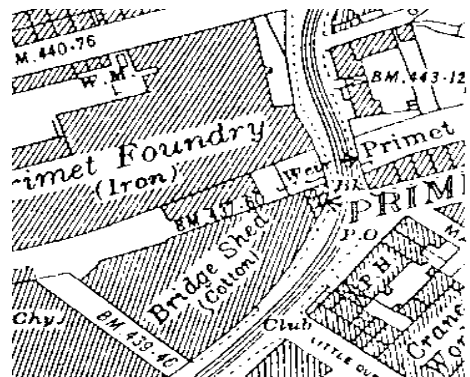
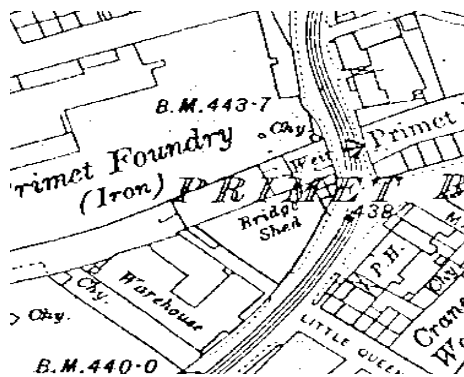
⁷ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 671; *ibid.*, 1923, 675.

⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

DESCRIPTION



Bridge Shed is roughly triangular in plan and occupies a plot bounded by Colne



Water to the north and Burnley Road to the south and is just to the west of the bridge from which the mill takes its name.

The Atlas Iron Works

The Atlas Iron Works, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891, has been largely lost but a fragment may survive in the two-storey block on the western edge of the site. A rectangular block of roughly these proportions is shown on the 1891 map in this position and the present block is certainly multi-phase. The present block is two-storeys high, gabled and built of coursed stone rubble. The south-west elevation is 12 bays long in total, the first seven bays from the north

separated from the last 5 by a ragged joint indicating at least two building phases.

The northern part is of larger stone blocks and the fenestration has been much altered although traces of its original form, distinctive tall and narrow windows, suggest that it may originally have been three storeys high. The southern part of the block is similar in character to the rest of the mill and was probably part of the rebuilding of 1910-1930.

The mill of 1902-1910

Between 1902 and 1910 Bridge Shed was built on the north-west part of the site. It is roughly triangular in plan and comprises a single-storey weaving shed with a



saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north west, behind a parapet wall of coursed squared stone rubble to the street and a random rubble wall without parapet to the river. A straight joint in the south-east elevation and a change in the form of the stone coping on the parapet wall fronting the street mark the point the shed formerly

stopped and a lane bisected the site. This elevation is otherwise largely featureless. The north-west (Fig 5) elevation, backing onto the river, is of squared but randomly coursed stone rubble at street level and above and larger less regularly shaped rubble below, descending to the river. It is eight bays long with rectangular windows in each bay. The first four bays from the left have windows with heavy stone lintels, there is then a straight joint followed by four further windows, taller and with finer lintels and sills although secondary sills have been inserted in a higher position.

The power source was positioned within the north-east corner which has been raised, partly over the shed and partly over the possible site of the engine and boiler houses, and now has a four-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the south-west. The south-west elevation has a three-light mullioned window, a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround, a possible boiler door with an inserted cast-iron lintel, a window with a monolithic surround and a further possible boiler door, at this end (Fig 6). The north-east elevation is of coursed stone rubble and is featureless,



map evidence indicates that some clearance has taken place in this area, probably including the chimney. The north-west elevation, backing onto the river, is of roughly coursed random rubble and is set slightly back from the shed. There is a scar line descending from left to right, apparently indicating

the original roofline before heightening.

1910-1930



Between 1910 and 1930 most of the former iron works buildings on the south-west part of the site were demolished and the whole site consolidated as a single weaving mill with a multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block at the south-west end, the power source at the north-east end and a single-storey

weaving shed between.

The multi-storey warehouse and yarn processing block (Fig 7) was extended as far as the road and the gable end is of well coursed squared stone rubble with kneelers. It is three bays wide and two storeys high with, at ground floor, a central pedestrian entrance flanked by a pair of two-light mullioned windows. The pattern is the same at first floor but with a single-light window occupying the central bay. All have stone surrounds with segmental-arched heads. The return, south-west, elevation is of coursed stone rubble and is five bays long, before the straight joint connecting with the earlier build, the first two bays from the left being occupied by a wide vehicle entrance.

The single-storey weaving shed is of well coursed squared stone rubble to the south-east parapet wall, bonded in with the gable end of the warehouse, and has five rectangular ventilators. The north-west elevation is of random rubble and has ten regularly spaced rectangular windows.

METHODOLOGY

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Calder Bank Mill, formerly Garden Vale Works

Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98949

NGR: SD 8780 3960

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98949

Colne

NGR: SD 8780 3960

Calder Bank Mill, formerly Garden Vale Works, Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Calder Bank Mill originated as Garden Vale Works, a sizing works built on the north bank of Colne Water between 1854 and 1879 and in use as a dyeworks, bleaching and sizing works by 1887. One small dyehouse building survives but the rest were replaced by a five-bay single-storey weaving shed with an attached multi-storey block built when the site changed ownership and use and was rebuilt as a steam-powered cotton weaving mill between 1923 and 1933. Both these new buildings were drastically altered on the recent conversion of the site to new uses.

HISTORY

Calder Bank Mill, formerly Garden Vale Works, stands on the western fringe of the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Calder Bank Mill originated as Garden Vale Works, a sizing works which then became a dyeworks prior to being largely rebuilt as a cotton-weaving mill between

1923 and 1933. The site of the works is shown as fields on the 1844 map¹ but trade directories indicate that it was built on between 1854, when it is not named,² and 1879 when it was occupied by Joseph Holroyd Bolton, sizer.³ By 1887 the site was occupied by Richard Holroyd & Co., dyers, bleachers and sizers, who continued in business there until the early 20th century.⁴ The site, identified just as 'Dye Works', is shown on the 1891 map (Fig 1a)⁵ and also, with only minimal additions, on that of 1910 (Fig 1b).⁶ A change of occupant and use occurred between 1923, when the Holroyds were still there, and 1933 when it was occupied by Herbert Houldsworth, cotton manufacturer, whose private address was given as Greenfield House.⁷ Greenfield is a substantial house, set in its own grounds, a short distance north west of Calder Bank Mill, the name which Houldsworth gave to his mill. This change confirms the map evidence for the site which in 1930 was

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854).

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 195, 218. This directory has no entry under the name of Holroyd, this site's next occupier, and the middle name of its present occupant in 1879. The 1854 Directory (*Ibid.*, 471 (mis-set as 371)) does, however, list two Holroyds as sizers, R[ichard] Holroyd of Primet Bridge (spelt Primit bridge) and H[enry] & R[ichard] Holroyd of Guysyke. Some connection may well have existed.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 288, 305; *Ibid.* (Preston, 1893), 407, 429 [the firm are described as dyers and bleachers]; *Ibid.* (Preston, 1902), 564, 591 [the firm are described as warp dyers and sizers]; *Ibid.*, (Preston, 1911) 637, 661, 665 [the firm are described as warp dyers and bleachers]; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 671, 684, 688 (as 1911 but site is in error called Garden Vale Mill).

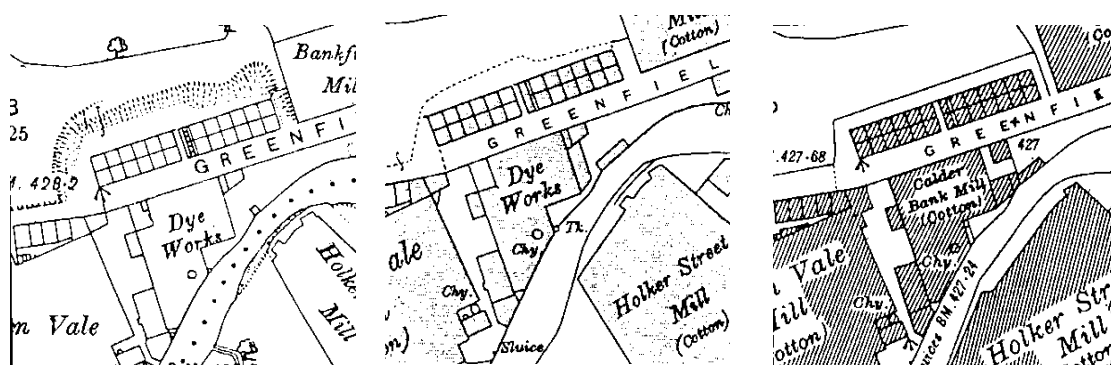
⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁷ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1933), 610, 636, 660. This entry incorrectly names the mill as Calder Mill, the name of an earlier mill on Garden Street, Colne (see RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 98950 (1999)).

identified as 'Calder Bank Mill (Cotton)' (Fig 1c).⁸ On this map the main building now occupies the whole of the road frontage, implying at least a certain amount of rebuilding, and most of the minor buildings on the east side of the mill have also been rebuilt. Houldsworths still occupied Calder Mill in 1941 and 1963⁹ but subsequently closed. Since closing the site has been greatly altered, the main building having been largely rebuilt and most of the minor buildings demolished.

DESCRIPTION



Calder Vale Works, later Calder Bank Mill, occupies a flat, trapezoidal-shaped, valley-bottom site on the north bank of Colne Water, running back to Greenfield Road on its north side.

Calder Vale Works

The buildings of Calder Vale Works, built as a sizing works between 1854 and

⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁹ Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 444; this entry again incorrectly names the mill as Calder Mill, and it gives Herbert Houldsworth's private address as The Loke, Keighley Road, Colne; John Worrall *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267; this entry identifies the occupant as H Houldsworth (Colne) Ltd with 112 looms weaving all counts spun rayon; checks, oxfords, ginghams, zephyrs, handkerchiefs, glass cloths, table cloths, dusters, native cloths.

1879 and in use as a dyeworks, bleaching and sizing works by 1887, have been largely rebuilt or demolished. The buildings, shown on the 1910 map, comprised a basically L-shaped block running along Greenfield Road to the north and down the west side of the site to Colne Water. There was a small yard in the north west corner, opening off the road, a chimney was incorporated within the rear range, and there were minor buildings on the east side of the site. The buildings shown attached to the west side of the block belonged to the adjacent Garden Vale Mill.

The form and extent of the original sizing works is not known, nor the form of the dyeworks, but typically a dyeworks comprised one or more dyehouses, together with an engine house, boiler house and chimney to power machinery and provide the hot water required for the dyeing process, and appropriate offices and warehousing.¹⁰ Dyehouses had space for dye vats and for the easy movement of dyewares and the materials being dyed, and height to allow fumes, steam and heat to dissipate through a long ridge ventilator.

The main building at Garden Vale Works, occupying the west part of the site, has



been remodelled, if not rebuilt, twice, and little of value survives from this early phase. Next to it, however, there is what may have been a small dyehouse. This structure can be equated with the block at the east end of the L-shaped building on the 1910 map and is gabled, single-storeyed and built of coursed squared

rubble (Fig 2). Its north gable wall, its public elevation, has a band across the base of the gable which in effect creates a pediment in which there is a glazed oculus with a keyed-in surround. Below this is a wide, tall, central doorway for

¹⁰ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 49-52.

vehicle access and flanking pair of openings, now blocked, which may have been windows. The pitched roof is slated and has laylights just below the ridge. This roof arrangement may be secondary since if this building had been a dyehouse it ought to have had a louvred ventilator along most of its ridge. The buildings shown attached to this building on the 1910 map were replaced when the site became a cotton-weaving mill.

Calder Bank Mill



Calder Bank Mill, sometimes incorrectly referred to in Directories as Calder Mill, itself another site in Colne, is the name which was given to the cotton-weaving mill which was established on the site of Garden Vale Works between 1923 and 1933. The combined evidence of the surviving building, which has been

drastically altered in recent years, and an air photograph taken in 1948,¹¹ indicates that a single-storey weaving shed with a multi-storey block down its east side was built on the western part of the site. It is likely that some of the stone rubble outer walls of the existing dyeworks were utilised by the new building which was built up to Greenfield Road across the full width of the site. The shed had a five-bay saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed slopes and five corresponding windows in the angled south-east parapet wall on to Colne Water (Fig 3). The 1930 map shows that the position of the chimney did not alter, and the engine and boiler houses must have been close to it. The multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block down the east side of the weaving shed was almost certainly of

¹¹ National Monuments Record: RAF RP:541/32 frame 3436, 18 May 1948, MOD © Crown Copyright.

just two storeys. Its north end against Greenfield Road has been curtailed but where its east side wall survives, in front of the earlier dyeworks building, a wide and tall ground-floor doorway for vehicle access and an adjacent window survive, as well as the sills only of a row of first-floor windows (Fig 2). The south gable-end wall to Colne Water has quoined corners, confirming it to be a new building, and ground and first-floor windows, the top of the latter lost when the building was lowered and the present single-pitch roof put on.

Later alterations

Calder Bank Mill ceased to work as a textile mill some time after 1963. It is currently used for other commercial purposes and the interior of the weaving shed has been reamed out, its north end demolished and a new twin-gabled shed built. The minor buildings to the east have been demolished.

METHODOLOGY

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Calder Mill

Garden Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98950

NGR: SD 8896 3958

Surveyed: 30 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor and Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98950

Colne

NGR: SD 8896 3958

Calder Mill, Garden Street

SUMMARY

Calder Mill was built between 1854 and 1879 as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, the sloping site dictating the unusual form of the mill with a single-storey shed, slightly irregular in shape, terraced into the ground to the rear but built over a basement warehouse and yarn preparation range and the engine house and boiler house to the front. A change from single to multiple occupation between 1887 and 1893, implying a move to room and power working which continued into the mid 20th century, brought the need for further warehousing and preparation accommodation. This was provided by the addition of a three-storey nine-bay wide building in front of the shed, east of the original warehouse block. The mill ceased to be used for textile production in the late 20th century.

HISTORY

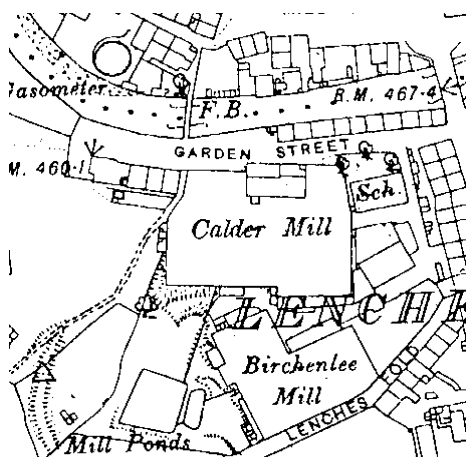
Calder Mill, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, was built between 1854, when there was no reference to it in a directory, and 1879 when it was occupied by Watson Bracewell, a cotton manufacturer who also ran Foulridge Mill in Foulridge, north of Colne.¹ Bracewell still occupied both mills in 1887, when he was also

¹ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854); Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 196.

recorded as having a warehouse at 63 Brown Street, Manchester, but by 1893 he was not listed at either mill. Calder Mill, or Calder Shed as it was called in most of the entries for 1893, but not later, was by then in multiple occupation and was evidently following the trend in the area towards room and power working. Four firms of cotton manufacturers were listed in it that year, one of them also based at Parrack Shed a short distance away in Waterside. With rare exceptions Calder Mill thereafter continued in multiple occupation with up to four different firms, always of cotton manufacturers, until between 1941 and 1963 when it came to be occupied, in conjunction with the adjacent Spring Gardens Mill, by Pressed Felts Limited.² It is now occupied by a different company.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 281; *ibid.*, 1893, 404, 408, 414, 416; *ibid.*, 1902, 558, 575; *ibid.*, 1911, 671; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 667, 674, 679; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 456, 458; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 658; *ibid.*, 1941, 438; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 269.

The site of Calder Mill was unbuilt on in 1844 but by 1891 (Fig 1a) the mill had



achieved the extent also shown on the 1910 and 1929-30 (Fig 1b) maps,³ which it retains today. There were changes to the buildings abutting its rear, including the extension of Birchenlee Mill against it.⁴

DESCRIPTION

Calder Mill is built at the bottom of a valley slope on the south side of Colne Water, the ground rising steeply up to the south. The mill fronts Garden Street which on the maps from 1891 to 1929-30 is shown with a long terrace of houses, now demolished, backing directly on to Colne Water.

The original mill

The original steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, built between 1854 and 1879, had

³ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey, 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁴ See RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 98945 (1999).



a single-storey weaving shed raised over a basement with a warehouse and yarn preparation block and the engine and boiler houses under its front part. This arrangement, dictated by the slope of the land, is also found at Bankfield Mill, Colne.⁵

The mill is built of stone rubble which is squared to the front but roughly coursed elsewhere. The basement warehouse, yarn preparation, engine house and boiler



house range (Fig 2) is six bays long, including the single-bay engine house at its east end. The engine house has a tall narrow round-headed window, its head with an ashlar archivolt with projecting springers and keyblock; the original sill was cut through when a doorway was inserted

through it. Running west from the engine house there is a pedestrian door with a monolithic stone surround under a window with rectangular lintel, three conventional windows, all with rectangular lintels and sills, and finally a wide vehicle door, now partly blocked, with a steel-plate lintel. The boiler house was presumably close to the engine house, near to the chimney which the 1891 map shows embedded in the mill. The weaving shed, which is raised over the basement at the front but is terraced into the ground to the rear (Fig 3) is single-storeyed with flat-topped walls to the sides and rear, the former being parapet walls to the 13-bay saw-tooth roof

⁵ RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 98944 (1999).

which, in the surviving west half, has its north-facing glazed lights and slated return slopes. Brown ceramic ventilators are set along every ridge. The shed has five windows and a taking-in door in its front wall, the door set over the ground-floor pedestrian door, its head higher than those



of the windows. The windows flanking the taking-in door have both been converted to doors. The west side wall has four windows and a door close to the rear corner. Inside the shed has cast-iron columns with south-facing D-sectioned bolting heads supporting I-sectioned beams which in turn support the gutters and the roof.

Additions to the mill

The principal addition to the mill, made before 1891 and probably coinciding with the change from single to multiple occupation between 1887 and 1893, was of a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 4) added to the north-east corner of the mill. Built of squared stone rubble to the front and west sides, and of rubble elsewhere, it has a nine-bay front elevation, the three outer bays at each end flanking a pedestrian door and a wide vehicle door, the former with a monolithic surround whose lintel was cut through on the creation of a window over it, the latter perhaps altered since it has a rolled steel joist over a door tightly flanked by windows. The first and second floors are both nine bays wide and the roof is gabled and slated.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former

RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Crescent Works
North Valley Road
Colne
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98951

NGR: SD 8858 4035

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98951

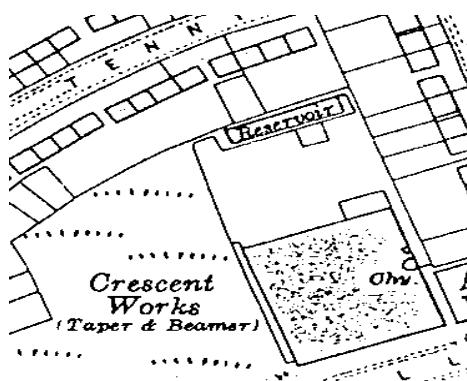
Colne

NGR: SD 8858 4035

Crescent Works, North Valley Road

SUMMARY

Crescent Works was evidently built in the late 1920s, certainly before 1930, as a tape and beaming works to service the cotton industry of the area. It is a



rectangular, single-storey building built of stone to the front and of brick to the rear, and apart from a gabled boiler and engine house in one corner, the whole structure, including the well-lit office and warehouse area at the front, is roofed with glazed saw-tooth north-light trusses. Pedestrian and vehicle access was from the front, with separate and well

segregated doorways for visitors and the workforce.

HISTORY

Crescent Works, which stands on the north side of North Valley Road, was evidently built in the late 1920s by Fisher, Ridehalgh and Duckett, tape sizers, who had moved from Excelsior Works further along North Valley Road.¹ The firm was in

¹ RCHME Historic Building Report (1999), NBR No. 98954.

Excelsior Works in 1923 but by 1930 Crescent Works had been built, being identified on a map surveyed that year (Fig 1) as 'Crescent Works (Taper and Beamer)'² and in 1933 they were listed as its occupants.³ They continued in occupation until after 1963.⁴ In 1998 the building, together with the former Albert Works to its immediate east, was occupied by Cleveland Guest Engineering Ltd.

DESCRIPTION

Crescent Works (Fig 2) stands on the north side of North Valley Road, its front elevation set slightly back from the road. The original building, evidently erected in the late 1920s, is rectangular in plan and one storey high, although the gentle fall of the ground to the



south enabled a basement to be provided along the south front. The Works is built of coursed squared rubble and red brick, the latter now rendered. The stone was used for the boiler and engine houses at the south-east corner, for the front elevation and for the first four bays of the return of the west side wall, and the brick for the shed behind.

The 11-bay wide, four-bay deep stone-built front range is of some architectural refinement, having a pair of plain stone bands beneath the double block cornice

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 605.

⁴ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 265, 269. The latter entry describes the firm as 'cotton tape sizers, slashers and commission processors; also beamers and sizers of rayon and synthetic yarns, voiles, crepes, poplins, venetians, sateens - also bleaching or fast colour stripes, handkerchiefs, etc.; sized and put on beam to pattern; any width of beam up to 76 ins.; dry taping any width up to 76 ins.'

under a blind parapet. There are three doors in the front elevation, for pedestrian traffic in the third and eleventh bays from the west, and for vehicles in the fourth bay. The doorway in the third bay, with its simple stone doorcase with pilasters and a moulded hood, was probably intended principally for visitors and no doubt led to offices, while the simpler doorway with its monolithic stone surround at the opposite end of the elevation must have been for the workforce. The tall, wide vehicle entrance has smooth quoined sides and a rectangular stone lintel with a moulded keyblock. All the front windows have flush monolithic stone surrounds, the basement windows and that over the office doorway having plain jambs, the other taller ground-floor windows having interrupted jambs. The four windows in the west return wall, the rearmost inserted, have just rectangular stone lintels and sills. These windows must have lit an area used as an office and for storage or warehousing purposes.

The boiler house and engine house at the south-east corner of the building is a deep and comparatively narrow structure with a slate roof, its front wall with a pair of tall wide doors identical in treatment to the vehicle entrance into the main works, namely with smooth quoined sides and rectangular stone lintels with moulded keyblocks. A door in the east side elevation, close to the corner, has a monolithic stone surround. The chimney, its position shown on the 1930 map, stood behind this range.

Apart from the gabled range at the south-east corner, the front range and the shed behind are all roofed over by a 12-bay deep saw-tooth profile roof with steep north-facing glazed slopes and shallower slated south slopes. The ends of 12 cast-iron gutters which project from the west side wall and clearly indicate the arrangement of the roof structure discharge immediately into a long cast-iron trough set on stone blocks. The shed wall, as noted above, is built of red brick and is surmounted by stone coping. The side walls are parapet walls with flat tops which screen the ends of the shed roof; there are no ventilation openings. The west screen wall runs on from the stone front range but its north end, like that of the equivalent east

screen wall, respects the slope of the final glazed north light which is not obscured by any parapet wall along the rear. The front end of the east screen wall also respects the slope of the slated roof behind it where it rises beyond the chimney.

In 1930 there was a long and narrow rectangular reservoir set parallel to the rear uphill boundary of the site.

METHODOLOGY

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Derby Street Mill

Derby Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98952

NGR: SD 8866 4024

Surveyed: 3 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98952

Colne

NGR: SD 8866 4024

Derby Street Mill, Derby Street

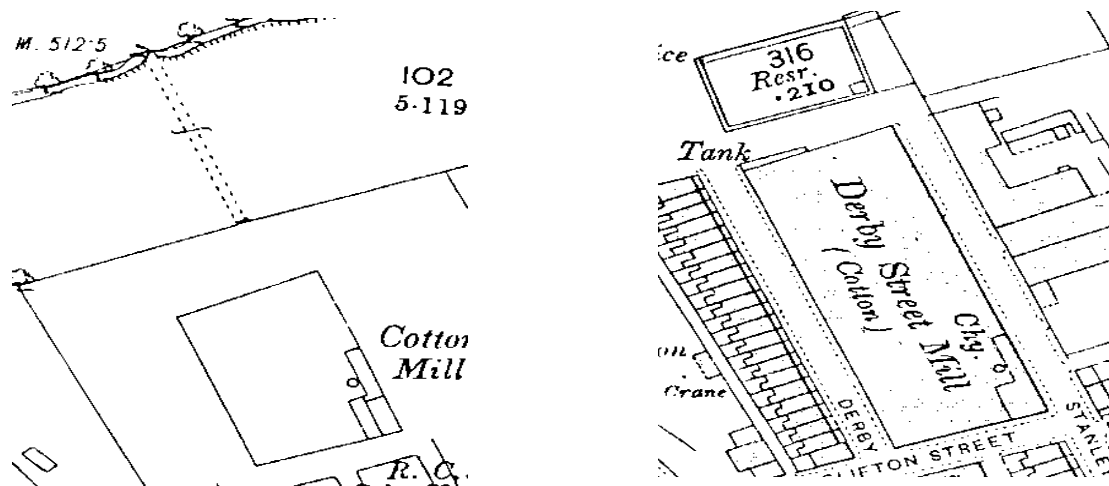
SUMMARY

Derby Street Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill between 1887 and 1891 with a warehouse and yarn preparation block of three storeys, basement and attics, a single-storeyed weaving shed and internal corner engine and boiler houses. In 1894 the mill was doubled in size to the north, the new weaving shed having its own warehouse and yarn preparation block but utilising the existing power source which had been upgraded in 1891-2. The mill was built by Thomas Hyde and it remained in the family's ownership until 1960 when it passed to a new occupant.

HISTORY

Derby Street Mill was built between 1887, when it was not listed in a directory, and 1891 when the southern, uphill, half of the present mill was shown on the Ordnance Survey map on which it is identified as 'Cotton Mill' (Fig 1a).¹ It stood on what was then the northern edge of Colne, down the slope from the ridge along which the town was built and from which it expanded, in this case encroaching on North Valley. In 1894 the mill was doubled in size down the slope to the north: the

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.



boiler and steam engine were renewed in 1891 and 1892,² and the new weaving shed and warehouse bear the inscription 'Derby Street Mill Extension 1894'. The mill is shown on a photograph³ taken during the construction of North Valley Road, which opened in June 1901:⁴ it was probably taken in 1900 since it shows the causeway on which the road stands in a substantially complete state. The photograph also shows what appear to be excavations for the reservoir in the valley bottom immediately north of the mill, both of which are shown on the 1910 map (Fig 1b).⁵ Whether the reservoir was connected with the mill is uncertain. Apart from a 'Tank' against the north end of the mill on the 1910 map, the 1930 map shows the mill unchanged over 20 years.⁶ It is identified as 'Derby Street Mill (Cotton)' on both maps.

² English Heritage, National Monuments Record Centre, George Watkins Collection, Derby Street Shed, Colne, Lancashire, WAT872. A photographic record of the steam engine, with notes about it and the boiler, was made by George Watkins in 1957.

³ Wilfred M Spencer, *Colne As It Was* (Nelson, 1971), 26.

⁴ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

Derby Street Mill is called Hyde's Mill locally, after the Hyde family which ran it for most of its life. It was founded by Thomas Hyde, son of Robert Hyde who had been manager of Thomas England's mill at Waterside in Colne before starting the *Colne and Nelson Times*, which was first published in 1874. Thomas Hyde and his younger brother, James, ran the paper in their turns, but Thomas was also a textile manufacturer. He founded Derby Street Mill and it was occupied by the firm of Thomas Hyde and Co, cotton manufacturers, until 1960 when it changed hands⁷ In 1957, three years before it changed hands, a main line shaft turning nine bevel-driven loom shafts with about 100 looms each.⁸ In 1998 the mill had several occupants, one of the principal ones being E A Foulds Ltd. who occupy the south part, which is now called Albert Works, the name taken from the engineering works the firm built and occupied originally on North Valley Road.⁹

DESCRIPTION

Derby Street Mill stands towards the foot of the north-facing slope which runs down into North Valley, its site sloping steeply down to the north. The mill was built in two stages, the earlier being at the southern, uphill, end of the site which is bounded by Derby Street on the west, Stanley Street on the east and Clifton Street on the south.

The original mill

⁷ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 126-7. Trade Directories show Hyde's in the mill.

⁸ Information in the George Watkins Collection, noted above.

⁹ RCHME Historic Building Report (1999), NBR No. 98951.

The first mill on the site, built for cotton weaving between 1887 and 1891, consisted of a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block along the southern edge of the site, fronting Clifton Street, with a weaving shed attached to its rear and an engine house, boiler house and chimney within the south-east corner of the site, encroaching on the other two buildings (Fig 2).

The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, three storeys high with basement and part attics, is wedge-shaped in plan since Clifton Street is set at a slight angle to the side streets. The building is constructed of random rubble with



quoined corners and has a slate roof which is gabled to the west but hipped to the east, the hip running up to a gable wall which separates the two-bay east end, with the boiler house at its base, from the ten-bay main part. The west gable wall is two bays wide, the east end wall three bays wide, with three floors of

windows in the rear wall overlooking the weaving shed, plus four windows at its west end, lighting the attic, the windows contrived under the rising roof edge. All original openings have rectangular lintels with dressed margins defining tooled centres, and irregularly quoined jambs; windows have projecting sills

The front elevation of the ten-bay long main part of the block contains, on its ground floor, three original doorways, two for pedestrian access in the third and seventh bays from the west, the latter since converted to two windows, and a wide vehicle entrance, now blocked, in the tenth bay. The original window in the fifth bay has been converted into a door and adjacent window under a new lintel, while those in the sixth bays of the first and second floors have been dropped on conversion to taking-in doors. The windows in the rear and west end elevations do

not need comment. The two-bay long, three-bay deep east end of the block, beyond the cross wall, is floored at a different level from the main part, as the level of the windows indicates; it also has no attic. The ground floor of this end, as the maps confirm, contains the boiler house, with an engine house and adjacent chimney projecting behind it into the weaving shed.

The boiler house has a wide quoined south doorway with a later lintel over it and a window, as well as three windows, the middle one later converted into a wide door, in its east side wall. The engine house is a long narrow gabled building with a slate roof with two sheet metal ridge ventilators and a brown ceramic one. A pair of two-light windows, perhaps enlarged from narrower openings, have quoined sides, mullions and rectangular lintels, light what would have been the engine floor, a window at pavement level lighting the engine bed. The steam engine has been scrapped, but records made by George Watkins¹⁰ indicate that it contained a single tandem engine built by Ashton, Frost and Co of Blackburn on 1892. The boiler, also scrapped, was made by Anderton of Accrington in 1891. The chimney which served the boiler house has been demolished but the photograph noted above to date from about 1900 shows it to have been circular and of brick, with a gentle taper to a moulded cap.

The weaving shed attached to the rear of the warehouse block is single storeyed, its floor built up to keep it level despite the fall in the ground. It has a north-light saw-tooth profile roof, the north-facing slopes glazed, the south slopes slated. The gable ends of the roof form the east and west side walls - there is no parapet wall to disguise them,¹¹ and none contains any ventilation opening.

¹⁰ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine. Parts 1 and 2* (Second edition, Ashbourne, 1999), Part 1, 64, plate 40.

¹¹ There has been some remodelling of the roof, and a modern roof has seen the removal of some spans.

The mill extension of 1894

During the early 1890s Derby Street Mill was doubled in size with the addition of a further weaving shed, built in continuation with the original one but provided with its own warehouse block (Fig 3) and drawing its power from the original power source. The power source had, however, been upgraded in 1891 and 1892 (see above) in anticipation of the extension which was completed in 1894, an inscribed stone set at the south-west corner of the multi-storey block reading 'DERBY STREET MILL EXTENSION 1894'.

The weaving shed, single-storeyed and eleven bays long, continues the floor level of the original shed. Its walls are of random rubble and the glazed slopes of the



saw-tooth roof all face north with the exception of that next to the contemporary warehouse block which, because of that building's proximity, is reversed and has a south-facing glazed slope. The fall of the ground enabled a basement, and even a small sub-basement, to be created under the shed:

at its north end these run in with what are respectively the first and ground floors of the multi-storey block. The shed basement has wide windows to both east and west, their detailing like those in the original mill building, but there are wide doorways in the fourth bay from the south in the east wall and in the fifth and tenth bays in the west wall.

The warehouse and yarn preparation block along the northern edge of the site is rectangular in plan, built of coursed rubble to the north but of random rubble elsewhere. Twelve bays long by three deep, four storeys high and gabled with a

slated roof, its windows are wider and taller than those of its southern predecessor , although their rectangular lintels repeat the same pattern of tooling.

Without internal inspection is not possible to know what structural alterations were made to the engine and boiler houses at this time, but in 1957, when the mill was visited by George Watkins, there was a Lancashire boiler by Andertons of Accrington dated 1891 and a horizontal tandem-compound type steam engine, by Ashton and Frost, dated 1892.

Later alterations

Alterations to the doors, windows and roof of the weaving shed of the original mill have already been noted. George Watkin's notes state that the mill changed occupant in 1960, when the steam engine and boiler, and no doubt the looms, were scrapped. Subsequent multiple occupation has not significantly altered the building, although the construction of a commercial garage on the site of the former reservoir north of the mill, with one of its buildings abutting the north multi-storey block, has caused limited alteration.

METHODOLOGY

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Empress Mill

Buck Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98953

NGR: SD 8912 4022

Surveyed: 3 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98953

Colne

NGR: SD 8912 4022

Empress Mill, Buck Street

SUMMARY

Empress Mill was established as a cotton doubling mill in a skating rink, later a ballroom, built in 1909. The building, of one storey over a part basement, is built of stone and is rectangular in plan; its original Belfast roof was replaced in 1984 by the present pitched roof. Conversion of the building involved the provision of a power source, evidently in a short wing added to the north gable.

HISTORY

Empress Mill stands on the north side of the historic centre of Colne, which runs east west along the top of a long ridge, occupying a site which slopes steeply down to the north. The 1844 and 1891 maps¹ show that the Victoria Foundry originally stood on the site of Empress Mill, but that by 1909 a roller skating rink had been built there. The rink was built in response to a roller skating craze which hit the district, five purpose-built rinks opening within a few months of one another, three in Nelson, one in Barnoldswick and this one in Colne.² The Colne rink was known

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 58, surveyed 1844, published 1848; *ibid.*, 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

² Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 164.

as the Empress Skating Rink and it is shown as a new building immediately west



of the new Market Hall on the 1910 map (Fig 1a) on which it is called the 'Empress Skating Rink'.³ During the First World War the building was the Empress Ballroom,⁴ a use which seems to have lasted only into the early 1920s since in 1923 it became Empress Mills. Colne Mills Ltd., cotton doublers, occupied it in 1923, and Empress Mills (1923) Ltd., also cotton

doublers. In 1933, 1941 and 1963 the company was called Empress Mills (1927) Ltd., in the last year having 6000 spindles. The mill is shown occupying the former Skating Rink, but with a small north-east extension, on the 1930 map (Fig 1b),⁵ on which it is named as 'Empress Mill (Cotton)'.⁶ A modern north extension was added in 1977 and in 1988 the wooden Belfast roof of the mill was damaged in a gale and a new roof was put on.⁷

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Harrison 1988, 68.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁶ Mannex, *History, Topography and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 469; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 209; *ibid.*, 1887, 291; *ibid.*, 1893, 412; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 663; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924, 455; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 605; *ibid.*, 1941, 441; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 265. The entry reads 'Egyptian and American in two, three and four-fold, in cop, cheese and bundle; grey and bleached edgings on cheeses'.

⁷ Information from Mr J W Driver, Managing Director of Empress Mills, Colne, now transferred to the former Hollin Hall Mill, Trawden.

DESCRIPTION



Empress Mill stands on the east side of Buck Street on ground which slopes steeply down to the north. The building (Fig 2) originated as the Empress Skating Rink, which was built in 1909 and was rectangular in plan. A low wing projecting from the north-east corner and shown on the 1930 map was added on its conversion to a cotton doubling mill in 1923.



The original building is two stories high with a thirteen-bay long, two-bay wide ground floor over a seven-bay long basement contrived under its northern half, utilising the slope of the ground.

The basement is built of random rubble, its wide windows and the central east door all having rectangular stone lintels set under a continuous stone band. The ground floor, now rendered, is entered through a doorway in the fourth bay from its south end and has windows similar in size and form to those lighting the basement. The main building now has a pitched roof with metal trusses which dates from 1988, but it replaced an original Belfast roof with elliptical trusses with cross bracing, a type

of roof popular in the early 20th century.⁸ The ground floor, which occupies the full length of the building, is carried on I-section steel beams where it extends over the basement.

The north-east projection, which was added before 1930, is less than half the width of the main building, is gabled and is two stories high, the lower floor of random rubble, the upper rendered. The east elevation, facing the street between the mill and the Market Hall, has a door at either end and a small window in between, while the floor above has two wide windows with rectangular stone lintels; the north gable wall, now almost built up to, has one window set centrally to each floor. The building may have once have housed the power source of the mill.

METHODOLOGY

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⁸ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills 1770-1930* (London, 1992, 75, fig. 130.



Excelsior Works, formerly Laundry

North Valley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98954

NGR: SD 8840 4016

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98954

Colne

NGR: SD 8840 4016

Excelsior Works, formerly Laundry, North Valley Road

SUMMARY

Excelsior Works originated as the Excelsior Laundry, which was built in 1904 and was still in use as such in 1911. By 1923 the Laundry had closed and had been converted and extended as a tape sizing works for Fisher, Ridehalgh and Duckett and known by the name of Excelsior Works. In the late 1920s this company moved to their newly-built Crescent Works, further east along North Valley Road, and Excelsior Works became a steel and wire works. The Laundry is a single-storey building of stone, of some architectural pretension, with three gabled ranges running north-south and a rear boiler house and chimney. The shed extension is also of stone and of one storey but has series of north-light saw-tooth profile roofs.

HISTORY

Excelsior Works, which fronts the north side of North Valley Road, incorporates within it an earlier building, a purpose-built Laundry, which bears a 1904 datestone.

The site of the Laundry was vacant land in 1891¹ but in 1901 North Valley Road was built,² and in 1904 the Laundry was constructed. By 1910 (Fig 1a)³ the

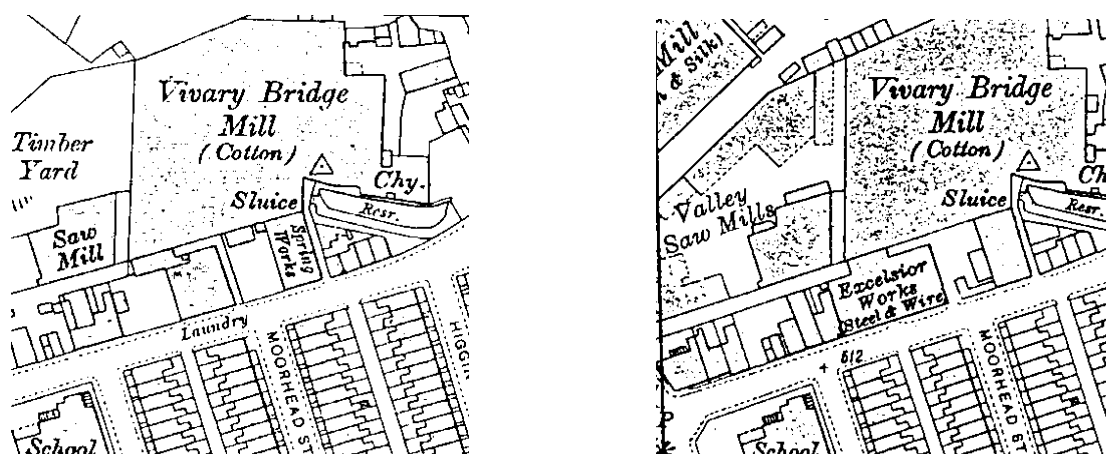
¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

² Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

Laundry was one of a number of mixed industrial and domestic buildings along this part of the new road. The Laundry, and Spring Works to its east, back on to the site of the much earlier Vivary Bridge Mill in the valley bottom, but these later sites stand well above the mill site since the construction of North Valley Road involved culverting the stream which ran through the valley and raising the valley bottom by twelve feet.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

The Laundry was still in use as such in 1911 but by 1923 it had closed and the



buildings had been converted, extended and renamed Excelsior Works, and were occupied by Fisher, Ridehalgh and Duckett, tape sizers and dry sizers. This company moved to the fully purpose-built Crescent Works, further east along North valley Road, in the later 1920s, Excelsior Works being identified as a Steel and Wire Works on the 1930 map (Fig 1b).⁴ In 1933 and 1941 Excelsior Works was occupied by E Kirk and Company, wire and heald manufacturers.⁵ In 1998 the building was occupied by Stanroyd Textiles, yarn processors and merchants.

DESCRIPTION

Excelsior Works (Fig 2) stands on the north side of North Valley Road, its earliest part being its eastern half, the purpose-built Excelsior Laundry of 1904, the western half a tape works extension built between 1911 and 1923.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 670; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 666; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 455; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 612; *ibid.*, 1941, 445.

The Laundry

Excelsior Laundry, rectangular in plan and dated 1904, is a single-storey building with three parallel gabled ranges which run north-south. The front, south, elevation is of coursed squared rubble, the other elevations, where visible, being of random rubble. The roofs are of slate, all slopes having a full-length glazed roof light set mid-way down the slope. Some ridges retain brown-glazed ceramic ridge ventilators.

The front elevation, with the gabled walls of the three ranges, is decoratively treated and symmetrically disposed. Each range is three bays wide, the central range having a wide segmental-headed doorway between narrow windows, the flanking ranges each having a segmental-headed window between flat-headed windows. The central doorway and the windows all have projecting ashlar surrounds with interrupted jambs, a moulded hood mould running across all three openings of the middle range but only over the central windows of the side ranges. The gable of the middle range, which has a moulded stone panel, no doubt inscribed but now hidden by a modern name board, is surmounted by a



segmental-headed gablet containing the date '1904'; the side ranges each have an oculus with a moulded surround within their gables. Coping surmounts all three gables, with square-sectioned finials at the outer corners. The ends of cast-iron gutters, served by downpipes, project between the ranges. The east side wall of the building, which originally faced a narrow lane which returned along part of the rear of the building, has a wide vehicle entrance with a steel-plate lintel towards the front while to its rear are four windows.

A short, rectangular building partly overlapping and attached to the rear of the main laundry building must be the original boiler house, not least because the maps show a chimney at its east end.

Excelsior Works

The Excelsior Laundry closed and was converted and extended as Excelsior Works between 1911 and 1923. The single-storey addition against the west side of the original Laundry block and in front of the western part of the boiler house doubled the size of the building. The new shed has a front wall of coursed squared rubble with chamfered gutter blocks set above a band. The wall has three openings, a wide vehicle entrance with smooth, flush quoined sides at the east end and two wide, flat-headed windows with flush stone surrounds with interrupted jambs further along. The window surrounds are similar but not identical to those of the Laundry.

The extension has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed slopes and less steeply pitched slated south slopes. The roof across the front has three brown-glazed ceramic ridge ventilators.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Garden Vale Mill, formerly Greenfield Mill

Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98955

NGR: SD 8772 3956

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98955

Colne

NGR: SD 8772 3956

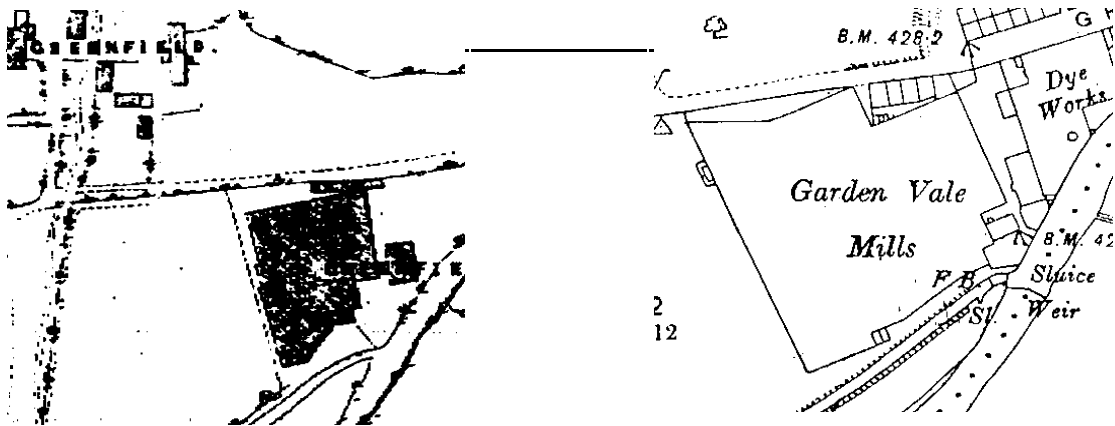
Garden Vale Mill, formerly Greenfield Mill, Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Garden Vale Mill, originally called Greenfield Mill, is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in two stages, the first 'recently erected' in 1853, the second built before 1891. The original building, which respected a terrace of five single-fronted houses on the road frontage, was an extensive single-storey weaving shed with an engine house and boiler house attached to one side. A contemporary lodge and office controlled access to the site. The mill was enlarged by the addition of a weaving shed extension and the construction of a two-storeyed warehouse and yarn preparation block across the front of part of the original weaving shed and of its extension. The engine and boiler houses and chimney have been replaced by a modern brick building. The mill was used for cotton weaving, at the very end of the 19th century moving into multiple occupation. It is now industrial units.

HISTORY

Garden Vale Mill stands in the Primet Mill area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.



Garden Vale Mill was originally known as Greenfield New Mill, a 'Plan of the Recent Erections at Primet Bridge 1853' showing the first building, on the eastern half of the site, and identifying it as such (Fig 1a).¹ Greenfield Mill itself stood further west, beyond the house and cluster of buildings themselves called Greenfield. The name of the new mill soon changed to Garden Vale Mill, and in 1854 it was recorded under this name in a directory and in the occupation of John Catlow, cotton manufacturer. In the next directory, of 1879, Catlow Brothers, cotton spinners and manufacturers, were listed at both Garden Vale Mill and Greenfield Mill, but in 1887 and 1893 they were listed just at Garden Vale Mill.² Successive Ordnance Survey maps of 1891 (Fig 1b), 1910 and 1929-30 name the site as Garden Vale Mill, and they show little change to the buildings. Between 1893 and 1902 the mill went into multiple occupation, reflecting a move in the industry towards room and power working. Two of the three cotton manufacturers in 1902 were members of the Catlow family but by 1911 the family connection had gone, other cotton manufacturers occupying it from then until after 1963 when textile production ceased and the buildings were converted into industrial units.³

¹ Copy in Colne Library.

² Directories indicate that Greenfield Mill continued in use as a textile mill into the 20th century. It has been demolished.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1892, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932; Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston,



DESCRIPTION

Garden Vale Mill occupies a valley-bottom site on the north side of Colne Water, fronting Greenfield Road to its north. It was built between 1844 and

1891, the earlier part being to the east with later additions to the front and the west.

The original mill

The original mill, which forms much of the eastern half of the present building, does not appear on the 1844 map but is shown as one of the 'recent erections' at Primet Bridge on a plan of 1853. It was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill with a weaving shed with the engine and boiler houses and chimney attached to its side. The two-storey warehouse block across the street front is not shown on the 1853 map and it must therefore be an addition. The combined entrance lodge and office added to the east end of the terrace is, however, shown on the 1853 map. The houses which stand on the road front at the north-east corner of the site may pre-date the mill or be contemporary with it: they are not shown on the 1844 map but are on that of 1853. They comprise a terrace of five two-storey single-fronted houses (Fig 2) with walls of coursed squared rubble, the doors and windows with

1854), 468; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 196; *ibid.*, (1887), 282; *ibid.*, (1893), 399; *ibid.*, (1902), 550, 560; *ibid.*, (1911), 671, 631, 633; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 693; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 454, 456; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 607-8, 617, 636; *ibid.*, (1941), 463; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 265, 269.

ashlar surrounds, and roofs of slate. The two-storey addition at the east end formed part of the weaving mill.

The original cotton-weaving mill was built behind the terrace of houses, and in order to create as regularly-shaped a building as possible, the mill was not built up to the street front but was set at an angle to it, its alignment determined by the shape of the shed behind whose front and side walls are set at right angles to each other, only the rear wall being angled.

The original mill was set further back from the road than now, the warehouse block being a later addition. The principal building was a **weaving shed** which extended behind the terrace of houses and ran back (Fig 3) to a rear wall angled to respect the course of the mill race to Greenfield Mill.⁴ This race is shown as open on the 1891 map but by 1910 it had been culverted. The weaving shed is single storeyed



with rubble walls and a saw-tooth profile roof with north-facing glazed slopes and slates return slopes. The rear wall and west side walls did not have parapets, the gables of the roof forming the wall head, but the east wall rises to a flat top since it was also the side wall of the engine and boiler houses. These, and

the chimney which are shown on the maps, have been replaced by a modern gabled red-brick single-storey building.

⁴ The mill race, taken off Colne Water via a weir close to what became the south-east corner of the site of Garden Vale Mill, ran west to Greenfield Mill. The latter mill, a corn mill in 1844, had been rebuilt as a dyehouse, set closer to the river, by 1892, when it was disused, as it was in 1910 and 1930. It has since been demolished.

The entrance to the mill site, at its east end, was controlled from a lodge on the ground floor of a two-storey office building added to the east end of the earlier terrace of houses (Fig 2). This building is constructed of coursed squared rubble and has a gabled and slated roof. The elevation to Greenfield Road has been altered on the ground floor at its west end although it retains a first-floor window with a monolithic stone surround, the surround also found on the two windows in

the east end gable, that on the first floor retaining its central mullion.



Additions to the mill

At some time between 1853 and 1891 the original mill was enlarged by the extension of the weaving shed to the west and by the construction of a warehouse and yarn preparation block across the front of both phases of weaving shed. The warehouse and preparation block is a deep gabled building of two storeys and attics (Fig 4), its front elevation to Greenfield Road being of coursed squared rubble, the other walls of roughly coursed rubble. Its roof is slated. It has an indented rather than straight front elevation, each range being eight bays long and four bays deep with a weaving shed behind. The gable end walls each have a central attic window. The front elevation has a plain band at the level of, and incorporating, the lintels over the ground-floor windows; the first-floor windows, and all other windows, have rectangular lintels with plain margins around a diagonally-tooled central area.⁵ The two bays at the west end of the ground floor of the east range are occupied by a wide and tall quoined vehicle door with a later rolled steel joist as a lintel, against the gable end wall with an adjacent pedestrian door,⁶ with a

⁵ The front window lintels have all been strengthened by inserted under-lintels.

⁶ The creation of a fire escape has led to the conversion of one original first-floor window into a door.



pedestrian door with a light over and a monolithic surround next to it in the easternmost bay of the west range. The east gable wall has a first-floor taking-in door at its rear end. The interior of the building has cast-iron

columns, without bolting heads, supporting timber beams. The rear wall repeats the fenestration of the front but has a one-bay wide, two-storey high projection, probably a privy tower, at its west end.

The weaving shed extension behind the west range of the warehouse block runs two bays further back than the original shed, going as close to the mill race as was reasonable. It is single storeyed (Fig 5) and has at least 19 saw-tooth profile north-light trusses. The side walls are both flat-topped parapet walls; the rear wall rises only to the base of the slated slope. The west side wall has tall narrow round-headed ventilation openings in the gable of each bay, including that of the presumed privy tower. The heads are cut out of a single stone which is set on stone jambs on a sill. Roof gutters project between each bay and discharge into downpipes.

METHODOLOGY

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Glen Mills

North Valley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98956

NGR: SD 8894 4050

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98956

Colne

NGR: SD 8894 4050

Glen Mills, North Valley Road

SUMMARY

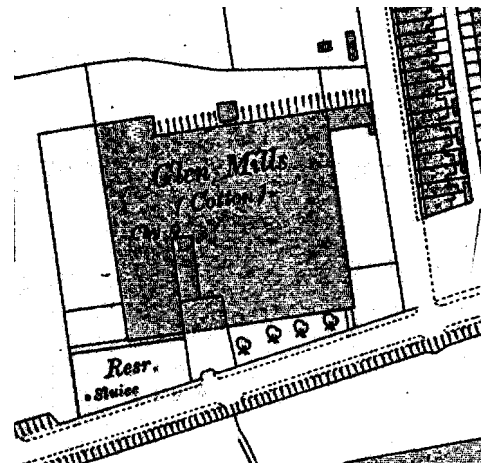
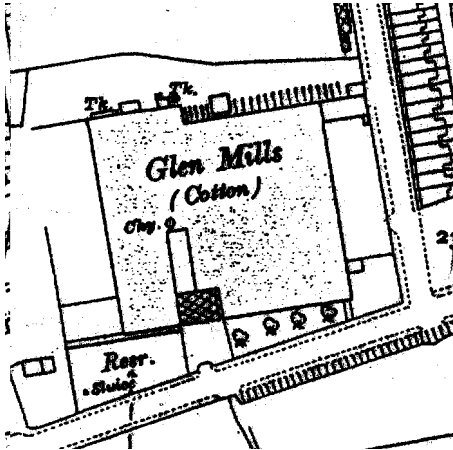
Glen Mills was built in 1906 as a combined cotton-weaving shed and dyeworks, the different blocks abutting each other and sharing a common power source strategically placed between them. The mill, single storeyed but for part basements, has an architecturally-elaborate front elevation to the road with an entrance forecourt, originally partly glazed over, serving as its goods and service entrance. The engine and boiler houses are set side by side with a red brick chimney behind the latter, within the dyehouse. The weaving shed, which is thirteen bays wide with a 16-bay deep glazed saw-tooth roof, had offices along part of the front while the three tall gabled dyehouse ranges, originally with long-ridge louvred ventilators, were open into each other. The dyehouse was extended in two stages, the original roof replaced and other extensions added to the mill during the second half of the 20th century.

HISTORY

Glen Mills was built in 1906, the datestone being set in the front wall of the engine and boiler houses, and it stands on the north side of North Valley Road which had been opened in June 1901.¹ The site was vacant in 1891² but the mill is shown on

¹ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

the 1910 (Fig 1a)³ and 1930 (Fig 1b)⁴ maps, on each of which it is identified as 'Glen Mills (Cotton)'. There were only minor additions to the original building between the two years; there have been more significant additions later, particularly during the 1950s and early 1970s.



² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, revised 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

Early photographs of the mill, some taken in 1907,⁵ others later,⁶ clearly show its division into two principal working parts, namely a weaving shed to the east and dyehouses to the west, with the engine and boiler houses in a pivotal position between them. Trade directories indicate that the mill was not occupied by a single firm but from its opening until the 1950s by the same two firms, William Cox and Sons, cotton manufacturers, and the Glen Dyeing Company.⁷ The latter firm was specifically listed as cop dyers in 1911 and as yarn dyers in 1941. By 1963 the mill was one of a number occupied by Smith & Nephew, Textiles, Ltd., spinners, weavers, dyers, bleachers and surgical dressing manufacturers, a subsidiary of Smith & Nephew Associated Co. Ltd. of London. The textile company's headquarters was at Brierfield Mills, Brierfield,⁸ but in 1963 they also had Glen Mills at Colne, Coronation Mill at Burnley and Victoria Works at Cloughfold, Rawtenstall.⁹ The firm was listed at Glen Mills as 'yarn and cloth bleachers, dyers and

⁵ External and internal photographs of the mill taken in 1907, the date known from a calendar included in one of them, are in the collection of Bob Abel of Earby..

⁶ A photograph taken after 1910, since the allotments behind the mill have a shed in one corner not shown on the 1910 map, is reproduced in Wilfred M Spencer, *Colne As It Was* (Nelson, 1971), 24.

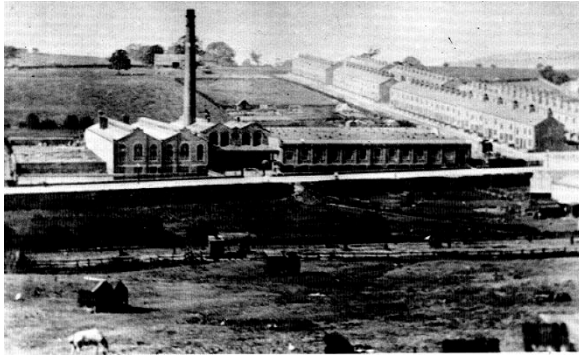
⁷ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 625, 630; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 664, 667; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 455-6; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 602, 606; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 439, 441. The 1911 directory gives the address of the Glen Dyeing Co. as North Valley Road, the 1923 and subsequent directories giving it as Glen Mill, North Valley Road. It seems likely that they were original occupiers of the mill, and that that address covered both occupants. The name Glen Mill is used in all directories up to 1933, Glen Mills thereafter.

⁸ RCHME Historic Buildings Report (1999), NBR No.

⁹ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 240.

finishers'.¹⁰

DESCRIPTION



Glen Mills occupies gently sloping land close to the valley bottom in North Valley. It was built in 1906, by which time the terraced streets of Colne had started to encroach over this area north of the town. Nearby housing, shown on the 1910 map, is likely to have been largely for the

workers in the several mills in or close to this part of North Valley.

The 1906 mill

The original mill of 1906, whose appearance is known from early photographs (Fig 2) and from the 1910 map, was rectangular in plan and had three distinct parts, namely an engine house, boiler house and associated chimney, an L-shaped group of three dyehouse ranges to the west and rear of these, and a rectangular weaving shed to the east of both.

Glen Mills faces south on to North Valley Road and is set far enough back for there to have been a planted area in front of the weaving shed, an entrance forecourt in front of the engine and boiler houses, and a reservoir in front of the dyehouses. The mill is built of coursed rubble, squared only on the front elevation, although the east wall of the weaving shed is rendered and is probably built of brick in anticipation of possible extension east. The front elevation was treated with

¹⁰ Worrall 1963, 265.

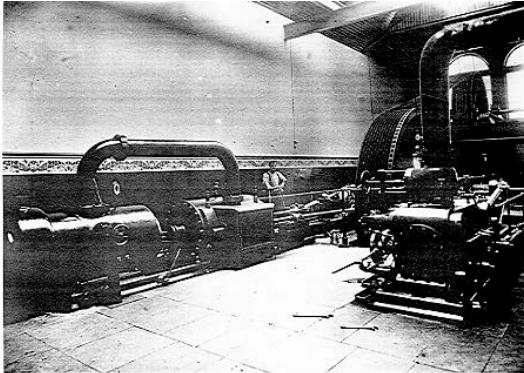
some architectural elaboration, with stone detailing of differing sorts to the facades of the component parts.

The main entrance to the mill for the delivery and despatch of raw materials, finished goods, etc., was from North Valley Road, through the entrance gates into a forecourt in front of the engine and boiler houses. The latter block is set back behind the line of the flanking dyehouses and weaving shed, the recessed area so created originally having a canopy in the form of four glazed hipped roofs supported by steel beams and cast-iron columns, all since replaced. That this was the main goods and service entrance for the mill is indicated by the doors opening off the covered area into the dyehouses and weaving shed as well as into the engine and boiler houses. The entrance into the forecourt has cast-iron gate piers with fluted shafts and moulded caps with ball finials. Each pillar bears two name plates, a rectangular panel on the frieze of each cap reading 'P BROADBENT & SONS PARKSIDE....COLNE' and an oval panel at the top of each shaft 'MAKER W. S. PETTY BRASS & IRON FOUNDER COLNE'.

The engine house and boiler house are set side by side and occupy the eastern and western halves of the tall single-storey double-gabled building set at the rear of the entrance forecourt. They are identical in size, each one rectangular in plan. The shared front wall has doorways opening off the covered area,¹¹ while above this the wall has five tall and wide round-headed openings, the central one blind but flanked by pairs of windows, all of them under a common hood mould. The blind opening contains a panel bearing the date 1906. The roofs of both buildings are slated but have linear roof lights set mid-slope; ventilators on both ridges, shown on the early photographs, do not survive.

¹¹ The internal doorway in the spine wall between them is an insertion.

The engine house has lost its steam engine and engine bed but this is shown in

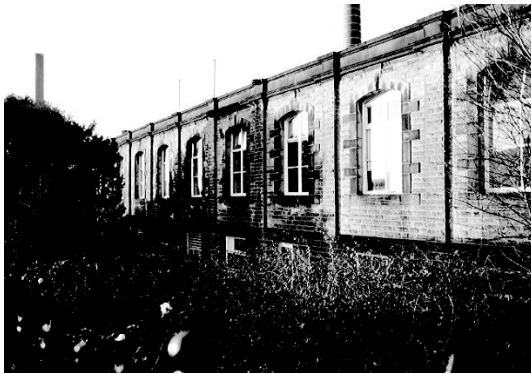


one of one of the photographs taken of the mill in 1907 (Fig 3). The photograph, taken looking towards the front of the engine house, shows a horizontal engine with its flywheel or rope drum driving a large pulley wheel which turned drive shafts leading into the weaving shed and dyehouse ranges.

The photograph shows the interior walls with a tiled dado and decorative frieze, a girder close to the wallhead for moving heavy engine parts around, and a plank-lined roof. The roof retains its three original roof trusses, each of which consists of a collar supporting conventional king posts with V-struts.

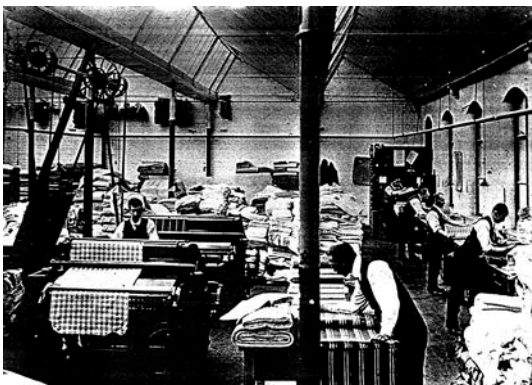
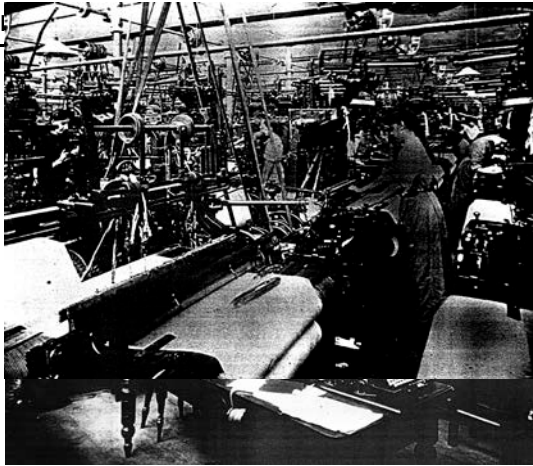
The boiler house has been cleared of its boilers, their brick casings and the presumed economiser, but it too retains its six original roof trusses each with a tie beam and king post with V-struts.

The chimney, set behind the boiler house, within one of the dyehouse ranges, is circular and built of red brick. Its shaft, which bears the name GLEN in white bricks on its east and west faces, tapers gently but has lost the moulded cap visible in the early photographs. It is now strengthened by a series of iron binding rings.



The weaving shed is attached to the east side of the engine house and is single-storeyed with a basement under its front part. The shed is built of coursed squared rubble to the front and to the entrance forecourt, of coursed rubble to the rear and of rendered brick

to the east. It has a 13-bay long front elevation with a door for the workforce in the bay at the east end and ground and basement windows in all the other bays. The detail of this elevation (Fig 4), whose rubble is enhanced by stone detailing, is typical of its date, classically informed but handled freely. The basement is treated as a plinth to the ground-floor wall above, the windows of which are set in bays recessed back from what are effectively pilasters which are carried through the moulded entablature along the wallhead. The basement windows have rectangular stone lintels while those to the ground floor, set in bays with a chamfered plinth, have segmental heads and projecting stone surrounds with interrupted jambs and moulded keyblocks. The window frames on the ground floor have fixed lower lights with hoppers, bottom-hinged opening lights which gave draught-free ventilation, at the top. The shed has a 16-bay deep saw-tooth profile roof with north-facing glazed lights and slated rear slopes; the early photographs show a series of small ventilators on the ridges. The northernmost glazed slope runs down to a gutter: there is no parapet wall to rob the interior of light, although the north wall itself has windows matching those to the front but with quoined surrounds and rectangular stone lintels. The east side wall, where it is visible towards the front, has no parapet hiding the roof since, as noted earlier, it seems to have been built with expansion in mind and money was not wasted on it unnecessarily. There are no ventilation openings in the gables along this wall.



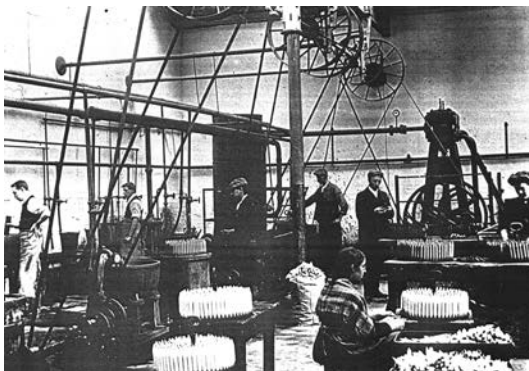
The weaving shed has two entrances, one at the extreme east end of the front wall and intended for the workforce, the other, at the rear end of the wall facing the former glazed forecourt, into an area originally partitioned off as offices. These two doors have segmental heads and surrounds like those to the windows; the wall to the forecourt also has such a window towards the front as well as a

wide, tall doorway with interrupted jambs and a steel plate lintel for the delivery of yarn, etc., and despatch of woven cloth. The area of the weaving shed where the offices were has been altered, but the presence of moulded architraves to the six front windows at the west end suggests that they were here, and photographs taken in 1907 confirm this. They show two offices, one the general office (Fig 5), the other the despatch office. Neither was ceiled, both being lit by windows in the front wall as well as by the saw-tooth roof which also lights the working space behind. The weaving shed, including that part taken out as offices,

and that part next to it, not partitioned off but where cloth was stored and examined (Fig 6), has cast-iron columns, all with east-facing D-sectioned bolting heads, the columns supporting cast-iron gutters. A photograph taken in 1907 (Fig 7) shows line shafting attached to the columns and driving belts down to the looms; the interior today (Fig 8) is structurally the same, if not functionally. The roof has T-

sectioned cast-iron king mullions support the ridge of each roof bay on the north side, the glazed slope being outside and independent of them.

The dyehouse to the west and rear of the engine house and boiler house consists of three tall gabled single-storey ranges which open into each other, the westernmost two ranges running the full depth of the mill, each having a basement under its south front, and the third range only running back from the engine and boiler houses. All three have been considerably altered both inside and out, the front gables being reduced in height and all the roofs replaced, but their original appearance is known from the early photographs. The front walls of the two full-depth dyehouse ranges were each three bays wide under a gable with a shaped



apex incorporating a segmental pediment. The three windows in each gable are all round headed, the central window being taller and wider than those flanking it, and all with projecting surrounds with interrupted jambs continuing as keyed-in heads. The walls have no pilasters but the basement is

treated as a plinth and houses three windows with rectangular stone lintels. The rear gable walls of the three dyehouse ranges must originally have repeated the form of those at the front. All three ranges, before they were re-roofed, had raised and louvred ventilators along the full length of their ridges to enable the fumes, steam and heat generated by dyeing to be dissipated.

Apart from any internal communication provided between the weaving shed and the dyehouse there are two doorways and two windows, one each to the basement and ground floor, in the west side wall of the original covered entrance forecourt. The door nearest the front must have been for workers - a path led past the front of the dyehouse towards it - while the wider one to its rear was for the delivery and

despatch of cloth, etc. Inside, the three ranges of the dyehouse were not divided from each other, tall cast-iron columns with square-sectioned bolting heads supporting the gutters and roof slopes between them (Fig 9). The roofs, since renewed, had trusses with tie beams supporting king posts with V-struts. Early photographs also show that in the area over the basement the columns stand on I-section steel beams.

Additions to the 1906 mill

Map evidence indicates there were few additions to the 1906 mill between 1910 and 1930, the principal one being an eastward extension of the small rectangular building projecting from the north-west corner of the dyehouse.



Apart from the changes noted above to the original structure, the main additions have been comparatively recent and include extensive new dyehouses, etc., to the west and a building to the east, all with public elevations of coursed squared reconstituted stone, the other elevations rendered. The dyehouse extension (Fig 10) comprises a series of tall gabled

single-storey ranges lit by conventional windows and by roof lights. The ranges, built in the 1950s when Smith & Nephew bought the mill, were used as dyehouses and for wet processing yarn (taping and sizing) and for finishing fabric by bleaching. Further additions, steel-framed and with profiled sheet-metal covering, were added in front in the early 1970s. The gabled east addition has a three-bay wide rear end and an interior with angle-iron trusses.

METHODOLOGY

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Green Shed

Knotts Lane

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98958

NGR: SD 8836 3960

Surveyed: 25 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

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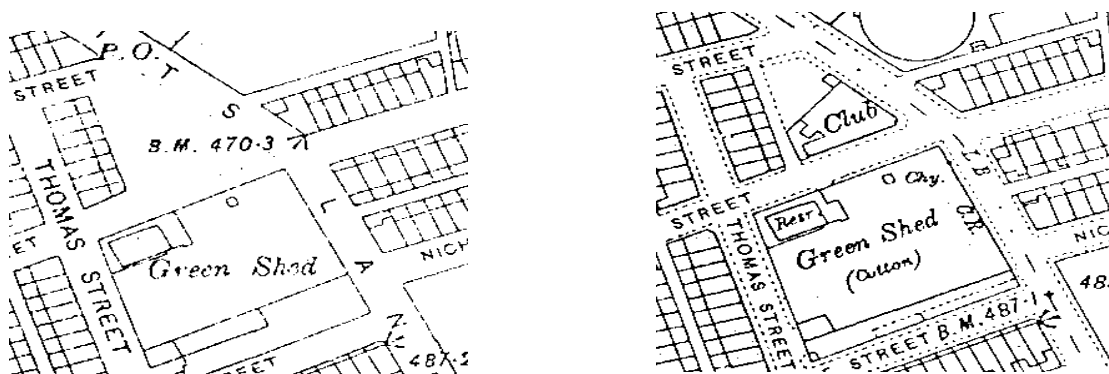
Green Shed, Knotts Lane

SUMMARY

Green Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of at least three phases built on gently sloping land in a valley side position to the south of Colne Water. It was at first multi-tenanted but later switched to single occupancy. The original mill, built between 1854 and 1879, is of coursed and random stone rubble and is roughly rectangular in plan. It consists of a north-east facing two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with an engine house, boiler house and square brick chimney attached behind and a single-storey weaving shed to the rear with a reservoir in the north-west corner. On south-east side a narrow yard separated the mill buildings from the bounding street. Between 1890 and 1910 a two-storey block built of coursed squared stone rubble was added to the south-east side, building on part of the former yard and at some point after 1929-30 the yard was completely built over with a weaving shed extension and a tall gabled multi-storey block, although the cobbled entrance to the former yard can still be seen. Although vacant the site was in good condition in 1998 with all the mill components surviving except for the reservoir which has been infilled.

HISTORY

Trade directory evidence indicates that Green Shed was built between 1854 and



1879. There is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1854 but it is listed in a directory of 1879 when Thomas Foulds, cotton manufacturer, and Frankland & Co, cotton manufacturers, were the occupiers. A directory for 1887 lists Thomas Foulds & Son as the only occupier and Thomas Foulds & Sons Ltd were still the only occupiers in 1941 by which time they also occupied Great Holme Mill.¹ The mill appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Fig 1a).² By the time of the revision of 1910 (Fig 1b)³ the mill had been slightly enlarged to the south east. It is shown unchanged on the map of 1929-30.⁴ In 1998 the mill was vacant and the buildings survived in moderate condition although some active damage was apparent.

DESCRIPTION

Green Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on gently sloping land in a valley side position on the south side of Colne Water. The present mill was constructed in at least three phases, the first between 1854 and 1879, the second

¹ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854); Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 199; *ibid.*, 1887, 285; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 441.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1923-30, published 1932.

between 1891 and 1910 and the third in the mid or late 20th century.

The original mill

The original mill, built between 1854 and 1879 and shown on the map of 1891, consisted of a single-storey weaving shed with a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation range along the north-east side, fronting Knotts Lane, and a range comprising an engine house, boiler house, chimney and reservoir running the length of the north-west side. A narrow yard incorporating a cobbled lane ran the length of the site on the south-east side up to Laithe Street.

The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 2) has a saw-tooth roof of eight bays glazed to the north-west, with slated return slopes, and is drained by valley gutters which run through the south-west random-rubble parapet wall and feed directly into a trough.



The two-storey range fronting Knotts Lane comprises a warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) built of random stone rubble with a shallow pitched slate roof. The north-east elevation is seven bays long with diagonally tooled stone lintels and sills to the windows.

There are first-floor taking-in doors with tooled quoins in the third and seventh bays from the left. Adjacent is a corner office block built of tooled coursed stone rubble and loosely bonded in with the random rubble of the warehouse. The pitched roof is of slate and hipped to the north west. The front elevation is six bays wide with rectangular stone lintels and sills to the windows, gutter brackets and a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic stone surround in the fourth bay from the left. The return, north-west, elevation is in the same style as the front but is only two bays wide and merges with the engine house to present a continuous front.

The engine house (Fig 4) is of coursed squared stone rubble and incorporates the square stone chimney within the south-west gable end. The front elevation of the engine house, facing Shed Street, is three bays long with tall round-headed



windows, with stone quoins and voussoirs, to the upper level and a central pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround flanked by a pair of rectangular windows with rectangular lintels and sills below. Behind the engine house is a lower flat-roofed two-storey block with a front elevation of coursed stone rubble, not flush with the front of the engine house, but extending behind in red brick. The fenestration of the frontage has been altered and a vehicle entrance has been inserted. It is in the position of the boiler house but is probably a later rebuild. To the rear and occupying the north-west corner of the site was the reservoir. The perimeter walls of coursed rubble survive but it has been drained and infilled.

The additions of 1891-1910

Between 1891 and 1910 a narrow two-storey block of uncertain purpose with a flat roof was built along part of the south-east yard, running back from a frontage on Knotts Lane across the gable end of the warehouse. Only the north-east frontage was visible and it is of coursed stone rubble, two bays wide with rectangular stone lintels and sills to the windows and no entrances. The junctions with the warehouse to the right and a later block to the left are defined by straight joints.

Post 1929-30 additions

Sometime after 1929-30, probably in the mid to late 20th century, an additional gabled office block of two storeys over a basement was built over the remainder of the former yard in the east corner of the site and the shed was extended behind it.

The office block (Fig 5) is built of coursed stone rubble with a slate roof with



stone copings. The front elevation, facing Laithe Street, is eight bays long with Stone lintels and sills to the ground and first-floor windows. The basement is lit by wider four-light windows with shaped stone lintels. Windows in the first and fourth bays from the left have been converted to doors. The north-

east, gable end, elevation is two bays wide, the cobbled entrance to the former yard survives in front of it. The extension to the shed is rendered and featureless except for a small roughly square block of different character, and probably of later date, in the south-west corner. It is flat-roofed and built of well coursed stone rubble and has pedestrian and vehicle doors on the south-west side.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Greenhill Mill

Skipton Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98957

NGR: SD 8938 4061

Surveyed: 3 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 98957

Colne

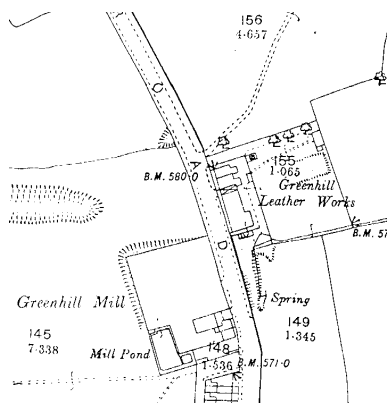
NGR: SD 8938 4061

Greenhill Mill, Skipton Road

SUMMARY

Greenhill Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1854 and 1879 on a site to the north of Colne. It is built of coursed squared stone rubble with rock-faced quoins, to the street front and sides, and random stone rubble to the hidden rear wall. It consists of a single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof

with a gabled engine house in the south-east corner and a boiler house attached to the south-east side with a square stone chimney behind. Further buildings on the site, including warehouse and yarn preparation block, shown on the map of 1890 have been demolished. The mill survives in good condition and in 1998 was in use as a wallpaper factory.



HISTORY

Trade directory evidence indicates that Greenhill Mill was built between 1854 and 1879. There is no reference to the mill in a trade directory of 1854 but it is listed in a directory of 1879 when the occupiers were Bernard Hartley, cotton manufacturer and John Lowcock, cotton and wincey manufacturer. In 1887 and

1893 the mill had only one occupier, Midgely and Carr, cotton manufacturers. It was still in use for cotton manufacturing in 1933 when C G Ratcliffe Ltd were in occupation but by 1963 the mill was used for the manufacture of velvets and silks, the occupiers being Greenhill Velvets and Silks Ltd.¹ Greenhill Mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891² (Fig 1) and is unchanged on the subsequent revisions of 1910 and 1930.³ The surviving mill buildings were in good condition in 1998 and were in use as a wallpaper factory.

DESCRIPTION

Greenhill Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on gently sloping ground on the then northern edge of Colne on the west side of Skipton Road. It is of single-phase construction and has not been enlarged in the 20th century. Most of the mill components survive in good condition although there has been some demolition.

The original mill

The original mill, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891, consisted of a single-storey weaving shed with an internal corner engine house and an attached side boiler house with an attached chimney. A photograph of 1887⁴ shows that

¹ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854); Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 201, 204; *ibid.*, 1887, 290; *ibid.*, 1893, 411; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 616; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 269.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁴ Wilfred Spencer, *Colne as it Was* (Nelson, 1990), 41.

behind the boiler house stood a large gabled multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, seven bays long by five wide, behind this was a reservoir.

The multi-storey block has been demolished and the reservoir has been infilled.

The single-storey weaving shed (Fig 2) has a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north west with slated return slopes, behind parapet walls. The south-west wall could not be inspected but the north-west wall is of random rubble with cast-iron railings to the south-west wall was not accessible. The north-east parapet wall, fronting Skipton Road, is much finer being of well coursed squared stone, in pier and panel construction, with gutter brackets and with a vehicle door, with rusticated quoins and a depressed segmental arch with rusticated voussoirs, next to the engine house which occupies the south-east corner of the shed and forms a continuous facade to Skipton Road.



The north-east elevation of the gabled engine house (Fig 3) is similar in style to the shed but rises higher. It has rusticated quoins to the corners, gutter brackets and three tall round-headed windows, with rusticated quoins and

voussoirs, and a continuous sill band which also marks the level of the engine floor.

The return, south-east, elevation of the engine house is featureless except for a blocked doorway at engine-floor level with an inserted door below. There is some fire reddening to the lower stonework where, reputedly, ash from the boilers was dumped. The frontage to Skipton Road was originally continued by a boundary wall, in the same style as the shed and engine house, and part of it remains, ramping down from the engine house wall to the quoined corner of a gateway into the yard immediately in front of the boiler house. The gabled boiler house (Fig 4) is attached to the south-east side of the weaving shed, gable-end onto and set back from Skipton Road. This elevation is of well coursed squared stone rubble

with a single upper-level round-headed window on the right-hand side. One large round-headed boiler entrance was visible below and on the right-hand side (there may be more but the rest of this elevation at this level was obscured by a modern).

The side and rear elevations of the boiler house have been rendered. Attached to the south-east side is a tapering square chimney built of coursed squared stone



rubble. The top has been removed.

METHODOLOGY

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Grove Mill

Windsor Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98959

NGR: SD 8920 4043

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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NBR No. 98959

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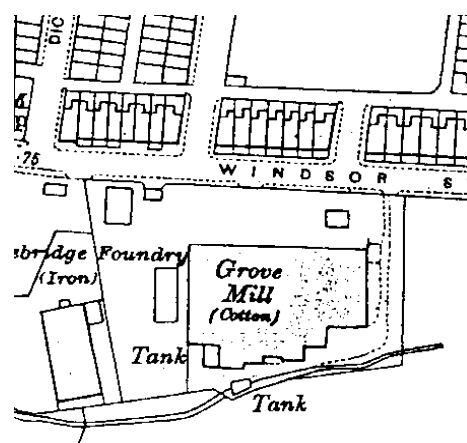
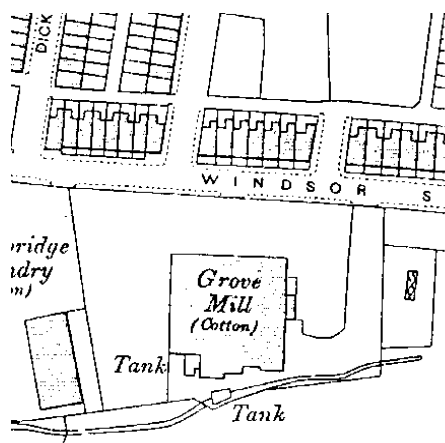
NGR: SD 8920 4043

Grove Mill, Windsor Road

SUMMARY

Grove Mill, also known as Grove Shed, was built as a cotton-weaving mill between 1891 and 1910 and was extended on two sides between 1910 and 1930. The larger, eastern extension is the only building which now survives, and it is a single-storey weaving shed which is raised over a basement and is lit by a north-light roof.

HISTORY



Grove Mill, as it is named on maps, or Grove Shed as it is named in some trade directories, was built on a valley bottom site, on the north side of the stream running through North Valley, and on a site bounded on the north by Windsor

Street, between 1902, when it does not appear in a Directory, and 1910 when it is shown on a map (Fig 1a).¹ The 1930 map (Fig 1b)² indicates that between 1910 and 1930 the mill was extended to both east and west, the eastern extension being by far the larger. The 1910 and 1930 maps both name the site as 'Grove Mill



(Cotton)'. In 1911 Grove Mill was occupied by David Hartley Barritt, cotton manufacturer, but in all later directories it was occupied by J W Barritt, also cotton manufacturers. In 1963 the same firm, by now J W Barritt Ltd., were listed as having 270 looms in Grove Shed where they wove checks, gingham,

handkerchiefs and check flannelettes.³ By 1998 only the eastern addition survived, the rest of the mill having been demolished, a modern building, presently occupied by Coach House Antiques, occupying its site.

DESCRIPTION

The original part of Grove Mill, shown on the 1910 map, has been demolished but the eastern extension, added between 1910 and 1930, still survives and is of two stories with a weaving shed over a basement (Fig 2). This disposition is clear from the six-bay long north elevation with its two rows of tall windows with their

¹ Ordnance Survey 1: 2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 619; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 660; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 454; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 598; *ibid.*, 1941, 436; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 265.

rectangular stone lintels. The shed walls are of random rubble, the main weaving floor having a saw-tooth roof with north-facing lights. At least one ridge has three brown-glazed ceramic ventilators.

METHODOLOGY

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Holker Street Mill

Burnley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98960

NGR: SD 8782 3954

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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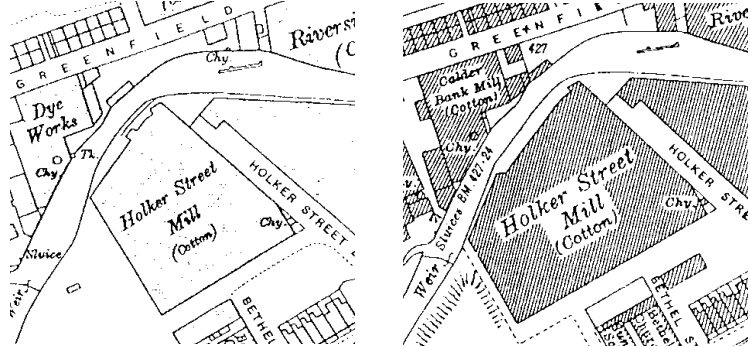
Holker Street Mill, Burnley Road

SUMMARY

Holker Street Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of three phases built on the south bank of Colne Water in the Primet Bridge area of Colne. The first phase, built between 1879 and 1887, is of coursed and random stone rubble with channelled quoins to the corner of the front elevation and consists of a gabled office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with attached end engine house, boiler house and chimney and weaving shed to the rear. The second phase, built between 1891 and 1910, was built onto the west side of the original mill and forms the centre portion of the present mill. It consists of an office, warehouse and yarn processing block of three storeys with a saw-tooth roof, with slopes facing south west and north east, concealed by a front parapet wall, and a weaving shed to the rear. The third phase, built between 1910 and 1929-30, was built onto the west side of the second phase and again consists of a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, also with a saw-tooth roof concealed by a front parapet wall but with slopes facing north west and south east, and a third weaving shed to the rear. Except for the engine house, boiler house and chimney the mill survives in good condition and in 1998 was in use as a business centre with multiple occupants.

HISTORY

Holker Street Mill stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.



Trade directory evidence indicates that Holker Street Mill was built between 1879 and 1887. There is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1879 but it is listed in a directory of 1887 when the occupier was the firm of William and Arthur Riley, cotton manufacturers. W & A Riley, cotton manufacturers, remained the only occupiers of Holker Street Mill at least until 1941 when they are listed as the occupiers in a trade directory of that year.¹ The mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Fig 1a)² when the mill was approximately a third of its present size. The Ordnance Survey map of 1910 (Fig 1b)³ shows that the mill had doubled in size to the west by that date and the map of 1929-30 (Fig 1c)⁴ shows the mill at its fullest extent. In 1998 The mill was in use as a business centre and was in good condition with the exception of the power source which has been demolished.

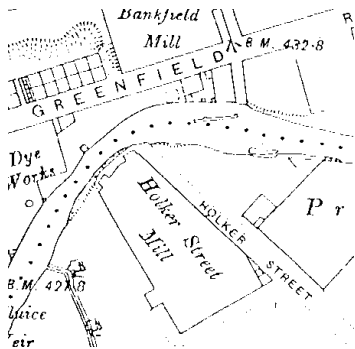
¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879); *ibid.*, 1887, 292; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 449.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

DESCRIPTION



Holker Street Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in three clear phases between 1879 and 1930 on the south bank of Colne Water and separated from Primet Mill to the east by Holker Street.

The original mill

The original mill, built between 1879 and 1887 and shown on the map of 1891, consisted of a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with the power source in an attached end position to the east and a weaving shed to the rear.

The gabled office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) is of coursed stone rubble to the front elevation and random rubble to the side and has a slate roof with stone copings. It is two-storeys high with basement and attic. The front



elevation is ten bays long with tooled stone lintels and sills to the windows. The second bay from the east has a first-floor taking-in door with a monolithic surround with a hole for the hoist beam above and a pedestrian entrance with a stone surround with interrupted jambs below. Blocked pedestrian entrances, or

possibly goods doors, down to the basement occupy the third and eighth bays from the east. There are channelled quoins to the corner and the return, east elevation is three bays wide with attic windows. The ground floor area, where the power source formerly butted, is now rendered and blind except for one small window, either an insertion or in the position of a former power transmission box.

Behind the warehouse and preparation block is the single-storey weaving shed of which only the east parapet wall was accessible. It is of coursed stone rubble but there are different grades present and it is evident that it has been heightened and partially rebuilt.

The addition of 1891-1910

Between 1891 and 1910 the mill was almost doubled in size to the west, both the multi-storey block and the weaving shed being extended.

The second phase of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) is three storeys high and has a saw-tooth roof of eight bays. The roof, not visible behind its parapet wall but presumably glazed to the north east, thereby removing



the need for second floor windows, is drained via valley gutters which discharge into downpipes against the eight-bay long front elevation. This elevation is of coursed stone rubble with lintels and sills similar in form to those of the original warehouse and there is a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround and overlight in the eighth bay from the east. The joint with phase one is discernable by the long and short coursing pattern which indicates that quoins have been removed. The weaving shed could not be seen but the Ordnance Survey map shows it to have been roughly rectangular in plan, its rear wall at an angle dictated by the course of the river.

The addition of 1910-1930

Between 1910 and 1930 the mill was again extended, by roughly the same amount as phase two, to the west. The third phase of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 4), the junction with the second phase marked by a straight



joint, is also three storeys high with a saw-tooth roof behind a front parapet wall but here the four roof bays run at right angles to those of the second phase and are drained by valley gutter and downpipes through the west parapet wall. The front elevation is eight bays long and is of

coursed stone rubble with smooth stone lintels and sills to all windows, the second floor is fenestrated. There is a vehicle entrance in the first bay from the east with channelled quoins to the sides and a smooth stone lintel with keyblock. It has been partially blocked and a modern loading door inserted, as has the adjacent window bay. The west elevation is of coursed stone rubble and is four bays wide although the fenestration has been altered and the two centre bays converted to fire escapes. The junction with the parapet wall of the single-storey weaving shed is defined by a straight joint. The shed has been re-roofed but the west parapet wall survives and is of coursed stone rubble with the ends of valley gutters protruding and rectangular ventilators indicating that the original saw-tooth roof was glazed to the north-west.

METHODOLOGY

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surviving sites.



Knotts Lane Mills

Nicholas Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98961

NGR: SD 8844 3956

Surveyed: 25 November 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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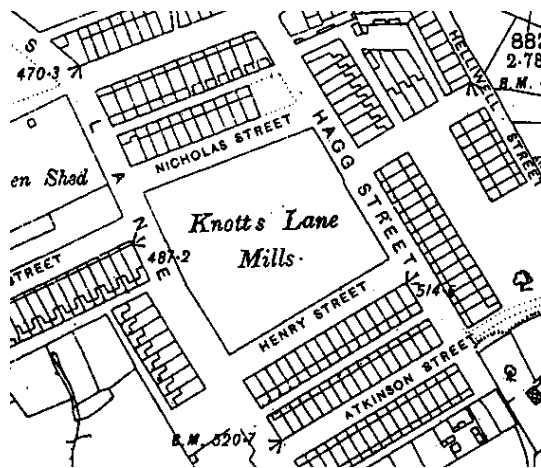
NGR: SD 8553 3886

Knotts Lane Mills, Nicholas Street

SUMMARY

Knotts Lane Mills is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1887 and 1891 on steeply sloping land in a valley side position to the south of Colne Water. It is built of random rubble and red brick and comprised a three-storey office, warehousing and yarn preparation block with internal end engine and boiler houses and a rectangular brick chimney. To the rear a single-storey weaving shed is terraced deeply into the valley side. The mill was not subsequently altered or extended. The mill was unoccupied at the time of survey but all the mill components survived in good condition and represented a good example of an unaltered steam-powered weaving mill within the context of associated contemporary terraced housing. Knotts Lane Mills was however demolished in 1999.

HISTORY



Trade directories and map evidence indicate that Knotts Lane Mills was built between 1887 and 1891. There is no reference to Knotts Lane Mill in the directory of 1887¹ but its irregular plan is shown, at its full extent, on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891² (Fig 1) and is referenced in the directory of 1893³ when it was occupied by James Preston and Sons, cotton and worsted

manufacturers and Richard Riley and Co, manufacturers of cotton goods. The mill was unoccupied but in good condition at the time of survey, November 1998, but was demolished in January 1999.

DESCRIPTION

Knotts Lane Mills (Fig 2) is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill occupying steeply



sloping land in a valley side position, south of Colne Water and bounded by Knotts Lane to the south west, Nicholas Street to the north west, Hagg Street to the north east and Henry Street to the south east. The mill comprises a north-west facing multi-storey block with an internal end engine house, boiler house

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887).

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 413, 414, 427.

and chimney, and a rear weaving shed which is terraced deeply into the valley side.

It was built between 1887 and 1891, by which time the terraced streets of Colne had begun to encroach southwards from Colne Water, towards the farmstead of Knotts, loosely following the line of Knotts Lane. The nearby terraced housing shown on the 1891 map is likely to have been built for workers in Knotts Lane Mill and the nearby Green and Viaduct Sheds.

The original mill

The original mill, built between 1887 and 1891, as shown on the 1891 map, consists of a three-storey office, warehousing and yarn preparation block (Fig 3)



built of random rubble with a slated 22-bay saw-tooth roof, hipped to the north west and glazed to the north east. The north-west elevation is 22 bays long, with rectangular stone lintels and sills to all windows, and blind to the second floor which was lit have been lit by the glazed roof. The north-west corner has a stone

flue and rain gutters between each roof bay empty into a bracketed gutter at eaves level. The first and last bays are blind at ground-floor level and pedestrian entrances with smooth stone surrounds and interrupted jambs occupy the seventh and eighteenth bays from the left, goods entrances with smooth stone quoins and flat steel lintels occupy the ninth and fourteenth bays from the left and there is a coal drop with a smooth stone surround in the sixth bay. The west elevation is six bays wide and does include windows to the second floor. The north-east end is occupied at ground-floor level by the internal boiler house (Fig 4) which had double boiler door with rusticated quoins and flat steel lintels facing north east onto Hagg Street and a wide pedestrian entrance with a smooth stone surround and

interrupted jambs, which occupies the second bay from the left of the north-west elevation. Behind this is the tapering rectangular chimney built of red brick. The gabled engine house (Fig 5) is built of random rubble with a slated roof and stone copings. The side elevations have five tall, round-headed windows, now with raised sills to the Hagg Street side, with smooth stone voussoirs.



The weaving shed (Fig 6) is bonded into the side walls the multi-storey block and

the engine house and is also built of random rubble except for the rear parapet wall which is of red brick pier and panel construction with brick cogging to the top of each panel. It has a saw-tooth roof of 16 bays, glazed to the north west and slated to the south east, which was drained, via gutters, through the



south-west parapet wall into downpipes. There are no ridge ventilators and no ventilators in the parapet walls. The steep rise of the land makes it difficult to be certain how many storeys the weaving shed comprises although secondary fenestration suggests that it is essentially single-storey, possibly over a basement.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Oak Mill

Skipton Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98962

NGR: SD 8944 4066

Surveyed: 2 December

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98962

Colne

NGR: SD 8944 4066

Oak Mill, Skipton Road

SUMMARY

Oak Mill is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill of two main phases built on gently sloping land on the then northern edge of Colne. The first phase, built between 1891 and 1902, was rectangular in plan and just south of Greenhill Leather Works. This mill has been demolished except for parts of the weaving shed walls and a vestige of the saw-tooth roof against the east wall. The second phase, built between 1910 and 1930, was constructed on the site of the former leather works. It is rectangular in plan and consists of an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block fronting Skipton Road and incorporating the two-storey block of the former leather works (dated 1874 on the keyblock to a vehicle entrance) which was extended to the north by four bays and then raised to three storeys when an internal end engine house with attached boiler house was added, and a single-storey weaving shed to the rear. The second mill survives in good condition and in 1998 was occupied by a light engineering firm.

HISTORY

The Greenhill Leather Works was built by Samuel Greenwood, currier and leather dresser, on the east side of Skipton Road in 1874, the date on the building. Samuel Greenwood's firm was the lesser of three tanners operating in Colne in the 19th century, the others being Samuel Smith & Sons and W & J Sagar, and was in

business in Shackleton Street in 1848 before moving to Market Street in 1869 and Dockray Square in 1872.¹ A trade directory of 1879 lists him as 'currier and leather merchant, manufr. of strapping bands, picking bands, &c.,...works, Green hill'² Oak Mill was built directly to the south of Greenhill Works between 1891 and 1902. The mill is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (fig 1a)³ but is listed in a trade directory of 1902 when the occupiers were William Cox & Sons, Hartley Turner & Co, Eli Robinson & Sons and Rushton Hartley & Co, all cotton manufacturers,⁴ indicating a room and power enterprise, and it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910 (Fig 1b).⁵ Greenwood's left Greenhill Works in 1913, moving to Vivary Bridge,⁶ and by 1930 the former leather works had become part of Oak Mill, the building being enlarged and converted to serve as a warehouse and yarn preparation block for a new weaving shed built behind it. It is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1930 (Fig 1c)⁷ and a trade directory of 1933 lists six firms of cotton manufacturers at the mill, Farnhill & Co Ltd, Hartley Bros (1926) Ltd, Hartley Turner (Exors of), Kellet, Woodman & Co Ltd, Rushton Hartley Ltd and J Smith & Co Ltd. In 1998 the original weaving mill and its power block had been largely demolished but the second mill incorporating the former leather works building survived in good condition and was occupied by a light engineering firm.

¹ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 135.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 200.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 552, 561, 574, 578.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

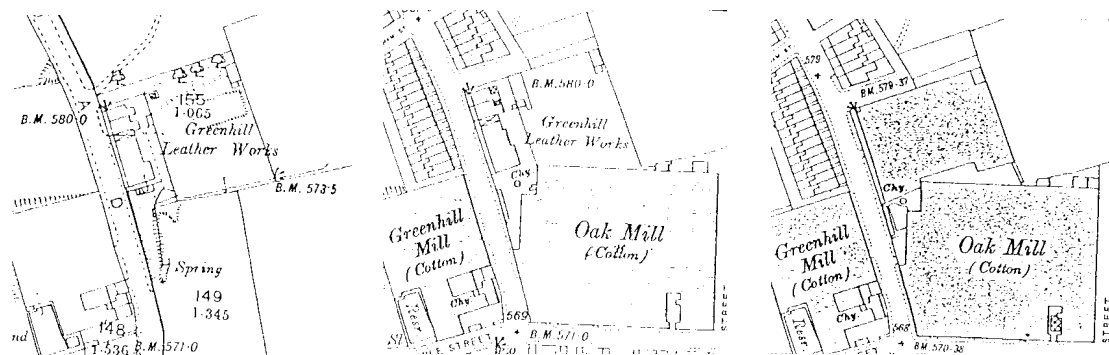
⁶ Harrison 1988, 135.

⁷ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

DESCRIPTION

Oak Mill is a steam-powered cotton weaving-mill built on the east side of Skipton Road and bounded to the south by Oak Street. It later incorporated the nearby and earlier Greenhill Leather Works and a second weaving shed was built behind it.

The original mill buildings



have been demolished

except for two of the weaving shed walls and a narrow section of the shed roof but the enlarged former leather works building and second weaving shed survive in good condition.

The Greenhill Leather Works

The surviving portion of the former leather works (Fig 2) consists of a nine-bay long two-storey block of coursed tooled stone with ashlar quoins to the corners. The first bay from the north is occupied by a vehicle entrance of ashlar quoins and voussoirs and with a four-centered head. The keyblock is dated 1874. It is now blocked but evidently it originally served a covered passage running through the building, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891. Sometime later but before 1891 the leather works was extended to the north by four bays with windows with monolithic surrounds and segmental heads

The mill of 1891-1902

The original mill, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910, consisted of a rectangular weaving shed with random stone rubble walls, without parapets, and a saw-tooth roof of 25 bays, glazed to the north with slated return slopes and drained by valley gutters which discharged into downpipes on the east wall. The power source, with detached chimney, was located at the north-west corner and there were various blocks fronting Skipton Road on the west side. All has been demolished and the site cleared with the exception of a fragment of the west wall of the shed which retains the profile of two roof bays, the north shed wall which



has a series of brackets for line shafting on its inner face, and the east wall which survives in its entirety with a vestige of the original roof running back along the entire length (Fig 3).

The second mill 1910-1930



Between 1910 and 1930 the former leather works was remodelled and extended and a second weaving shed was built behind it increasing by a half the capacity of the original mill. The leather works was enlarged and converted to serve as a gabled three-storey office, warehouse and yarn

processing block. It was remodelled as a gabled three-storey range 15 bays long by three wide and incorporating an internal engine house at the south end,

extending back full height to provide boiler housing. The additions are of coursed tooled stone with ashlar quoins to the corners, the roof is of slate with stone copings, kneelers and gutter brackets. The internal end engine house (Fig 4), with boiler house extension, has a large segmental-arched window to the front with ashlar quoins and voussoirs and a hood mould. Above are two narrow rectangular windows with quoined sides. The south elevation is of coursed tooled stone and is irregularly fenestrated with three tall rectangular windows with quoined sides to the engine bay with a very tall and wide vehicle or boiler door with quoined sides and a cast-iron lintel behind. Above are five smaller rectangular windows. The rear elevation is two bays wide and is canted. It is of roughly coursed stone rubble with quoined corners and incorporates the west wall of the earlier weaving shed to the left bay with a boiler door with cast-iron lintel to the right. Above are two small rectangular windows with stone lintels and sills and quoined sides.

METHODOLOGY

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Primet Bridge Foundry
Little Queen Street, Primet Bridge
Colne
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98963

NGR: SD 8808 3958

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98963

Colne

NGR: SD 8808 3958

Primet Bridge Foundry, later Primet Bridge Works, Little Queen Street, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Primet Bridge Foundry was established in the mid 19th century and was run for over a century by Rushworth Brothers, engineers and ironfounders, who came to specialise in the manufacture of cranes and stone-sawing machines. The building comprises a mid 19th-century three-storey stone-built warehouse block with a tier of taking-in doors in the front elevation served by a pivoting wall-mounted cast-iron crane; the foundry shed to the rear has been rebuilt recently but the base of the chimney survives in its rear corner.

HISTORY

Primet Bridge Foundry stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Primet Bridge Works, formerly Primet Bridge Foundry, was established in the mid

19th century. Its site was still a field in 1844¹ but it was in existence by 1879² when it was occupied by Rushworth Brothers, engineers and founders. It is possible that it was founded by others since the classified list of Iron and Brass Founders in the 1854 directory has two entries for Primet Bridge, namely Henry Hartley and Mitchell and Hartley,³ neither of whom appears in the 1879 directory. Rushworth Brothers remained on the site until the late 20th century although directory entries for them change with time. In the late 19th century they were termed engineers and millwrights⁴ but in the early 20th century this was expanded to include mention of them as steam and hand crane and stone-sawing machine makers.⁵ In the mid 20th century they were simply called engineers.⁶ The change of nomenclature is reflected by cartographic evidence since the building is called Primet Bridge Foundry on the 1891 map (Fig 1a)⁷ but Crane Works on those of 1910 (Fig 1b)⁸ and 1929-30.⁹ The directories rarely gave it a name: those of 1879 and 1924 call it Primet Bridge Foundry, that of 1941 Primet Bridge Works, the others just locating it in Primet Bridge.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 207.

³ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 293, *ibid.*, 1893, 414.

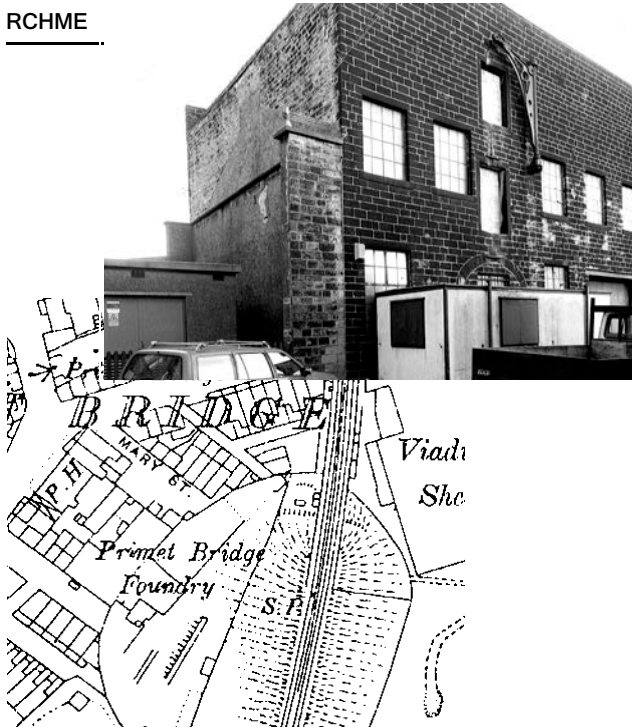
⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 573; *ibid.*, 1911, 649; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 677.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 617; *ibid.*, 1941, 450.

⁷ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

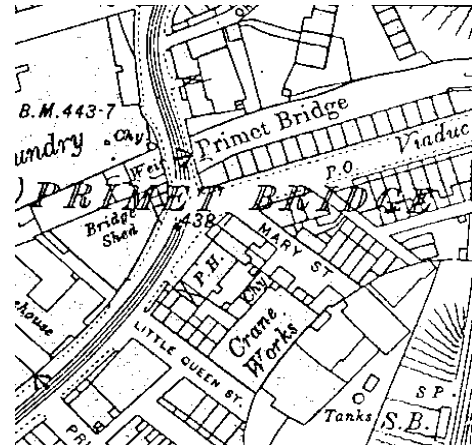
⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



DESCRIPTION

Primet Bridge Foundry, later



Primet Bridge Works, stands on a flat valley-bottom site on Little Queen Street, off Burnley Road. The buildings comprise a tall office and warehouse block of mid 19th-century date fronting the north-east side of the street with the foundry behind, the latter rebuilt but retaining the base of the chimney at its north corner.

The office and warehouse block (Fig 2) is tall and rectangular in shape. It is three storeys high, the second floor top-lit, its front wall built of squared rubble, the others of rubble. The front wall, before being altered, had a five-bay long ground floor with four windows and a tall and wide round-headed vehicle entrance in the second bay. The first floor still has five windows and a taking-in door set over the ground-floor entrance and there is just a single taking-in door at second-floor level, directly over the taking-in door below. A cast-iron crane, undoubtedly cast on site, is mounted on the wall at second-floor level where it pivoted and was used to bring raw materials into the warehouse. There are no windows in any other wall of this building. Five cast-iron gutter ends project through the rear wall, emptying into a cast-iron trough, and they indicate that the warehouse has a four-bay roof running from front to rear, no doubt with glazed lights facing north west.

The foundry shed attached to the rear of the warehouse block has been replaced by a modern single-storey brick structure. Map evidence indicates that the shed was rebuilt between 1891 and 1910, its size differing on the two maps, but the square stone rubble base of the chimney at its north corner still survives.

METHODOLOGY

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Primet Bridge Foundry
Little Queen Street, Primet Bridge
Colne
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98963

NGR: SD 8808 3958

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98963

Colne

NGR: SD 8808 3958

Primet Bridge Foundry, later Primet Bridge Works, Little Queen Street, Primet Bridge

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HISTORY

Primet Bridge Foundry stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Primet Bridge Works, formerly Primet Bridge Foundry, was established in the mid

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¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 207.

³ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 293, *ibid.*, 1893, 414.

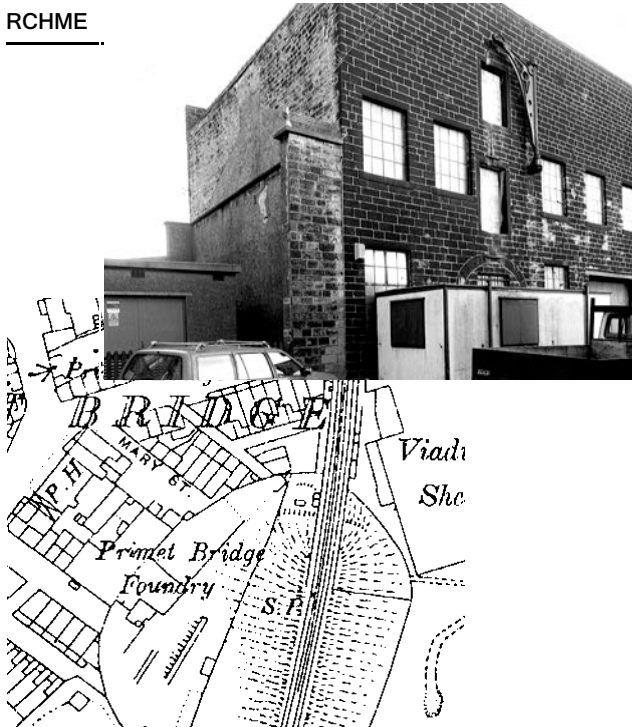
⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 573; *ibid.*, 1911, 649; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 677.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 617; *ibid.*, 1941, 450.

⁷ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

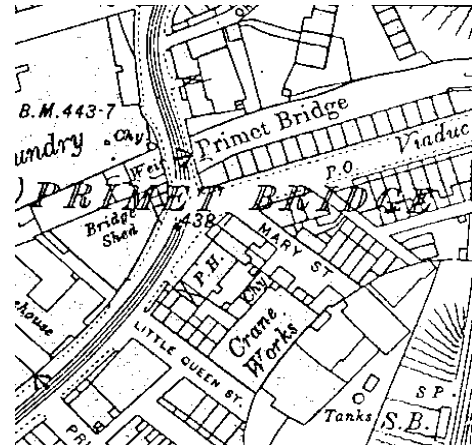
⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



DESCRIPTION

Primet Bridge Foundry, later



Primet Bridge Works, stands on a flat valley-bottom site on Little Queen Street, off Burnley Road. The buildings comprise a tall office and warehouse block of mid 19th-century date fronting the north-east side of the street with the foundry behind, the latter rebuilt but retaining the base of the chimney at its north corner.

The office and warehouse block (Fig 2) is tall and rectangular in shape. It is three storeys high, the second floor top-lit, its front wall built of squared rubble, the others of rubble. The front wall, before being altered, had a five-bay long ground floor with four windows and a tall and wide round-headed vehicle entrance in the second bay. The first floor still has five windows and a taking-in door set over the ground-floor entrance and there is just a single taking-in door at second-floor level, directly over the taking-in door below. A cast-iron crane, undoubtedly cast on site, is mounted on the wall at second-floor level where it pivoted and was used to bring raw materials into the warehouse. There are no windows in any other wall of this building. Five cast-iron gutter ends project through the rear wall, emptying into a cast-iron trough, and they indicate that the warehouse has a four-bay roof running from front to rear, no doubt with glazed lights facing north west.

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METHODOLOGY

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Primet Foundry

Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98964

NGR: SD 8800 3965

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98964

Colne

NGR: SD 8800 3964

Primet Foundry, Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Primet Foundry originated as an industrial building of unknown use, L-shaped in plan, of early 19th-century date, its main range three storeyed and 13 bays in length. In 1852 the site was bought by John Pilling of Trawden, a maker of hand looms and powerlooms, who in a move to more integrated working built a foundry on it in 1861. The firm of John Pilling and Sons, ironfounders and machinists, undertook much building on the site, mainly in the 19th century, and remained in occupation until 1979. Their main buildings are a largely three-storeyed steam-powered range along the banks of Colne Water, its top floor lit by glazed saw-tooth roofs, a broad single-storeyed foundry with a long ridge ventilator, and a series of gabled blocks and a tall six-bay shed with a glazed saw-tooth roof.

HISTORY

Primet Foundry stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Primet Foundry,¹ for much of its life, was occupied by the firm of loom



manufacturers founded by John Pilling. Pilling, of Alderhurst End Farm near

Trawden, had been in business in Trawden in 1819, making handlooms in a building close to the edge of the settlement. Pilling was one of the first to produce the Lancashire powerloom, which at that time was wooden framed, in the 1830s. Thomas Foulds, also a handloom maker of Trawden, made the wooden parts and Pilling, not having a foundry of his own, obtained castings from Clitheroe. In 1852 John Pilling decided to move to Colne, almost certainly to be closer to foundries,



and, having failed to acquire land in Waterside, obtained a site at Primet Bridge.

¹ The information on John Pilling and Primet Foundry, unless otherwise referenced, is based on information kindly provided by Anthony Pilling, a copy of whose outline history of the firm of J Pilling and Sons, and other documents, is contained in the archive file on Primet Foundry. Other information is taken from Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 138.

Primet Foundry is sited on the north bank of Colne Water immediately west of Primet Bridge. A building, not identified by name, is shown on the site on the 1844 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a),² and this is likely to have been the machine works which John Pilling moved to in the early 1850s and later expanded as Primet Foundry. A plan dated May 1846 of the buildings on the opposite bank of the river shows what became the foundry site in outline, specifying only that it was 'Land belonging to Mr Robert Watson'.³ Pilling was still just a machine maker at this time: a 'Machine Shop' is depicted and named on the 'Plan of recent erections at Primet Bridge 1853' (Fig 1b),⁴ and Pilling is listed as such at Primet Bridge in 1854, his house then being at Bunkers Hill.⁵ In 1861 he built a new foundry on the site, giving himself the ability to undertake his own casting, and in 1879 the firm was listed as John Pilling and Sons, ironfounders and machinists, of Primet Foundry.⁶ A 'Plan of Machine Works situate at Primet Bridge, Colne, Lancashire, belonging to Messrs J & H Pilling. September 17th, 1879' (Fig 2) shows the buildings and names their uses.⁷ Pillings continued to occupy the site, often also described as loom makers, until closing in 1979. The main building has since been given the name Greenfield Mill, the correct name of a now almost completely demolished mill beyond the west end of Greenfield Road.

² Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

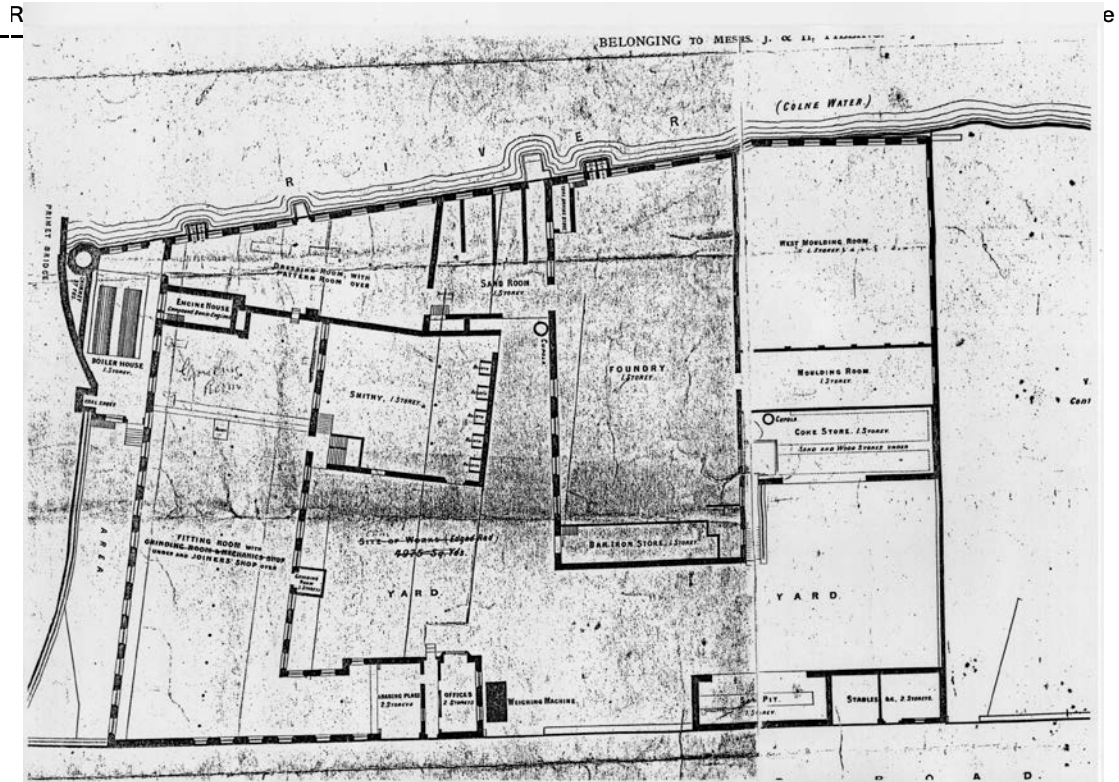
³ 'Plan of an Occupation Road...formerly belonging to an Estate called Greenfield sold by Robert Townley Parker...to Mr. Jonathan Dickinson and conveyed...1816. May 1846' Copy in Colne Library.

⁴ Copy in Colne library.

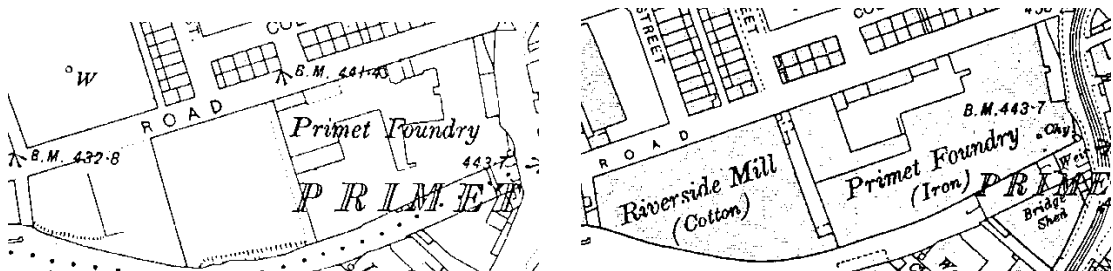
⁵ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 467.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 206.

⁷ Plan supplied by Anthony Pilling.



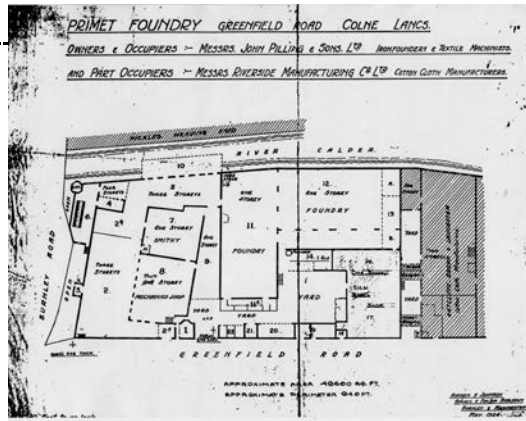
Maps of 1891 (Fig 3a), 1910 (Fig 3b) and 1929-30 ⁸ show the foundry, and it is evident that the site was extended west between 1891 and 1910 with little new work apparent, in plan, after that date. An Insurance Plan ⁹(Fig 4) dated May



1924 shows the site as it was then used.

⁸ Ordnance Survey, 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁹ Plan supplied by Anthony Pilling.



DESCRIPTION

Primet Foundry stands on the north bank of Colne Water which also acts as its southern boundary. Greenfield Road is the northern boundary. The following description is based on a rapid external inspection and is not a definitive account.

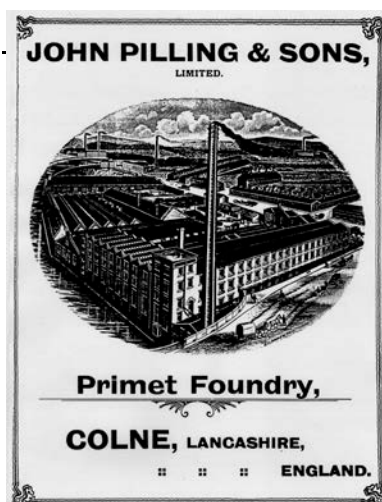
The original buildings

The 1844 map shows an L-shaped building, identified in 1853 as a machine shop, at the east end of the site and the longer north-south arm of this can be identified



as the three-storeyed 13-bay long range which runs north-south and still stands at the end of the site (Fig 5). Built of rubble with quoined corners, it has been doubled in depth as can be seen in the north gable-end wall where a straight joint and a pair of gabled roofs later heightened to a single wide gable are visible.

The new roof is slated. The east wall has an original door at first-floor level in the fifth window from the north end; it has quoined sides but has been converted to a window and may originally have been reached by steps or a landing.



The main entrance into this block was in the north gable wall which has two ground-floor doors, that towards the original rear still in use but with a blocked light over it, that in the original centre now a window and with a taking-in door over it at first floor. All three doorways have monolithic stone surrounds. The two first-floor windows are likely to be original: they are like those in the front wall. The return wing shown on the 1844 map may well have been taken down when the main range was doubled in depth.

Additions to the site before 1891



By 1891 the original long range had been doubled in depth and a series of new buildings erected along the southern boundary of the site, backing on to Colne Water, as well as more built along the Greenfield Road frontage, leaving a rear yard. Which buildings relate to Pilling's use of the site prior to its conversion to a foundry and machine works in 1861 is not known without more detailed investigation. The principal buildings, however, are the long three-storey range along Colne Water, the foundry next to it, the rear range added to the original building and others down Greenfield Road, and these are shown on a drawing accompanying an advertisement (Fig 6).¹⁰

The range along Colne Water, built on previously open ground, is 11 bays long and three storeys high except for the two easternmost bays which rise up as four

¹⁰ Supplied by Anthony Pilling.

storeys (Fig 7). The taller eastern end incorporates an engine house in its northern part: this has a tall, round-headed east window with a keyblock, and it rises through two floors. Its boiler house was in front, at ground level, and was



served by the tall chimney which stands at the south-east corner of the site. The chimney is of stone, octagonal in section, and tapers gently to a moulded cap with a modern top. The long range running back beside Colne Water has nine saw-tooth roofs over its top floor, the gables forming the wallhead and with

glazed east slopes and slated return slopes.

The foundry erected in 1861 was built to the immediate west of the three-storey range just described, and runs back from Colne Water, projecting into the foundry yard. It is a broad single-storeyed building (Fig 8), rectangular in shape, built of rubble with a slated roof with a louvred ventilator along the whole of its ridge and long sloping sides with roof lights mid-slope. The north gable end to the yard has a wide central doorway, now altered, with a segmental brick arch over it; the



doorway to its west and that over it are insertions. The south gable wall has four ground-floor windows and one in the gable over them. The 1879 plan shows the single-storeyed buildings west of the foundry to have been moulding shops and a coke store with the cupola.

The buildings along Greenfield Road are, at the eastern end, a series of gabled two-storey blocks which run back into the site for various depths and are stone built with slate roofs. To the west there is a boundary wall which had some buildings

behind it, one depicted on the map as open sided and identified as a saw pit in 1879, with a two-storeyed building, a stable, etc., beyond it at what was then the corner of the site (Fig 9). This last building has a ground-floor door with a monolithic surround and a wide first-floor taking-in door.

Additions to the site after 1891

Between 1891 and 1910 a strip of land was added to the western boundary of the site and buildings were erected on it. One of these, at its north end, is a tall single-storeyed shed (Fig 5), its front wall of squared rubble, with a nine-bay saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. Lower buildings cover the rear part of the strip of land.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Primet Mill

Burnley Road, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98965

NGR: SD 8794 3957

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98965

Colne

NGR: SD 8794 3957

Primet Mill, Burnley Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Primet Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of multi-phase construction, built of coursed and random stone rubble on the south bank of Colne Water. In 1854 the mill was occupied by Thomas Mason whose firm of cotton manufacturers, Thomas Mason Ltd, remained in occupancy until at least 1963. A cotton mill by the name of Primet Mill occupied the site as early as 1844 but it is unclear whether this was incorporated into the building of the present mill as much of the site has been cleared. The first identifiable phase of the present mill, built between 1844 and 1891, consists of a gabled multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, positioned end-on to Burnley road on the east side of the site, with a tall engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to the north and a weaving shed, roughly L-shaped in plan, to the west. Between 1891 and 1910 extensions were built onto the north-west and south-east sides of the western arm of the weaving shed forming a continuous front to Holker Street. The earlier central section of this range is notable for the detailing to its internal structure which includes cast-iron columns with composite capitals and pierced guilloche decoration to the I-section bridging beams. The chimney and part of the weaving shed have been demolished and in 1998 the site was in use as a business park.

HISTORY

Primet Mill stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering works.

Primet Mill was probably first built in the 1820s, as a cotton or wool spinning and weaving mill, when the firm of Thomas Mason moved to Colne. Thomas Mason began spinning wool in Gargrave in 1796 but expanded into weaving upon moving to Colne and it is likely that he was responsible for the building of the mill.¹ The mill is named on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844 (Fig 1a)² and shown as a narrow rectangular block running back from Colne Water. The mill is shown on a plan of an occupation road dated May 1846 (Fig 2a).³ A building is also shown on the site, but not named, on a plan of recent erections dated 1853 (Fig 2b),⁴ although it is not itself identified as a new building. The map of 1891 (Fig 1b)⁵ shows the mill greatly expanded to the west and by the time of the 1910 map revision (Fig 1c)⁶ the mill had reached its fullest extent. A trade directory for 1854 lists a 'Mason-, Primet bridge' as a cotton manufacturer and there is a full entry for Thomas Mason, cotton manufacturer in a directory of 1879. The firm of Thomas Mason Ltd was still the only occupier of Primet Mill in 1963, when they had '600

¹ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 142-3.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

³ Plan of an occupation road leading from the Blackburn and Cocking End Turnpike Road near Primet Bridge. Copy held by David Morris of Pendle Borough Council.

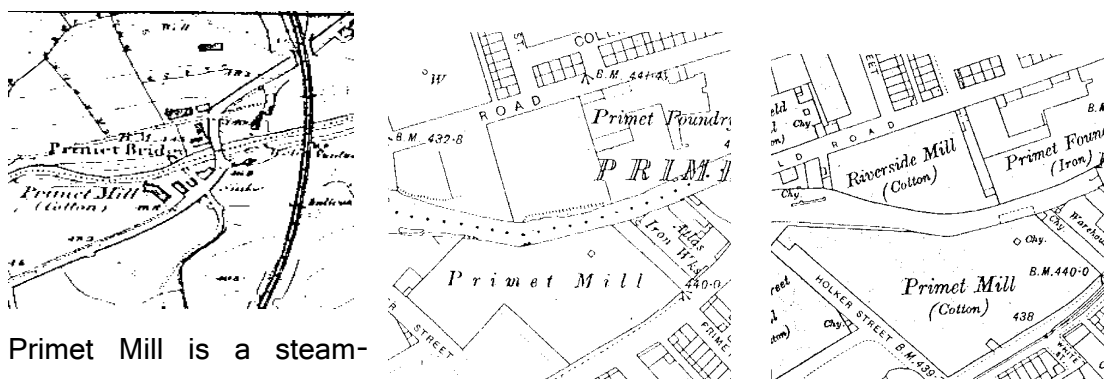
⁴ *Plan of Recent Erections at Primet Bridge 1853*. Copy held by David Morris of Pendle Borough Council.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

looms (Lancashire and automatic) ; cloth width 32-66 ins.; specialising in quality fabrics for the shirting, dress and rainwear trades', and remained so at least until the 1980s.⁷ In 1998 the mill had been partially demolished and was in use as a business centre in multiple-occupancy.

DESCRIPTION



Primet Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill on the south bank of Colne Water, backing onto the river.

The original mill

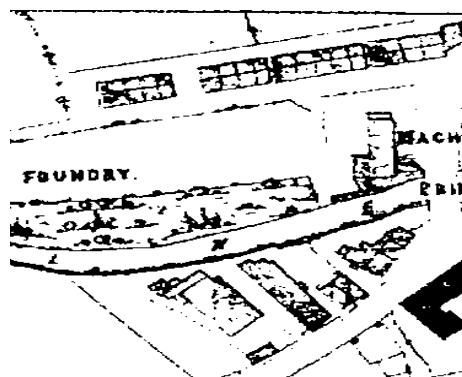
The early evolution of the site is uncertain. The site of the earliest mill, probably built in the 1820s and steam powered; has been largely cleared or rebuilt and it is not known if it was incorporated into the rebuilding of the mill that took place between 1844 and 1891. The power transmission arrangements noted by George Watkins are not obviously identifiable and the remaining buildings on the site form a fairly complex group which pose many problems of evolution, date, power source and use which in the context of a rapid survey could not be properly disentangled.

The following description is therefore brief and not definitive.

⁷ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 486; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 204; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267; Harrison 1988, 142.



The mill of 1844-1891



The cotton-weaving mill built between 1844 and 1891 and shown on the map of 1891 consisted of a central single-storey weaving shed, now demolished, with a two-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block behind and backing onto the river.

In the north-east corner of the site is a tall four-storey block incorporating the engine house, with a chimney attached to the east side, with a three-storey block attached to the south and extending as far as Burnley Road. There was a second single-storey weaving shed attached to the west. George Watkins reports that the first weaving shed was driven by a beam engine of *circa* 1850 by Joe Thompson of Colne which was boosted later by the installation of a pusher horizontal engine, also by Thompson, needed when 400 heavy looms from Marsden Mill were installed. The arrangement was unusual in that the horizontal engine was mounted on a side engine bed, bolted to the ashlar wall of the engine room. The second shed, Watkins calls it the number 2 shed, was driven by its own horizontal engine of 1896. All took steam from a single centrally located boiler.⁸

⁸ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine. Parts 1 & 2* (Ashbourne, 1999) 40, plate 19; see also notes and photographs in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Primet Mills, Colne, Lancashire, WAT506A1, A2 & B.

The block incorporating the **beam engine house** (Fig 3) has been much altered. It is four storeys high over a basement, of coursed stone rubble and now has a five-bay pitched roof of modern metal. There is a large rectangular tapering attachment to the west elevation resembling a buttress but it is possibly the vestigial remains of the mill chimney. Beside it is a tall narrow round-headed window with ashlar voussoirs to the former engine house. The northern elevation is five bays wide with basement lights. The south elevation is largely obscured by the three-storey block which butts against it but the scar line of a butting gabled roof and some disturbance in the stonework is apparent at a lower level suggesting that the three-storey block is a rebuild of something earlier. The east elevation could not be inspected.

The two-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** attached to the west of the engine house block is built of random stone rubble and has a saw-tooth roof glazed to the north and slated to the south. The ground floor of the south elevation has been clad in modern metal, where the shed formerly butted, and windows have been inserted at first floor. The north elevation could not be inspected.

The gabled three-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 4) attached to the south of the engine house block is of coursed stone rubble of similar character to it, with rectangular stone lintels and sills to the windows, gutter brackets and kneelers. The roof is covered in modern sheet metal. The west elevation is 13 bays long and has a modern extension to the ground floor. The south, gable-end, elevation is three bays wide, blind at ground floor but with a single attic light. The east elevation is 14 bays long with an inserted vehicle entrance occupying the sixth bay from the south.

The surviving single-storey **weaving shed**, one of two, is of random stone rubble with tooled quoins to the corners and has a 12-bay saw-tooth roof glazed to the north and drained by valley gutters, through the west parapet wall, which discharge

into downpipes. The internal structure comprises cast-iron columns with composite



capitals supporting I-section bridging beams, with pierced guilloche decoration, which in turn support the gutters (Fig 5). The inside face of the south wall has a series of large stone corbels to support line shafting that entered the shed via a bearing box in the east wall.

The additions of 1891-1910

Between 1891 and 1910 additional weaving sheds were built to the north and south of the original western shed. Both have saw-tooth roofs, glazed to the north with slated return slopes, drained by valley gutters with downpipes, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble to the west butting against the corner quoins of the central shed. The southern addition has tooled quoins to the south-west and south-east corners and the south wall, fronting the street, is of featureless random stone rubble. The north elevation of the northern extension, backing onto the river, could not be inspected.

METHODOLOGY

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surviving sites.



Red Scar Loom Works
Burnley Road, Primet Bridge
Colne
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98966

NGR: SD 8800 3950

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98966

Colne

NGR: SD 8800 3950

Red Scar Loom Works, Burnley Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

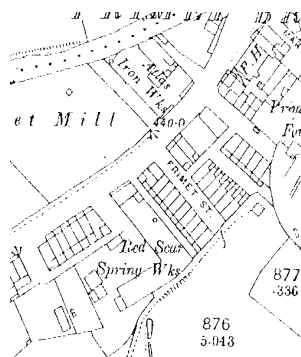
William Bell White began as a spindle maker in 1849, building Red Scar Spring Works for the manufacture of spindles, springs and weft forks between 1854 and 1879. For much of the 20th century his firm, by then W B White and Sons Ltd, were also loom manufacturers, as reflected in the change of name to Red Scar Loom Works. In their heyday they were one of the few firms in Colne to manufacture every component for many kinds of loom as well as other mill furnishings. The original buildings, known from a letterhead, were largely rebuilt and replaced in the late 19th and 20th centuries. The site now comprises three two-storey blocks of varying size, one a remodelling of the original Spring Works, and a tall single-storey foundry block of four bays, all of stone rubble, and a long and broad single-storey shed, and a three-bay shed also single storeyed, both of brick.

HISTORY

Red Scar Loom Works stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as several iron foundries and engineering

works.

Red Scar Loom Works, formerly Red Scar Spring Works was built between 1854 and 1879 by William Bell White who began as a spindle maker in 1849.¹ There is



no mention of White or the works in a trade directory of 1854 but William Bell White, spindle, spring and weft fork maker, Red Scar Works, Burnley Road, is listed in a directory of 1879. White's firm, later known as W B White and Sons, continued at Red Scar Works at least until 1941, loom manufacturing having been introduced between 1902 and 1911 and full scale loom manufacture by 1933, as a trade directory of that year states 'W B

White & Sons Ltd, loom and dobby makers, iron and brass founders, weft fork, shuttle peg, spring and all textile accessories, Red Scar Loom Works'.² The works is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Fig 1a) and is named 'Red Scar Spring Works'. The map revision of 1910 (Fig 1b) shows the works to have expanded slightly but still identifies it as a spring works. The map of 1929-30 (Fig 1c) shows the works to have expanded again and here names it as 'Red Scar Loom Works'.³ The original appearance of the works buildings is known from a letterhead of W B White's⁴ but these were largely rebuilt and replaced in the late 19th and 20th centuries and in 1998 the works was in a much altered and partially demolished state and little could be recognised.

¹ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 138.

² Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854); Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 210; *ibid.*, 1902, 584; *ibid.*, 1911, 657; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 463; *ibid.*, 1933, 623.

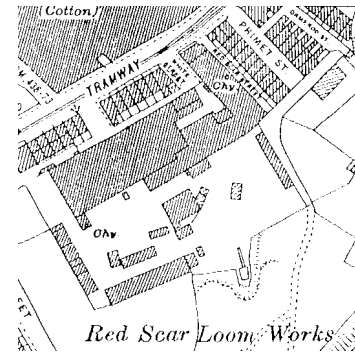
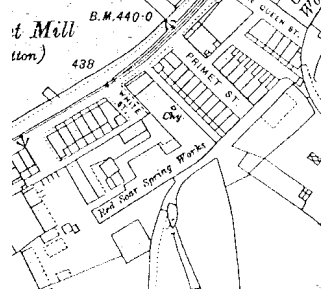
³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁴ Harrison, 1988, 139.



DESCRIPTION

The original Spring Works has been largely lost and the



description below is based on the information gleaned from the letterhead (date unknown) reproduced in *The History of Colne*, edited by Dorothy Harrison, and from the early Ordnance Survey maps.

The present buildings on the site represent a complex group which pose many problems of evolution, date and use which in the context of a rapid survey could not be properly disentangled. The following description is therefore brief and not definitive.

The original Spring Works

The original works, built between 1844 and 1879, appears on the evidence of a letterhead (Fig 2) to have consisted of a long range extending southwards from Burnley Road comprising a gabled two-storey block, end-on to Burnley Road, with a tapering square chimney in the south-east corner, and a single-storey gabled block, with a smaller square chimney on its east side, labelled as the forge, behind.

The two-storey block has a gable-end elevation, three bays wide with, at ground floor, a central segmental-headed pedestrian entrance below a single-light rectangular window with a monolithic stone surround, each flanked by a pair of two-

light mullioned windows, with two rectangular attic windows over all. The attic was also lit by rooflights. The west elevation was nine bays long with segmental-headed windows with stone surrounds. The third bay from the north was occupied by a pedestrian entrance with a taking-in door above with hoist beam over. The single-storey block behind was gabled with six rectangular windows in the west elevation.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1891 shows the works to be L-shaped, a western arm extending from the rear of the range fronting Burnley Road.

The buildings now occupying this part of the site may be a remodelling of the original works although little resemblance to the letterhead illustration or the L-shaped range on the 1891 map is detectable. There is a two-storey block, square in plan and built of well coursed squared stone rubble to the front and west and random stone rubble to the east, fronting Burnley Road. The roof is of slate, hipped to the front and gabled to the rear. The front elevation is four bays wide with channelled quoins to the corners and no entrances. The east elevation is four bays long and the west elevation five bays long (Fig 3). Behind is a tall single-storey foundry block of four gabled bays built of random stone rubble with quoined corners and a slate roof with ridge ventilators.



The east elevation has a single pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround and four privy windows, the latter probably insertions. The return, south, elevation has a series of windows, now blocked, with rectangular stone lintels and sills (fig 4). There is a further

gabled two-storey block built of stone rubble butting to the west at right angles against the centre of this range. There is no evidence of a chimney.

Later additions

The works was enlarged in the early and mid 20th century and the buildings now occupying this part of the site comprise a single-storey three-bay shed to the west of the earlier range with a taller broad gabled single-storey shed butting in turn against that. Both are of red brick.

METHODOLOGY

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Riverside Mill

Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98967

NGR: SD 8792 3963

Surveyed: 1 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98967

Colne

NGR: SD 8792 3963

Riverside Mill, Greenfield Road, Primet Bridge

SUMMARY

Riverside Mill was built between 1902 and 1910 on the north bank of Colne Water as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, evidently by J Pilling and Sons, loommakers, of the adjacent Primet Foundry. It has a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block whose top floor is lit by a saw-tooth roof. The chimney and power source were sited within the front part of the ground floor of this block from where power was led into the single-storey weaving shed, along its front wall.

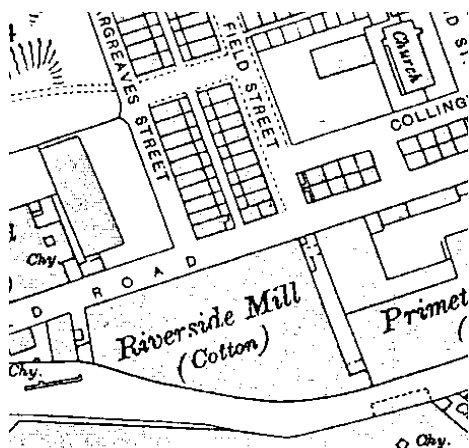
Few alterations were made to the mill, the principal one being the roofing over of the entrance bay along the east side in 1956. Textile production ceased in the late 20th century and the building is now used for other commercial purposes.

HISTORY

Riverside Mill stands in the Primet Bridge area of Colne, a valley-bottom area which developed during the 19th and early 20th centuries into a mixed industrial suburb dominated by textile factories, mainly cotton-weaving mills but for a time including a dyeworks, as well as an iron foundry and several engineering works.

Riverside Mill was built between 1902 and 1910 on site next to Colne Water which

was not built on in 1891.¹ The mill is not named in the 1902 Directory² but is shown on the 1910 map (Fig 1a)³ and, little changed, on that of 1930 (Fig 1b).⁴



In 1911 the mill was occupied by Pillings Limited and by Ratcliffe, Brown and Lancaster, both of them cotton manufacturers.⁵ Pillings, loommakers based at the adjacent Primet Foundry, are said to have built the mill for research development and cotton manufacture on their own looms.⁶ They subsequently moved out of the mill leaving Ratcliffe, Brown and Lancaster as sole occupiers until some

time between 1941 and 1963 when it was taken over by H W Bannister Limited who also occupied other mills in Trawden and Burnley.⁷ Bannister's, who were also cotton weavers, subsequently left the mill which is now occupied by other businesses.

¹ Ordnance Survey, 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902).

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

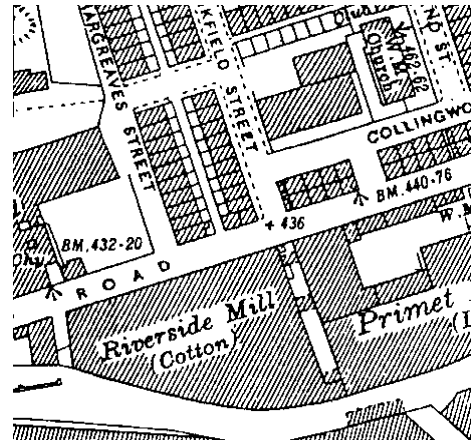
⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 645-6, 671.

⁶ Information from Anthony Pilling. See file on Primet Foundry, NBR No. 98964.

⁷ See Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 676; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 458; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 636; *ibid.*, 1941, 449, 464 and John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274. H W Bannister Ltd., a subsidiary of Bannisters of Trawden Limited, also occupied Forest Shed and Hollin Hall Mill at Trawden and Briercliffe Mill, Burnley.

DESCRIPTION



Riverside Mill stands on the north bank of Colne Water on a flat, trapezoidal-shaped site which runs back north to Greenfield Road.

The original mill

The original steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, built between 1902 and 1910, comprised a multi-storey block incorporating the chimney and power source and a weaving shed. A narrow strip of land down its east side, next to Primet Foundry, was left largely clear to enable service access to the boiler house and to provide light to part of the ground floor of the multi-storey block.

The office, warehouse and yarn preparation block which was built along the east side of the weaving shed, at right angles to the street, is two storeys high, its first floor top lit from a 17-bay long saw-tooth roof with glazed north-facing lights and slated return slopes (Fig 2). It is built of coursed squared rubble to the street and of coursed rubble elsewhere. The front elevation has been much altered, the only original openings being the pedestrian and vehicular doors at the west end of the ground floor, both with quoined sides, the wider opening with a steel plate lintel. Whether any of the other openings are enlargements of earlier ones cannot be told, but there need never have been any first-floor windows given the top lights of that

floor whose roof is bounded by parapet walls. The south end wall has five large windows and a blind first floor while the rear half of the east side wall, beyond the chimney, has two doorways and two windows. Inside each floor has a central row of cast-iron columns with east-facing bolting heads, those on the ground floor supporting transverse I-section steel beams (Fig 3). Cast-iron spacer plates with decorative beading in the shape of a hollow-cornered rectangle separate the feet of



the first-floor columns from the heads of those below. At first floor the columns support the cast-iron roof gutters.



The chimney (Fig 4) is incorporated in the east wall of the multi-storey block, projecting into its interior about half way down. It has a square-section base which is of stone to the outside and of brick within the interior; the shaft has been demolished above the present roof. The boiler house associated with the chimney has been lost, but the blank wall in front of it suggests that it was here.

The position of the engine house is not known.

The weaving shed attached to the west side of the multi-storey block is single storeyed and has walls of similar construction. It has a saw-tooth roof of about 13 bays with glazed north-facing lights and slated return slopes supported on cast-iron columns with east-facing bolting heads. Power was taken down the shed along the interior of the north wall along the street where there are 16 pairs of unequal-sized masonry blocks, the upper with two holes, the

lower with one, to which brackets must have been attached along the inner wall face. How the power reached the north-west corner of the shed was not ascertained.

Alterations to the mill

Comparison of the 1910 and 1930 maps shows that few alterations were made to the mill, the only noticeable change being an infill block close to the chimney.

In 1956 H W Bannister Limited roofed over the northern part of the narrow space next to Primet Foundry. The gabled front wall, which is of squared rubble, has a stone inscribed H.W.B. 1956, and a pair of doorways, one for pedestrians, one for vehicles. Inside its roof is carried on angle-iron trusses. The date of the two inserted wide openings in the ground floor of the front elevation of the multi-storey block and of the five first-floor windows is not known.

METHODOLOGY

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Spring Gardens Mill
Spring Gardens Road
Colne
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98968

NGR: SD 8882 3964

Surveyed: 25 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98968

Colne

NGR: SD 8882 3964

Spring Gardens Mill, Spring Gardens

SUMMARY

Spring Gardens Mill was built between 1844 and 1854 by Nicholas England, a cotton spinner and manufacturer who had previously built the nearby, but now demolished, St Helen's Mill. The original Spring Gardens Mill does not survive: it was probably destroyed in a serious fire in 1875. Of early date, however, is a semicircular single-storey weaving shed at the north end of the site which, like the rest of the mill buildings, is built of stone rubble. The multi-storey spinning mill which dominates the site was built in two stages. The earlier part, to the west, probably dates from the late 1870s and is five storeys high over a raised basement, 20 bays long by 6 bays deep, and of fireproof construction with segmental brick arches. A stair tower and the engine and boiler houses are attached to the east end. The later part of the mill, to the east, is likely to date to the very late 1880s and to have been built by the Haslams who bought the mill in 1887. The addition, five storeys high, is seven bays long and nine bays deep, of fireproof construction with quadruple brick arches. It is built over the earlier power source, a new boiler house being built at the rear. A new weaving shed south of and uphill from the mill addition may be contemporary with the spinning mill; both pre-date 1891. The shed is single storeyed but has a multi-storeyed block at its downhill end. Between 1891 and 1910 the weaving capacity of the mill was doubled, in three stages, by extensions to the west of the new south shed. These

are single storeyed and appear to have been powered from enhanced existing power sources. An office block was also added at this time at the entrance to the mill. The mill ceased to be used for textile production during the late 20th century. It is in good condition though there have been some alterations to the north shed. The chimney has been demolished.

HISTORY

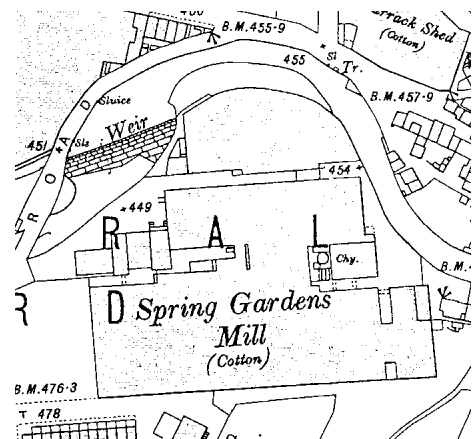
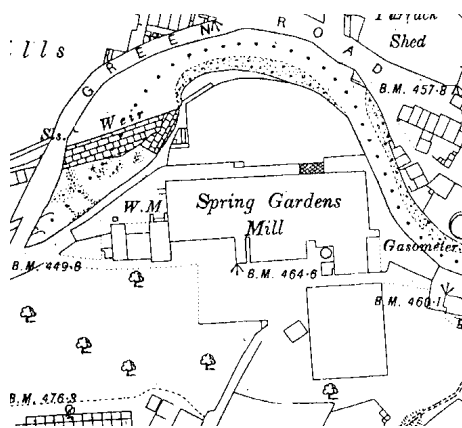
Spring Gardens Mill was built between 1844 and 1854: it is not shown on the 1844 map¹ but is mentioned in a Directory in 1854. It was built by Nicholas England who had built the nearby and now demolished St Helen's Mill in Waterside in 1832, and who started with cotton spinning and then moved on to weaving. From its foundation until the 1930s it was an integrated cotton spinning and weaving mill, occupied by Nicholas England and Son and then Thomas Thornber England until 1887 when it, but not St Helen's Mill, was acquired by Haslam Brothers. Thomas Thornber England had died in 1885 and although the mill was listed in the name of his executors in a directory published in 1887, it was put up for auction in Colne on 3 August that year. Thirteen cottages, Spring Gardens Mill and St Helen's Mill were all for sale, Spring Gardens Mill described as 'lately occupied by Mr T T England and now by his trustees'. Arrangements for its early possession were recorded as capable of being made. Haslam Brothers were still in the mill in 1933 but went bankrupt and closed before the war. In 1941 four firms in the silk and velvet trade were listed at the mill, and a felt and a silk firm in 1963.² The mill is

¹ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 199; *ibid.* 1887, 284; *ibid.* 1893, 406; *ibid.* 1902, 562; *ibid.* 1911, 635; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 669; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 456; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 608; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 463-4; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 269; Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 69-70, 111, 190. The

no longer in textile use.

The mill is shown on the 1891 map (Fig 1a), when it was already quite extensive. By 1910 (Fig 1b) the weaving sheds at the rear had been extended but there were no significant changes between then and 1929-30.³



DESCRIPTION

Spring Gardens Mill was built on the south bank of Colne Water, the early buildings on the flat valley bottom, the later ones on the rising ground to the south.

The early mill

1887 auction advertisement appears in an undated photocopy of the *Burnley Express* held in the Butts Mill folder in the Local History section of Barnoldswick Library..

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The original mill is likely to have had both a spinning mill and weaving shed. The original spinning mill does not survive: it presumably stood on the site of the present one and may well have been the building affected by a serious fire at the site in 1875.⁴ The north weaving shed survives, however, and is semicircular in shape since it was built up to the curved edge of Colne Water to its north. It is single storeyed with flat-topped stone rubble walls, the west end of the south wall having two pairs of doors and windows, one converted into a door, all with monolithic stone surrounds. It was roofed with a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. Part of the interior has been altered and the roof lost, but where the original structure survives it has cast-iron columns under alternate roof trusses, the columns supporting pierced cast-iron beams which support the intermediate trusses. The columns have north-facing D-shaped bolting heads and decorative foliate capitals and the glazed roof slope has shaped cast-iron mullions independent of the glazing. The source of power for the shed was not identified.



The spinning mill, south weaving shed and offices

The spinning mill (Fig 2) was built in two stages, the earlier perhaps replacing the original mill which may have been damaged by a serious fire in 1875, the later almost certainly built in the very late 1880s by the Haslams, after they bought the mill shortly after 1887.

The earlier part of the spinning mill, to the west, is built of coursed rubble, squared except to the rear, and is five storeys high over a raised basement. Twenty bays long by seven deep, with rectangular lintels set in lintel bands, it had a stair tower

⁴ Harrison 1988, 58.

and the engine and boiler house set against its east end wall. The original entrance was through the round-headed door in the front wall of the stair tower. The engine house projected beyond the rear wall of the building as a tall structure



with a pair of tall round-headed south windows with ashlar archivolts and impost bands. The precise position of the original boiler house is uncertain; the chimney stood to the south of the engine house, and has been demolished. The mill is of fireproof construction, having

three rows of cast-iron columns, without bolting faces, supporting cast-iron beams with bowed flanges which carry segmental brick jack arches.

The later eastern part of the mill is built of squared stone rubble and is surmounted by a parapet wall with paired brackets under the coping. It is seven bays long at the front, nine at the rear where it is built over the original engine house, and nine bays deep. Its window detailing copies the earlier mill to the front and side, but to the rear there is no lintel band. The mill was reached from the stair tower of the original mill and powered from the existing engine house no doubt from an enhanced or new steam engine. A new boiler house was built against the rear wall of the mill extension (Fig 3) and is four bays wide with a floor over. The interior of the mill and of the boiler house is of fireproof construction with cast-iron columns without bolting faces supporting floors constructed to the quadruple brick arch system patented by Stott and Sons in 1885. This system was last used in a mill in Stockport commenced in 1889, and was replaced by Stott and Sons system of triple brick arches, first used in 1888.⁵ It would seem to date the commencement of

⁵ Roger N Holden, *Stott & Sons. Architects of the Lancashire Cotton Mill* (Lancaster, 1998), 64-69, figs 49-52.



construction of the mill extension to 1888 or 1889.

The first phase of the south weaving shed is sited due south of the mill's new boiler house. It

is almost contemporary with the spinning mill extension since it pre-dates 1891 and was apparently powered from the mill with which it shares a number of stylistic details. Its north end is eight bays wide and three storeys high because of the slope of the land, the rectangular shed itself being on the top floor and lit by a north-light saw-tooth roof. Taking-in doors in the north wall, each with quoined sides and cast-iron lintels with sunk panels over the openings, indicate that this area served as the shed's warehouse and yarn preparation block.

The later phases of the south weaving shed, to the east but principally to its west, all pre-date 1910. The smaller east extension, linked to it mid-way back, has a basement at its seven-bay wide north end as a result of the slope of the ground. There was evidently storage capacity at this end since the north wall has a ground-floor door at each end, both with taking-in doors over, and five windows between. The larger extension to the west was probably added in two stages, and it is single-storeyed with a north-light saw-tooth roof. The 1891 map shows that the tall engine house with its wide round-headed north window and six-bay boiler house added to the west end of the spinning mill (Fig 4) had been built by then, but it is uncertain whether they powered the mill or were for the weaving sheds. Blocked windows in the west wall of the mill, in the second bay in from the rear corner, probably supported rope drive into the mill, but there is evidence that similar drive went into the west part of the south shed.

An office attached to the engine and boiler houses also pre-dates 1910. Originally single storeyed, it is built of ashlar and has a five-bay front elevation and a four-

bay elevation towards the site entrance. The front elevation has a central door between single and two-light windows, the side elevation single windows. A modern first floor has been added.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Spring Works, later North Valley Shed

North Valley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98969

NGR: SD 8844 4016

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98969

Colne

NGR: SD 8844 4016

Spring Works, later North Valley Shed, North Valley Road

SUMMARY

Spring Works, an engineering works, was built between 1901 and 1910 but in 1912 became a cotton-weaving shed, used until recently by E Hartley & Sons. It is built of stone rubble, coursed to the front, and has a two-storey warehouse and office block set in front of a small single-storey rectangular shed.

HISTORY

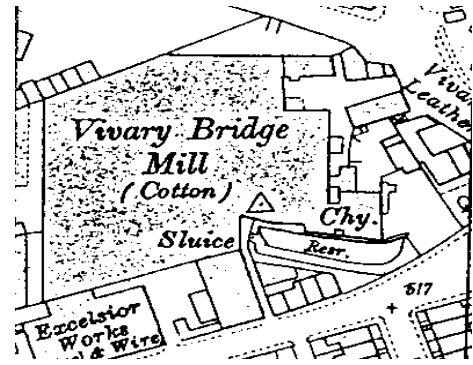
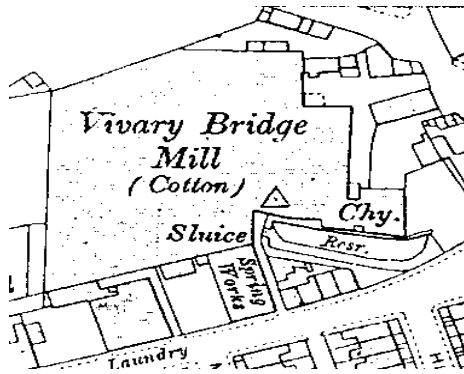
Spring Works, later North Valley Shed, was built close to the then north-west edge of Colne at the beginning of the 20th century. Its site was open ground in 1891¹ but North Valley Road, on whose north side it stands, was opened in June 1901.²

Spring Works was built between 1901 when North Valley Road opened and 1910 when it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a), the building called 'Spring Works'.³ In 1912 looms were ordered from J Pilling and Sons and the building, with power led from the adjacent Vivary Bridge Mill, was put to use for cotton

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

² Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.



weaving. The power failed in 1941 and a roof-mounted motor was installed.⁴ Directories indicate that the shed was occupied, until its recent closure, by Edmondson Hartley & Sons, cotton manufacturers. In 1963 it housed 55 looms and wove checks, stripes, oxfords, harvards, zephyrs, gingham, regattas and handkerchiefs.⁵ The building is shown,



with the same shape but lacking any name, on the 1930 map (Fig 1b).⁶

DESCRIPTION

Spring Works, as built between 1901 and 1910, occupies a rectangular site and

consists

of a two-storey warehouse and office block with a single-storey shed behind (Fig 2). The south-facing front elevation of the storeyed block is built of coursed squared rubble, its other elevations, as well as the walls of the shed, being of random rubble. The roofs are of slate.

⁴ Information from Anthony Pilling.

⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 669; *ibid.*, 1933, 608; *ibid.*, 1941, 443; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

The two-storey block, which is gabled, is built up to the street and has a five-bay wide front elevation with ground-floor doors in the middle and western bays, windows elsewhere, and a chamfered eaves course. All openings have monolithic stone surrounds, the doors set under rectangular fanlights, the windows having split lower sections under full-width top lights hinged along their base. The east gable wall has two small windows with stone surrounds; the single larger window over them is inserted and merely has a sill and a rectangular stone lintel. The interior of the building has a passage, now with a ramped floor, leading down from the door at the west end of the front elevation into the shed, while the middle door opens into a four-bay wide ground-floor room with stairs up to the five-bay long first floor.

The shed, which is contemporary with the storeyed block, has parapet walls to both sides; the rear wall rises only to the base of the glazed northern slope of the last of the five north-facing saw-tooth roofs whose return slopes are slated. The gutters project through the east side wall of the shed and empty into downpipes. Inside the shed has a central row of four cast-iron columns with west-facing bolting heads which support the cast-iron gutters. The columns and the seatings in the underside of the gutters indicate that five rows of north-south line shafts could be supported, their power taken from Vivary Bridge Mill in the valley bottom below. The glazed roof slope has cast-iron T-sectioned glazing bars, all of equal scantling.

Maps indicate that a building against the west wall of the shed, and entered from it, was added between 1910 and 1930.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the

surviving sites.



Standroyd Mill

Cotton Tree Lane

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98970

NGR: SD 9074 4015

Surveyed: 4 December 1998

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98970

Colne

NGR: SD 9074 4015

Standroyd Mill, Cotton Tree Lane

SUMMARY

Standroyd Mill was built as a steam-powered worsted mill in 1876 on level ground to the north of Colne Water and was occupied by the Hartley Brothers of Standroyd House and by Johnson Holdsworth who together formed the firm of Hartley Bros and Holdsworth. By 1887 the firm, and the mill, had converted to cotton weaving and from 1891-3 onwards the mill expanded considerably, having doubled in size by 1930. In 1998 the mill buildings remained in fairly good condition with the exception of the engine house and mill chimney which have been demolished.

HISTORY

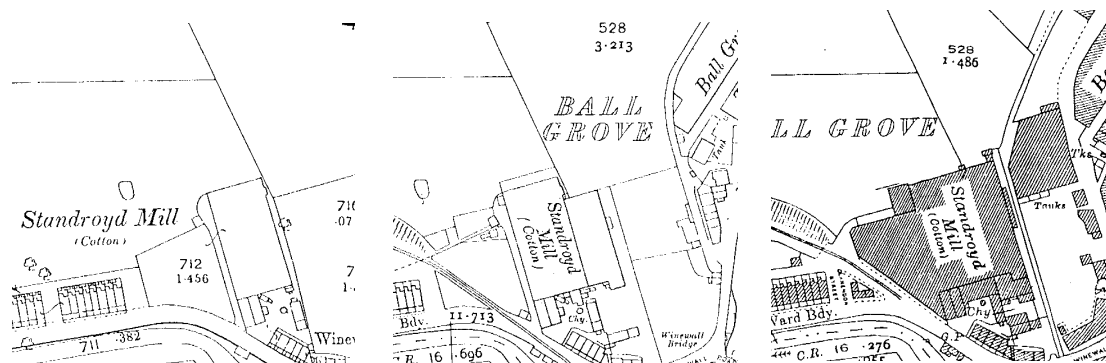
Cartographic and trade directory evidence indicates that Standroyd Mill was built between 1854 and 1879. Ashmore, writing in 1982, states that the mill had a date stone of 1876 and this date is acceptable although the stone was not found during the present survey.¹ The mill does not appear on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844 and is not mentioned in a trade directory of 1854. A trade directory of 1879 does list the mill and gives its occupiers as the Hartley Brothers, James and John William, of Standroyd House and Johnson Holdsworth of Keighley Road who

¹ Owen Ashmore, *The Industrial Archaeology of North-West England* (Manchester, 1982), 199.

together formed the worsted manufacturing firm of Hartley Bros & Holdsworth. They were still there in 1887, when a trade directory of that year describes them as cotton manufacturers, but had left by 1893 when a trade directory of that year lists Henry Driver & Sons and John Pickles & Co, both cotton manufacturers, as the occupiers. In 1941 the mill was occupied by the Carr Manufacturing Co Ltd who in a trade directory of 1963 are described as having 336 automatic looms and as manufacturing 'stripe and check poplin shirtings and pyjamas rayon, nylon and "Terylene" fabrics, jacquards, dobbies in all types, cloth widths up to 46 ins.'. ²

² Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 49, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854); Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 201; *ibid.*, 1887, 286; *ibid.*, 1893, 409, 412; *ibid.*, 1941, 438; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 265.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1891-3 (Fig 1a) shows Standroyd plan to be roughly rectangular in plan with its power source to the south. A second rectangular block



had been built in an adjacent position to the east by the time of the map revision of 1910 (Fig 1b) and by the time of the revision of 1930 (Fig 1c) it had been substantially expanded to the north and west.³ In 1998 the surviving buildings were in good condition, although some demolition had taken place, and in use as a warehouse and retail outlet.

DESCRIPTION

Standroyd Mill (Fig 2) was built as a steam-powered worsted mill on the north bank of Colne Water just to the south west of Ball Grove Cotton Mill which by 1860 had become the premises of W & J Sagar, fellmongers, and later became the site of the Ball Grove Tannery.⁴

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLIX.13, surveyed 1891-3, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁴ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 134.

The original mill

The original mill built in 1876 and shown on the 1891-3 map, consisted of a rectangular single-storey weaving shed with a four-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block to the rear and an engine house, boiler house and detached chimney to the front.

The gabled four-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) at the rear of the site is built of random stone rubble to the north and south elevations and well coursed squared stone rubble to the west elevation with tooled quoins to the corners. It has a slate roof with laylights and stone copings. A ridge stack rises through the west gable. The north elevation is 13 bays long with tooled lintels and sills and tooled quoins to the sides of the windows. The west elevation is three



bays wide. The south elevation could not be inspected. No taking-in doors or vehicle entrances could be found but these might have been located in the either the east or west gables which have been extended and built across respectively. The ground floor of the north elevation has a shallow red brick extension to it, possibly a World War II air raid shelter.

The original disposition of the power source is difficult to determine. The arrangement shown on the map of 1891-3 has been largely obliterated by later rebuilding and the chimney has been demolished without trace but three possible

boiler openings with tooled stone quoins and piers and a continuous I-section cast-iron lintel, with a pedestrian entrance to the right (Fig 4), survive in the front of the two-storey block that was later built across the front of the original shed.

The single-storey weaving shed is now completely encompassed by later additions and has been re-roofed.

Additions of 1893-1910

Between 1893 and 1910 the weaving shed was substantially extended to the east and a number of smaller blocks, shown on the map of 1910, were built in front of the shed.

The extension to the weaving shed is of roughly coursed stone rubble and has six large rectangular windows with stone surrounds with interrupted jambs in the east



elevation. The north and south elevations have been built across and obscured and the roof has been replaced by a modern metal one.

Additions of 1910-1930

Between 1910 and 1930 a large triangular block was built against the west side of the weaving shed, the rear warehouse and yarn preparation block was extended to the east by four bays and a small low block with a double-span pitched roof was

built across the west gable end. A further multi-storey range was also built across the front of the shed and the eastern extension.

The triangular block to the west of the shed has walls of well coursed stone rubble but has been lowered in height and largely rebuilt and remodelled in modern materials. Its original purpose is unclear but it is now used as a loading and unloading area for lorries.

The eastern extension to the warehouse and yarn preparation block is in similar style to the original build although the pitch of the roof is higher. It is built of random stone rubble to all elevations and has a slate roof with laylights. The north elevation is four bays long and largely obscured by a later addition, although the junction with the earlier block, marked by a straight joint, can still be identified. The east and south elevations are both four bays wide with smooth stone lintels and sills to the windows.

The single-storey block to the west of the warehouse and yarn preparation block at the rear of the site is built of coursed and random stone rubble with a double-span roof of slate with stone copings. It is six bays long by five wide with monolithic surrounds to the windows. Its purpose is uncertain.



The gabled block built across the front of the shed (Fig 5) is built of coursed stone rubble and is two storeys high. The front elevation is irregularly fenestrated and the first four bays from the west are occupied by three possible boiler openings and a pedestrian entrance, mentioned earlier, which may relate to the original boiler house on the site. Above are four rectangular windows with stone lintels and sills and quoined

sides. There follows an area left blind, presumably because the mill chimney stood just in front of it. The final five bays project forward of the rest and a single storey gabled office block butts at ground floor level. The west elevation is three bays wide at first floor level but blind and rendered where it formerly butted against a single-storey building or buildings shown on the maps of 1891-3, 1910 and 1930 and now demolished. The east elevation is four bays wide.

METHODOLOGY

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Stanley Street Works

Stanley Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98971

NGR: SD 8871 4025

Surveyed: 3 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98971

Colne

NGR: SD 8871 4025

Stanley Street Works, Stanley Street

SUMMARY



before 1930.

Stanley Street Works was built between 1891 and 1910, the site having three tall and wide sheds with monumental detailing to the street front and an attached L-shaped wing no doubt with offices, stores, etc., to service the main working area. Extra working space was provided by additions made

HISTORY

Stanley Street Works was built, on map evidence, between 1891¹ and 1910 (Fig 1a)² on the east side of Stanley Street on what was then the northern edge of

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

Colne. The site is not named on the 1910 map, nor on that of 1930 (Fig 1b),³ by when it had been extended both to the north east and to the south, but it has the characteristic appearance of an engineering works. In 1911 a directory lists Stanley Street Works as occupied by George R Bradford, slay and pattern maker, and

repairer.⁴ The works were therefore associated with loom production. There has been little new building since 1930 and in 1998 the site was occupied by Bell Woven Brakel.



DESCRIPTION

The earliest, and principal, buildings of the Works front Stanley Street to the west, only later were buildings erected and extended along New Market Street, which became the eastern boundary of the site. The buildings occupy a site which slopes steeply down to the north, levelling out as it approaches the stream which runs along North Valley.

The buildings on the site, with minor exceptions, are all built of coursed squared rock-faced rubble and have slate roofs. Those along Stanley Street on the 1910 map comprise three ranges which run east-west, the north and south ranges having gabled west walls linked by a flat-topped middle range. These buildings (Fig 2) are of monumental size, with detailing to match, and all are just a tall single storey in height. Rusticated piers stand at the corners of the gabled ranges, each of which has a wide, tall, segmental-headed window (now blocked) rising from a moulded sill band. The base of the gable is closed by a band set above a decorative row of moulded brackets. The middle range has a tall, wide, round-

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 621.

headed vehicular entrance with a rusticated surround and a stepped quarter-round moulding to the opening. The side and rear walls of the north and south ranges all have shallow deeply dentilled eaves courses. The rear wall of the south range has three first-floor windows and a hipped roof; the ends of the other ranges were not observed. The interior of these three ranges are tall, unimpeded working spaces.

North of this triple block the 1910 map shows an L-shaped building (Fig 3) which, because of the fall of the ground, is of two full storeys only at its north end; the openings and chimneystack in the west elevation are all insertions with the exception of a pair of ground-floor windows towards the north end. The building has rusticated quoins at its north-west corner, a shallow, deeply dentilled eaves course, a wide hipped roof over the main north-south range and a narrower, lower one over the eastern arm.

Buildings shown facing New Market Street on the 1910 map are now part of the site and comprise six single-fronted two-storey terrace houses, 67 and 69 being a



mirror-image pair, 71-77 a series of four with a repeating plan. Added to their north end was a gabled two-storeyed building originally with just two east windows, one at either end of the wall, both narrow and with stone surrounds.

Additions were made to the buildings on the site between 1910 and 1930. On the uphill, south, side of the triple block a tall three-bay wide shed, gabled to front and rear, was built together with an attached, contemporary lower and narrower gabled single-storey range. Both buildings are of stone but have red brick rear gable walls. The shed has a wide, tall round-headed window with a keyblock set between lower windows with rectangular lintels. All these windows have sills and quoined surrounds and are almost completely

blocked. The yard behind these buildings has been built over since 1930 and is occupied by single-pitch and flat-roofed buildings.

Additions made at the north end of the site between 1910 and 1930 included a two-storey east addition to the L-shaped range along Stanley Street. The addition, which has a hipped roof, has three wide segmental-headed openings on the ground floor of its north and east walls and first floors of five and three bays in length respectively, these windows having rectangular lintels. A northern extension was also added to the New Market Street building. Gabled and of two storeys, it was like the building it extended, originally having only four east windows and three north windows, all set at mid-wall height and all with monolithic surrounds. All the other windows are insertions; the nature of the west wall is not known.

METHODOLOGY

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Viaduct Shed

Knotts Lane

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98972

NGR: SD 8820 3960

Surveyed: 25 November 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98972

Colne

NGR: SD 8820 3960

Viaduct Shed, Knotts Lane

SUMMARY

Viaduct Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1887 and 1891 close to the south bank of Colne Water. It is built of random and coursed stone rubble and originally comprised a front office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a rear single-storey weaving shed and an internal engine house, attached side boiler house and circular red brick chimney. The weaving shed was extended to the rear between 1910 and 1929-30. The engine house, boiler house and extension had all been demolished at the time of survey and the chimney reduced to a stump.

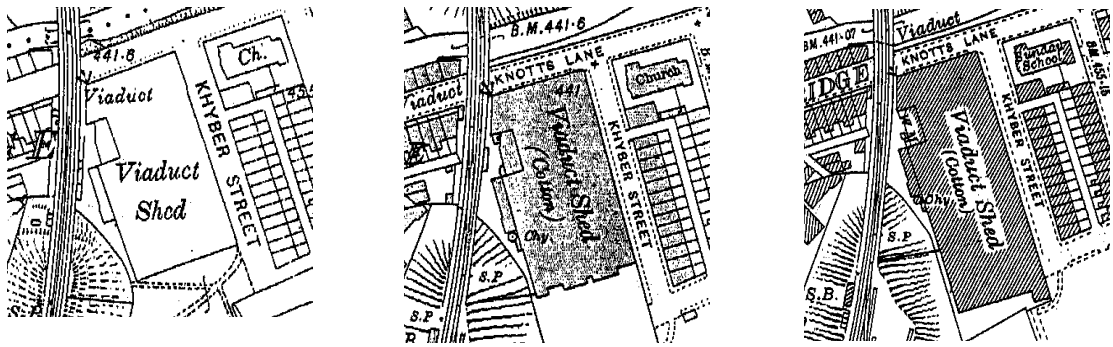
HISTORY

Trade directories and map evidence indicate that Viaduct Shed was built between 1887¹ and 1891.² There is no reference to Viaduct Shed in the directory of 1887 but it is shown and named on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Fig 1a) and is referenced in the directory of 1893³ when it was occupied by James Bannister and

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887).

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 427.



Co, Henry Watkinson Bannister and William Hartley and Co, all listed as cotton manufacturers. The south wall of the weaving shed had been modified by 1910 and it was extended to the south between 1910 (Fig 1b)⁴ and 1929-30,⁵ as the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30 (Fig 1c) indicates, and the directory of 1933⁶ lists Thomas Hargreaves and Sons, cotton manufacturers, as the only occupants of Viaduct Shed. In 1998 the mill was in use as a car showroom and the original weaving shed survived mostly intact but the southern extension and the engine and boiler houses had been demolished, the chimney had been cropped to a stump and the front multi-storey block had been dropped by at least a storey and was much altered.

DESCRIPTION

Viaduct Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill occupying a valley bottom position close to the south bank of Colne Water and bounded to the north by Knotts Lane, to the east by Khyber Street and overshadowed to the west by the railway viaduct, originally carrying the Clifton, Accrington and Colne Line of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, from which the mill takes its name. The land to

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 607, 636.

the south remained undeveloped in 1929-30 and at the time of survey had only recently been built upon. The mill is rectangular in plan and comprises a multi-



storey office, warehouse and yarn processing block facing north onto Knotts Lane with a weaving shed to the rear is terraced deeply into the valley side as the ground rises. The internal engine house was positioned within the north-west corner of the shed with the boiler house behind, but attached to the west side of the shed, with the circular brick chimney to the rear. The nearby terraced housing shown on the 1891 map is likely to have been built for workers in Viaduct Shed and the nearby Green Shed and Knotts Lane Mills.

The original mill



The original mill, built between 1887 and 1891 at a time when the terraced streets of Colne were encroaching south the town centre and east of Primet Bridge, as shown on the 1891 map, consists of a multi-storey office, warehousing and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) constructed of coursed rubble with channelled quoins to the corners. It is now two storeys high but has been reduced

in height and the original number of storeys is not known. The front elevation is dominated at both ends by two large segmental-headed vehicle entrances with channelled quoins. The fenestration has been much altered but five window bays at first-floor level may be in original positions. The rear weaving shed to the rear (Fig 3) has a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north and slated to the south, of 21 bays, drained by gutters and downpipes in the east wall, with parapet walls of random rubble, except for the more visible east wall which is built of coursed rubble. The internal engine house occupied a niche in the west side of the weaving shed behind the multi-storey block. It has been demolished and the engine bed removed but a brick and stone structure (Fig 4), part of the structure for transferring power from the engine to the shed, built into the north wall survives and a high level doorway in the south wall with a monolithic surround indicates the original level of the engine house floor. The attached boiler house has been completely demolished and only the stump of the circular red brick chimney remains.

Later extensions

The rear wall of the weaving shed was modified, to include three small rectangular additions, between 1891 and 1910 and the shed itself was extended southwards between 1910 and 1929-30. The extension has been demolished but the three modifications to the original south wall survive.

METHODOLOGY

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sites.



Vivary Bridge Mill

North Valley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98973

NGR: SD 8844 4020

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98973

Colne

NGR: SD 8844 4020

Vivary Bridge Mill, North Valley Road

SUMMARY

Vivary Bridge Mill was built as a water-powered cotton-spinning mill towards the end of the 18th century, a shed for power looms, perhaps steam powered, being added in the early 1840s. The weaving shed was substantially enlarged between 1891 and 1910. The site included the mill owner's house. All buildings on the site were demolished in 1998, fragments of shed walls on the perimeter being taken down in 1999.

HISTORY

Vivary Bridge Mill, which occupies a valley-bottom site on the north side of a stream immediately west of the bridge from which it takes its name, was built on a site which was originally rural but which was subsequently engulfed by the westward expansion of the town of Colne.

Vivary Bridge Mill was built towards the end of the 18th century as a water-powered cotton spinning mill. The earliest such mill in the district opened in 1784 in a converted corn mill at Park Hill, Thomas Thornber's mill at Vivary Bridge and Nicholas England's St Helen's Mill soon following.¹ Most of the early mill owners

¹ Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 44.

were also putters out, supplying warp and weft to handloom weavers and paying them for finished cloth. On 28 June 1837 Thomas Thornber's mill was the cause of a riot when handloom weavers taking yarn away from his mill were attacked by unemployed handloom weavers.² Thornber was among the first in the area to introduce the power loom to cotton weaving. By 1839 Robert Shaw had opened Victoria Mill in Colne Road with 300 looms, and within four years there were six more mills in the district, one of them being Vivary Bridge Mill.³ The construction of the weaving shed predates the 1844 Ordnance Survey map,⁴ and comparison of this map with the larger scale map surveyed in 1891 enables its position, no doubt attached to an existing multistorey spinning mill, to be understood. Map evidence suggests that the new shed may have been steam powered, since a block projecting to the south east is shown on the more detailed later maps to include a chimney. Thomas Thornber also investigated the possibility of using gas in his new weaving shed⁵ and the 1844 map confirms his use of it since it shows what is identified as a 'Gasometer' next to the irregularly-shaped group of mill buildings on the site which is named simply as 'Cotton Factory'.⁶ In 1854 the mill was listed in the possession of the executors of Thomas Thornber.⁷

² Harrison 1988, 48.

³ Harrison 1988, 44.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 58, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

⁵ Harrison 1988, 53.

⁶ Thomas Thornber is given much of the credit for providing Colne with gas, and later gas lighting. The shopkeepers of the town put forward a proposal for a gas works which would supply the whole town, the Colne Gas, Light & Coke Company being formed in 1838 with the original works sited close to St Helen's Mill at Waterside, on the south side of the town (Harrison 1988, 53-4).

⁷ Mannex, *History, Topography and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468.

Successive editions of the Ordnance Survey map show some minor additions to the mill between 1844 and 1891,⁸ a major expansion of the site to the west, which involved the construction of a new weaving shed, between 1891 and 1910,⁹ and only a little expansion between 1910 and 1930.¹⁰ The expansion relates to the use of the mill for room and power working since it moved from single occupation in the 19th century to multiple cotton manufacturers in the 20th century.¹¹ How far the construction of North Valley Road, which skirts the site to the south and east, and was opened in 1901,¹² impinged on the mill is not known. Building the road involved culverting the stream which flowed through the valley, including the stretch which formerly acted as the southern boundary of Vivary Bridge Mill, as well as raising the level of the valley bottom by twelve feet. The effect of this was to make the mill look as if it occupied a sunken area. It is evident from the 1901 map that the new mill buildings were built up to the new boundary created by the construction of the new road, and they must therefore post date it. The mill is called Vivary Bridge Mill on the last three maps although its branch, 'Cotton', is only specified on those of 1910 and 1930.

The mill buildings, including the mill owner's house, were demolished in 1998, two side walls of the weaving shed not being demolished until 1999. New commercial buildings were built on the site during late 1998 and early 1999.

⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

¹⁰ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

¹¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 208; *ibid.*, 1887, 211, 294; *ibid.*, 1902, 5467-, 561, 573, 583; *ibid.*, 1911, 619-20, 635, 639; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 693; *ibid.*, 1933, 672; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267.

¹² Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

DESCRIPTION

The mill buildings and mill owner's house at Vivary Bridge Mill were completely demolished in 1998 and 1999. The perimeter walls of the weaving shed (Fig 1) which survived until 1999, which in part revetted higher ground behind, were of stone rubble and belonged to a single-storey shed. They had the scars of an east-facing saw-tooth profile roof and can be equated with the shed extension added between 1891 and 1910.



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Vivary Bridge Mill

North Valley Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98973

NGR: SD 8844 4020

Surveyed: 2 December 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Michael Brennan

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98973

Colne

NGR: SD 8844 4020

Vivary Bridge Mill, North Valley Road

SUMMARY

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⁸ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1910, published 1912.

¹⁰ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.16, revised 1930, published 1932.

¹¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 208; *ibid.*, 1887, 211, 294; *ibid.*, 1902, 5467-, 561, 573, 583; *ibid.*, 1911, 619-20, 635, 639; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 693; *ibid.*, 1933, 672; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267.

¹² Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 63.

DESCRIPTION

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Walk Mill

Green Road

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98974

NGR: SD 8855 3968

Surveyed: 25 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98974

Colne

NGR: SD 8855 3968

Walk Mill, Green Road

SUMMARY

Walk Mill, as its name implies, was probably established as fulling mill, the large mill dam which survived until the early 20th century having been created originally to serve a water wheel. During the late 18th or early 19th century, and certainly before 1844, the mill was converted into a cotton-weaving mill which was partially rebuilt with a new steam-powered weaving shed in the later 19th century. The mill dam was retained at this time, but in about 1906-8, after a change of occupant, the mill was more than doubled in size with the construction of another weaving shed which was built on the site of the mill dam. The existing steam engine was replaced at this time by two new ones, since scrapped, in the original engine house. The two weaving sheds were both single storeyed with stone walls and north-east facing glazed saw-tooth roofs. The earlier shed has been totally rebuilt internally, although a fragment of the attached multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block survives, but the later shed survives intact, including an off-centre row of columns which carried the main drive shaft into it.

HISTORY

Walk Mill, as its name implies, was probably established as fulling mill.¹ Colne's

¹ Fulling was one of the stages of woollen cloth production and before the introduction of powered

fulling mill was built in 1296, perhaps on Waterside near Walk Mill but not certainly so.² Walk Mill may be that shown on a map of 1787.³ Whatever its date and origin, a mill with a large mill dam was converted into a cotton-weaving mill during the late 18th or early 19th century, certainly before 1844 when it is named as Walk Mill and identified as a cotton mill on a map.⁴ In 1854 it was occupied by Hartley and Armsted who were listed in the classified list of 'Cotton Spinners & Manufacturers', but by 1879 its occupants were Preston and Company. They were succeeded between 1902 and 1911, probably in or about 1906-8 on the evidence of new steam engines, by Richard Landless and Sons Limited who in turn were succeeded in 1923 or 1924 by Edward and Pickles Riley Limited who were still in occupation in 1963.⁵ The 1879 directory described the occupants as cotton and worsted manufacturers, all subsequent entries recording them solely as cotton manufacturers. In 1963 there were 350 looms in the mill which in 1998 was occupied by Lear Corporation.

Cartographic evidence⁶ shows the growth of the mill over the years. The 1844

fulling the fuller walked over the cloth, working it with his feet, hence the not infrequent occurrence of the name Walk Mill.

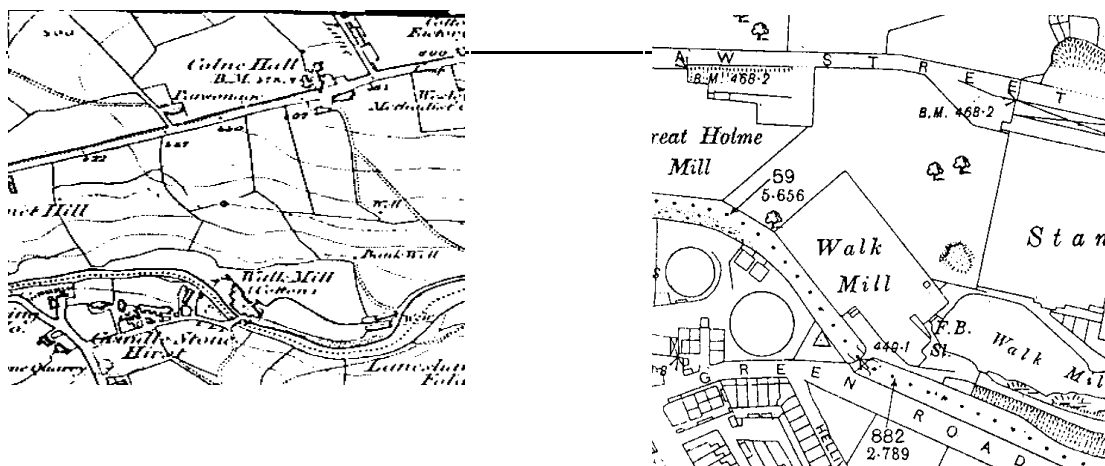
² Dorothy Harrison (ed), *The History of Colne* (Barrowford, 1988), 29, 189.

³ W Yates, Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, 1787. Information from Peter Isles.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

⁵ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 206; *ibid.*, 1887, 292; *ibid.*, 1893, 413; *ibid.*, 1902, 572; *ibid.*, 1911, 640; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 672; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 458; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 617; *ibid.*, 1941, 464; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 267.

⁶ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey, 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published



map (Fig 1a) shows it with a large mill dam to its east which is also shown on the 1891 map (Fig 1b), although the mill can be seen to have been enlarged. By 1910 (Fig 1c), probably in about 1906-8 after the mill changed hands, it had been more than doubled in size over the site of the mill dam whose narrow east end was, however, retained as a reservoir. In 1929-30 (Fig 1d), although the mill is shown unchanged in plan, the reservoir had been infilled. All four of these maps identify the mill as Walk Mill and its branch as cotton.

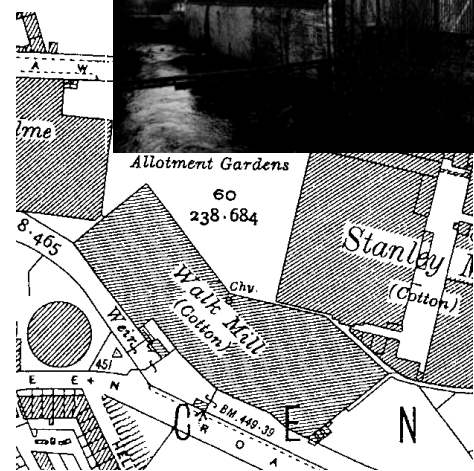
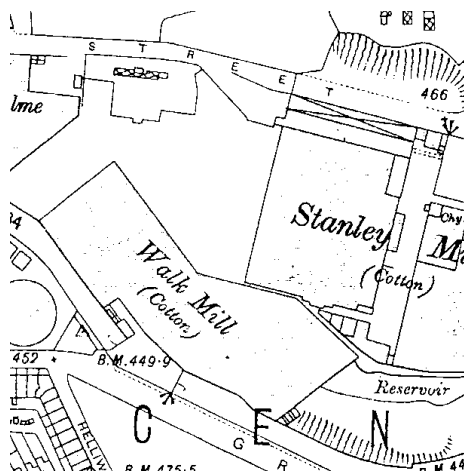
DESCRIPTION

Walk Mill stands on the north bank of Colne Water from which water was once taken off at a weir to feed a large mill dam on the upstream, east side of the mill.

The original mill on the site, evidently a fulling mill, was water powered, the 1844 map showing an irregularly-shaped block of buildings at the west end of the mill dam, fronting Colne Water. The road along the valley bottom from waterside to Primet Bridge is shown running along the south side of the mill dam, between it and Colne Water, to a bridge across the latter opposite the mill. By 1891 a new length of road, with a new bridge at its east end, had been built on the south side of the river although the earlier road and bridge still survived within the mill site.

1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The 1891 map shows a more regularly-shaped mill building and this can be equated with the surviving stone rubble walls of a single-storey weaving shed and an attached multi-storey range, perhaps a near total rebuild of the existing mill at the west end of the site. The multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation



block at the south end of the south-west side of the mill has been remodelled as modern offices but its original south-east end survives, not entirely unscathed, and is of two storeys with walls of squared rubble (Fig 2). The unaltered fragment has two ground-floor doors, a wide and tall vehicle entrance with quoined sides and a later rolled steel joist as a lintel, and an adjacent pedestrian door with a rectangular



light over it, the whole with a monolithic surround with run-out chamfers to both openings. The weaving shed was single storeyed, more or less rectangular in plan, with rubble walls now largely taken down (Fig 3).

The interior has been cleared and a new roof placed over it, but an air photograph taken in

1948⁷ shows it to have had the characteristic saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed lights. The rectangular building at the rear east end of the mill contained the power source for the mill. Whether there was a water wheel house at this time is unknown, but the engine house, reused when the mill was extended later, is here and is said to have housed a beam engine at right angles to the pair of later horizontal engines.⁸ If it and the engine house were contemporary, the shed must have been rebuilt before about 1870 when the horizontal steam engine, with its different structural requirements, became more common.⁹ The beam engine will have required steam from a boiler and the boiler house is likely to have been behind the engine house since the 1891 map shows the chimney to have been in this area, just within the rear wall.

⁷ National Monuments Record: RAF RP:541/32 frame 3436, 18 May 1948, MOD © Crown Copyright.

⁸ English/National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Walk Mill, Colne, Lancashire, WAT1126. A written and photographic record of the steam engines which survived in about 1957 made by George Watkins.

⁹ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 141.



The mill was more than doubled in size when a new weaving shed was built to the east of the original one, and on the site of the mill dam which was largely infilled to allow its construction. The new shed is shown on the 1910 map and is likely to have been built by Richard Landless and Sons Limited who took over from Preston and Company between 1902

and 1911. The new shed and the earlier one were both steam powered, each from its own horizontal engine in a single engine house. The two engines, both by Roberts, one a 350 horsepower tandem engine, the other a 600 horse power cross-compound engine, each rope-drove a shed. The engines, which have been scrapped, were not dated but George Watkins (see above) suggested that both dated to about 1906-8. The new weaving shed is of irregular shape since its side walls were built up to the site boundaries to north and south. It is single storeyed with walls of randomly-coursed rubble (Fig 4), all with coped flat tops, and has a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed lights, the return slopes slated. To the north west the roof has hipped ends. The roofs discharge either into a trough or into downpipes along the south-west wall which also has twelve rectangular ventilation openings, one to each roof, all with rectangular lintels and sills and wooden louvres. Inside the shed there is an off-centre row of cast-iron columns with brackets (Fig 5) to carry the main shaft down the building and then out by bevel gears to either side where there are further rows of cast-iron columns with south-east facing D-sectioned bolting heads. The columns are in alternate bays and support I-sectioned beams which in turn carry the gutters and the roof structure.

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Walton Street Shed

Walton Street

Colne

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 98975

NGR: SD 8897 3996

Surveyed: 30 November 1998

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 98975

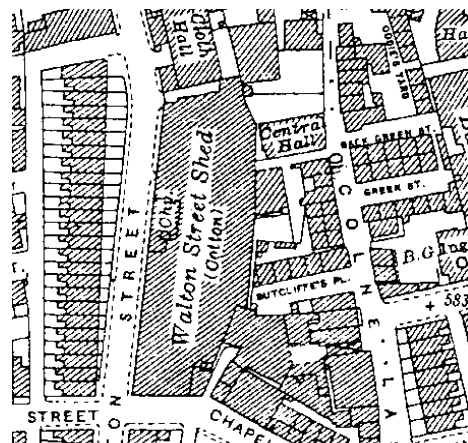
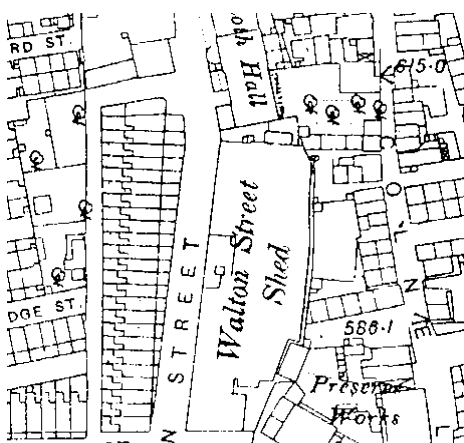
Colne

NGR: SD 8897 3996

Walton Street Shed, Walton Street

SUMMARY

Walton Street Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1879 and 1887. It is built of coursed stone rubble and comprises two warehouse and yarn preparation blocks, one reduced to two storeys, the other always of two storeys, separated by an engine house, boiler house and chimney. A single-storey weaving shed stands behind this range of buildings.



HISTORY

Directory evidence indicates that Walton Street Shed was built between 1879 and 1887; it is shown on a map of 1891 (Fig 1a) and is shown with only minor changes

on maps of 1910 and 1930 (Fig 1b).¹ Whether the mill was built for room and power use, or was just sublet for its first few years is uncertain, but in 1887, 1893 and 1907 it was listed as occupied by two firms of cotton manufacturers one of whom, Frankland & Company, continued in occupation as Franklands (Colne) Ltd until between 1941 and 1963.² The mill was vacant and for sale in 1998 and was sold in 1999.

DESCRIPTION

Walton Street Shed was built on the east side of Walton Street, on a site on the south side of the main street of Colne, on land which slopes quite steeply down to the south. The mill has two warehouse and yarn preparation blocks facing Walton Street, separated by the engine house, boiler house and chimney, and evidently by a short length of weaving shed.

The northern warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) was three storeys high but has been reduced to two. It is now nine bays long with some remodelling of one bay, but a slightly irregular straight joint and a change in the masonry implies that the northern five bays were added. The original four-bay block has a wide round-headed carriage arch in the second bay from its north end, and there is a similar arch at the north end of the boiler house attached to its southern end. The engine house has been radically altered. The southern warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 3) is set at the south-west corner of the site, at the junction

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.4, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.* revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.* revised 1929-30, published 1932.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 283, 285; *ibid.* 1893, 398, 403; *ibid.* 1902, 550, 557; *ibid.* 1911, 630; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 667; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 455; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 606; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 463; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963).

of Walton Street and Seldon Street. It is two storeys high with a double span roof, six bays long by four wide. The only original external entrance is a wide vehicle door with a sunk-panelled cast-iron lintel in the fourth bay from the north. The weaving shed lies to the east of the buildings fronting Walton Street and is single storied.

The gabled single-storey building against the south-east corner of the southern warehouse block was built between 1910 and 1930 and is three bays wide.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former



RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



Albion Mill

Albion Road

Earby

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62140

NGR: SD 9060 4678

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62140

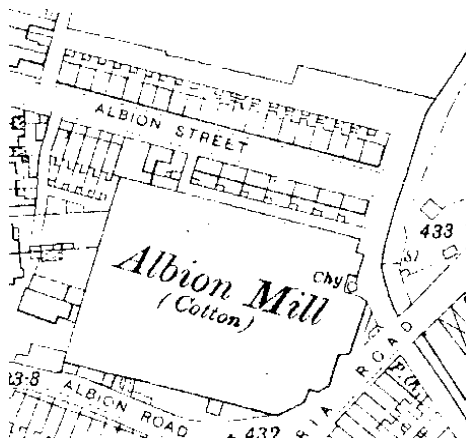
Earby

NGR: SD 9060 4678

Albion Mill, Albion Road

SUMMARY

Albion Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1887 and 1893. It comprises a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, a single-storey weaving shed and an engine house. It was initially in single occupation but moved to room and power use in the early 19th century. The boiler house and chimney have been demolished. The buildings are of coursed and random stone rubble and were in good condition and in use as a warehouse in 1998.



HISTORY

Trade directory evidence indicates that Albion Mill was built between 1887 and 1893. The mill is not listed in a directory of 1887 but is mentioned in a directory of 1893 when it was occupied by Henry Bracewell Ltd, cotton manufacturers, also of Old Shed, Earby. Henry Bracewell was also at the mill in 1902 but by 1911 three cotton manufacturing firms were listed, A J Birley Ltd, R Nutter & Co Ltd and J S Watson & Sons. Arthur John Birley Ltd was still in occupation in 1917 as were Robert Nutter & Co Ltd and the Earby Shed Co Ltd.

In 1927 the mill was owned by the Albion Shed Co Ltd, evidently a room and power company, and was occupied by the cotton manufacturing firms of Arthur John Birley Ltd, R Nutter and Co Ltd and J S Watson & Sons Ltd. In 1963 the mill had only one occupier, Booth and Speak (Textiles) Ltd described thus '650 looms; cotton and rayon manufacturers; jeans, twills and plains, also fancy rayons'.¹ Albion Mill also appears on The Ordnance Survey map of 1906-7 (Fig 1).² In 1999 the mill was in good condition, although the boiler house and chimney have been demolished, and was in use as a warehouse.

REPORT

Albion Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of single-phase construction occupying a level site close to the line of the Skipton to Colne railway.

The mill of 1887 to 1893

Albion Mill comprises a gabled south-facing two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and east sides and random stone rubble to the rear and west. The front elevation is 22 bays long with a vehicle entrance in the twelfth bay from the west. The west elevation is four bays wide and the east elevation is canted and also four bays wide with a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic stone surround at the north end next to the engine house. A chimney stack rises in the south-east corner. To the rear is a single-storey weaving shed (Fig 3) with a 17-bay saw-tooth roof glazed to the north with slated return slopes, drained by valley gutters discharging into

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 434; *ibid.*, 1902, 605; *ibid.*, 1911, 683, 686, 687; Kelley's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 239; *ibid.*, 1927, 281, 282; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet CLXXXIV.1, revised 1906-7, published 1909.



downpipes on the west side, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. There are pedestrian entrances in the east wall, with a monolithic surround, and in the north wall, with quoined sides. The north wall also has a series of bolts relating to brackets carrying line shafting internally.

Power for the mill was supplied by an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to the east side. The engine house (Fig 4) is attached to the east side of the weaving shed and wraps around part of the canted end of the warehouse block. It is built of coursed stone rubble throughout and has three tall round-



headed windows in its east side with a pedestrian entrance below the most northerly, and one round-headed window to the rear. The north elevation originally butted against the boiler house and now has an inserted tall rectangular vehicle entrance. The boiler house and chimney have been demolished.

METHODOLOGY

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surviving sites.



Brook Shed

New Road

Earby

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62137

NGR: SD 9068 4644

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62137

Earby

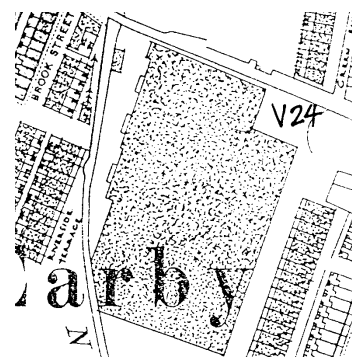
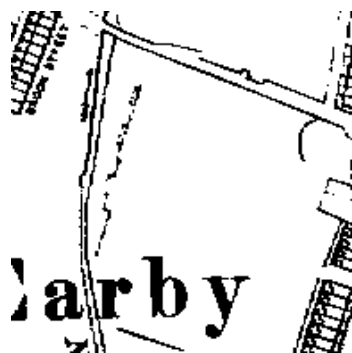
NGR: SD 9068 4644

Brook Shed, New Road

SUMMARY

Brook Shed is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built about 1906-7 and comprises an engine house, boiler house, chimney and a large single-storey weaving shed, all built of stone rubble. It never included a multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block. The mill has no significant later additions and in 1999 the buildings survived in good condition.

HISTORY



Trade directory evidence indicates that Brook Shed was built as a room and power enterprise between 1902 and 1911. There is no entry for the mill in a directory of 1902 but in 1911 it was occupied by Joseph Foulds, B & W Hartley, T H Hartley & Sons, New Road Manufacturing Co Ltd and Oaks

Manufacturing Co Ltd, all cotton manufacturers. The Ordnance Survey map of 1906-7 (Fig 1a) shows only an outline of the south and west weaving shed walls possibly indicating that the mill was under construction at the time of survey. An independent revision of the same survey, undertaken around 1940, shows the mill at its fullest extent (Fig 1b). The mill remained in multiple occupation for much of the 20th century although by 1963 only one firm is listed in trade directories, A Watson & Co Ltd, 384 looms, cotton goods manufacturers.¹ There has been no significant alteration. In 1999 the mill survived in good condition and was used for pharmaceutical production.

DESCRIPTION

Brook Shed was built as a room and power mill on sloping ground next to the New



Cut. It is of single-phase construction and comprises a weaving shed with an engine house, boiler house and chimney on the north side fronting New Road. A reservoir may originally have occupied a small area of land to the east of the engine house. The mill never included a multi-storey warehouse and yarn

preparation block.

The gabled engine house (Fig 2) is built of stone rubble, coursed to the front and west and random to the east. The rear elevation is rendered. The roof is of slate

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902); *ibid.*, 1911, 685, 686; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.1, revised 1906-7, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd, Manchester; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

with stone copings, laylights and ridge ventilators. The front elevation is dominated by a large central round-headed opening with a keyed-in ashlar archivolt, fluted imposts and tooled stone quoins. The original wooden window frame survives to the upper part, above an entrance. Above is a rectangular vent within a wide segmental-headed recess with stone voussoirs and a keyblock. Rectangular windows flank the central opening with blind panels below and blind recesses over, all these with decorative corbels. The east elevation is four bays long, the east elevation two bays long. The adjacent boiler house is of coursed stone rubble with a saw-tooth roof, drained by valley gutters through the west wall, and is set back from the street. The front elevation has double boiler openings with smooth stone sides and central pier and cast-iron lintels with fielded panels, that to the right has 'BROOK SHED' painted on it. The circular tapering red brick chimney stands in the corner of a small yard to the west of the boiler house and is detached from it, no doubt connected to it by an underground flue. The yard has a boundary wall of random stone rubble, continuous with the weaving shed wall running on to the west, with quoins to the north-east corner and gate piers to an entrance onto New Road.

Behind and to the west of the power block is the single-storey weaving shed (Fig 3). This has a saw-tooth roof of 39 bays, glazed to the north with slated return slopes, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. The roof is drained by valley gutters which protrude through the west wall and discharge into downpipes. Access to the mill was via a series of pedestrian and vehicle entrances in the west wall opening onto a narrow yard with a gated entrance from New Road. Vehicle entrances have smooth stone quoins to the sides and cast-iron lintels with fielded panels and pedestrian entrances have tooled stone lintels and quoins. From the north there are double vehicle entrances flanked by a pair of pedestrian entrances followed by a vehicle entrance and a pedestrian entrance repeating twice more.

METHODOLOGY



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Grove Shed

School Lane

Earby

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62139

NGR: SD 9076 4695

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62139

Earby

NGR: SD 9076 4695

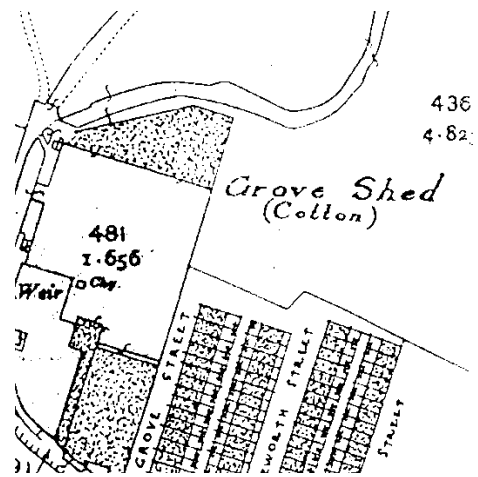
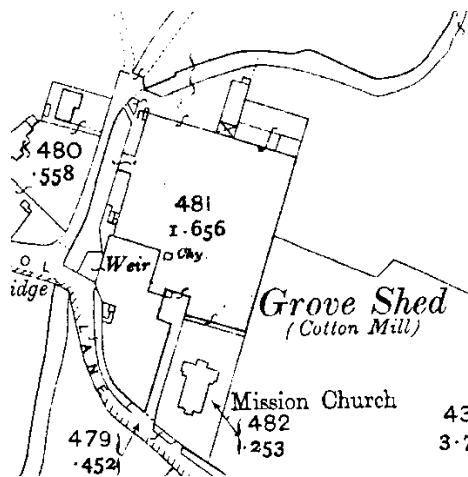
Grove Shed, School Lane

SUMMARY

Grove Shed was built between 1887 and 1893 and was extended in three stages by 1940 into an extensive steam-powered cotton-weaving mill. It seems to have run on the room and power system until the early 20th century before going into single occupation. Its buildings are of random stone rubble and are mainly single-storey weaving sheds with saw-tooth roofs. Warehouse accommodation is limited. The power source was rebuilt in the early 20th century. It is now an engineering works.

HISTORY

Directories indicate that Grove Shed was built between 1887 and 1893, since in the latter year it was recorded as being occupied by two firms, both of them cotton and worsted manufacturers. It continued in use as a room and power mill for cotton manufacturers into the early 20th century but by 1917 it was in the sole occupation of Robert Nutter and Company Ltd., who were still in the mill in 1936. By 1963 it was occupied by a firm of leathercloth manufacturers. The 1906-7 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) shows an L-shaped block of buildings with a Mission Church on the site of what by the time of the 1940 revision (Fig 1b) had become a mill



extension.¹ The site is now occupied by an engineering firm.

DESCRIPTION

Grove Shed was built at the northern end of Earby, on a flat site, on the east side of the Earby Beck. The mill, used for cotton weaving for most of its life, was built in four stages, the earliest being a basically rectangular block which had been extended to the south west by 1906-7 and to the north and the south east by 1940. The mill buildings are of random stone rubble.

The original building (Fig 2) ran back west from Grove Street and comprised a single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights behind parapet walls. An engine house, boiler house and chimney were attached to the middle of its south side with perhaps a multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block projecting from the south-east corner. This last area has been rebuilt so there is no structural evidence for the suggestion.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.1, revised 1906-7, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd., Manchester.; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 434-5; *ibid.*, 1902, 606; *ibid.*, 1911, 684, 686; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 239; *ibid.*, 1927, 282; *ibid.*, 1936, 197; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

The south-west extension (Fig 3) is irregular in shape because it is built up to the curve of the Earby Beck to its south west. It comprises a single-storey weaving shed with a roof like that over the original shed. The ends of the roof are not, however, set behind a parapet wall. A two-storey block has been raised above the shed part way down its west side: it runs east-west, is gabled, and has a brick upper floor.

The south-east extension, built on the site of an earlier Mission Church, includes a new engine house, boiler house and chimney (Fig 4). They are tall buildings. The engine house is six bays long with a gabled, slated roof with a ridge ventilator. The boiler house is south of it and was built in line with the engine house, and the chimney, now represented just by its monumental base, is at its south-west corner.

Further single-storey weaving sheds infill the space between the back of the power block and the side of the south-west extension.



The north extension runs along the north side of the original weaving shed and comprises a further single-storey weaving shed whose irregular shape was determined by that of the ground available.



A number of engineering buildings have been erected on or adjacent to the mill as well as a two-storey office range fronting School Lane and partly on the site of the south-east extension.

METHODOLOGY

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Spring Mill
Stoney Bank Road
Earby
Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62141

NGR: SD 9100 4655

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62141

Earby

NGR: SD 9100 4655

Spring Mill, Stoney Bank Road

SUMMARY

Spring Mill was built between 1893 and 1902 as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill. It is built of stone rubble and originally had a weaving shed with a warehouse and yarn preparation block across one end of the front elevation and the power block across much of the other, the whole single storeyed. The shed was enlarged slightly before 1940, perhaps in 1923. The mill was not used for room and power working.

HISTORY

Directories indicate that Spring Mill was built between 1893 and 1902, in the latter year occupied by Bailey, Watson and Berry, cotton manufacturers. Lineal descendants of the same firm continued weaving in the mill until at least 1936 but by 1963 it was occupied by Booth and Speak (Textiles) Ltd. who ran 490 looms here and 650 in Albion Mill, Earby. The mill is shown on the 1907 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a); additions to the weaving shed, perhaps of 1923, are marked on the 1940 revision (Fig 1b).¹ The steam engine and looms were scrapped in

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.2, revised 1907, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd., Manchester; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 605; *ibid.*, 1911, 683; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 239; *ibid.*, 1927, 281; *ibid.*, 1936, 196; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

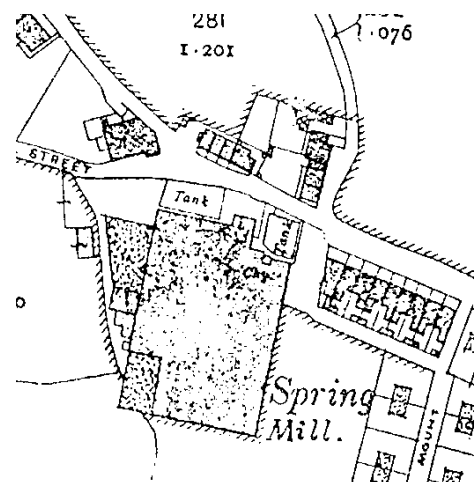
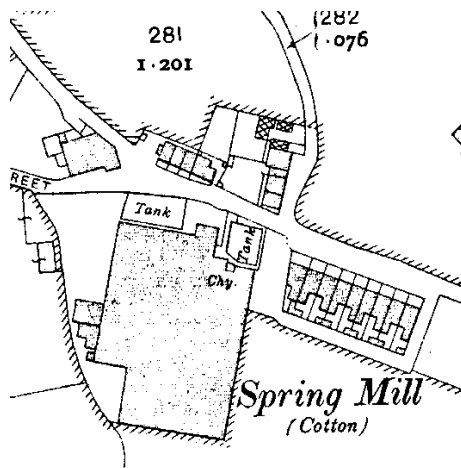
1968. The mill is now occupied by the Holiday Cottages Group.

DESCRIPTION

Spring Mill, built on the then eastern outskirts of Earby between 1893 and 1902, stands on a gently sloping site and is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of two main phases. It is built of random stone rubble.

The original mill

The original mill, built between 1893 and 1902, had no multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block but instead a single-storey block seven bays wide with a saw-tooth roof two spans deep set at the west end of the front elevation seems to have served this purpose (Fig 2). Maps show that the engine house, boiler house and chimney occupied most of the eastern half of



the front elevation but they have all been demolished. Behind these was a single-storey weaving shed (Fig 3) with a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights with parapet walls on each side.

Additions to the mill

Between 1902 and 1940, perhaps in 1923 when a new steam engine was installed, the south-west corner of the original weaving shed was infilled and a small trapezoidal-shaped shed extension was built on to its west side. The front and side wall of the latter extension each have a single wide vehicle entrance with a cast-iron lintel with a sunk panel over the opening. Air photographs show that the roof over the western side of the shed is unbroken, with no original walls rising through it. The additions may date to 1923 when a steam engine, built in 1899 by Hick Hargreaves, was moved to Spring Mill.²



METHODOLOGY

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² Records made by the Northern Mill Engine Society and Manchester Museum of Science and Technology.



Victoria Mill

Albert Street

Earby

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 62138

NGR: SD 9065 4660

Surveyed: 4 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 62138

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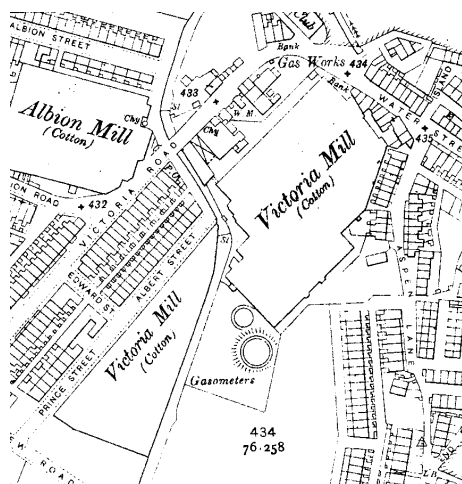
NGR: SD 9065 4660

Victoria Mill, Albert Street

SUMMARY

Victoria Mill was built in 1856 as a steam-powered mill and was used for cotton spinning and weaving into the very early 20th century, subsequently being used solely for cotton weaving. It was initially in single occupation but by the end of the 19th century was operating on the room and power system. The original three-storey spinning mill, powered by a beam engine, and extensive attached weaving

sheds, have all been demolished, but a triangular-shaped single-storey weaving shed built across the Earby Beck, but borrowing power from the original site, still stands.



HISTORY

Victoria Mill is not shown on the 1848-50 Ordnance Survey map but was probably built, on the evidence of the date of its now scrapped steam engine, in 1856. In 1887 it was occupied by the Victoria Spinning and Manufacturing Company but by 1893 the site was in multiple occupation, with a machinist and blacksmith and a joiner, builder and undertaker as well as a cotton spinner and a cotton manufacturer. It was subsequently entirely given over to

textile use. In 1902 there was one cotton spinner and four cotton manufacturers, but from 1911 until 1936 directories record only cotton manufacturers. In July 1937 Johnson's Fabrics Ltd., part of Johnson and Johnson, bought out the Victoria Manufacturing Company, listed in 1936 at Victoria Mill, and re-opened Victoria Shed for weaving. The *Craven Herald* of 9 April 1937 reported that Victoria Shed had been unoccupied for about three years. In 1963 Johnson's Fabrics still occupied the shed and ran 1,550 looms in it. The original mill was built on the north-east side of Earby Beck, but the Ordnance Survey map of 1906-7 (Fig 1) also shows the extension on its south-west side. Both are identified as Victoria Mill, but the extension is sometimes called Victoria Shed in directories. No additions are shown on the 1940 revision.¹ All buildings still stood in 1985 when a brief record was made by RCHME, but by August 1986 air photographs show that the buildings on the original site were all in the process of being demolished. The mill extension on the south-west side of the beck still stands.

DESCRIPTION

Victoria Mill was built close to the centre of Earby, and at its fullest extent, occupied two sites separated by the Earby Beck.

The original site, on the north-east bank of the beck, has been totally cleared but photographs taken in 1985 and 1986 show it to have had a main multi-storey

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Yorkshire, Sheet 184, surveyed 1848-50, published 1853; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.1, revised 1906-7, published 1909; record made by the Northern Mill Engine Society; notes and photographs by George Watkins in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Victoria Mill, Earby, Lancashire, WAT162; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 313; *ibid.*, 1893, 434-5; *ibid.*, 1902, 605-7; *ibid.* 1911, 683-4, 687; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 239; *ibid.*, 1927, 281-2; *ibid.*, 1936, 196-7; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.



building along its north-west side with extensive single-storey weaving sheds behind. The multi-storey building was three storeys high, six bays wide and twenty six bays long, the whole under a triple-span roof. It contained a beam engine built in 1856 by W & J Yates of Blackburn.

The later site on the south-west side of the Earby Beck is a triangular-shaped single-storey weaving shed. Built of random stone rubble, the north-west side wall to Albert Street has, at about its mid point (Fig 2), a wide vehicle entrance with



interrupted jambs but a raised head and two pedestrian doors both with monolithic stone surrounds. All other openings are insertions. All walls are flat-topped, the parapet walls screening a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed lights. Gutters project through the east side wall and discharge into downpipes. The

interior has cast-iron columns with D-shaped bolting heads to support the line shafting. The shed did not have its own engine house but instead borrowed power from the main site. A substantial cast-iron housing (Fig 3) in the narrow wall at the north-east end of the shed shows where the drive shaft entered the shed.

METHODOLOGY

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County Brook Mill, formerly Hey Mill

County Brook Lane

Foulridge

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 99096

NGR: SD 8864 4391

Surveyed: 7 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99096

Foulridge

NGR: SD 8864 4391

County Brook Mill, formerly Hey Mill, County Brook Lane

SUMMARY

County Brook Mill, originally Hey Mill, was probably built as a water-powered textile mill in the late 18th century. It was sold as a cotton mill with four adjoining cottages in 1842, was in ruins in 1844 but by 1877 at the latest had been repaired and was producing cloth. This mill, of stone, was three storeys high and five bays long with an internal end waterwheel chamber fed from two mill dams. At the end of the 19th century the mill appears to have been a corn mill but in 1906 or 1907 it was taken over by William Mitchell for warp dressing and then cotton weaving. The mill, its water wheel supplemented by an auxiliary steam engine and boiler, was full to capacity during the 1920s and a weaving shed was built downhill from it, in four stages, to designs by R S Pilling made in 1927, 1929, 1933 and 1935. The complete weaving shed, powered from the water wheel and its own diesel engine, eventually also from an electric motor, is single storeyed with a weft room under one part and has a saw-tooth roof. The old mill came to be used entirely for warehousing but additional capacity was added in 1935 and later. The original four one-room, three-storey back-to-back cottages were extended in the late 19th century but during the 20th century gradually converted into offices and storage space.

HISTORY¹

County Brook Mill, formerly Hey Mill, has had a varied history. It stands on the hillside above the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, north of Owlet Nest Farm and beside the County Brook, so called because it was for long the boundary between Lancashire and Yorkshire. The original name, Hey Mill, was taken from the hamlet of Hey to its south west. An indenture dated 29 August 1785, noted on the 1842 Conditions of Sale, records that the premises were then owned by Joseph Hartley of Cragg, woolstapler, and Margaret, his wife, who had evidently purchased them from Daniel Parker of Hague, yeoman. No mill is specifically noted. On 9 June 1842 the mill and Hullet [Owlet] Nest Farm were sold by William Hewson Wood and his wife, Betty Hartley, to William and John Midgley, hat manufacturers of Colne, for £1,440. The Conditions Sale and Purchase refer to 'All that Cotton Mill or erection called Hey Mill with four cottages adjoining thereto, with reservoir, Banks and Road belonging'. Hey Mill and its two mill dams are all shown on the Ordnance Survey map surveyed in 1844 (Fig 1a), the mill being identified as 'Hey Mill in Ruins'. In 1851 the census indicates that three families lived here, those in work being two bobbin winders, three handloom weavers of wool and a labourer. In addition there was a former handloom weaver and four children.

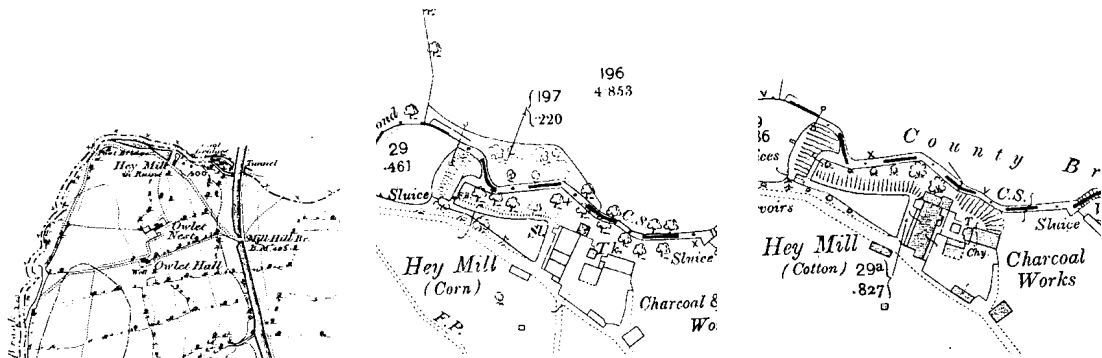
The history of Hey Mill immediately following the Midgley's purchase is uncertain, but it was evidently repaired and made workable. Advice notes for cloth dated 10 and 24 May 1877, and delivered to the Midland Railway Company, are in the name of J & W Sagar, the 'J &' being struck through. Barrett's 1879 Directory lists Henry Sagar, quarry owner, and Samuel and William Sagar, farmers, in Foulridge. The last may have worked the mill. The late 19th-century history of the mill appears to indicate its use as a corn mill. The 1892 Ordnance Survey map (Fig

¹ The historical information in this report, unless separately referenced, was kindly supplied by Raymond Mitchell, and is included in his typescript history of the County Brook and the mills it powered.

1b) identifies it as 'Hey Mill (Corn)', with a Charcoal and Naphtha Works on the slope immediately below it. This latter works was started by a partnership between William Yates and Edward Riley, and it was in operation by 1861 when the census records Edmund Riley, mordant maker, at Hullet (Owlet) Nest Farm. The name Hey Mill, though historically correct, is not the one the mill traded under since a directory of 1893 refers to Alfred Hargreaves, corn miller, at County Brook Mill. County Brook Mill remained the name of the mill and it was used in Hargreaves' entry as a corn miller in the 1902 directory in which his home address was given as 13 Hawthorn Terrace, Foulridge.

In late 1906 or early 1907, William Mitchell (1876-1942), a warp taper at Salterforth Shed, rented County Brook Mill and took up residence with his wife and two sons, Ernest and Norman, in one of the cottages adjoining the mill. Mitchell initially used the mill for warp dressing but quickly progressed to cotton weaving. Confirmation of the mill's change of use is given by its identification as a cotton mill, though still with the name Hey Mill and with the Charcoal Works adjacent, on the 1910 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1c) and by the entry for William Mitchell, cotton manufacturer, at County Brook Mill in a 1911 directory. Directories of 1924 and 1933 repeat the 1911 entry but in 1927 the name became the County Brook Mill Company Limited because William Mitchell had to establish a company in order to raise money to buy the land for the new weaving shed. The new name is recorded in a directory of 1941, but by 1963 it was the County Brook Mill Company Limited. By 1937 there were 400 looms in the mill weaving, on commission, mainly interlining for men's suits but also interlining for men's ties, Palm Beach cloths and bunting for flags. In 1963 there were still 400 looms in the mill weaving, on commission only, deck chair and narrow awnings, Palm Beach cloths, splits and plastic fabrics.² The mill is still in the same ownership, trading as

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 48, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.8, surveyed 1892, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 220; *ibid.*,



Mitchell Interflex Ltd., and is one of the few textile mills still in use for this purpose in Pendle Borough.

DESCRIPTION

County Brook Mill, formerly Hey Mill, was built on the south side of the County



Brook and by 1842 had two mill ponds to its west. The mill, with cottages attached to its south end, stands east of the ponds, a large weaving shed to its east (Fig 2).

The mill to 1906/1907

In 1842 Hey Mill was described as a cotton mill with four cottages adjoining, although in 1844 it was recorded as being in ruins. The mill had two mill ponds by

1893, 431; *ibid.*, 1902, 600; *ibid.*, 1911, 678; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 521; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 687; *ibid.*, 1941, 546; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

1842 and both are shown on successive Ordnance Survey maps. The upper,



larger pond was created by damming the valley, the stream running directly into it at one end and out of it at the other, while the lower, smaller pond, directly behind the mill, was fed by the other but had a bypass channel leading off to the stream. The

lower pond, triangular in shape and embanked on two sides, (the 'Banks' of the 1842 sale), must have been the original one: the south side of the upper one, no doubt created when greater reserves of water were required, could well be on the line of the head race to the original mill pond.



The mill, a gabled rectangular building of stone rubble with a slate roof, is three storeys high and five bays long with an internal end wheelhouse for the water wheel. Cottages were built against its south gable wall, and

much of its east elevation is now obscured by later buildings, but from what can be observed it would appear that the basic structure is of pre-1842 date but that it was repaired after falling into disrepair, probably after a period of disuse. Repair work is particularly evident at the north-west corner where distinctive rusticated quoins, absent elsewhere, imply rebuilding. How much masonry was rebuilt is uncertain, though the irregular fenestration of the north end of the west wall, since confused by blockings and the insertion of a wide doorway, make this a candidate.

A retouched photograph of the mill, dated 1928 and held at the mill (Fig 3),³ shows the front, east, elevation before it was built against as being five bays long with a door with a monolithic stone surround at the south end of the ground floor,



the round-headed basement door into the wheelhouse at the north end is out of view. The wider length of wall between the northernmost windows reflects the position of the side wall of the wheelhouse which here rises into the ground floor of the mill.

External steps down to a cellar with its door under the middle window are not visible. It is recalled that the cellar was once said to have contained millstones, and that there was a chute, now concealed by brickwork, which could have delivered grain down to it. The rear elevation (Fig 4) is less regular than the front wall partly because the pentrough serving the waterwheel leads into it at the north end and partly because it is evidently a mixture of old and rebuilt masonry. It has two ground-floor windows, three at first floor as well as a door, blocked when it was cut by the inserted wide doorway which also cut through a window, which was also blocked. The second floor has four windows. The interior of the mill has timber beams supported by a central row of cast-iron columns on the ground and first floors with D-sectioned bolting heads to support shafting. Some columns have been removed. the roof has two king-post trusses with struts.

The four cottages noted in the 1842 document were added against the south gable wall of the mill and are as wide as the mill but less high. The original cottages - they were extended slightly in the late 19th century and have been altered since -

³ The mill is called 'Stew Mill' on the photograph, the name being a local one deriving from the fact that wood was stewed at the nearby Charcoal and Naphtha Works.

were arranged as two pairs of back-to-back cottages, each cottage single-fronted, one room deep and three storeys high. Each one originally (see Fig 3) had a door and window on the ground floor, the door, to the north, have a monolithic stone surround, the windows being three-light mullioned windows, the mullions flat-faced, the sides coursed in. The first and second floors, altered a little at the rear (Fig 5) where the ground-floor is below the level of the mill pond, now partially built over by the car park, each had two two-light mullioned windows. The interior of the cottages have been altered, none surviving in its original form. The staircases have been taken out, walls broken through and most fittings taken out. At least one ground-floor fireplace, in what would have been the living kitchen, survives and has a substantial moulded stone head. Between 1844 and 1892 an additional bay was added to the south end of the cottages.

The mill from 1906/1907

In late 1906 or early 1907 William Mitchell leased County Brook Mill, commenced warp dressing but progressed quickly to cotton weaving. During the 1920s the old mill was full to capacity with 50 looms, an auxiliary steam engine and boiler having been installed to supplement the water power supply. In order to increase capacity, a new weaving shed was built immediately east of the old mill, but standing free from it on the site of the Charcoal and Naphtha Works. It was built in four stages between the late 1920s and mid 1930s to designs, copies of which are held at the mill, made by Randolph Sutton Pilling, architect and surveyor, of Colne for Mr W Mitchell of County Brook Mill. The four parts were similar in size, each one rectangular, and they created a single large rectangular weaving shed to the south east with outer walls of stone rubble and saw-tooth roofs, part glazed, part slated, with brown ceramic ridge ventilators.

The first part of the weaving shed to be built was the north-west quarter, the designs for which are dated October 1927. This is a single-storey building with a

four-bay wide saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. The interior was kept clearer of columns than most earlier weaving sheds since the use of I-section steel beams to support the roof meant that only a single central row of cast-iron columns was required, not three rows. The columns have D-sectioned bolting heads to support line shafting, but housings in the underside of the gutters show that, as usual, there were mid-bay shafts running north-south. The north side wall has nine wall boxes to support the ends of the countershafts across the shed. In addition to the water wheel, replaced in 1960⁴ by a water turbine, itself since removed, the shed was powered from a single cylinder diesel engine set in an engine house attached to the west end of the north wall. This has a single saw-tooth roof, glazed like the rest of the shed. Male and female toilets built further along the wall have been demolished. The shed was built by masons and labourers employed by William Mitchell, the millwrighting being done by E A Foulds of Colne. Looms were relocated from all floors of the old mill into the shed.

The second part of the weaving shed was built to designs dated August 1929. It was built against the south side of the first part of the shed and so forms the south-west quarter of the complete weaving shed. The new shed was identical in size and detail to the 1927 shed, and the wall between the two was taken down.

The designs for third part of the weaving shed to be built are dated February 1933 and form the south-east quarter of the complete shed. They were built against the east side wall of the 1929 block but project one bay south of them, having five saw-tooth roof bays. Their detailing repeats that of the first two phases, and there is still only a single row of cast-iron columns. A wide vehicle entrance was

⁴ The cast-iron axle from the waterwheel is preserved on site. The waterwheel, 34 feet in diameter and almost four feet wide, was fed from a cast-iron pentrough of the same width and about three feet deep. Angled steel plates on the wheel's outer face created buckets, the discharged water running through a walled tunnel for some forty yards before joining the stream.

provided in the west end wall of the projecting bay of the shed (Fig 6) which has a single-bay cellar along its east end..

The final part of the shed was built to designs dated November 1935 and it forms the north-east quarter of the complete weaving shed (Fig 7). Here the fall of the ground was used to create a basement weft room under the weaving shed, and both have a single row of cast-iron columns with D-section bolting heads supporting steel beams. The basement has seven windows in its north side wall and three and a door in its east wall. The shed, with its four-bay saw-tooth roof, repeats the form of the earlier buildings. As the weaving shed extensions were added on, more power was required. This was initially provided by a larger and then an even more powerful diesel engine, but the fourth shed extension was driven as a separate unit by a 60 horse power electric motor.

The expansion of the weaving capacity, evidently in units of 100 looms, since there were 100 after the first build and 400 in 1963, put pressure on the warehouse accommodation. The old mill continued to provide this as the new weaving shed was successively built but it became necessary to create extra space. This was



done by infilling the space between the old mill and the first part of the new weaving shed with a building designed in March 1935 by R S Pilling. This building, of stone externally and gabled north and south, has a ground floor open to the south and has a five-bay long first-floor room over it. Each end of this room has a single window and the roof has four king-post trusses. Just as the old mill changed use so were the cottages gradually encroached on, being used as offices

on the ground floor with storage above. In 1932 three substantial detached houses were built overlooking the mill, one each for William, Ernest and Norman Mitchell. They are no longer in Mitchell family occupation.

In 1940 R S Pilling made designs for a warehouse to be built on to the north-east corner of the weaving shed. There is a boiler house here, but the warehouse was not built quite as designed. The building now there was originally gabled but has been altered to create a single-pitch roof. It was extended in 1961 and a modern warehouse built up to its south end in about 1990.

METHODOLOGY

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Croft Mill

Lowther Lane

Foulridge

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 99030

NGR: SD 8895 4219

Surveyed: 6 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 99030

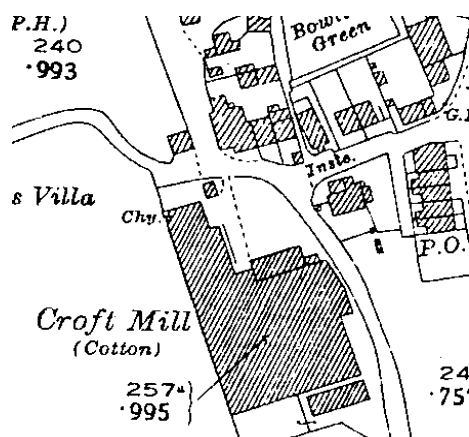
Foulridge

NGR: SD 8895 4219

Croft Mill, Lowther Lane

SUMMARY

Croft Mill was built between 1923 and 1924 as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, and was always in single occupation. It is built of stone rubble, is entirely



single storeyed, and comprises a weaving shed, warehouse and yarn preparation block, and an engine house, boiler house and chimney. It is now a mill shop.

HISTORY

Directories indicate that Croft Mill was built between 1923 and 1924 since it appears in the latter in the occupation of Joseph Hargreaves, cotton goods manufacturer. It is shown on the 1930 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1) at its present extent. It was probably occupied by W N Berry and Sons Ltd. in 1933; they were certainly its occupants as cotton manufacturers in 1941 and 1963.¹ The mill is now used as a

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.12, revised 1930, published 1932; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 521; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 685; *ibid.*, 1941, 545; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

mill shop.

DESCRIPTION

Croft Mill was built between 1923 and 1924 on the southern edge of Foulridge on a gently sloping site and is one main phase. It is built of squared stone rubble.

The original building had a single-storey weaving shed, (Fig 2) rectangular in plan, with flat-topped parapet walls and a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. A pair of gabled blocks with two-light windows, and a longer range with a lean-to roof, project from the east side of the shed. Office warehousing and yarn preparation space were probably provided for in a single-storey block set in the north front of the weaving shed. The engine and boiler houses (Fig 3) project in front of the north-west corner of the shed and the chimney (Fig 4) rises from the north-west corner of the boiler house. It has a square base which shapes up to a circular red brick shaft surmounted by a bracketed terracotta cap.

There have been some additions and alterations to the mill, including the addition of a single-storey range with a single-pitch roof against the south end of the shed's east wall.



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New Shed

Warehouse Lane

Foulridge

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 99029

NGR: SD 8892 4242

Surveyed: 6 May 1999

Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 99029

Foulridge

NGR: SD 8892 4242

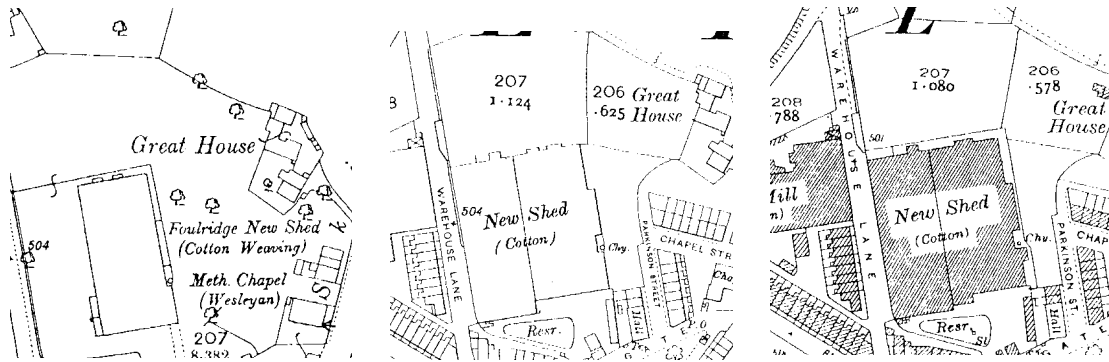
New Shed, Warehouse Lane

SUMMARY

New Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in two phases. The first phase, built between 1887 and 1891-3, consisted of an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, a single-storey weaving shed and power block. Between 1902 and 1910 the mill was doubled in size to the west, evidently coinciding with the mill switching to the room and power system, with a second weaving shed and further buildings to the south. In 1999 The surviving mill buildings were in moderate condition but there had been much alteration and some demolition, notably the power complex.

HISTORY

Cartographic and trade directory evidence indicates that New Shed was built between 1887 and 1891-3. There is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1887 but it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891-3 (Fig 1a), when it was named as 'Foulridge New Shed', and is mentioned in a directory of 1893 when John Young, cotton manufacturer, was the occupier. New Shed was doubled in size and evidently switched to room and power working between 1902, when the single occupier was Thomas Fryer, cotton manufacturer, and 1910 when it is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of that year (Fig 1b) with a new block, of equivalent



size, adjacent to it. A

trade directory of 1911 lists the mills occupiers as the Foulridge New Shed Co Ltd (room and power) and Fryer Bros Ltd, Joseph Hargreaves, and Threlfalls & Co Ltd, all cotton manufacturers. The mill is shown with minor additions on the Ordnance Survey map of 1930 (Fig 1c).¹ In 1999 the buildings survived in moderate condition although there has been some alteration and demolition, most notably of the engine house, boiler house and chimney.

DESCRIPTION

New Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in two main phases between 1887 and 1910 on gently sloping ground close to the crossing point of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and the Midland Railway on the north side of Foulridge.

Its first phase stands at the rear of the shed, anticipating expansion up to warehouse lane.

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887); Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.12, surveyed 1891-3, published 1894; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 431; *ibid.*, 1902, 600; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.12, revised 1910, published 1912; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 677, 678; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.12, revised 1930, published 1932.

The mill of 1887-1891-3

The original mill, shown on the map of 1891-3, consisted of a south-facing office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a weaving shed behind with the engine house, boiler house and chimney evidently attached to the east side. Part of the east side has been cut back to allow vehicle access, from the south, along this side of the mill. The warehouse and yarn preparation block (Fig 2) was originally multi- storeyed but has been reduced to a single low storey and is now flat roofed.

The front elevation is of coursed stone rubble and is seven bays long with a vehicle entrance in the fifth bay from the west. The east elevation is of rough random stone rubble and might originally have been an internal dividing wall between the warehouse block and an attached engine or boiler house. To the rear is a single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north with



slated return slopes, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. The shed has been much altered, the central section has been demolished and replaced by a modern rebuild and a large portion of the east wall has been lost as the shed has been cut back to provide vehicle access.



A section of the east parapet wall does survive to the rear (Fig 3), seven bays long with seven rectangular vents with wooden louvers, one to each roof bay and the ends of eight valley gutters protruding. The rear wall has been rebuilt in brick. The power block has largely been lost.

The additions of 1902-10

Between 1902 and 1910 the mill was roughly doubled in size to the west, and was extended up to the edge of warehouse lane. The new build consisted of a single-storey weaving shed (Fig 4) running parallel to the first with a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north with slated return slopes, and walls of random rubble without parapets. Attached to the south side is a rectangular two-storey block, probably a warehouse (Fig 5). The south, east and west elevations are now rendered but the north elevation is of random stone rubble with tooled quoins to the north-west corner. The building is gabled but the north gable is built up in brick and its original form is not known. The west and south elevations have been refenestrated, and the west elevation is now eight bays long with pedestrian entrances in the first and sixth bays from the north. The south elevation is six bays wide. The east side butts against a roughly square single-storey block built of coursed stone rubble with



a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the west with slated return slopes, drained by valley gutters which discharge on the south side. Its purpose is unknown.

METHODOLOGY

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Peel Mill

Station Road

Foulridge

Lancashire

NBR Index No. 99028

NGR: SD 8882 4244

Surveyed: 6 May 1999

Report by Ian Goodall

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 99028

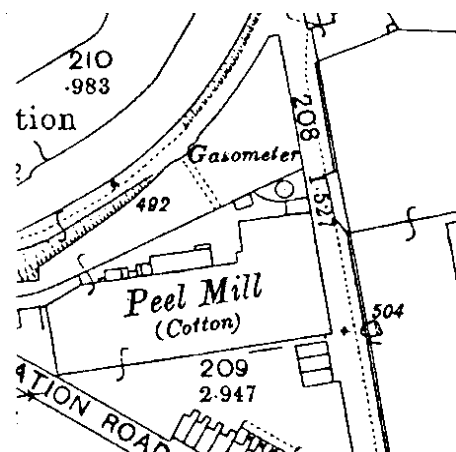
Foulridge

NGR: SD 8882 4244

Peel Mill, Station Road

SUMMARY

Peel Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1887 and 1893. It was used initially for room and power working but within a decade was in single occupation, remaining so throughout its use for textile production. The original



buildings were a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a tier of taking-in doors in one gable end and a wide vehicle door in the front elevation. The single-storey weaving shed behind, which was built in two stages, has been demolished as have the engine and boiler houses attached to the shed's north wall.

HISTORY

Directories indicate that Peel Mill was built between 1887 and 1893, in the latter year being occupied by three cotton manufacturers. By 1902 it was in the single occupation of J Lonsdale and Company, cotton manufacturers, and it remained in their hands until after 1941, in 1963 being occupied by Armoride Limited, leathercloth manufacturers who also occupied Grove Mill, Earby. The mill is shown

on the 1891-3 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1), appearing in virtually identical form on the 1910 and 1930 revisions.¹ The mill is now occupied by an engineering firm.

DESCRIPTION

Peel Mill was built in two stages between 1887 and 1893 on the then eastern outskirts of Foulridge. It fronts Station Road, which leads to the nearby railway, while at the bottom of the site is Warehouse Lane which leads to a staithe on the



Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The mill was built on a valley side site which slopes steeply down to the east.

The original mill comprised a multi-storey block with a weaving shed to its rear, the latter with the power block attached to its north side. The office, warehouse and

yarn preparation block which is set back from Station Road, behind a triangular yard, is built of rough-faced squared stone rubble with a slate roof (Fig 2). It is a two-storey building with a part basement, its north gable wall set at an angle

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLVIII.12, surveyed 1891-3, published 1894; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 431; *ibid.*, 1902, 600; *ibid.*, 1911, 677; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 521; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 687; *ibid.*, 1941, 547; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 273.

because of the site boundary. The front elevation is therefore seven bays wide and the rear elevation eight bays wide, the former with a wide central ground-floor vehicle entrance with a voussoired segmental-arched head. Each gable wall is three bays wide with an attic opening, all the south gable openings being windows, the central tier in the north gable, which also has basement-level openings, being doors. The taking-in doors at ground, first and attic levels all have monolithic stone surrounds and there is the hole for a former projecting hoist beam over the top door. The weaving shed behind this block was single storeyed with flat-topped side walls but it has been demolished apart from the south and east walls. It was built in two parts with a stone wall between the two, both parts having saw-tooth roofs with north-facing glazed lights. The western part of the shed had nine roof bays, the eastern part more since it projected further north. The engine house, boiler house and chimney were built end to end against the north side of the western shed's wall but have been demolished.

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**Spen Brook Mill
Spen Brook
Goldshaw Booth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98976
NGR: SD 8250 3889**

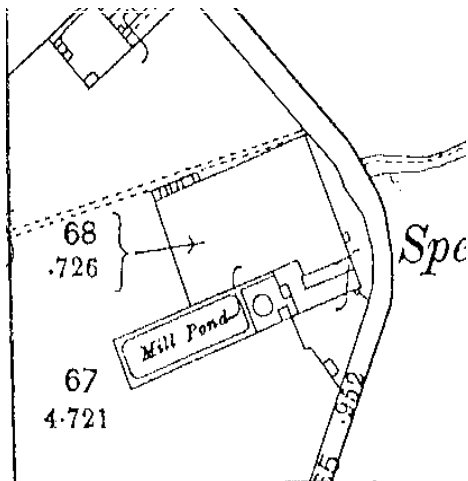
Surveyed: 6 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
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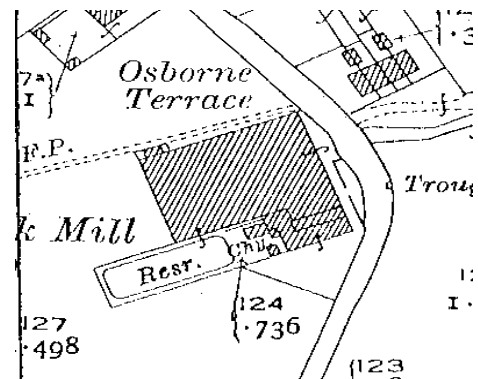
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Lancashire

Goldshaw Booth

Spen Brook Mill, Spen Brook



NBR Index No. 98976

NGR: SD 8250 3889

SUMMARY

Spen Brook Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill probably built between 1854 and 1879 in a remote rural position to the south of Newchurch in Pendle; it gave rise to the mill hamlet of Spen Brook. The mill originally consisted of a rubble-built multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, an engine house, boiler house and chimney, single-storey weaving shed, gasometer and reservoir. Additional sheds were built during the course of the 20th century and in 1998 the mill was used for the manufacture of carpets.

HISTORY

Trade directories and map evidence indicate that Spen Brook Mill was built between 1854 and 1879. It was built on a remote rural site, within a bend in the road from Newchurch in Pendle to Fence, within the township of Goldshaw Booth. The mill does not appear on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844¹ and the site is shown as undeveloped countryside. The trade directory for 1854,² in its entry for Goldshaw Booth, makes no reference to the mill or any manufacturing enterprise at Spen Brook but the trade

¹ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854).

directory of 1879,³ although it makes no reference to the mill, does include an entry for the Wheatley Lane and Spen Brook Manufacturing Co, cotton manufacturers. A similar entry appears in the directory for 1887⁴ but the company was then simply named the Spen Brook Manufacturing Co. The mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891⁵ (Fig 1a) with a rectangular weaving shed, engine house, boiler house, chimney, gasometer and mill pond, and is named Spen Brook Mill (Cotton). Spen Brook Houses, six back to back houses, are also shown a short distance to the north west, presumably built to house workers at the mill. The mill itself is mentioned in Barrett's Directory of 1923,⁶ at this time occupied by Reuben Burton Ltd, cotton manufacturer, and the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30⁷ (Fig 1b) shows it little changed, except for the removal of the gasometer, although the hamlet of Spen Brook was by now becoming established. A second terrace of housing had been built to the north east of the road and a building named simply 'Institute' is shown opposite Spen Brook Houses. The mill has been considerably expanded during the course of the 20th century and in 1998 had recently undergone major refurbishment work and was occupied by William Pownall and Sons Ltd, carpet manufacturers.

DESCRIPTION

Spen Brook Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1854 and 1879 by on a rural site within a bend in the road where it meets Dimpenley Clough. It consisted of a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a weaving shed to the rear and an engine house and boiler house, with chimney behind, attached side by side across the south-east end. At one time a gasometer stood behind the engine and boiler houses with a mill pond or reservoir behind that. The gasometer is long gone and the reservoir has been built upon as part of the 20th century extension works. There is a long narrow brick shed built against the north-west side and large modern metal sheds built onto the south-east side such that the original factory area has been more that doubled in size.

The original mill

The original mill, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891, consists of a gabled **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) of two storeys over a basement and built of random stone rubble with roughly-tooled quoins to the angles and a slate roof with stone copings. The north-east facing front elevation is nine bays wide with

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 166.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 214.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.2, resurveyed 1891, published 1893.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 645.

⁷ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.2, revised 1929, published 1931.

rectangular, tooled stone lintels and sills. The glazing is a modern replacement. The first and last bays from the left contain pedestrian entrances with a monolithic surrounds, the first now obscured by a modern porch and the last converted to a window and a sill inserted. The fifth bay from the left contains an enlarged vehicle entrance. The north-west gable end is two bays wide, the right-hand window on the second floor having been converted to a fire escape door.



Attached to the south-east end of the multi-storey block is the flat-roofed **engine house** (Fig 3), also built of coursed rubble with tooled quoins to the angles where the front elevation originally rose above the eaves of the blocks on either side. The front elevation is only one bay wide and is very narrow and bonded in with both the multi-storey block to the right and the boiler house to the left. There is a pedestrian entrance at ground-floor level with an

elaborate ashlar surround and a tall rectangular window with a raised sill at first floor level. The adjacent gabled **boiler house** (Fig 4) is built of random rubble with punch-dressed quoins to the angles and is positioned gable end onto the road. It is two storeys high although it has been heightened as can be seen in the high level straight joint between it and the upper quoins of the engine house. The front elevation has a large



segmental-headed boiler entrance on the right hand side with a narrow opening with a monolithic surround to the left which may have been either a window or a pedestrian entrance, it is now blocked and partly obscured by a modern flight of steps. At first floor level there is a central segmental-headed teagle door with a smooth stone surround (and a corresponding teagle hole high above in the gable) flanked by a pair of rectangular windows. The return elevation, facing south east, is six bays wide with tall rectangular windows, which may have been heightened, to the first floor and smaller, almost square windows to the ground floor. It is not clear whether this block was originally single-storeyed and has been heightened to two storeys to provide first-floor storage space or if an original second storey has been raised. Attached to the rear is the square tapering rubble **chimney** now reduced in height.

The single-storey **weaving shed** to the rear was not accessible at the time of survey due to modern enlargements but historic air photographs⁸ (Figs 5 and 6) show that nine-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north west.

Later additions

Extensions to the weaving shed seem to have taken place over two or three phases during the mid and late 20th century. The first addition was a long low narrow brick building built onto the north-west side. It is shown on the earliest of the air photos held at the mill (Fig 5), taken at a time when the rest of the mill was unchanged, including the reservoir and several small ancillary buildings behind the boiler house. At a later date a larger shed was built on the site of the former reservoir, butting against the chimney and boiler house and then probably later still a wider shed was built beside that (Fig 6).

METHODOLOGY



This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.

⁸ Originals held at Spen Brook Mill, undated.



**Clough Mill, formerly Shuttle Works,
Padiham Road, Higham
Higham-with-West Close Booth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98977
NGR: SD 8084 3648**

Surveyed: 6 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98977

Higham-with-West Close Booth

NGR: SD 8084 3648

Clough Mill, formerly Shuttle Works, Padiham Road, Higham

SUMMARY

Clough Mill was built as a water-powered Shuttle Works before 1844, later maps showing it to have had two separate buildings set below a mill pond. Both buildings are of stone rubble, the larger one to the south having a datestone inscribed W D H 1867. Directories of 1854 and 1879 list a William Duckworth, shuttle maker, in Higham. The building is two storeys high and three bays wide and deep. The second building, to the north, was smaller and is much rebuilt. It had a chimney attached to it and it is evident that the Works had a steam engine, probably to supplement the water power. The Shuttle Works ran until between 1909 and 1929 when it was converted into a cotton mill with the two original buildings linked together. The link block has been demolished and the two original buildings modernised and converted to dwellings.

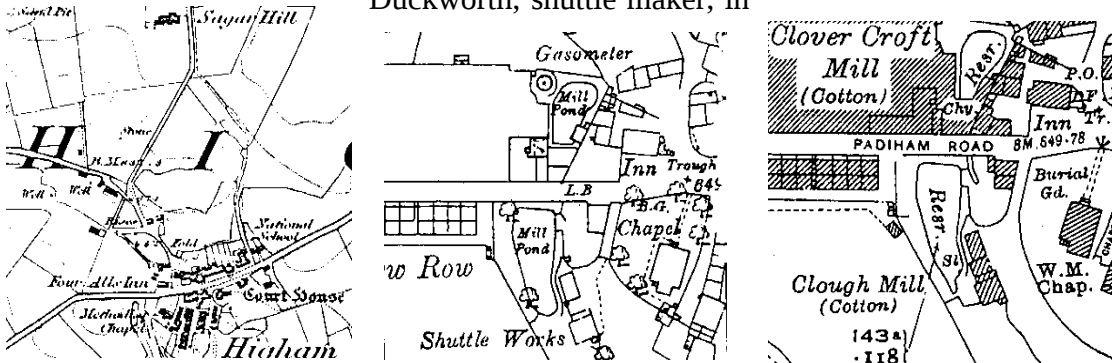
HISTORY

Clough Mill was evidently built before 1844 since the mill pond next to it is shown on a map of that date although the site of the building is obscured by the annotation 'Methodist Chapel' (Fig 1a).¹ The mill pond and two buildings are shown on a map of 1891 (Fig 1b) and 1909 on which they are called 'Shuttle Mill', and on one of 1929 (Fig 1c) on which they are called 'Clough Mill (Cotton)'.²

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.9, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1909, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929, published 1931.

Little documentation has been located for the two buildings, but the southern one has a datestone inscribed 'W.D.H. 1867', and Directories of 1854 and 1879³ list a William Duckworth, shuttle maker, in



Higham. No address is given, but the initials coincide, the 'H' perhaps being William's wife. Directories of 1887, 1893 and 1902⁴ list Thomas Duckworth, shuttle manufacturer, again with no specific address, but no entry has been found for Clough Mill as a cotton mill. In 1998 the two mill buildings had been converted into dwellings, the northern one extended, and the mill dam had been filled in.

DESCRIPTION

The Shuttle Works, later known as Clough Mill, occupies a valley-floor site with its former mill pond on the upper edge of the slope to its north west.

The mill pond was rectangular in shape and the Shuttle Works is shown on maps to have consisted of two separate buildings, both rectangular in shape. The southern building is two storeys high and gabled to east and west (Fig 2). It is built of stone rubble with rusticated quoins, rectangular lintels, cyma-shaped kneelers and a stone slate roof. The main elevations are three bays wide, that to the north without a central ground-floor window. The east gable wall is three bays wide on both floors including the only ground-floor door, now behind a modern porch, while the west gable wall has just two windows and a door at first-floor level.



The door has a tooled monolithic surround with a datestone inscribed 'W.D.H. 1867' over it. The west gable wall is rendered, and it

³ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 518; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 167.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 215; *ibid.*, 1893, 287; *ibid.*, 1902, 533.

is possible that there was once a waterwheel here since it is just downhill from the end of the former mill pond. The northern building has been much rebuilt and extended, and whether it was two storeyed originally is uncertain. The maps show a chimney against its south-west corner, annotated as such only on the 1909 map; it has been demolished.

Conversion of the Shuttle Works to a cotton mill known as Clough Mill took place between 1909 and 1929 and involved the construction of a building linking the two original buildings. This infill structure has been demolished.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Clover Croft Mill
Higham Hall Road
Higham-with-West Close Booth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98978
NGR: SD 8080 3655**

Surveyed: 6 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98978

Higham-with-West Close Booth

NGR: SD 8080 3655

Clover Croft Mill, Higham Hall Road

SUMMARY

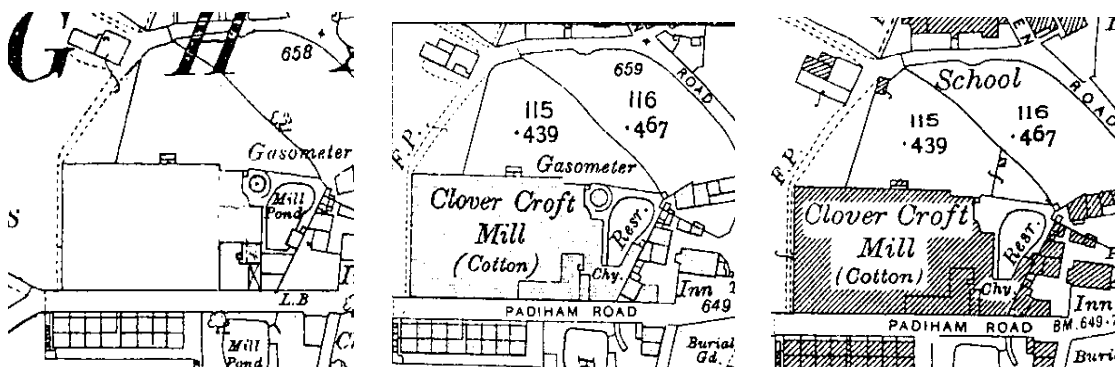
Clover Croft Mill is a steam-powered cotton-spinning and weaving mill first built in 1852 (a reset stone panel on the south elevation reads 'CLOVER CROFT MILL 1852') on level ground close to the centre of the village of Higham. The mill has many components and is quite complex in terms of function. It is built of coursed and random rubble and consists of a single-storey weaving shed with an engine house, boiler house with square chimney attached to the east side along with various gabled multi-storey blocks related to the preparation of yarn for weaving and presumably housing the spinning process. The map of 1891 shows the mill with a gasometer and mill pond to the north east, both of which have been lost. With these exceptions the mill survives largely intact and in 1998 was used for the manufacture of furniture.

HISTORY

Cartographic and trade directory evidence indicates that Clover Croft Mill was built between 1844 and 1854. A reset stone panel is inscribed 'CLOVER CROFT MILL 1852'; although its origins are uncertain, the date is acceptable. The mill does not appear on the Ordnance Survey map of 1844 but it is listed in a trade directory of 1854 when James Hargreaves, manufacturer of cotton goods, was the occupier. James Stuttard & Sons, cotton spinners and manufacturers, were there in 1879 and the firm was still the only occupier in 1933 having become cotton manufacturers only by 1893. The mill is not mentioned in trade directories of 1941 or 1963 suggesting that it was no longer in textile usage as early as 1941.¹

¹ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 518; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 167; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 580; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 288; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941); John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963).

The mill is shown at its fullest extent on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 (Fig 1a) when the site included a reservoir and gasometer. A row of 16 back to back houses, presumably for mill workers, named 'New Row' is also shown opposite the mill on the



south side of Padiham Road.

The revision of 1909 (Fig 1b) shows some modifications including a different power arrangement and a number of small blocks on the east side. No change is shown on the 1929 revision (Fig 1c) except for the omission of the gasometer.² In 1998 the mill buildings survived in good condition, although some remodelling has taken place and the reservoir has been drained and built over, and was in use as a furniture factory.

DESCRIPTION

Clover Croft Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-spinning and weaving mill on a level site close to the centre of the village of Higham and fronting Padiham Road to the south. By 1891 the weaving shed had been extended to the west by about 40 feet and between 1891 and 1909 the power source was remodelled, a new engine house for a horizontal engine being inserted into the south-east corner and the disposition of the boiler house or houses presumably modified in accordance. By 1929 a gasometer in the north-east corner of the site and later in the 20th century a cluster of small buildings on the east side, shown on the maps of 1891, 1909 and 1929, were removed and the mill reservoir was drained and built upon.

The original mill

It is uncertain what comprised the original mill, built in 1852, as it had already been altered by the time it first appears on an Ordnance Survey map, in 1891, but it is likely that it consisted of a large rectangular single-storey weaving shed, probably with a beam engine house and boiler house attached side by side to the south east corner with a chimney behind. Behind this was a multi-storey block probably for spinning. A mill reservoir occupied the north-east corner of the site with a gasometer, and presumably

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.9, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1909, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929, published 1931.

associated plant, adjacent to it for the supply of gas lighting.

The single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 2) originally had a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north, but has been re-roofed although the north and south parapet walls of survive. The south wall, fronting the road, is of coursed stone rubble and has the ends of 16 stone corbels, to carry the main power shaft from the engine through the mill internally, supported on stone pads with stone lintels above. The north wall is of random stone rubble with a series of metal bolt ends set in square plates to secure the brackets supporting the line shaft ends within. The south-east corner was quoined and these partially survive just beyond the inserted corner engine house.

Of the original **engine and boiler house** (Fig 3) arrangement little remains but the map of 1891 indicates that there was a side by side engine house, at this date housing a beam engine, and boiler house attached to the south-east corner of the shed. There is some heavy masonry to the lower level of the block currently in this position and two heavy rectangular tooled stone lintels, different in character to those to the existing windows, survive in isolation from the current fenestration and with vestigial blocking below and may belong to the original engine house windows. A datestone from the engine house



has been reset within a first floor taking-in door, it reads 'CLOVER CROFT MILL 1852'. Behind the boiler house is the square stone **chimney** which survives in good condition



although it has been reduced in height. A similar layout to that described here can be found in a comparatively unaltered state at Hollin Hall Mill, Trawden, which is dated 1855.³

Behind the boiler house and chimney is the gabled three-storey **spinning block** (Fig 4). It is of random stone rubble with tooled quoins to the corners and has a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The east and west elevations are each four bays long with gutter brackets and the north gable-end elevation is three bays wide and

partly obscured by the later three-storey block which butts against it.

³ RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No. 99022.

Additions of 1852-1891

Between 1852 and 1891 the **weaving shed** was extended to the west by about 12.5 metres and a ragged joint marks in the south wall marks the junction and the coursed stone rubble is greyer in colour than the golden stone of the original build. Close to the corner is a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic stone surround. The change is marked in the north wall by the change in the shape of the bolting plates from square to circular. Both the north-west and south-west corners are quoined but and the west wall was heightened when the shed was re-roofed and is now rendered.

A trapezoidal block was also built to the east, detached from the main mill buildings and forming a narrow lane or access way between leading to a small yard behind and shown on the 1891 map. It was originally single-storeyed and built of rough random stone rubble with tooled quoins to the corners and had one rectangular window to the road. It originally butted against further single-storey buildings to the east, since demolished. It was later raised to two storeys, the upper level being of coursed stone rubble to the road and two bays wide, and the open area between was built over in the same style forming a two-bay wide first floor area supported by a heavy cast-iron lintel, with a passage below to the rear yard.

A second gabled three-storey block was also added to the rear of the spinning block, butting against half of the north elevation. It was probably built to provide additional space for yarn preparation and storage when the mill switched to weaving only between 1852 and 1891. It is smaller in scale to the earlier block but is similar in character also being of random stone rubble with tooled quoins to the corners. The roof is of slate with stone copings and kneelers the north, gable-end, elevation is two bays wide and the east elevation four bays long.

1891-1912



Between 1891 and 1909 a second engine house, for a horizontal engine (Fig 5), was inserted into the south-east corner of the weaving shed. The roof has been rebuilt along with the rest of the shed but the south elevation survives and is of coursed squared stone rubble with smooth quoined corners. It is three bays long with three segmental-headed windows with smooth stone quoins and voussoirs. It is not certain whether the second engine ran concurrently with the old beam engine, boosting its power output, or

if it replaced it completely. In any case the former engine house was substantially rebuilt subsequently, probably as a warehouse. The south elevation of this block is now three bays long and two storeys high and there is a taking-in door at first floor level in the

second bay from the west. At ground floor there is a wide vehicle entrance, blocked, with a continuous stone lintel. A straight joint at first floor marks the junction with the building over of the former passage to the right. The top of the front wall has been rebuilt and the whole block, including the formerly detached block to the east, now has a continuous double-span roof.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Bridge Mill
Colne Road
Kelbrook and Sough
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 62136
NGR: SD 9025 4540**

Surveyed: 7 May 1999
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62136

Kelbrook and Sough

NGR: SD 9025 4540

Bridge Mill, Colne Road

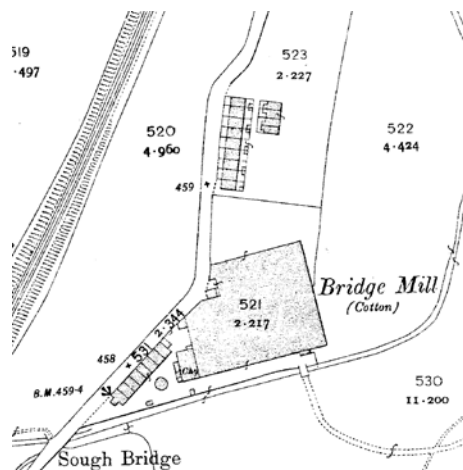
SUMMARY

Bridge Mill, or Sough Bridge Mill, is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built of random stone rubble between 1879 and 1887. The original mill comprised a warehouse and yarn preparation block, single-storey weaving shed, gasometer, engine house, boiler house and chimney. It was later extended to the north in two phases, probably as the mill room and power usage. In 1999 the mill buildings survived in good condition with the exception of the gasometer, engine house, boiler house and chimney which have been demolished.

HISTORY

Trade directory evidence indicates that Bridge Mill, also known as Sough Bridge Mill, was built between 1879 and 1887. There is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1879 but it is listed in a directory of 1887, in the Earby section, when it was occupied by Nathan Smallpage & Son, cotton manufacturers, who were also there in 1893. In 1911 the mill was occupied by the East End Manufacturing Co Ltd and Nutter

and Turner, cotton manufacturers, both also there in 1917, when the East End Manufacturing Co was described as a grey cotton manufacturer, along with the Kelbrook Bridge Manufacturing Co Ltd, coloured cotton manufacturers. In 1927 the occupiers were the Kelbrook Bridge Manufacturing Co Ltd and R Nutter & Co Ltd, both also there in 1936. The mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1906-7 (Fig 1), before substantial enlargements, related to the move to multiple occupation, later in the 20th century, as well as two terraces of housing, presumably for mill workers.¹ In 1999 the surviving mill buildings were in good condition, although there



has been some remodeling and demolition.

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879); *ibid.*, 1887, 313; *ibid.*, 1893, 435; *ibid.*, 1911, 684, 686; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 240; *ibid.*, 1927, 283; *ibid.*, 1936, 198; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.5, revised 1906-7, published 1909.

DESCRIPTION

Bridge Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on level ground in a then rural position on the east side of the Colne Road close to Sough Bridge, over Kelbrook Beck, and Barnoldswick Junction on the Skipton to Colne railway. It was extended to the north sometime after 1907.

The original mill

The original mill, shown on the map of 1906-7, consisted of an engine house, boiler house, chimney, warehouse and yarn preparation block, weaving shed and a gasometer. The two-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) is of random stone rubble and has a double-span roof of slate. The north and south elevations are both four bays wide, the west elevation has six bays at the north side with a first-floor taking-in door, with a monolithic surround and hoist-beam hole above, in the third bay from the north and a vehicle entrance in the sixth bay from the north. This is followed by a large area of full-height blocking, finishing with featureless rubble, where the power block butted. The single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 3) is behind the warehouse and yarn preparation block, to the east, and has a saw-tooth roof of 19 bays, glazed to the north, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. The roof is drained by valley gutters which discharge through the east wall into downpipes. The gasometer, engine house, boiler



house and chimney have been demolished.

Later additions

Sometime after 1907, probably in the 1930s, a single-storey trapezoidal extension was built onto the north side of the weaving shed, probably in two phases. It has a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. There is an internal dividing wall running north to south and the roof bays on either side do not align, indicating phased construction.

METHODOLOGY

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**Dotcliffe Mill
Dotcliffe Road, Kelbrook
Kelbrook and Sough
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 62127
NGR: SD 9060 4459**

Surveyed: 7 May 1999
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62127

Kelbrook and Sough

NGR: SD 9060 4459

Dotcliffe Mill, Dotcliffe Road, Kelbrook

SUMMARY

Dotcliffe Mill was built as a water powered wool-spinning mill in the early 19th century. It was in use for cotton by 1848-50 and a weaving shed and steam engine were added later in the century. It was in use as a room and power cotton-weaving mill at the beginning of the 20th century, a new weaving shed being added in 1912, but it soon reverted to single occupancy. After a fire in 1959, textile production ceased and most of the earlier buildings were demolished. The single-storey stone-built weaving shed of 1912 survives as does a smaller, earlier shed and a mid 20th-century two-storeyed warehouse and with a shed roof. The site is now used by an engineering company.

HISTORY

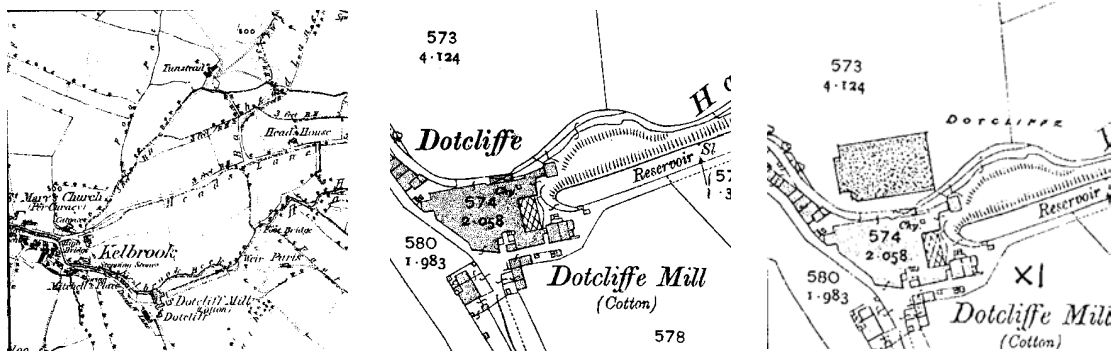
Dotcliffe Mill was built in the early 19th century as a water-powered mill for spinning wool but in 1848-50 the Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) identified it as a cotton mill. By 1860 it is said that the first power-loom weaving shed had been added and that both wool and cotton cloths were being produced. The mill is shown, identified as a cotton mill, on the 1906-7 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1b) and by 1911 was being used for room and power working, having three occupants. In 1912, the date on the building, a new weaving shed was erected north of the existing mill, across the Harden (previously Dotcliffe) Beck. It is shown on the 1940 map (Fig 1c), but not the later building added to its immediate south east. Directories of 1917, 1927 and 1936 list just a single occupier in the mill, at first the Great Holme Mill Company Ltd., then the Spring Bank Weaving Company Ltd., both of them cotton manufacturers. On 2 May 1959 the early mill burnt down and an end was brought to textile manufacture on the site. The older buildings were largely demolished, leaving just the 1912 shed and a few other buildings occupied in 1999 by Earby Light Engineering Ltd.¹

DESCRIPTION

Dotcliffe Mill was built to the east of the small settlement of Dotcliffe, the original water-

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Yorkshire, Sheet 184, surveyed 1848-50, published 1853; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.5, revised 1906-7, published 1909; *ibid.*, revised 1940 for Drawing Office Supplies Ltd., Manchester; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 685-6; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 240; *ibid.*, 1927, 283; *ibid.*, 1936, 198; Victor Laycock, *Kelbrook in Times Past* (Brinscall, Chorley, 1987), 15.

powered mill standing on the south side of the Kelbrook Beck, now the Harden Beck, with the weaving shed of 1912 to the north.



The 1848-50 map shows a long narrow mill pond, fed by the beck, to the east of the mill. The mill was already of some size in 1848-50, but it was later extended west, as the 1906-7 map shows. The mill once had a horizontal steam engine of about 1890 made by Musgrave of Bolton, and also a water turbine.² The existence of a steam engine is confirmed by the chimney marked on the map. Very few of the mill buildings south of the course of the beck now survive. The three-storeyed nine-bay long building which burnt out in 1959 was subsequently demolished. A small weaving shed does, however, still survive at the south-east corner of the site, having a six-bay saw-tooth roof with east facing lights.

The 1912 weaving shed (Fig 2) is single storeyed and has walls of random stone rubble. It is rectangular in shape with a vehicle entrance in the canted south-west corner and over it a stone panel inscribed 'DOTCLIFFE MILL AD 1912'. The shed has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights behind flat-topped parapet walls. There are rectangular ventilation openings in the west wall. A



low, rectangular building with a single-pitch roof projects from the west side of the shed and has a vehicle door at its south end. It may be secondary, but it is shown on the 1940 map. The shed presumably took its power from existing power sources.

The two-storeyed building abutting the south-east corner of the 1912 shed is post 1940 in date. It may have had ground-floor

storage with weaving on the first floor since the latter has a series of narrow saw-tooth roofs.

METHODOLOGY

² Notes and photographs by George Watkins in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Dotcliffe Mill, Kelbrook, Lancashire, WAT920.

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Laneshaw Bridge Mill
Keighley Road
Laneshaw Bridge
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98979
NGR: SD 9230 4080**

Surveyed: 4 December 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98979

Laneshaw Bridge

NGR: SD 9230 4080

Laneshaw Bridge Mill, Keighley Road

SUMMARY

Laneshaw Bridge Mill is a steam-powered cotton weaving mill built and enlarged three times between 1844 and 1892. The original mill had a warehouse, office and preparation block, probably of two storeys, attached to the end of a two-storeyed weaving shed with a seven-bay long saw-tooth roof. The engine and boiler houses at the opposite end were rebuilt and the whole then enlarged by the addition, in line, of a two-storey 11-bay long block with a saw-tooth roof, and by a further, now-demolished, addition. A single-storey weaving shed was added to the rear of the earliest building in 1911. A limited amount of demolition has taken place and the site is now in non-textile use.

HISTORY

Laneshaw Bridge Mill was built between 1844¹ and 1892 (Fig 1a)² on the eastern edge of the settlement of Laneshaw Bridge. The 1910 map (Fig 1b)³ shows the mill little changed in shape since 1892 although by 1930 (Fig 1c)⁴ an addition had been built behind the southern end of the mill. All three maps identify the mill as 'Laneshaw Bridge Mill (Cotton)'.

In 1924 the mill was in multiple occupation, four cotton-weaving firms being listed there, as it still was in 1963 but with fewer tenants. In 1998 the mill was occupied by Colne Anodising.

DESCRIPTION

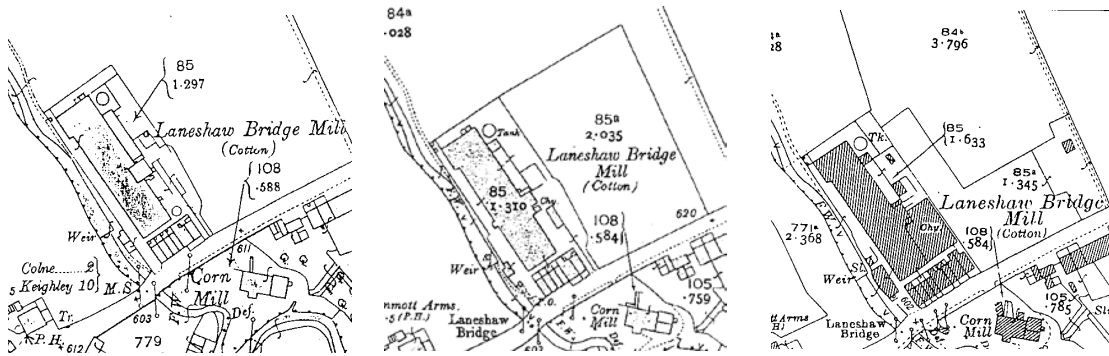
Laneshaw Bridge Mills stands stood close to the eastern edge of the settlement of Laneshaw Bridge and occupies a valley-bottom site on the east side of High Laith Beck north of the road from Colne to Keighley. It is set behind a row of cottages called Southfield Terrace and shown on the 1844 map. There is no sign that the mill was water

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 59, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLIX.14, surveyed 1892, published 1894.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLIX.14, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLIX.14, revised 1930, published 1932.



powered: the weir close to its south corner must have served the corn mill south of the road.

The original mill

By 1892, the date of the earliest map to show it, Laneshaw Bridge Mill had already been built and extended twice. The original mill forms the south-east end of what is shown on this map. The extreme south-east end of this building, which was probably the **warehouse and preparation block**, has been demolished but for the rear wall which it shared with the two-storeyed weaving shed (Fig 2). This wall contains several openings, the only two original ones being two doors with rectangular lintels and interrupted jambs at ground and first-floor levels next to the front corner. The **weaving shed** is two storeys high, seven bays deep and exceptionally deep. It is built of rubble, the masonry more



golden in colour than the later work, and it stops at the level of the later gutter troughs at the level of the first-floor windows. The northernmost bay in the front wall facing the stream has been widened but it retains in its right-hand side the interrupted jambs of a door for pedestrians. The other openings are all windows, and to front and rear they have rectangular lintels with dressed margins and intermittently-tooled centres. The first floor has a saw-tooth profile roof with glazed north-west facing

slopes and slated returns, its front wall rebuilt but evidently not its rear wall.

A two-storey warehouse opposite the south-west end of the mill, backing on to the stream, is shown on the 1892 map. Built of random rubble with quoined corners, it is gabled with a slate roof. It has windows in all walls as well as a door in the centre of its north-east gable wall with a taking-in door over it.

The first extension of the mill

The first extension of the mill, at some time between 1844 and 1892, involved the

construction of a two-bay long addition at the north-west end of the original mill whose front wall was rebuilt at this time as a parapet wall to the now nine-bay long saw-tooth roof behind. The addition is of rubble. The front wall has an enlarged opening at its north-west end, the right-hand side of which has the monolithic stone jambs of a doorway, with a wide opening to its south, perhaps to a boiler house. The engine house was at the rear of this addition, where the wall has a single tall window, broken mid-height. The chimney was probably at the rear of the engine house, close to where it is identified on the 1910 map.

The second extension of the mill

The second extension of the mill, also at some time between 1844 and 1892, saw the further extension of the mill towards the rear of the site. The extension (Figs 3, 4) is a two storeyed 11-bay long block built of rubble. The windows, wider than any earlier ones, have rectangular lintels. The doorway was in the front wall, one bay in from the north-west end where its quoined left-hand side remains, the other side lost in enlargement. The roof consists of an 11-bay saw-tooth profile roof with glazed north-west facing lights, slated return slopes, and parapet walls to front and rear. The rear wall has rectangular ventilation openings within the gable ends of the roof. The end wall has five windows, all now blocked, in each floor, those to the second floor cut through, and two walls boxes at first floor⁵ at mid-height level to take power through into the demolished part which stood beyond.

The third extension of the mill



The 1892 map shows a northern extension, wider than the main block of the mill, which has been demolished.

Mill extensions after 1892

Map evidence indicates that a small block, since demolished, was added to the rear of the second extension between 1892 and 1910, and that at the same time a chimney was built south east of the engine house projection. Both have been demolished.

⁵ The ground floor is hidden and its is not known whether there are wall boxes at this level.

In 1911 a single-storey weaving shed (Fig 5) with random rubble walls was added behind the original mill and overlapping the first extension. It has a flat-topped parapet wall on three sides and its south-east wall has two doorways, both with rectangular lintels and interrupted jambs, the further door surmounted by stone set within a shaped surround and inscribed T.B 1911. The shed is a ten-bays long with a saw-tooth roof with north-west facing glazed lights and slated return slopes. The gutters discharge into a single trough along the inside of the north-east wall which empties into a downpipe at the south-east

corner. The shed is positioned in such a way that it could easily have been powered from the existing engine house.



A single-storey garage has been added in front of the [pre-1892 warehouse at the entrance to the site and a large modern lean-to block along the rear of the second mill extension, the latter involving the demolition of outbuildings there.

METHODOLOGY

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**Valley Mill
School Lane
Laneshaw Bridge
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No.98980
NGR: SD 9230 4071**

Surveyed: 4 December 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No.98980

Laneshaw Bridge

NGR: SD 9230 4071

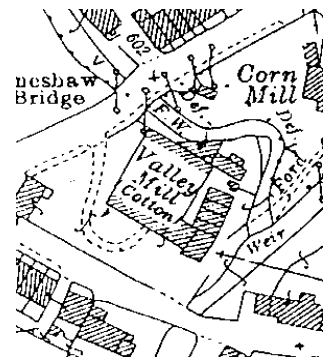
Valley Mill, School Lane

SUMMARY

Valley Mill was built as an oil-powered cotton-weaving mill between 1910 and 1930. It comprises a single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth profile roof with the engine house and adjacent oil store attached to but projecting well beyond one corner of the shed. The engine powered the mill by rope drive. Warehousing capacity was provided in a converted early 19th-century house which was linked to the shed. The mill was built with expansion in mind but this never took place.

HISTORY

Map evidence Valley Mill was built in the village of Laneshaw Bridge between 1910¹ and 1930,² the latter map (Fig 1) identifying it as 'Valley Mill (Cotton)'. The mill was built by the Hartley family, who had previously operated at Garden Vale Mill, Colne, where they were listed in a directory of 1933. In 1941 and 1963 Valley Mill was occupied by Hartley's (Garden Vale) Ltd., in the latter year housing 66 looms and producing rayon coloured goods.³ The same firm occupied the mill in 1998.



DESCRIPTION

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLIX.14, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet XLIX.14, revised 1930, published 1932.

³ Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 464; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274.

Valley Mill, an oil-powered cotton-weaving mill was built in the village of Laneshaw Bridge between 1910 and 1930 on a previously clear site which sloped steeply down towards the High Laithe Beck on its north and east sides. The beck only formed the boundary of the mill site to the north since to its east stood Colliers Row, a terrace of four two-storey single-fronted houses largely of early 19th-century date but incorporating earlier masonry, with a double-fronted early 19th-century house attached to their south gable.⁴ The houses overlook the point at which the High Laithe Beck joins Colne Water.

The topography of the site led to an unusual building configuration. The weaving shed and office, entered from School Lane to the south, were set at the uphill end of the site and were terraced into the slope in one direction and built out over it in the other. The engine house, just touching the north-east corner of the shed, was at the level of the stream and had an attached oil store. Warehousing and office accommodation was created in the double-fronted house attached to the terrace known as Colliers Row.

The **weaving shed** is a single-storey rectangular building terraced into the slope to the west and built out over it to the east. Its front wall towards School Lane, as well as its



two side walls, are built of brick which has been rendered, while the rear wall to the north, which drops a substantial distance to the stream and is visible from the main Keighley Road, is of random rubble. The front wall (Fig 2), set behind a forecourt, has a wide flat-headed doorway for the delivery and despatch of goods, as well as a single window. The shed is linked to the rear of the two-storeyed house converted into a warehouse and offices by a wing of equivalent height to the house. A path,

cantilevered-out and with iron railings, leads from the mill forecourt to a doorway for the visitors and the workforce who entered a room lit by a window in the front wall. The shed has a three-bay saw-tooth profile roof, its north-east facing slopes glazed, the rear slopes slated. The tops of the side walls of the shed are treated differently, that to the north west having a flat-topped parapet wall to shield the roof from the road, that to the south east having no parapet, the roof profile determining its shape. Cast-iron roof gutters project from this latter wall and empty into downpipes.

The interior of the shed has three rows each of four cast-iron columns running from south west to north east, all with north-west facing D-section bolting heads which supported the brackets which carried the line shafting. One row of columns is set against the south-west wall: there would normally be no columns in this position, since the wall would have been capable of supporting the line shafting brackets and the gutters, but this was

⁴ The housing is shown on the 1844 map: Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 49, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

not the case here since the wall rose a fair height from the valley bottom and needed to be relieved of undue pressure. The columns support I-section steel beams which in turn carry the gutters of the roof. The beams are not continuous: where beams butt over some columns, decorated rectangular plates cover the junctions and are bolted to them.

Seven cast-iron wall boxes in the north-east rear wall of the weaving shed were intended to support the ends of the line shafts which ran down the mill and powered looms. The shafts were powered by rope drive from the engine.

The **engine house**, which housed an oil engine, is set at the north-east corner of the shed (Fig 3), just overlapping it before projecting south-east beyond it towards the stream. It is a long narrow building and is very tall since it is built up from the valley floor to the level of the shed. It has a tall wide round-headed doorway with a chamfered quoined surround



in its outer east end wall (Fig 4) whose gable reveals the profile of the single saw-tooth roof which runs along the building as is glazed in identical manner to that of the weaving shed. A rectangular chimneystack, reduced in height, rises in a rear corner of the engine house: it took the fumes from the oil engine which powered the mill. The engine has been removed and an intermediate floor inserted, but it was manufactured by Norris, Henty, & Gardners Ltd. of Barton Hall Engine Works, Patricroft, Manchester. A blueprint of the engine, dated 1946,⁵ bears the name of L Gardner & Sons, Patricroft. The engine provided rope drive to power the line shafts in the mill, but within the engine house itself it also powered a shaft which drove a water pump to pump water to a water tank for the water-cooled engine. The low brick building against the outer side of the engine house, with its concrete base, was the oil store. The end walls and north wall of the engine house are built of random rubble, the south wall being of red brick on a substantial stone rubble base which rises to the level of the shed floor. The ragged toothed south-east corner of the engine house, combined with the evidence of the brick south wall and of the brick east wall of the weaving shed, indicate that the mill's original builders envisaged the expansion of the mill and built it with this in mind. This did not occur.

The **warehouse** which served the mill was in a converted early 19th-century house added to the south end of Colliers Row and linked to the mill from the start by a two-storeyed

⁵ The drawing is held at Valley Mill along with some other historical material.

link wing. The house is gabled, two storeys high, gabled, double-fronted and two-rooms deep in plan. It is built of coursed squared rubble and has monolithic surrounds to all its doors and windows, the doors being in the centre of the front elevation and at the rear end of the south gable wall. The window above the latter door was converted into a taking-in door some time after it became part of the mill.

METHODOLOGY

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**Albert Mills
Clayton Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

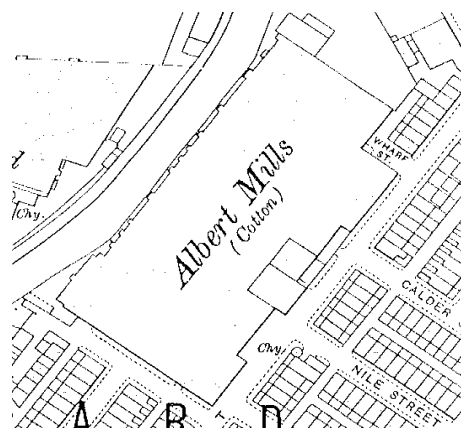
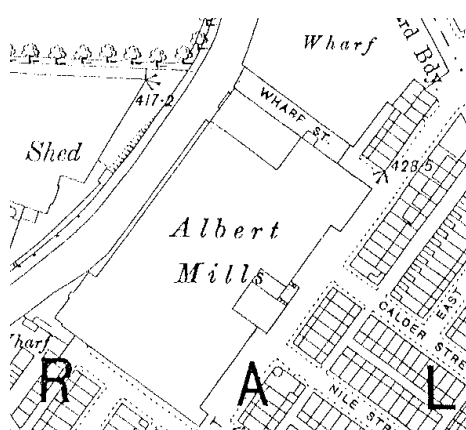
**NBR Index No. 98981
NGR: SD 8588 3829**

Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98981

Nelson

NGR: SD 8588 3829

Albert Mills, Clayton Street

SUMMARY

Albert Mills was built as a worsted-weaving mill between 1844 and 1879 but had switched to cotton manufacturing by 1910. It was extended to the north east and enlarged to the south east between 1890 and 1910. Only the smaller north-east addition, a single-storey weaving shed, and a fragment of the modification to the south-east elevation, including a stone panel bearing the name of the mill, now survive.

HISTORY

Albert Mills was built on the south-east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, just to the south of Reedyford Bridge, between 1844 and 1879. The map of 1844¹ shows the present site of the mill as undeveloped fields and meadows but by the time of the re-survey of 1890² (Fig 1a) Albert Mills, named simply 'Albert Mills', had been built as had Pendle Street Shed on the north-west bank of the canal and the area to the south east of Albert Mills had been developed as terraced housing. Barrett's Directory for 1879³ includes an entry for Albert Mills when the occupiers were W Holland and Co and S Whitehead and sons, both listed as

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 154, 157, 161-2.

worsted manufacturers. In 1887 Barrett's Directory⁴ lists the occupiers as Croasdale Brothers, cotton manufacturers, Hartley, Wilkinson and Co, cotton manufacturers and S Whitehead and Sons, now cotton and worsted manufacturers. By 1910⁵ Albert Mills had been extended to the north east and the south-east street front had been modified. It was now named as 'Albert Mills (Cotton)' (Fig 1b). In 1924⁶ Albert Mills on Clayton Street was occupied by Hartley and Co, cotton goods manufacturers, Hey and Elliott Ltd, cotton goods manufacturers and A Watson and Company Ltd, cotton goods manufacturers. Hartley and Co were still in occupation at Albert Mill in 1950⁷ with 550 looms weaving what is described as 'cotton, rayon corset cloths; grey and yarn dyed dobby and pick and pick; grey and coloured heavy collar cloths, plain and fancy ducks, dobby suitings and furnishing cloths up to 48 inches'. By 1998 only the north-eastern addition survived, most of the rest having been demolished, with only fragments of wall incorporated into modern rebuilding.

DESCRIPTION

Most of the original part of Albert Mills, built before 1890, has been demolished and only a few fragments of wall survive to indicate that a four-bay multi-storey block of at least two storeys and built of random stone rubble originally occupied the south-west corner and backed onto the canal. The fragments of weaving shed wall which survive indicate that this was also built of random stone rubble and had a shed roof with saw-tooth profile trusses glazed to the north east.

The north-east extension, added between 1890 and 1910, still survives and comprises a single-storey weaving shed with a 14-bay saw-tooth roof hipped to south east and glazed to the north west (Fig 2). The south-east wall is built of coursed stone rubble while the south-west wall, which was built as the north-east wall of the original shed and was originally an interior wall face now externally presented, is built of random rubble with seven stone blocks to support line-shaft gearing.

A fragment remains, on the south-east street front, of the enlargements that were made to this elevation between 1890 and 1910. It comprises a small square block, originally part of a larger building but now standing in isolation, built of coursed squared stone and bearing a stone panel with the words ALBERT MILLS carved upon it (Fig 3).

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 251, 254, 263, 269.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁶ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 692.

⁷ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1950), 394.



METHODOLOGY

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**Albion Dye Works, formerly Victoria Works
Victoria Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98982
NGR: SD 8546 3786**

Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98982

Nelson

NGR: SD 8546 3786

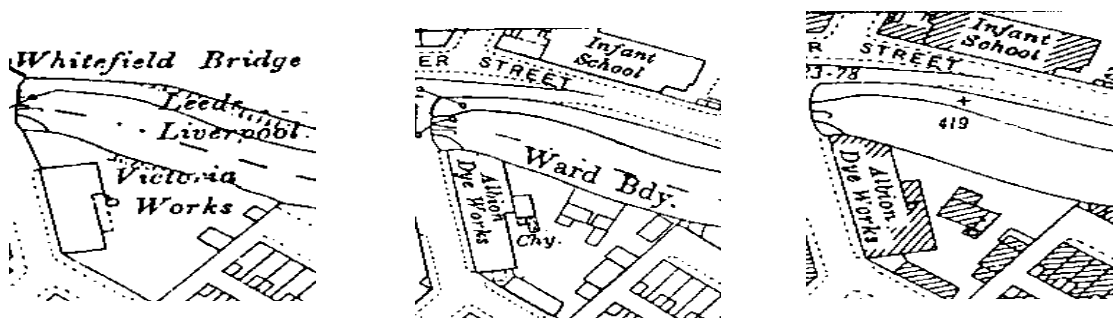
Albion Dye Works, formerly Victoria Works, Victoria Street

SUMMARY

Victoria Works was built between 1844 and 1890, being extended on a conversion to a dyeworks between 1890 and 1910. The original building, which was steam powered, is a gabled two-storey building with a tall, single-storey, purpose-built dyehouse with characteristic louvred long ridge ventilator added to one end. Map evidence indicates that the steam plant was rebuilt on a larger scale when the dyehouse was added. The building is rendered but in good condition though the added boiler house has been demolished.

HISTORY

Map evidence indicates that Victoria Works was built at the north end of Victoria Street between 1844 and 1890 (Fig 1a) and was enlarged between 1890 and 1910 (Fig 1b) on conversion to Albion Dye Works and again before 1929-30 (Fig 1c).¹ Its occupants have not been traced before 1963 when it was occupied by William Fell & Co. Ltd. (1897), yarn dyers and bleachers on cop, twist cop and beam, direct, sulphur, developed and vat colours; tape sizers; weavers' beams to pattern'.²



¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912, *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

² John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 347.

DESCRIPTION

Victoria Works stands at the north end of Victoria Street, close to Whitefield Bridge across the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The original building ran along the east side of the street, was rectangular in shape, broadening out at the north end, and had a chimney set



against its rear wall. It survives (Fig 2) as a gabled two-storey building twelve bays long by three wide, and is rendered with a slate roof.

Conversion of Victoria Works to Albion Dye Works between 1890 and 1910 saw the addition of a dyehouse as a northern extension of the original building and the construction of a new boiler house attached to the east side of the presumed original boiler house and immediately north of the chimney. The dyehouse (Fig 3), built of brick which has been rendered, and has a slate roof, is a tall gabled single-storey building with a louvred long ridge ventilator along its ridge. Its height and the ventilator allowed fumes, steam and heat to dissipate and are characteristic of dyehouses.³ A narrow gabled range runs up the east side of the dyehouse; the new boiler house has been demolished.

METHODOLOGY

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³ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 49-52.



**Bankfield Mill
Bradley Hall Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98983
NGR: SD 8666 3830**

Surveyed: 14 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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LancashireNBR No. 98983

NelsonNGR: SD 8666 3830

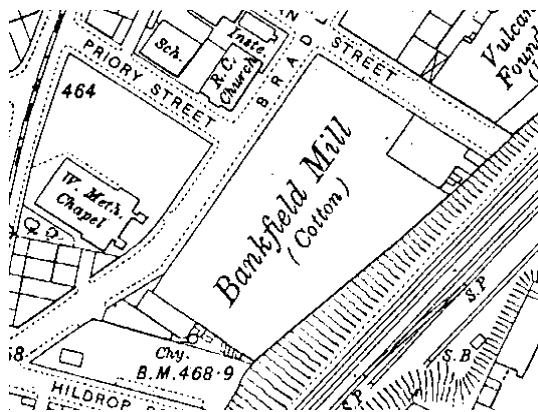
Bankfield Mill, Bradley Hall Road

SUMMARY

Bankfield Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1890 and 1910. Trapezoidal in plan and built of squared stone rubble on a gently sloping site, it comprised a single-storey weaving shed with a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block at the wider uphill end and a power block at the downhill end. Only the outer walls of the multi-storey block and weaving shed survive, the former reduced to the height of a boundary wall, the latter incomplete.

HISTORY

Directories indicate that Bankfield Mill was built between 1893 and 1902 when it was occupied by two firms of cotton manufacturers. It housed three firms in 1911 but was back to two in 1923 and 1924, and one of these, Hindley Brothers Ltd., continued in occupation until between 1941 and 1963.¹ The site of the mill was a field in 1890 but by 1910 (Fig 1) the mill had been built; it was unaltered in 1929-30.²



DESCRIPTION

Bankfield Mill was built next to the railway line close to the then northern outskirts of Nelson between 1893 and 1911. It occupies a site which slopes gently up to the north east, and in consequence the mill was terraced into the ground.

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 430, 447; *ibid.* 1911, 448, 451, 483; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 498, 545; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 692-3; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 433; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 356; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963).

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.* revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The steam-powered cotton weaving mill has been demolished and only the outer squared stone rubble walls remained standing in 1998. The multi-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block stood at the north-east end of the site, fronting Vulcan Street: four windows survive in the north-west side wall, belonging to the ground and first floors, the latter represented only by sills, as well as five to Vulcan Street where there is also a door with a monolithic surround. The single-storeyed weaving shed ran back from this block: the scars of its north-east facing glazed saw-tooth roofs are visible in its side parapet walls (Fig 2). The power block at the south-west end of the site has been totally demolished; maps show the chimney here and buildings which will have been the engine house and boiler house.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Boundary Mill
Hacking Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98984
NGR: SD 8696 3885**

Surveyed: 11 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98984

Nelson

NGR: SD 8969 3885

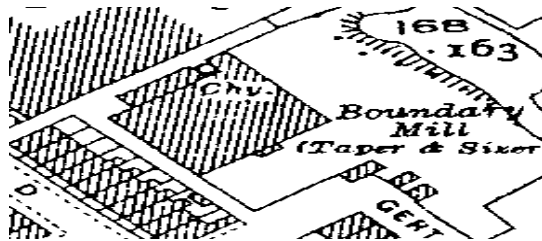
Boundary Mill, Hacking Street

SUMMARY

Boundary Mill is a steam-powered taper and sizer mill built by Howorth's of Nelson between 1923 and 1929-30 to serve the local textile industry and subsequently extended. It is a single-storey building, both phases built of brick. The original building has a tall single-storey shed in two ranges, one gabled, the other single-pitched, with engine and boiler houses, chimney and offices attached to the rear. The side walls of the shed are of pier and panel construction, the roofs within supported by angle-iron trusses. The extension of the mill, perhaps in the 1950s, comprised three gabled ranges, one including offices and the others the workers' and goods entrances to the mill. The mill is in good condition, retaining its boiler house and part of its chimney, and is still in textile-related use.

HISTORY

Boundary Mill was built between 1923 and 1929-30 by Howorth's (Nelson) Ltd as a taper and sizer mill. In 1923 Howorth's were in Water Street, closer to the centre of Nelson, but Boundary Mill had been built by 1929-30 since it is shown on a map of that date (Fig 1), and in 1933 Howorth's (Nelson) Ltd., tape sizers, were listed at the mill.¹ They were still in occupation in 1999. The 1963 Directory lists them as 'sizers and tapers, spun rayon and mixture yarns; shadow striping; handkerchiefs; weavers' beams up to 130 ins. between flanges and 30 in. diameter flanges'.²



DESCRIPTION

Boundary Mill was built on the then outskirts of Nelson, as its name implies, between 1923 and 1929-30. It is a steam-powered taper and sizer mill in which thread wound

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 551; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1929-30, published 1932; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 435.

² John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 347.

onto a warp beam was strengthened by the application of a size paste. The building is of two phases.

The original mill

The original mill, shown in photographs held at the mill, is what is shown on the 1929-30 map. It was built of brick with a slate roof and had a tall, single-storeyed shed, rectangular in plan, with an engine house, boiler house and chimney along its rear north-west wall and an office projecting from the north-east corner. The **shed** faced south east and had a broad gabled range at its eastern end and a narrower range with a single-pitch roof at its western end (Fig 2). The gabled roof has brown ceramic ridge ventilators. The front wall of the shed had windows along it, and the gable was painted with the text 'HOWORTH'S NELSON L^{TD} SIZERS & TAPERS BOUNDARY MILL PHONE NELSON 782'. The side walls are both six bays long and of pier and panel construction, the north-east wall having a wide vehicle door in the first bay and windows in the rest, the south-west wall with windows in every bay, all since dropped and then blocked, and with a pedestrian door beneath the second window in. The roof has angle-iron trusses. The **engine house** has been demolished but the **boiler house** attached to its eastern end survives and is built of brick with a water tank constructed with decoratively-cast cast-iron panels set over it (Fig 3). The **chimney** is circular and of brick but has been lowered. The original **office** at the north-east corner has a window in its side wall and a door in the corner of the shed but has since been converted into toilets.



Additions to the mill

At some time, perhaps in the 1950s, the mill was extended up to the frontage of Hacking Street to the south west. The extension consists of three red brick ranges, gabled to the front (Fig 4), the western and central ones four bays wide, each with a pedestrian door and three windows, the eastern one with two windows and a wide vehicle door. The door in the western bay leads into offices, the other pedestrian door into the mill. The roofs of the extension have a corrugated asbestos covering.



METHODOLOGY

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RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Bowling Mill
Lonsdale Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98985
NGR: SD 8655 3803**

Surveyed: 5 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98985

Nelson

NGR: SD 8655 3803

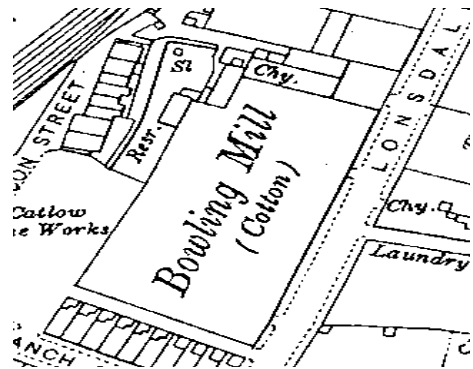
Bowling Mill, Lonsdale Street

SUMMARY

Bowling Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1902 and 1910. The buildings, of squared stone rubble, comprise a two-storeyed office, warehouse and yarn preparation block fronting a single-storeyed weaving shed with an engine house, boiler house and square brick chimney attached to one end. The buildings are in good condition.

HISTORY

Bowling Mill was built between 1902, when it was not listed in a Directory, and 1910, when it is shown on a map (Fig 1), by Hartley Thomas Normanton & Co Ltd who occupied the mill in 1911, in 1902 having been in Throstle Nest and Sagar Street Mills.¹ The firm continued to occupy the mill until some time between 1933 and 1941, when there is no record of any occupant. In 1963 it was occupied by Joseph Harwood & Co Ltd, manufacturers of 'all types of crepe bandages, surgical cloths and elastic adhesive plaster fabrics'.²



The mill appears on the 1929-30 map unchanged from its depiction on the 1910 map.³

DESCRIPTION

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 454; *ibid.*, 1911, 465; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 511; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 695; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 443; *ibid.*, 1941; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 353.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



Bowling Mill stands on a valley side site sloping down both to the west and north. It is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of one main phase and was built between 1902 and 1910. Its buildings comprise a multi-storey block, weaving shed and power block.

The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** which runs down the west side of Lonsdale Street (Fig 2) is built of squared stone rubble, like the rest of the mill, and is a gabled building with a modern profile sheet metal roof. It is 14 bays long, with cross walls dividing off the four south and three north bays, and two storeys high, but because of the fall of the ground to the north, the southern four bays have an attic rather than a first floor, the gable end walls both being three bays wide with a central taking-in door into the attic. The doors have cast-iron fire escape landings made by JOHN HALL SON OLDHAM. The short northern and southern parts of the building each have a pedestrian door and a vehicle door, the former with monolithic stone surrounds with a small window over, the latter with smooth-quoined sides and cast-iron lintels with sunk-panelled faces. All windows have rectangular stone lintels and most retain their distinctive original timber window frames with stop chamfering to the bottom two lights, a feature noted elsewhere in the area.

The **weaving shed** (Fig 3), which is single storeyed and has a north-facing glazed saw-tooth roof, is attached to the rear of the multi-storey block and returns across its north end. A canted parapet wall with projecting gutter ends and downpipes runs along its west



side but does not return at either end, the glazing in particular not being obscured to the north.

The **engine house, boiler house and chimney** are attached to the north-west corner of the weaving shed, set at the rear of a small mill yard off Lonsdale Street. The maps show a long reservoir to their west. The engine house (Fig 4) has two tall and wide round-headed windows and is surmounted by a water tank with decorative cast-iron panels, three of them run together and cast with the name BOWLING MILL. the boiler house is set at right angles to the engine house, with doors off the mill yard, and attached is the square red brick chimney which survives to full height and has an added top to aid draught.

METHODOLOGY

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**Brook Street Mills
Brook Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98986
NGR: SD 8636 3770**

Surveyed: 14 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

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NGR: SD 8636 3770

Brook Street Mills, Brook Street

SUMMARY

Brook Street Mills is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built, possibly in stages, between 1879 and 1884 and operated on a room and power basis. In 1887 it was occupied by at least seven firms of cotton manufacturers. It is built of coursed and random stone rubble and consists of a complex of three single-storey weaving sheds, each with a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block. The central weaving shed was the largest but has been demolished leaving only its multi-storey block, facing south east onto Brook Street, and the parapet walls of the shed. Behind this is a second smaller weaving shed with a multi-storey block facing north west which survives intact. The third weaving shed, to the west of the central shed, also survives intact but the south-east facing multi-storey block, which also fronted Brook Street has been demolished. The engine house, boiler house and chimney occupied the angle between the central and third sheds, formed by a kink in Brook Street, but have been demolished although some fragments of these structures and the mechanisms for the transmission of power into the adjoining buildings remain.

HISTORY

Brook Street Mills was built between 1879 and 1884¹ as a room and power concern. There is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1879 but it is mentioned in a trade directory of 1887 when the mill was occupied by James Clark, Hezekiah Fletcher, Greenwood, Wilkinson & Co, Bernard Hartley, Simpson & Laycock, Taylor & Dean and Francis S Whitham, all cotton manufacturers.² The mill is also shown, at its fullest extent, on the Ordnance Survey map of 1890 (Fig 1a) and on the maps of 1910 and 1929-30 (Figs 1b and 1c), on each occasion with modifications to the power source.³ The mill was still operating in 1941 when three firms of cotton manufacturers are listed in a trade directory of that year but there is no mention of the mill in a trade directory of 1963 suggesting that the mill had already ceased textile production.⁴ In 1998 the mill was in

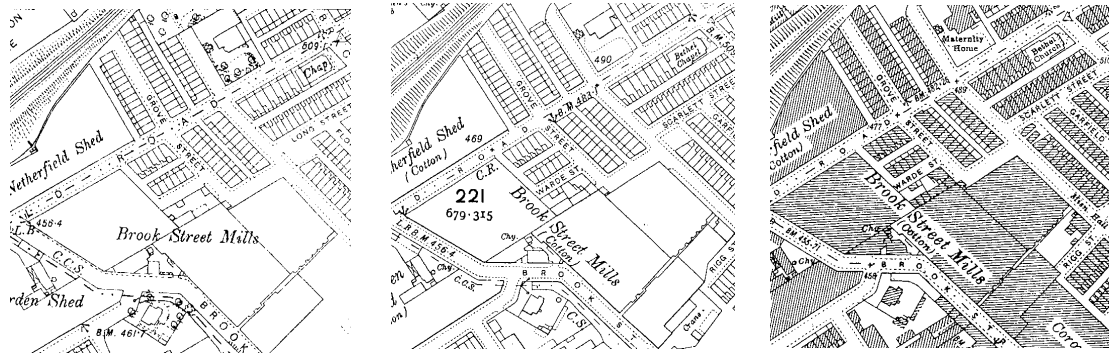
¹ W Bennett, *The History of Marsden and Nelson* (Nelson, 1957), 197.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879); *ibid.*, 1887, 269.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁴ Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 390; John

factory and warehouse use and had been partially demolished.



DESCRIPTION

Brook Street Mills is a steam-powered cotton weaving mill bounded to the south west by Brook Street and to the north west by Netherfield Road. The layout of the mill suggests that it may be of phased construction but significant demolition and remodelling meant that this could not be confirmed within the context of a rapid survey. The mill is already shown at its fullest extent on the map of 1890 and although some additions in the area of the power source are shown on subsequent map revisions most of this has now been demolished and the significance is unknown.

The mill buildings of 1879-84

The original mill, built between 1879 and 1884 and shown on the map of 1890, consisted of a central weaving shed with a warehouse and yarn preparation block with an engine house attached to its west end, fronting Brook Street, with two further sheds of roughly equivalent size, each with its own warehouse and yarn preparation block, situated to the north west and north east and butting against the central shed. A further power source was located in a triangular plot of land between the central shed and the north west shed and created by a kink in Brook Street. It has largely been destroyed but appears to have consisted of a second engine house and boiler house with chimney behind, in front of the first, and butting against the north-west shed and driving it.

The central single-storey **weaving shed** originally had a saw-tooth roof of 12 bays, glazed to the north east behind parapet walls of stone rubble. The shed has been cleared but the parapet walls survive, that to the north west bearing the scarline of the former saw-tooth roof profile (Fig 2). Attached to the south west and fronting Brook Street is the gabled two-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 3) built of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and more randomly coursed stone rubble to the rear and sides. There are rock-faced quoins to the corners. The front elevation is partly obscured by a later rebuilding of the secondary block infilling the angle made by the change in direction of

Brook Street and only 13 bays are now visible although the elevation is probably 18 or 19 bays long in total. Original windows have tooled rectangular stone lintels and sills with drafted margins and there is a vehicle entrance with quoined sides in the fourth visible bay from the north west and a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround in the ninth visible bay. The attached end **engine house** (Fig 4) had a front wall of coursed squared stone rubble with a large segmental-headed window or doorway with rusticated quoins. The rear wall is of random stone rubble. Three massive timber roof beams survive above. The location of the boiler house or houses is uncertain and the square **chimney**, shown on historic maps, has been demolished without trace.



The north-west **weaving shed** (Fig 5) survives and is single-storeyed with a saw-tooth roof of 16 bays, glazed to the north east, behind parapet walls of stone rubble.



The south-east wall is of very rough random stone rubble and originally butted against the second engine house. Two wall-mounted bearing boxes remain indicating where the drive entered the shed. A multi-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** was originally attached to the south east but this has been demolished and only minor vestiges of wall survive.

The north-east **weaving shed** (Fig 6) is single storeyed and terraced into the hillside. It has a saw-tooth roof of 12 bays, glazed to the north east, behind parapet walls of coursed stone rubble with rusticated quoins. A gabled one and two-storey **warehouse and yarn**



preparation block is attached to the north west. It is of roughly coursed stone rubble with large rusticated stone quoins to the corners, the roof is of slate with stone copings. The block is two storeys high at its south east end becoming one storey of basement as it is terraced into the hillside to the north east. The north-west elevation is 12 bays long with stone gutter brackets. There is a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround in the fifth and eleventh bays from the north east. The north-east gable-end elevation is three bays wide with a central taking-in door with a monolithic surround, at attic level, with a hole for the hoist beam above and pedestrian entrance, with monolithic surround, below flanked by a pair of rectangular windows with tooled stone lintels and sills with drafted margins. The south-east elevation is 12 bays long with stone gutter brackets. There is a stone gabled dormer, built back to the roof in timber, above the sixth bay from the south west. It may be an insertion.

METHODOLOGY

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**Brook Street Shed
Brook Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98987
NGR: SD 8642 3766**

Surveyed: 9 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 98987

Nelson

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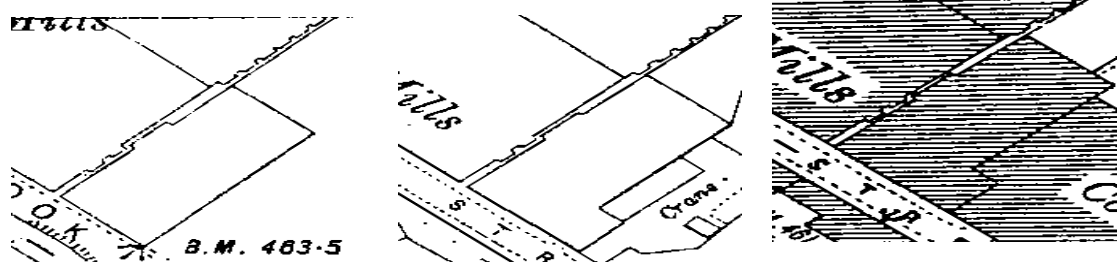
Brook Street Shed, Brook Street

SUMMARY

Brook Street Shed was built between 1844 and 1890, perhaps as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill. The buildings, of stone rubble squared to the front, comprise a three-storey warehouse block with a central taking-in door and a single-storey shed at the rear. A two-storey addition next to the multi-storey block was added between 1890 and 1910. The mill is in good condition.

HISTORY

Map evidence indicates that Brook Street Shed was built between 1844 and 1890 (Fig 1a) and was extended to the south east by 1910 (Fig 1b) when there was a yard with a crane on this side. By 1929-30 (Fig 1c) the yard had been built over by the adjacent Coronation Mill. None of the maps¹ names the site, and its name and



use are not at present certain. It may have been a textile mill which was subsequently used for engineering, given the presence of the crane. It is now occupied by Farmhouse Biscuits who also occupy the adjacent Coronation Mill. How long the two buildings have run together may have a bearing on the site's history.

DESCRIPTION

Brook Street Shed was built on the south-east side of Nelson town centre, on a site adjacent to Brook Street Mills. It does not seem to have been part of these Mills although there is some confusion in directories over the names Brook Street Shed and Brook Street Mill, the two sometimes seeming to refer to the same site.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The original buildings on the site were a warehouse block and rear shed. The **warehouse block** (Fig 2) is built of stone rubble, squared to the front, and is gabled and three storeys high. The front wall is seven bays wide, its ground floor much altered but the first and second floors both with central taking-in doors with monolithic stone surrounds, the upper door with a blocked hole for the teagle, the beam which supported the hoist. The side walls are blind but the seven-bay rear wall has a door into the attic set in gabled structure. The **shed** to the rear (Fig 3) is single storeyed and has a 13-bay saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed lights. There is no indication of an original power source.

The **addition** against the south-east side of the warehouse, made between 1890 and 1910, is two storeyed with a wide ground-floor door and window and two windows over. there was once a further building behind it and a yard beside it with an open-sided shed and a crane.



METHODOLOGY

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**Clover Mill
Brunswick Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98988
NGR: SD 8678 3689**

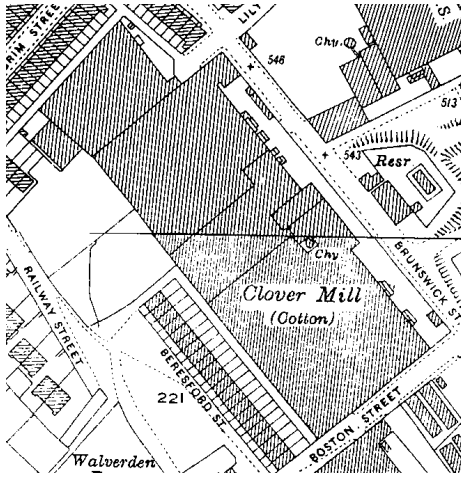
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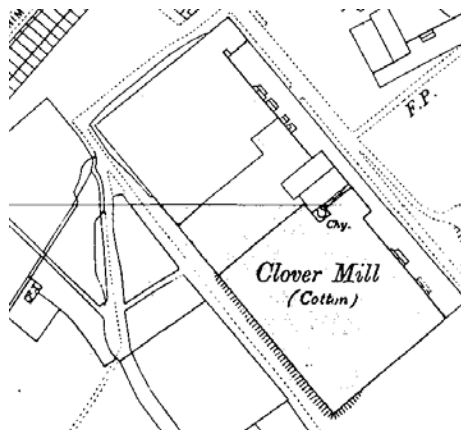
LancashireNBR No. 98988

Nelson NGR: SD 8678 3689

Clover Mill, Brunswick Street

SUMMARY

Clover Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill between 1902 and 1909-10. It was built for room and power use and had a three-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block with a projecting centrally-placed engine house, boiler house and chimney, a single-storey office projecting forward at one end and a rear single-storey weaving shed. These were all built of stone rubble, squared to the front. Much of the multi-storey block and the engine house, boiler house and chimney have been demolished, as has that part of the weaving shed behind them. The office survives, however. Only the outside walls survive of a single-storey weaving shed extension added to the north-west end of the original shed between 1909-10 and 1929-30.



HISTORY

Clover Mill was built between 1902 when it is not listed in a Directory and 1909 when it is shown on a map (Fig 1a).¹ It was built for room and power use, with space let off to tenants, in 1911 housing three firms of cotton manufacturers and until some time between 1941 and 1963 when it was no longer in textile use, housing four or five individual firms.² Maps show that a small extension to the weaving shed was added between 1910 and 1929 (Fig 1b).³

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893 and Sheet LVI.11, surveyed 1891, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 445, 467, 470; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 494, 513, 515, 527; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 691, 695, 696, 698; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 426, 443, 445, 448, 459; *ibid.*, 1941, 351, 362, 363, 365.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932 and Sheet LVI.11, revised 1929, published 1931.

DESCRIPTION

Clover Mill was built on the south-eastern outskirts of Nelson, in the valley of the Walverden Water which was occupied along much of its length by a considerable number of textile mills and related buildings. Clover Mill itself stands on a near level site above the slope down to the stream.

The original mill

The original steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1902 and 1909 had a long multi-storey range with a central power block facing Brunswick Street to its north east, an



office projecting forward from one end and a large weaving shed behind. The **warehouse and yarn preparation block** has been reduced to a nine-bay long three-storey rump at the south-east end of the original range. The surviving length (Fig 2) is built of random rubble with a slate roof and has a four-bay wide gable end. Modern additions hide the ground floor on the front. The **engine house, boiler house and chimney**, all now demolished, were set at the centre of the

multi-storey block, maps showing that they projected forward and that the boiler house was to the south east with the circular chimney attached to the south corner. The small building shown projecting forward to the street front at the north-west end of the multi-storey block was an **office**, which still stands (Fig 3), and is a gabled single-storey building of small, brick-like, squared rubble with a slate roof. It is six bays long with an off-centre original door and a window converted to a door at one end; the return wall has five windows and then a doorway into



the yard. Except for the last opening, all openings have monolithic surrounds. Much of the **weaving shed** has been demolished but a significant part of its south end survives. It is single storeyed with a parapet wall to the south east with gutter ends projecting through it and emptying into downpipes. Alternate roof bays have rectangular ventilation openings; the shed within has a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed lights and cast-iron columns.

Additions to the mill

The principal addition to the original mill was of a single storey **weaving shed extension** to the north west. This has been demolished but for some of its outer walls.

METHODOLOGY

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**Coronation Mill
Mill Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98989
NGR: SD 8646 3763**

Surveyed: 9 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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Lancashire

NBR No. 98989

Nelson

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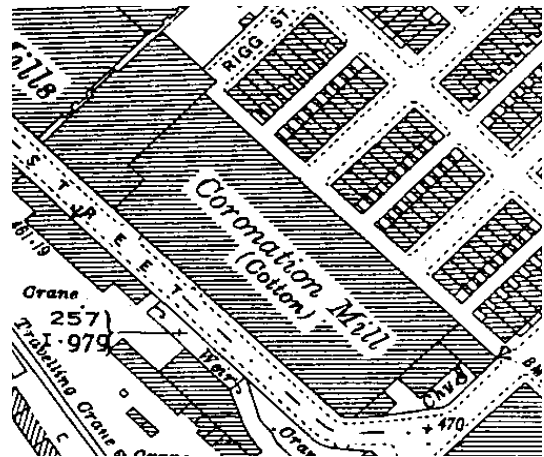
Coronation Mill, Brook Street

SUMMARY

Coronation Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1911 and 1923. It is built of squared stone rubble. The multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block along Brook Street has been demolished but the single-storey weaving shed which wrapped around two sides of it survives, as does the engine house but not the boiler house nor the chimney attached to the shed's side wall.

HISTORY

Coronation Mill was built, on the evidence of directories, between 1911 and 1923: it is not included in the former but is in the latter. The mill could well date to early in the period if the name commemorates the only coronation at this time, that of George V who succeeded in 1910 but was not crowned until 1911. Although two firms of cotton manufacturers were listed in the mill in 1923, just one of them occupied it in 1924 and 1933, to be joined by one more in 1941. In 1963 the mill was not in textile use.¹ The site of the mill was vacant in 1910 but the 1929-30 map (Fig 1) shows the mill, identified as a cotton mill.² In 1998 the mill was occupied, but it was no longer in textile use.



DESCRIPTION

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 489, 545; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 690; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 421; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 348, 352.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

Coronation Mill was built on a near-flat valley bottom site on the south-eastern side of Nelson. It is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1911 and 1923 and comprised a multi-storey block along the north-east side of Brook Street with a weaving shed behind and the engine and boiler houses attached to the south-east side wall of the shed.

The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** which stood on Brook Street has been demolished and is now used as a car park, only the rendered walls to the adjacent buildings now surviving. The **weaving shed**, set against the rear and south-east end wall of the former multi-storey block, survives intact and is single storeyed with parapet walls to its sides. Gutter ends project through the wall on to Brook Street where there are also rectangular ventilation openings into the roof ends. The shed has a saw-tooth roof with north-west facing glazed lights. The **engine house** (Fig 2), attached to the end wall of the shed, is tall, rectangular and five bays long with a wide round-headed window (now blocked) in its outer gable wall. Its roof is slated and has two small conical ventilators. The **boiler house and chimney**, their position known from maps, have been demolished; the side wall of the shed where the boiler house stood is of brick, not stone.



METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Dale Mill
Hallam Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98990
NGR: SD 8714 3814**

Surveyed: 3 November
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98990

Nelson

NGR: SD 8714 3814

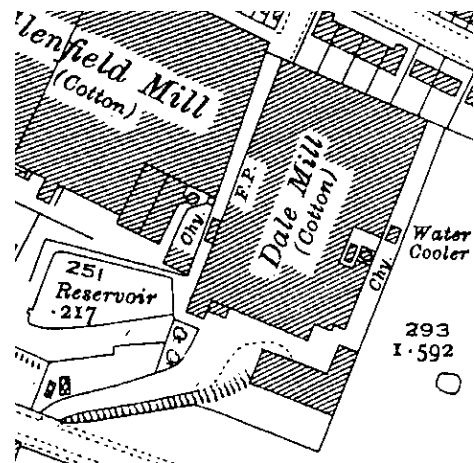
Dale Mill, Hallam Road

SUMMARY

Dale Mill, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1911 and 1923, is one of a cluster of six textile mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is built of stone rubble, coursed on the principal elevations, and comprises a warehouse and yarn preparation block of one storey over a basement set in front of an L-shaped single-storey weaving shed. The engine and boiler houses, set side by side, and the now demolished chimney, are attached to one side of the shed, just overlapping the warehouse block, a single-storey office range projecting forward from the other end. A small L-shaped service block with a saw-tooth roof is offset in front of the mill. The mill is in good condition although the chimney has been demolished and some modern additions have been built.

HISTORY

Dale Mill is one of a group of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. Directory evidence indicates that Dale Mill was built between 1911 and 1923, in which latter year it was occupied by Thomas Fletcher and Sons, cotton manufacturers, who continued in sole occupation until after 1963.¹ In 1911 Thomas Fletcher and Son had occupied the adjacent Glenfield Mill, and they evidently built Dale Mill on the vacant land to its immediate east. The mill is shown on the 1929-30 map (Fig 1).² It is now in multiple occupation.



¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 496; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 691; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 428; *ibid.* 1941, 352; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 351.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



DESCRIPTION

Dale Mill stands on the floor of the valley of the Hendon Brook and is the



easternmost of a cluster of six textile mills built along it. The Brook was culverted as the mills were built.

Dale Mill (Fig 2) comprises a main block with office, warehouse, weaving shed and power block, and a smaller separate block perhaps for services.

The main block has an **office** (Fig 3) projecting from its south-west corner. It is single storeyed and built of rough-faced squared rubble. The two windows in the south gable wall have blue and purple stained glass in an *art nouveau* style, while the door in the side has a flat stone hood on shaped brackets and it and the windows all have ashlar surrounds with run-out chamfers to the openings. The office projects from the main mill building which had a **warehouse and yarn preparation block**, evidently of one storey over a basement, (Fig 4) across its south front. This front has a pedestrian door with a small window over it at its west end, then a vehicle door with smooth quoined sides and a steel plate lintel, and then eight wide windows with rectangular stone lintels. The basement windows rise above the present mill yard and the elevation and its short west return are surmounted by a parapet wall with a flat top. The



L-shaped **weaving shed** runs back from the warehouse and office and is single storeyed with random rubble walls, all flat topped. The shed has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights, and internally has cast-iron columns with south-facing D-shaped bolting heads. The gutter ends of the roof project through the east wall and empty into downpipes, and each roof bay has a rectangular ventilation window in this wall. The **engine house, boiler house and chimney** were set against the east side of the shed wall (Fig 5), the engine house overlapping the end of the warehouse. The engine house is a tall gabled rectangular building with a large round-headed south window with a smooth-quoined surround and keyed-in head. The southern part of the boiler house survives where it supports a water tank made from cast-iron panels with strengthening ribs in the

form of a saltire cross radiating from a central circle. The chimney has been demolished.

The freestanding **block to the south-east** of the main part of the mill (Fig 1, foreground) is single storeyed, L-shaped in plan, and may have been a service block. It is built of similar masonry to the main mill and has a north-facing glazed saw-tooth roof. It has what may have been a garage with a wide segmental-arched north door at its east end and a divided main part.

METHODOLOGY

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**Edward Street Mill
Edward Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98991
NGR: SD 8793 3890**

Surveyed: 11 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98991

Nelson

NGR: SD 8793 3890

Edward Street Mill, Edward Street

SUMMARY

Edward Street Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1890-1 and 1910. It is built of stone rubble, squared to the front, and comprises an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block of two storeys and basement with an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to one end and a single-storey weaving shed behind them all.

By 1929-30 the warehouse had been enlarged by an extension built in front and at one end. The mill survives in good condition, the chimney being the principal loss.

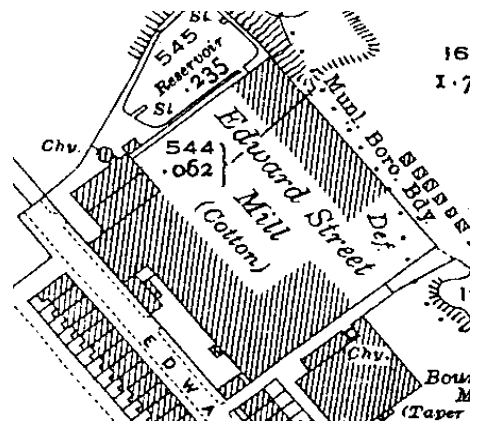
HISTORY

Edward Street Mill was built between 1902, when it is not named in a directory, and 1910 when it is shown on a map¹ In 1911 it was occupied by Henry Ridehalgh and Sons, cotton manufacturers, who in 1902 occupied two other mills in Nelson and who continued in occupation until between 1941 and 1963.² They extended the mill slightly to the rear between 1910 and 1929-30 (Fig 1).³ It is now in other occupation.

DESCRIPTION

Edward Street Mill was built on the north-eastern outskirts of Nelson between 1902 and 1910. It stands on a site which slopes very gently down to the course of the Swinden Clough which was culverted when the mill was built and which is the boundary between Nelson and Colne.

The original mill



¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 459; *ibid.* 1911, 470; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 515; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 696; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 448; *ibid.*, 365; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963).

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The original mill cotton-weaving mill comprised an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with the engine house, boiler house and chimney at one end and the weaving shed behind both. All the buildings are of stone rubble, squared to the front but of random rubble elsewhere.

The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) is two storeys high over a basement and has a slate roof. A cross wall divides it into two halves each ten bays long. The north-western half is obscured by a later addition and by a projecting modern stair tower, but quoins just visible on line with the cross wall indicate that the vehicle door was



here. The 1910 map shows steps in front of this elevation to what would have been a pedestrian door, and leading to a door in the side wall of the engine house. There are now no doors in the ten bays which form the south-eastern half of the block, but the 1901 map shows one off centre. The south-east gable wall is four bays wide, the windows retaining their original timber frames, characteristic of the area, with three top lights over a pair of tall lower lights whose surrounds have run-out chamfers. The **engine house and boiler house** are attached to the north-west end of the warehouse block, projecting slightly beyond it, and are set side by side (Fig 3). The engine house is tall and gabled, with a pair of tall round-headed front windows with ashlar impost blocks, archivolt and keyblocks and five side windows with rectangular lintels. The boiler house is low and with two wide entrances with steel plate lintels supported at the centre by an ashlar pier. Maps imply that the **chimney** was circular and show that it stood beside the boiler house; it has been demolished. The **weaving shed** was single storeyed but only its rubble outside walls survive, three broad gabled roofs having been built within it. The **reservoir** shown on the maps beside the mill has been infilled.

Additions to the mill

Between 1910 and 1929-30 additional warehousing capacity was provided by the construction of a gabled two-storey five-bay block in front of the north-west end of the warehouse block (Fig 2). It is built of squared rubble and has a slate roof.

METHODOLOGY

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objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Elder Street Dye Works
Elder Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98992
NGR: SD 8665 3856**

Surveyed: 23 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98992

Nelson

NGR: SD 8665 3856

Elder Street Works, Elder Street

SUMMARY

Elder Street Works is a dye works built between 1910 and 1924, probably in 1923. It is single-storeyed and built of coursed stone rubble with a double-pitched roof, which is of modern construction, the original having been destroyed by fire circa 1991. It was steam powered and the engine house was attached to the south-east side although this has been largely destroyed by conversion to lock-up garages. The chimney to the rear has been demolished and there is a single-storey extension, dating from the 1930s, on the south-east side.

HISTORY

Trade directories and map evidence indicate that Elder Street Works was built between 1910 and 1924. It is not shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910¹ (Fig 1a) but is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30² (Fig 1b). It is listed in Kelly's Directory of 1924³ and Barrett's Directory of 1933,⁴ in both instances the occupiers were the Nelson Cop Dyeing Company, but it is not listed in Barrett's Directory of 1923⁵ or any earlier trade directory. Elder Street Works was still occupied by the Nelson Cop Dyeing Company in 1950.⁶ The original roof was destroyed by fire *circa* 1991 and the works chimney, shown on the 1929-30 map, has been lost. In 1998 the building had been partly converted to private lock-up garages and the remainder was occupied by W Lambert and Sons Ltd.

DESCRIPTION

Elder Street works is a steam-powered dye works built between 1910 and 1924, probably

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

³ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 695.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 442, 471.

⁵ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923).

⁶ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1950), 391.



circa 1923, on previously undeveloped land on the northern edge of Nelson. The site has been much altered and extended.

The original dyeworks

The **main range** (Fig 2) comprises a single-storey double-gabled block built of coursed stone rubble. The north-east, gable-end elevation fronting Elder Street is symmetrical with smooth stone quoins to the angles and one surviving kneeler. Each gable is three bays wide, although only the fenestration of the left gable survives in anything like its original form, with a large central window flanked by two smaller oculi with keyed-in windows at a low level. The fenestration of the right gable has been obliterated by the insertion of a very large vehicle entrance. The south-east elevation has a bracketed gutter and a pedestrian entrance with smooth stone quoins at the right end. The original roof has been lost and it is not known but supposed that this included the ridge ventilators characteristic of dye works.



The narrow rectangular **engine house**, which was attached to the south-east side of the main range, has been converted into garages and no features of interest survive. The **chimney** to the rear, shown on the 1929-30 map, has been demolished.

Later additions

A single-storey addition (Fig 3) has been built onto the south side of the works, behind the position of the engine house and filling the available land up to the line of the lane, facing along Edgar Street. Although it is not shown on the map of 1929-30 the styling of this block suggests a 1930s date. The addition is built of coursed stone rubble and has a flat roof. The south-east elevation is six bays wide and angled, the first three bays from

the left containing two-light windows with stone mullions and smooth stone lintels and sills. The fifth bay from the left is occupied by a pedestrian entrance with a dominating ashlar surround flanked by single-light windows with ashlar quoins. Some original window lead survives. The return elevation, facing north east, is two bays wide and butts against an original stone gate pier marking the entrance to the works yard.

METHODOLOGY

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**Glenfield Mill
Glenfield Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98993
NGR: SD 8706 3818**

Surveyed: 3 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98993

Nelson

NGR: SD 8706 3818

Glenfield Mill, Glenfield Road

SUMMARY

Glenfield Mill, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1902 and 1910, is one of a cluster of six textile mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is built of coursed stone rubble and originally consisted of a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, served by a pair of projecting stair turrets, with a single-storey weaving shed, rectangular in plan, behind it. The engine house, boiler house and chimney were attached, side by side, to one end of the multi-storey block. The weaving shed was extended across the rear of this power block between 1910 and 1929-30 and during the later 20th century a flat-roofed reinforced concrete extension, of one storey over an open ground floor but subsequently part heightened, was built across the front of the whole mill.

HISTORY

Glenfield Mill is one of a group of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It was built between 1902, when it is not listed in a directory, and 1910 when it is shown on a map (Fig 1a).¹ In 1911 it had two occupants, Thomas Fletcher and Son and William Uttley, both cotton manufacturers. By 1923 the former had moved to the adjacent Dale Mill,² which they almost certainly built, William Uttley continuing to occupy Glenfield Mill until some time after 1963.³ The site is now in units.

The mill was enlarged between 1910 and 1929-30 (Fig 1b),⁴ and has been extended to the front more recently.

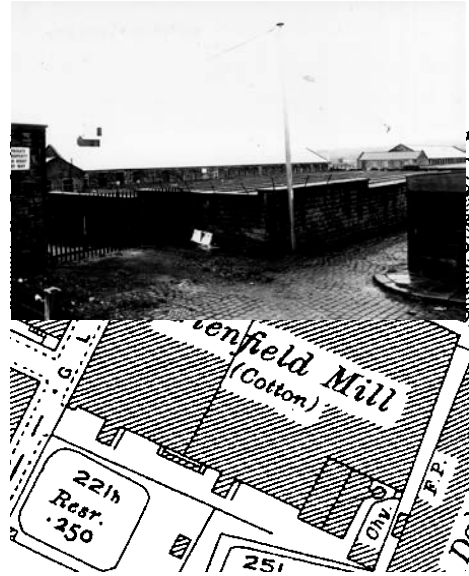
DESCRIPTION

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

² See RCHME Historic Building Report, NBR No 98990 (1999).

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 448, 480; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 524; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 698; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 456; *ibid.* 1941, 371; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 354.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



Glenfield Mill stands on a gently-sloping site on the floor of the valley of the Hendon Brook and is one of a cluster of six mills built along it between 1893 and 1923. The Brook was culverted as the mills were built.

Glenfield Mill comprises an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, a weaving shed and a power block all built between 1902 and 1910, the shed extended by 1929-30.

The original mill

The original mill (Fig 2) built between 1902 and 1910 had a two-storey **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** built, like the rest of the mill, of squared stone rubble with a slate roof. Twenty four bays long, its west gable end is four bays wide. Modern extensions to the front hide the pair of projecting blocks at the front which housed offices and staircases. The **weaving shed** (Fig 3) runs back from the warehouse block and is single storeyed with outer parapet walls which are stepped on all sides because of the fall in the ground. The wall to Glenfield Road has 17 rectangular ventilation openings into the shed which has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing glazed lights. The **engine house, boiler house and chimney**, the last demolished, stood at the east end of the warehouse block, overlapping the beginning of the shed. The engine house and boiler house stand side by side, the former with a wide round-headed window with a keyblock, the latter with a pair of wide openings with steel plate lintels.

Additions to the mill

Between 1910 and 1929-30 the weaving shed was extended east behind the engine and boiler houses, and a narrow building erected next to but independent of the boiler house.

METHODOLOGY

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**Hendon Mills
Hallam Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98994
NGR: SD 8690 3818**

Surveyed: 3 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Lancashire

NBR No. 98994

Nelson

NGR: SD 8690 3818

Hendon Mills, Hallam Road

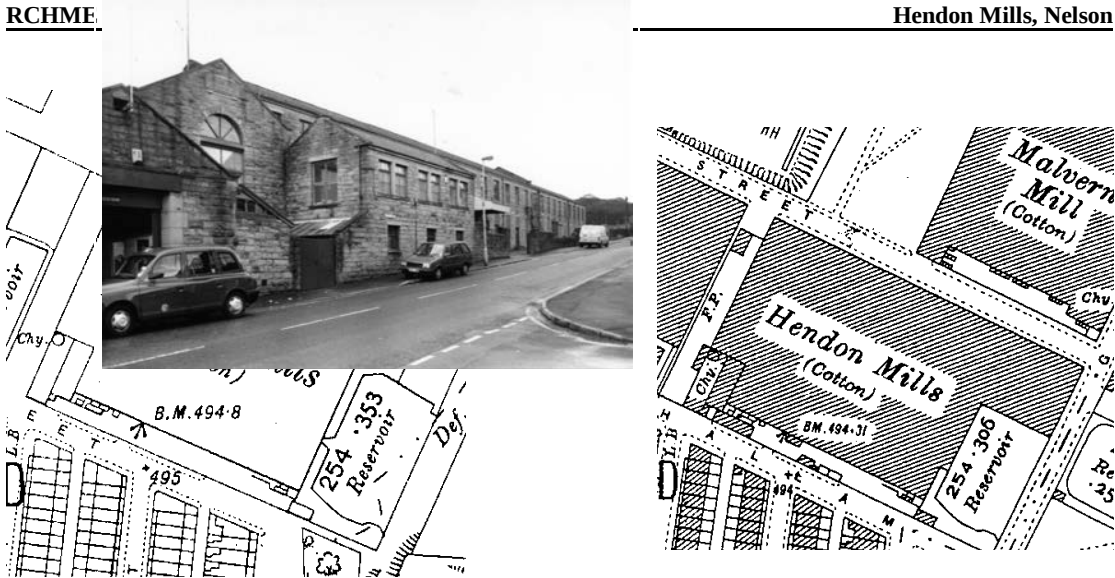
SUMMARY

Hendon Mills is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1893 and 1900 and rebuilt in 1913 (the restoration date is given in a stone panel set in the engine house gable) following a fire. It is one of a cluster of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is built of coursed stone rubble and originally consisted of a gabled south-east facing two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached side by side to the north-west end and a single-storey weaving shed to the rear with a reservoir on the south-east side. A protruding gable wall mid-way along the length of the two-storey block suggests the possibility that the mill was at some point extended to the south east and that the earliest mill on the site covered roughly half the area of the present mill. Between 1910 and 1929-30 a small gabled two-storey office block was built in the yard in front of the original two-storey block, butting against part of the front of the engine house and leant-tos were built against the side of this and the boiler house almost completely covering the yard in front of the engine house. The mill remains in good condition with the exception of the chimney which has been reduced to a stump and the reservoir which has been filled in.

HISTORY

Hendon Mills is one of group of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. The Ordnance Survey map of 1890 shows this area as purely rural and dominated by the shallow valley of Hendon Brook with the small hamlet or farmstead of Hendon, from which the mill takes its name, in the centre. By the time of the map revision of 1910 (Fig 1a) Hendon Mills and Oak Bank Mill had been built side by side over the former course of Hendon Brook, the brook itself having been dammed a little way upstream to form a reservoir for the controlled supply of water to the two new mills further down the valley, and Glenfield Mill had been built just to the north east. The former hamlet or farmstead of Hendon had been demolished, apparently without trace and the site of the former meadows to the south of the brook were by now occupied by a tight grid of terraced mill workers' houses. By the time of the map revision of 1929-30 (Fig 1b) Malvern, Dale and Manor Mills had been added to the cluster and a quantity of new terraced housing built to the north.¹

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



Hendon Mills was built between 1893 and 1900.² Watkins states that the engine was installed in 1900 and this is acceptable as the opening date.³ It was occupied by Burton, Fletcher & Uttley, cotton manufacturers, in 1902 and by the Hendon Manufacturing Co, cotton manufacturers in 1911. The mill was rebuilt in 1913, the restoration date on the building, following a fire and in was still occupied by the Hendon Manufacturing Co as well as Walter Pollard Ltd (also of Malvern Mills), both cotton manufacturers in 1923.⁴ The mill closed as a textile factory in 1960⁵ and in 1998 was in use as a private storage depot. All of the rebuilt mill buildings survive in good condition with the exception of the chimney which has been reduced to a stump and the reservoir which has been drained.

DESCRIPTION

Hendon Mills (Fig 2) is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1893 and 1900 and rebuilt in 1913 following a fire. The mill has been little altered and there has been no significant 20th century expansion, except for the addition of a small office building to the front yard and the partial building over of the reservoir.

The original mill of 1893-1900, rebuilt 1913

The original mill, shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910, consisted of an **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block**, two storeys high over a basement and built of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and south-east side and random stone rubble to

² W Bennett, *The History of Marsden and Nelson* (Nelson, 1957), 197.

³ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine* 2nd Edition (Ashbourne, 1999), 130.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 421; *ibid.*, 1911, 502; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 501, 514.

⁵ Watkins (1999), 130.



the rear with a double-span pitched roof of slate with stone copings. The south-west elevation is 24 bays long with stone lintels and sills to the windows. There are vehicle entrances with quoined sides and plate steel lintels occupying the seventh, ninth and eighteenth bays from the west and the sixth bay from the west has a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround. The south-west elevation is four bays wide with a rectangular vent to each roof bay. What appears to be a former end wall is visible rising through the roof line between the 14th and 15th bays from the west suggesting the possibility that it is of two phases although there is no other evidence to support this.

The **engine house and boiler house** are attached side by side to the north-west end of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block. The gabled engine house (Fig 3) is of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and random stone rubble to the rear and has a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The south-east elevation, fronting Hallam Street, has a single large keyed-in round-headed window with a stone panel above which reads 'HENDON MILLS RESTORED A.D. 1913'. It originally housed 'Nora', a horizontal tandem triple-expansion engine designed to develop 500hp running at 76rpm and driving 43 ropes from a 16ft flywheel. It was made by William Roberts & Co, Phoenix Foundry, Nelson, and was scrapped when the mill closed in 1960.⁶ Adjacent to the engine house and projecting forward of it is the single-storey gabled boiler house (Fig 4). This is of coursed squared stone rubble and has a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The front elevation has a large boiler door with smooth stone quoins to the sides and a steel lintel. Behind the boiler house is the circular brick **chimney**, now reduced to a stump, rising from a square stone block, probably an economiser house. Behind the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block and the power plant is a single-storey **weaving shed**. It has a saw-tooth roof of 17 bays, glazed to the north east and drained via valley gutters through the north-west wall, behind parapet walls of coursed squared stone rubble. The north-west wall has a series of rectangular vents, one per bay, offset to the left of each gutter and there is a low wide segmental-headed entrance in the eighth bay from the north.

The **reservoir** has been drained and partially built over although some of the original embankment walls survive.

Additions of 1910-1929-30

⁶ Watkins (1999), 130.

Between 1910 and 1929-30 a narrow two-storey gabled **office block** was built in the yard in front of the mill at the west end, partly butting against the front elevation of the engine house. It is of coursed squared stone rubble with a slate roof with stone copings. A flue rises through the west gable. The south-west elevation is three bays long with two-light mullioned windows to the first floor and smaller single-light windows below. The north-west elevation is one bay wide with a large rectangular window to the first floor and a single-storey projection below, with a glazed lean-to roof, apparently an original feature. The south-east elevation, facing the yard is two bays wide with a pedestrian entrance with a chamfered stone surround with interrupted jambs at first floor level and reached by steps from the yard.

A single-storey lean-to extension was also added to the south-east side of the boiler house, across part of the front of the engine house.

The weaving shed was extended to the south east, over part of the reservoir and the former building to the north-east, shown on the map of 1910, was remodelled as part of the extension.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Lee Bank Mill
Pinder Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98995
NGR: SD 8682 3875**

Surveyed: 23 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98995

Nelson

NGR: SD 8682 3875

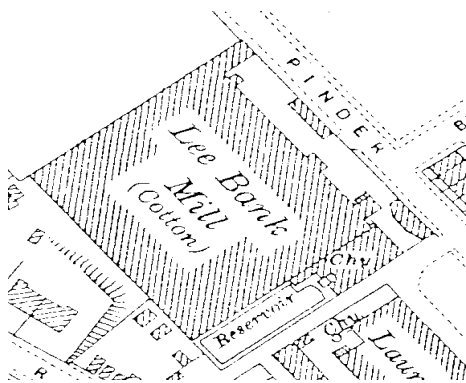
Lee Bank Mill, Pinder Street

SUMMARY

Lee Bank Mill is a steam-powered cotton mill built in 1914 on the then northern edge of the expanding town of Nelson. It is built of coursed and random rubble and comprises a three-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block, a rear single-storey weaving shed and side-by-side engine and boiler houses, originally with a rear chimney and reservoir, attached to the south-east end. All the mill buildings survive intact with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished and the reservoir which has been drained and built upon.

HISTORY

Lee Bank Mill was built in 1914, the date cast into the lintel over the boiler house door. The Ordnance Survey map of 1910¹ show the site of the present mill as undeveloped fields on the very edge of the northern expansion of Nelson, concentrated on the Leeds Road. Neither Lee Bank Mill nor Pinder Street existed in 1911² but by 1924³ Lee Bank Mill was occupied by A Chatterton and Co Ltd cotton goods manufacturers, the Lee Bank Sheeting Co Ltd cotton goods manufacturers and Riley Brothers cotton goods manufacturers. The Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30⁴ shows Lee Bank Mill at its fullest extent (Fig 1) and by 1950⁵ it was still occupied by the Lee Bank Sheeting Co Ltd as well as P Clegg



¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, revised 1910, published 1912.

² Barrett's *Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911).

³ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 690, 694, 696.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3, surveyed 1929-30, published 1932.

⁵ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1950), 393, 403, 405.

and Co Ltd and Starkey and Ramsden Ltd. In 1998 the mill was occupied by an upholstery company and remained almost completely intact except for the chimney, which has been removed, and a reservoir, shown on the 1929-30 map, which has been drained and built upon.

DESCRIPTION



Lee Bank Mill (Fig 2) is a steam-powered cotton-weaving comprising a three-storey warehousing and yarn preparation block facing north east, fronting Pinder Street, with side-by-side engine and boiler houses attached to the south-east end and a rear single-storey weaving shed. Only the chimney has been removed and the rest of the mill survives almost

completely intact with no significant developments.

The 1914 mill

The 1914 mill consisted of a north-east facing, three-storey **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** built of coursed rubble to the front and random rubble to the sides and rear with a saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north west, hidden by a continuous parapet. The front elevation is 20 bays long with smooth stone lintels and sills to all windows. Pedestrian doorways with monolithic surrounds occupy the third and 14th bays from the left and vehicle entrances with smooth quoins and flat steel lintels occupy the fifth and 15th bays from the left. A gabled single-storey office building of coursed rubble with a slate roof and stone copings and kneelers, butts against the first and second bays. The side elevations are both four bays wide and the rear elevation is 20 bays wide with 19 gutters and downpipes from the saw-tooth roof.

The single-storey **engine house** (Fig 3) is gabled and built of coursed rubble with a slate roof with stone copings and shaped kneelers. The front elevation is dominated by a large round-headed engine house window with ashlar quoins, keyblock and voussoirs and an ashlar impost band which continues into the coursing of the adjacent **boiler house**. This is also single-storey and gabled and built of coursed rubble with a slate roof and stone copings. The front elevation is dominated by a large boiler house door with a cast iron lintel with the words 'LEE BANK MILL 1914' cast into it. The south-east side elevation is plain

except for two window bays. Coursed in at the rear is a taller flat-roofed block with a low cast-iron water tank formed of riveted panels on top.

The single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 4) is built of coursed rubble to the north-west side and random rubble to the rear and south-east sides. It has a saw-tooth roof of 13 bays, glazed to the north east and slated to the south west. There is a narrow ventilator with a stone lintel and sill for each roof bay in the north-west wall and a series of goods entrances, one of which retains its original stone surround, beneath a cast-iron canopy. The rear wall also contains ventilators and a series of bolt heads, presumably related to the internal transmission of power. The south-east wall of the shed originally butted against an artificial reservoir and the random rubble wall base survives although it is now built upon.

METHODOLOGY



This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Lomeshaye Bridge Mill
Bridge Mill Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98996
NGR: SD 8534 3770**

Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98996

Nelson

NGR: SD 8534 3770

Lomeshaye Bridge Mill, Bridge Mill Road

SUMMARY

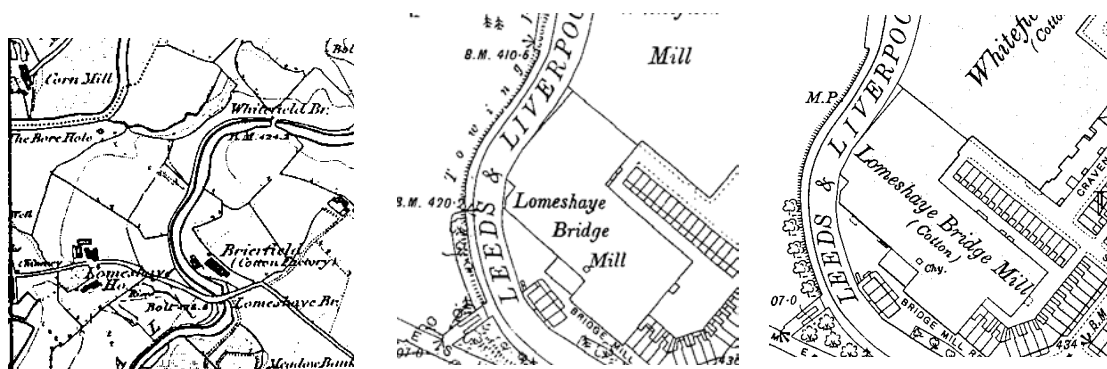
Lomeshaye Bridge Mill was built on the banks of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal as a two-storey steam-powered cotton-spinning mill in 1841. Single-storey weaving sheds were added during the second half of the 19th century, one with its own beam-engine house, as well as associated warehouse and yarn preparation blocks. The 1841 spinning mill was heightened by two storeys in 1891 by T B Ecroyd of Lomeshaye Mills, who were one of two joint occupiers of the mill from this time into the early 20th century. The mill is built of stone rubble and is in good condition.

HISTORY

Lomeshaye Bridge Mill was built in 1841 by S Holt of Barrowford, the earliest building on the site being a two-storey steam-powered cotton-spinning mill with a datestone inscribed 'S H 1841'. The subsequent history of the mill reflected changes in the textile economy of the area since by 1879 it was used for cotton weaving, being occupied by Thomas Bannister, a cotton manufacturer who also occupied Albert Mills. Since there are two phases of weaving shed, Bannister may have built one. The second may be the new loom shed which Pilling records was built in 1880. Bannister occupied the same two mills in 1887 but by 1893 that at Lomeshaye Bridge was occupied by a different cotton manufacturer, the Lomeshaye Bridge Mill Company. In 1902 the mill was occupied by two firms, William Ecroyd and Sons Ltd., cotton and worsted manufacturers also of Lomeshaye Mills, Nelson, and John Wilkinson, cotton manufacturer, also of Laurel Bank Mill, Nelson, who continued in joint occupation until 1924 when only Wilkinson was listed. Ecroyds were still cotton and worsted manufacturers in 1911 but by 1923 only acknowledged cotton. John Wilkinson (Manchester and Nelson) Ltd., cotton spinners, manufacturers, dyers and finishers, occupied the same two mills in 1933 but were sole occupants of Lomeshaye Bridge Mill. No occupant was listed in 1941. In 1963 it was occupied by F O Lambert & Co. Ltd., beam dyers, bleachers, tapers and sizers.¹ In 1998 the mill was in units and was for sale.

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 150; *ibid.*, 1887, 248; *ibid.*, 1893, 321; *ibid.*, 1902, 430, 476; *ibid.*, 1911, 446, 485; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 494, 527; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 698; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 459; *ibid.*, 1941; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 347. The name S Holt and the date of a loom shed was supplied by Anthony Pilling.

The 1841 spinning mill is shown, identified as 'Brierfield (Cotton Factory)', on a map of 1844 (Fig 1a). By 1890 (Fig 1b) extensive weaving sheds had been added, the mill having taken the name of the nearby bridge over the canal, and the neighbourhood, known as Whitefield, was the site of a further large mill, Whitefield Mill, as well as Victoria Works (later converted into a dye works) and was built up with a dense grid of terraced housing, St Mary's Church, an Infant School and a Sunday School. The mill was extended between 1890 and 1910 (Fig 1c), but not between 1910 and 1929-30.² The mill is called Lomeshaye Bridge Mill on these three maps, the last two identifying its branch as cotton.



DESCRIPTION

Lomeshaye Bridge Mill occupies a flat site on the eastern bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. When first established in 1841 it was somewhat isolated, but over the next decades housing and industry spread to the edge of the site.

The 1841 spinning mill

The mill built in 1841 was a steam-powered cotton-spinning mill, ten bays long and two storeys high but heightened to four storeys in 1891 (Fig 2). It faced the canal to the south west, was gabled, and was built of squared watershot stone rubble to the front and of coursed rubble elsewhere. The front elevation has a lintel band at ground floor: the lintels and sills have finely-tooled margins defining channelled punching. The first, third, sixth, ninth and tenth ground-floor bays from the south-east end are now doors, but only the ninth, with its monolithic stone surround, is certainly original. The door in the tenth bay has been widened but the lintel widths imply an opening of conventional width. The engine house and boiler house were probably at this end, where there is now a single-bay two-storey projection, but internal investigation would be necessary to confirm this.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The mill as a weaving mill



with north-east facing glazed lights. The source of power for the shed is uncertain without closer investigation but the maps show an isolated chimney within the shed, close to the rear corner of the original spinning mill, implying a boiler house nearby, and therefore an engine house. A two-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** is built against the north-west gable wall of the mill, facing the canal (Fig 3). The



being a three-storey eight-bay building attached to its south-west side, overlooking the canal. This block has a canted corner and squared rubble walls. The **engine house** is

During the second half of the 19th century Lomeshaye Bridge Mill became a weaving mill, steam-powered weaving sheds and warehouse capacity being added. The weaving sheds are not all of one date, though all are shown on the 1890 map.

The south-east **weaving shed** runs back from the 1841 spinning mill, and extends north west of it. It is single storeyed, has stone rubble walls and a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing glazed lights. The source of power for the shed is uncertain without closer investigation but the maps show an isolated chimney within the shed, close to the rear corner of the original spinning mill, implying a boiler house nearby, and therefore an engine house. A two-storey **warehouse and yarn preparation block** is built against the north-west gable wall of the mill, facing the canal (Fig 3). The warehouse, which is gabled, is built of squared stone rubble, its roof covering renewed. It is five bays long, plus a ground-floor door with a monolithic stone surround, and three bays deep. The warehouse is shown on the 1890 map, but whether it is contemporary with the south-west shed is uncertain since the spinning mill could have served its purpose once the site was used for weaving and not spinning.

The north-west **weaving shed** is built up to the canal on its north-west side and is single storeyed. It is rectangular in shape and its walls are of random rubble, parapet walls hiding the saw-tooth roof with its north-west facing glazed lights. The south-east wall to the street behind the mill has round-headed ventilation openings into the roof (Fig 4) while the canal elevation has gutter ends emptying into downpipes and a number of later square-headed ventilation openings. The weaving shed has its own warehouse and engine house, the **warehouse and yarn preparation block**

attached to the south-west end of the warehouse block and is a tall narrow one-bay wide structure of the proportions of a beam engine house. This is evidently what it was, since George Watkins³ notes that a beam engine was replaced in 1901 by a Scott & Hodgson tandem engine. The engine probably used steam generated in a boiler house closer to the original mill since there appears to be none close to it.

The **original spinning mill** may have been adapted to serve as a warehouse for the added weaving shed behind even before it was heightened in 1891 since it has a now-blocked wide first-floor taking-in door with a projecting hoist beam in the penultimate bay from the north-west end of the front elevation. The building was heightened by two storeys in 1891, the front elevation having a datestone inscribed 'T.B.E. 1891' for T B Ecroyd of Lomeshaye Mills, joint occupiers of Lomeshaye Bridge Mill for a few decades from about 1891. The heightening of the mill is in squared stone rubble with a slate roof, the ten-bay long front and rear elevations having lintel bands copying a feature of the 1841 building. The lintel band over the first floor windows is of 1891, as its tooling indicates; that over the third floor also acts as an eaves course. The gable elevations each have four windows at third-floor level; the north-west gable apex has a bell turret, the south-east one the chimneystack of the adjacent cottages in Bridge Mill Road.

A **warehouse block** (Fig 5) was added to the south-east end of the south-east shed between 1890 and 1910. It is built over the shed wall and is a two-storey building of



stone rubble with a nine-bay main elevation and four-bay end elevations with a slate double-span roof. The main elevation has a door with interrupted jambs in the fourth bay from the south-west end; a similar first-floor taking-in door is set against the south corner.

METHODOLOGY

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³ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine. Parts 1 & 2* (Second edition, Ashbourne, 1999), Part 1, 62, plate 39.



**Lomeshaye Mill
Lomeshaye Way
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98997
NGR: SD 8506 3766**

Surveyed: 10 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98997

Nelson

NGR: SD 8506 3766

Lomeshaye Mill, Lomeshaye Way

SUMMARY

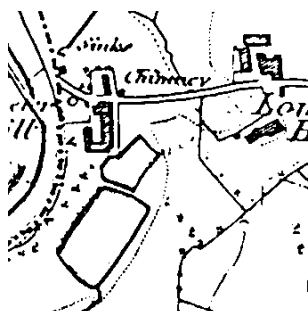
Lomeshaye Mill was established by the Ecroyd family, who were already operating a worsted spinning and weaving business, and who are said to have built a water-powered worsted-spinning mill next to Pendle Water in the 1780s. A steam engine was installed in 1836 and in 1840 a gas works was built. All the early buildings were replaced between 1845 and 1871 when a series of steam-powered single-storey weaving sheds, warehouses and a multi-storey range were built. They are all of stone rubble, generally squared. Ecroyds combined worsted and cotton manufacturing for many years, only concentrating on cotton before closing in 1933. The complex is now an industrial estate.

HISTORY

The Ecroyd family came to the Nelson area, then part of Marsden, during the 16th century. In 1721 Richard Ecroyd purchased Edge End House and a 45 acre estate at Lomeshaye, and he and his brothers founded a wool combing, spinning, dyeing and hand-loom weaving business in cottages next to the house, worsted goods being the main products. It is reported that in the 1780s a new three-storey stone-built mill was erected by Richard Ecroyd at Lomeshaye, harnessing water power from Pendle Water using an undershot waterwheel to drive the spinning machinery. There is no indication of a water course running to the mill on early maps (the course of the river was altered during the 1970s during the creation of the Lomeshaye Industrial Estate), although a weir shown on the 1844 map may relate to the former provision of water power. Richard Ecroyd's son, also Richard, joined the business and was appointed to the Worsted Committee in 1800. The business at Lomeshaye declined, however, and in 1818 or 1819 he handed over control to William Ecroyd under whom it established international recognition. A seven horse power steam engine was installed in 1836, new buildings were erected and power looms were eventually successfully installed. In 1849 William's son, William Farrer Ecroyd, became a partner, the firm trading as William Ecroyd and Sons and undertaking major rebuilding and expansion during the second half of the 19th century. A directory entry for 1854 lists the firm as cotton spinners and manufacturers, evidently in error since in subsequent directories from 1879 to 1911 they are noted as cotton and worsted manufacturers and in those of 1923 to 1933 just as cotton manufacturers. Lomeshaye Mill was not large enough at the height of the firm's production and from at least 1891 probably until their closure in 1933 Ecroyds also jointly occupied Lomeshaye Bridge Mill. After Ecroyd's closure, Lomeshaye Mill was occupied until 1939 by the London Rubber Company. In 1941 Thompson and Taylor Ltd., cotton manufacturers, occupied it

and then a subsidiary of Smith and Nephew. The mill closed in 1987 and in 1989 was purchased by the Glenfield Park Group who converted the buildings into a business park.¹

The earliest detailed cartographic evidence for Lomeshaye Mill is on a map of 1844 (Fig 1a) which names the site as 'Lomeshaye Mill (Worsted)' and shows an irregular U-shaped building set some distance back from the river. It also shows large reservoirs and names a chimney, gasometer and weir as well as showing Lomeshaye House, the now demolished residence of the Ecroyds. A more detailed depiction of the mill in 1890 (Fig 1b) shows that by then it had been massively extended and several terraces of workers' houses built to its immediate north. Comparison of this map with that of 1910 (Fig 1c) shows rebuilding on the site of the gasometer, but no observable change on plan by 1929-30.²



DESCRIPTION

Lomeshaye Mill stands on the east bank of Pendle Water in what was an isolated rural situation when it was first built but which is now on the south-western outskirts of Nelson.

No early mill building, nor any of those shown on the 1844 map, survived the rebuilding on the site during the second half of the 19th century. The buildings which now occupy the site form a complex group which pose many problems of evolution, date, power source and use which in the context of a rapid survey could not be properly disentangled. The following description is therefore brief and not definitive. All the buildings are of stone rubble which is generally squared.

¹ Historical information, except that noted below, is taken from unreferenced histories of the mill provided by the owners, Glenfield Park. Published sources include Jeffrey Hill, *Nelson. Politics, Economy, Community* (Edinburgh, 1997), passim; Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 762; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 152; *ibid.*, 1887, 252; *ibid.*, 1893, 311, 344; *ibid.*, 1902, 430; *ibid.*, 1911, 446; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 494; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 691; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 426; *ibid.*, 1941, 370; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 353-4.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

The earliest surviving building relates to a datestone inscribed '1845 TO 1859' set in the east wall of the building south of the office range opposite the end of Lomeshaye Road. It is likely that this dates the office range and a weaving shed behind (Fig 2). The office range is single storeyed and Italianate in style. It has a five-bay front elevation of ashlar with a wide, arched vehicle entrance at the south end and then four bays with round-headed openings, three of them windows with moulded archivolts with keyblocks springing from an impost band, one a door with a rusticated head. The north wall of the office and the walls of the shed are of squared stone rubble, the datestone set over a round-headed doorway with a stone surround with pilasters and a rusticated head with a keyblock. The shed is single storeyed.



The mill buildings shown on the 1844 map stand back from the edge of Pendle Water but it is stated that in the early 1850s a new mill, west mill, was built by the riverside. This can be equated with the larger part of the multi-storey building (Fig 3) which fronts the river on the 1890 map but now fronts the car park. This building incorporates a one-bay wide beam engine house with round-headed windows in both its east and west walls and it may have powered the building to its south which is now three storeys high. The east elevation indicates a building ten bays long with a two-bay wide gabled south addition which is built over the wall of the south weaving shed which dates to 1863. To the north of the engine house the west mill was two storeyed originally but was heightened by a storey. The building at the extreme north end occupies part of the site of the gasometer on the 1890 map, but had been built by 1910.



A weaving shed (Fig 4) with the date 1863 on the keyblock of its south doorway stands at the south end of the site. It is single storeyed, L-shaped and built of squared rubble, its south wall with round-headed ventilation openings into the roof. Inside, cast-iron columns with Composite capitals support cast-iron beams with a pierced guilloche pattern which support the saw-tooth roof.

The weaving shed which stands between the 1845-1859 block and the 1863 shed is dated 1871 on the keyblock over its east door (Fig 5). It is also single storeyed but has round-headed ventilation openings in both its east and west parapet walls. Inside, cast-iron columns with Composite capitals support cast-iron beams with a pierced guilloche pattern which in turn support the saw-tooth roof. Simply moulded corbels project from the inner face of the west wall and supported a line shaft off which bevel gear transferred the drive to countershafts. The 1871 shed abuts the three-storey building to its north.



The weaving shed at the north end of the site (Fig 6) is undated. Its outer walls are of rubble with quoined corners surmounted by tapering piers with shaped tops, and with round-headed ventilation openings, both similar to those on the 1871 weaving shed. Inside, cast-iron columns with simply-shaped heads support timber beams; the roof has timber trusses with a diagonal strut rising up to the rafter of the longer, unglazed slope.



At the centre of the site is the principal power source (Fig 7). The stone chimney with its slender octagonal shaft tapering to a moulded cap.

To its west is a tall engine house, gabled to north and south and five-bays long, and to the west of this is the boiler house with its four round-headed boiler openings to the yard on its west.



METHODOLOGY

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**Malvern Mill
Waterford Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98998
NGR: SD 8698 3825**

Surveyed: 3 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98998

Nelson

NGR: SD 8698 3825

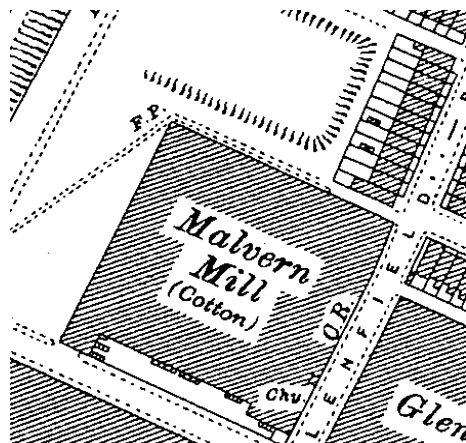
Malvern Mill, Waterford Street

SUMMARY

Malvern Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1912, the date cast into the lintel over the boiler house entrance. It is one of a cluster of six mills built on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is built of coursed stone rubble and comprised a gabled south-west facing multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation range with side-by-side engine and boiler houses, with chimney behind, attached to the south-east end and a weaving shed to the rear. An additional brick shed has been built to the rear and the north-west side extended in a variety of styles. Most of the mill components survive in fairly good condition with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished.

HISTORY

Malvern Mill is one of a group of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. The Ordnance Survey map of 1890 shows this area as purely rural and dominated by the shallow valley of Hendon Brook with the small hamlet or farmstead of Hendon. By the time of the map revision of 1910



Hendon Mills and Oak Bank Mill had been built side by side over the former course of Hendon Brook, the brook itself having been dammed a little way upstream to form a reservoir for the controlled supply of water to the two new mills further down the valley, and Glenfield Mill had been built just to the north east. The former hamlet or farmstead of Hendon had been demolished, apparently without trace, and the site of the former meadows to the south of the brook were by now occupied by a tight grid of terraced mill workers' houses. By the time of the map revision of 1929-30 (Fig 1) Malvern, Dale and Manor Mills had been added to the cluster and a

quantity of new terraced housing built to the north.¹

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

Malvern Mill was built in 1912, the date cast into the lintel over the boiler house door, and is listed in a trade directory of 1923 when Walter Pollard Ltd, cotton manufacturer, also of Hendon Mills, was the occupier. Trade directories of 1933 and 1941 both list Walter Pollard (1923) Ltd, cotton manufacturer, also of Brook Street Mills, as the occupier. The mill is not included in a trade directory of 1963 suggesting that by this time the mill had, like nearby Hendon Mills, ceased textile production.² In 1998 the surviving mill buildings were in good condition although the chimney has been lost.

DESCRIPTION

Malvern Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built in 1912 on gently sloping ground bounded to the south east by Glenfield Road, to the south west by Grafton Street and with sidings and a coal depot from the London, Midland and Scottish railway to the north west. The original mill buildings have undergone some minor remodelling and later in the 20th century a second weaving shed with its own power source was built on waste ground to the rear and a range of miscellaneous buildings was developed along the north-west side of the original mill.

The mill of 1912

The mill of 1912, shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30, consists of warehouse and yarn preparation block with the mill office projecting from the front to the street at the north-west end, with an engine house and boiler house attached to the south-east end and a weaving shed behind.



The gabled **warehouse and yarn preparation block** of two storeys over a basement built of coursed squared stone rubble with a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The south-west facing front elevation has a narrow cobbled yard before it and is 20 bays long with vehicle entrances, with pedestrian entrances to their right, occupying the 6th and 16th bays from the west. The vehicle entrances have smooth stone quoins to the sides and steel plate lintels and the pedestrian entrances to

the raised ground floor have monolithic surrounds and were originally reached from steps in the yard. At the north-west end is a small two-storey **office block** (Fig 2) projecting from the warehouse and yarn preparation block, across the yard to front the street. The front elevation is three bays wide with at first floor a central three-light mullioned

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 514; *ibid.*, 1933, 446; *ibid.*, 1941, 364; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963).

window with a two-light mullioned window to the left and a single-light window to the right, all with monolithic surrounds. The ground floor windows have been blocked but the pattern appears to have been a central three or four-light mullioned window flanked by single-light windows, all with monolithic surrounds. The pattern appears to be repeated on the south-east elevation although this was largely obscured by later lean-to additions and by the boundary wall which runs the length of the Grafton Street frontage, from the office, and includes a pedestrian entrance adjacent to it with quoined sides and a stone lintel. The words 'MALVERN MILL' are cast into two metal plates set above the entrance which evidently allowed visitors access to the yard directly in front of the mill office.

The engine and boiler houses are attached side by side to the south-east end of the warehouse and yarn preparation block. The tall gabled **engine house** (Fig 3) is built of coursed squared stone rubble with a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The front elevation has a single round-headed window with quoined sides and keyed-in archivolt with impost band. The south-east elevation, where it rises above the boiler house, is five bays long with rectangular windows and a lintel band. The Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30 shows the front of the adjacent **boiler house** to be flush with the front of the engine house but its side wall extends as far as the boundary with Grafton Street and returns as the boundary wall with a boiler door in front of the boiler house, with quoined sides and a cast-iron lintel with a recessed moulded panel with the words 'MALVERN MILL MCMXII' cast into it (Fig 4). The south-east elevation is four bays wide with a pedestrian entrance in the third bay from the south. The rectangular **chimney** stood behind the boiler house but has been demolished.



Behind the warehouse and power blocks is the single-storey **weaving shed**. This has a saw-tooth roof of 17 bays, glazed to the north east, behind parapet walls of coursed squared stone rubble. The south-east wall has a series of rectangular vents, one for each bay, and downpipes for the valley gutters which drain the roof.

Later 20th-century additions

Sometime later, probably in the mid 20th century, a second **weaving shed** was built, butting against the rear of the first. It is of red brick and has a saw-tooth roof of 8 bays and incorporates what appears to be its own **engine house** situated within the west

corner. It is gabled and built of red brick with a slate roof with stone copings.

A range of buildings was also built along the north-west side of the original mill comprising a small three-storey office block, a two-storey building with a triple-span roof, hipped to the north-west and a long gabled shed.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Manor Mill
Hallam Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 98999
NGR: SD 8698 3804**

Surveyed: 3 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 98999

Nelson

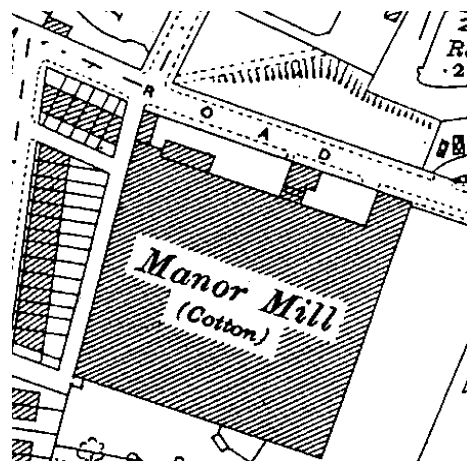
NGR: SD 8698 3804

Manor Mill, Hallam Road

SUMMARY

Manor Mill, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill evidently opened in 1911, is one of a cluster of six textile mills built between 1893 and 1923 in the valley of the Hendon Brook on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is built of coursed stone rubble and consists of an L-shaped three-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block with an engine house, boiler house and circular brick chimney attached to one end. Set in the yard in front of these is a four-bay two-storey office with period detailing, while to the rear is the single-storey weaving shed. The mill was in good condition in 1998 although the chimney has been reduced in height.

HISTORY



Manor Mill is one of a group of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is not shown on a map of 1910 but is recorded in the occupation of Scholfield, Preston and Company Ltd, cotton manufacturers, in 1911. It continued in the occupation of the same firm until between 1941 and 1963, in the latter year being occupied by Dawes and Company (Nelson) Ltd, cotton manufacturers, who had 336 automatic looms in it and wove downproofs, cambrics, sateens, drills, etc.¹ Dawes and Company still occupied the mill in 1998. The mill is shown on the 1929-30 map (Fig 1).²

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 473; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 518; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 696; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 450; *ibid.*, 1941, 367; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 351.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

DESCRIPTION



wide, two deep, the windows in the east gable were all enlarged. All original openings



Manor Mill stands on the sloping south side of the valley of the Hendon Brook, and is the only one of the group six mills on the south side of Hallam Road. The mill (Fig 2), which evidently opened in 1911, is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill which comprises an L-shaped warehouse and yarn preparation block with the engine house, boiler house and chimney at one end. The weaving shed is set behind it while an office projects forward to the road front with the mill yard to either side. Wrought-iron gates flanking the office have central panels cast with the initials S P & Co for Scholfield, Preston & Company, the builders and original occupiers of the mill. The mill is built of squared stone rubble. The **office** (Fig 3) stands on the road frontage in front of the mill, the 1929-30 map showing that it was then, as now, linked to the mill behind. The office is a rectangular two-storeyed building which is gabled and has a slate roof. It is four bays

have quoined ashlar sides, the windows smooth rectangular lintels. The front windows are all of two lights with leaded glazing, the off-centre front door being set in a wide round-headed surround. The **warehouse and yarn preparation block** is L-shaped in plan and three storeys high. Two wide vehicle entrances are visible in the main 19-bay long elevation, one east and one west of the office; they have quoined sides but the lintels are obscured.

The east wing, which projects forward to the pavement edge, has a two-bay long west elevation, is three bays wide and has a seven-bay long east elevation. The form of the warehouse roof was not visible from the ground but gutters over the north end of the east wing empty into a trough close to the head of the west wall. The power block (Fig 4) is at the west end of the warehouse block.

The **engine house**, which projects forward from it, is a broad building with a wide round-headed north window with a quoined surround and keyed-in head. Attached to its

west side and projecting forward to the street is the **boiler house**, a low gabled building with a single wide north door of the same shape as the engine house window; it has four windows down the side, their bases now blocked. The rear part of the boiler house supports a water tank made up from cast-iron panels bolted together. The panels have a saltire cross interrupted by a central circle. The **chimney** behind the boiler house is circular, of red brick with later reinforcing straps, and has been lowered. The **weaving shed** is single storeyed with parapet walls at the ends of the saw-tooth roof which has north-facing glazed lights. Its west wall has rectangular ventilation openings and cast-iron gutter ends which empty into a cast-iron trough supported on cast-iron brackets.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Marsden Mill
Brunswick Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99000
NGR: SD 8688 3670**

Surveyed: 7 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99000

Nelson

NGR: SD 8688 3670

Marsden Mill, Brunswick Street

SUMMARY

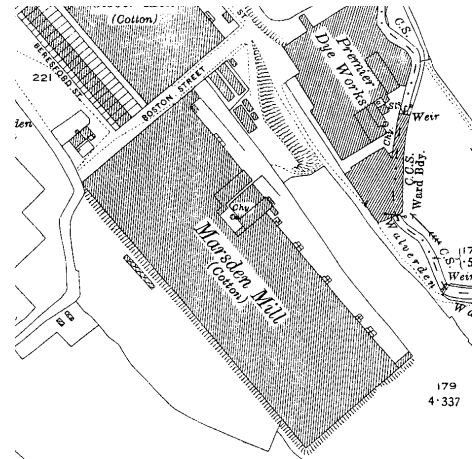
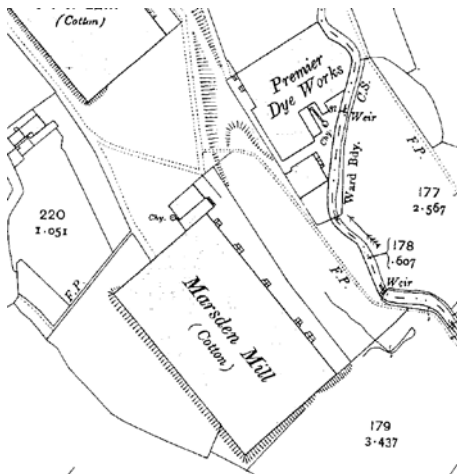
Marsden Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built, on the evidence of its steam engine, in 1908 and extended in 1912. It was built for room and power working, the original mill housing five firms, the enlarged mill a maximum of nine. The 1908 mill had a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with attached engine and boiler houses and a single-storey weaving shed. The extension of 1912 had its own warehouse and yarn preparation block and single-storey weaving shed behind; it utilised the existing boiler house, enhanced by one boiler, but had its own engine house. The mill survives in good condition although the original chimney has been demolished as has much of the added shed.

HISTORY

On the evidence of the dates of its now scrapped steam engines,¹ Marsden Mill was built in about 1908 and extended in 1912, dates which are confirmed by the wider date spans of other sources of evidence. The mill is not included in a directory of 1902 but is shown on the 1909 map (Fig 1a), confirming the 1908 date, and while it was occupied by five different cotton manufacturing firms in 1911, by 1923 this had grown to nine, a growth reflected by the extension of the mill shown on the 1929 map (Fig 1b), both dates well after the actual date of building of 1912. The number of different cotton manufacturers occupying the mill indicates that it was built for room and power working. It had eight cotton manufacturers in it in 1933, four in 1941, and one in 1963, that one (Sagar and Company Limited) having been one of the original occupiers of the mill.² In 1998 the

¹ George Watkins, *The Textile Mill Engine. Parts 1 & 2* (Second edition, Ashbourne, 1999) 154, plate 20 (NB this plate shows the 1908 engine); see also notes and photographs in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Marsden Mill, Nelson, Lancashire, WAT916A & B.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.11, revised 1909, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929,



mill was no longer in textile use, but was still in multiple occupation.

DESCRIPTION

Marsden Mill was built on the south-eastern outskirts of Nelson on ground sloping gently down towards Walverden Water. The mill (Fig 2) was built in two stages, each with its own weaving shed, warehouse block and steam engine, but with a shared boiler house. It is built of coursed stone rubble.

The 1908 mill

The original mill, probably completed in 1908 or 1909, the former the date of manufacture of its steam engine, the latter of its appearance on a map, forms the south-eastern part of the present building. The 1908 building has a gabled two-storey 40-bay long **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 3) which faces north east. It is built of squared stone rubble with a slate roof, and the ground floor of its front elevation has four wide vehicle doors. The **weaving shed** behind is single storeyed with a saw-tooth roof of 18 bays with north-east facing lights and parapet walls at each end. Gutters project through the south-east wall and discharge into downpipes. Power for the weaving mill came from a steam engine house set side by side with the boiler house against the north-west gable wall of the warehouse block, just overlapping the corner of the weaving shed. The **engine house** is a tall gabled rectangular building with a wide round-headed front window and a slate roof. The base of the front window and front wall has been cut away, but the 1909 maps shows steps leading up to what would have been the engineman's door at engine floor level. The steam engine, now removed, was a

published 1931; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 442, 462, 469, 472, 483; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 492, 508, 511, 515, 517, 526-7; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 415, 422, 424, 444, 450, 455, 460; *ibid.*, 1941, 350, 366, 370, 373; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 353.

horizontal cross compound engine built by Burnley Ironworks in 1908 and scrapped in the 1950s (see above). Ropes around the flywheel drove another drum which turned the main drive shaft along the front wall of the weaving shed. The **boiler house**, a lower but



wider building set slightly back from the front of the engine house, has two gables, a broad one and a narrower one, both evidently primary. It has lost its boilers but there were originally three, with one added when the mill was extended. The **chimney**, now reduced to a stump, is circular and of red brick. George Watkins' photographs show it full height with a moulded cap.

The mill extension of 1912

In 1912, the date of its steam engine, Marsden Mill was enlarged by about a third by the addition of a near self-contained block against the north-west end of the 1908 mill. The addition had its own **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 4) which was 17 bays long and two storeys high over a part basement made possible by the fall of the ground to the north west. The front elevation has two wide vehicle doors with smooth quoined sides and steel plate lintels. The first floor originally had a saw-tooth roof with north-west facing lights, since replaced by a modern roof, since the rectangular ventilation openings into each roof and the gutters project through the rear warehouse wall. The **weaving shed** was L-shaped, since it wrapped around the rear of the power block. That part behind the power block survives with its saw-tooth roof with its north-east facing lights, but the main part has been cleared to its outer walls. The north-west



side wall to Boston Street has blocked rectangular ventilation windows. The mill extension utilised the existing **boiler house**, though with the addition of an extra boiler, but had its own steam engine set in an **engine house** projecting beyond and built next to, but not attached to, the boiler house. The engine house is lower and broader than the original one, is gabled and has a wide round-headed front window, its base now altered. It contained a horizontal cross compound engine built in 1912 by

Burnley Ironworks and scrapped in the 1950s (see above). Ropes round the flywheel drove another drum which turned the main drive shaft along the weaving shed wall.

METHODOLOGY

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**Oak Bank Mills
Hallam Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99001
NGR: SD 8679 3822**

Surveyed: 3 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99001

Nelson

NGR: SD 8679 3822

Oak Bank Mills, Hallam Road

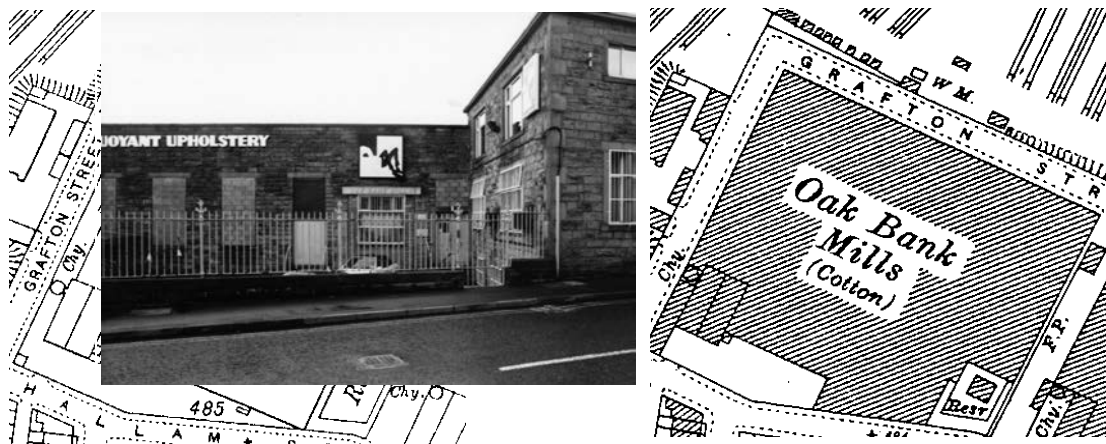
SUMMARY

Oak Bank Mills is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built between 1890 and 1910, probably in 1897. It is one of a cluster of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. It is built of coursed and random stone rubble and red brick and comprises a south-west facing multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block which has the name Oak Bank Mills cast into a lintel over a vehicle entrance, with side-by-side engine and boiler houses, with attached side chimney, attached to the north-west end, a weaving shed to the rear and a reservoir to the south east. The mill was enlarged between 1910 and 1929-30 when a long and narrow single-storey extension was built onto the north-west side, engulfing the chimney, most of the reservoir was built over and the shed was extended to the south-east in red brick and a triangular plan projection was built onto the right side of the front elevation of the multi-storey block, meeting the line of the road. Much of the mill survives in fairly good condition although the chimney has been demolished and the multi-storey block reduced in height. In 1998 the mill was occupied by an upholstery firm.

HISTORY

Oak Bank Mills is one of a group of six mills built between 1893 and 1923 on previously undeveloped land on the then eastern edge of Nelson. The Ordnance Survey map of 1890 shows this area as purely rural and dominated by the shallow valley of Hendon Brook with the small hamlet or farmstead of Hendon in the centre. By the time of the map revision of 1910 (Fig 1a) Hendon Mills and Oak Bank Mills had been built side by side over the former course of Hendon Brook, the brook itself having been dammed a little way upstream to form a reservoir for the controlled supply of water to the two new mills further down the valley, and Glenfield Mill had been built just to the north east. The former hamlet or farmstead of Hendon had been demolished, apparently without trace, and the site of the former meadows to the south of the brook were by now occupied by a tight grid of terraced mill workers' houses. By the time of the map revision of 1929-30 (Fig 1b) Malvern, Dale and Manor Mills had been added to the cluster and a quantity of new terraced housing built to the north.¹

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912., *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



Watkins states that the steam engine at Oak Bank Mills was built in 1897 and this date is acceptable as the date of the mill since it is not mentioned in a trade directory of 1893 but is listed in a directory of 1902 when the occupiers were Worthington and Wilkinson, cotton manufacturers.² The mill is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910 and a trade directory of 1911 lists the occupiers as the Carr Manufacturing Co and Pollard & Foley Ltd.³ The mill continued in textile production and multiple occupation for much of the 20th century and in 1963 was occupied by Joseph Sunderland, Sons & Co Ltd who had 600 Lancashire and 400 automatic looms producing 'all widths from 49-71 ins.; dobbies, venetians, rayons, gaberdines, (yarn dyed and union), poplins, jeanettes, linings, etc.'⁴ In 1998 Most of the mill buildings survived in good condition, with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished, and were occupied by an upholstery firm.

DESCRIPTION

Oak Bank Mills is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built on a gently sloping site to the east of the London, Midland and Scottish Railway.

The mill of 1897

The original mill, shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910, consists of a single-storey over basement **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) built of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and random stone rubble to the south-east side. It has a four-bay saw-tooth roof drained by valley gutters discharging through the south-east wall, behind high parapet walls on all sides. The front elevation is 20 bays long and there is a vehicle entrance with quoined sides and a cast-iron lintel with the words 'OAK BANK MILLS' cast into it, in the 10th bay from the west with a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround, in the adjacent bay to the right. The south-east elevation is four

² George Watkins, *The Stationary Steam Engine* (2nd edition, Ashbourne, 1999), 130; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893); *ibid.*, 1902, 478.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 438, 468.

⁴ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 354.

bays wide.

The engine house and boiler house (Fig 3) are attached side by side to the north-west end of the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block. The tall gabled **engine house** is of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and sides with a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The front elevation has a pair of tall narrow round-headed windows with keystones, with a pair of rectangular vents above, and a pedestrian entrance, with a monolithic surround, to the right. The north-west elevation, above boiler-house level, is fenestrated but the number of bays could not be counted. It originally housed a horizontal triple-expansion steam engine, built by Pollitt & Wigzell in 1897, which developed 500hp at 70rpm and drove 12 ropes from a 18ft flywheel. The engine was scrapped in 1966 when electric drives were installed.⁵ Adjacent is the lower single-storey gabled **boiler house**, built of coursed squared stone rubble to the front elevation which is bonded in with the stonework of the engine house. It has a pair of boiler doors with a continuous cast-iron lintel. A circular **chimney** was attached north-west side of the boiler house, towards the rear, but this has been demolished.



Behind all these buildings along the road frontage is a single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 4) of random stone rubble to the rear and south-east parapet walls and coursed rubble to the north-west parapet wall. The roof could not be fully observed but is presumably of saw-tooth profile and glazed to the north east, the number of bays is not known.

A long rectangular **reservoir**, originally sited on the east side of the mill, has been largely built upon but part of the south-east random-rubble retaining wall survives.

Additions of 1910-1929-30

Between 1910 and 1929-30 The weaving shed was extended to both the east and west and a narrow rectangular building was added to the side of the boiler house, encompassing the base of the chimney, with a taller gabled building returning behind it (Fig 5).

⁵ Watkins (1999), 130.

Part of the rear of the western extension to the weaving shed has been demolished and the rear wall has been rebuilt. The surviving portion is of coursed squared stone rubble with a saw-tooth roof, of which 12 bays survive, glazed to the north east. The north- west elevation is 12 bays wide with a pedestrian entrance in the first bay from the north and



rectangular windows occupying the rest. Adjacent to the south is a tall narrow gabled building of uncertain purpose running back into the site. This butts to the east against the narrow rectangular building which butts the side of the boiler house. It is of coursed squared stone rubble and has been altered. There is a water tank on the roof and there is a vehicle entrance with a cast-iron lintel with the words 'OAK BANK MILLS' cast into it, a second inserted vehicle door and a pedestrian entrance in the north west elevation.

The eastern addition to the weaving shed is of red brick with a 20-bay saw-tooth roof drained by valley gutters through the south-east wall. It was partly built over the northern two thirds of the former reservoir.

METHODOLOGY

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**Parkfield Mills
Clover Hill Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99002
NGR: SD 8630 3674**

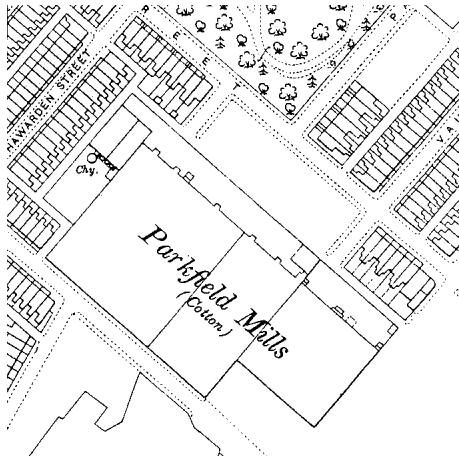
Surveyed: 9 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

LancashireNBR No. 99002

Nelson NGR: SD 8630 3674

Parkfield Mills, Clover Hill Road

SUMMARY

Parkfield Mills is a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill built between 1893 and 1902 and extended by 1910. The original mill, built of squared stone rubble, consisted of a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with the engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to one end and the single-storey weaving shed to its rear. The mill was then extended by a continuation of the warehouse block with a small single-storey weaving shed behind it. The extension still survives, but the original mill has been demolished, only some of the outer walls of the weaving shed still standing.

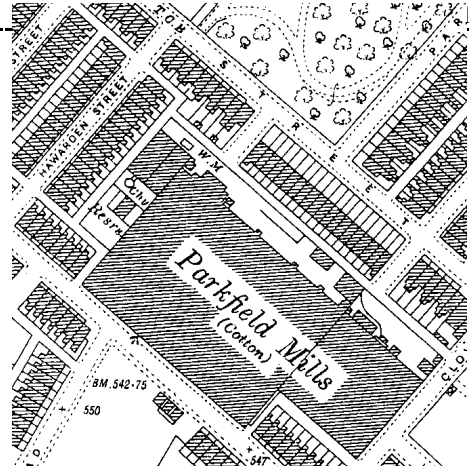
HISTORY

Parkfield Mills was built, on the evidence of Directories, between 1893 and 1902, in the latter year being listed in the occupation of four different cotton manufacturers. It was clearly built for room and power use, and it continued in this way until it closed for textile production some time between 1941 and 1963. The mill was built in two stages, both being shown on the 1910 map (Fig 1a). The number of occupants reduced from four to three between 1902 and 1911, a number it still contained in 1941. The 1929-30 map (Fig 1b) shows a few minor buildings added in front of the mill as well as additional housing and community buildings in its vicinity.¹ In 1998 the buildings of the original mill had been demolished, the remainder being occupied by Fort Vale Engineering.

DESCRIPTION

Parkfield Mills was built in the south-eastern suburbs of Nelson between 1893 and 1902, its extensive shed terraced into the gently sloping ground. The original mill was to the north west, with an extension to the south east. It is curiously sited since it faces a back lane rather than a main road.

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 421, 437, 469, 472; *ibid.*, 1911, 437, 443, 481; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 488, 512, 524; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 690, 695, 698; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 420, 444, 457; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 346, 363, 371; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



The original mill

The original steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill, built between 1893 and 1902, had a large single-storey **weaving shed** set behind a north-east facing two-storey **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** with the power block attached to the north-west end of the latter but just overlapping the corner of the shed. The **engine house and boiler house** were set side by side with the **chimney** behind the latter and a **reservoir** behind all three. All of this has been demolished but for the end of the



warehouse block and the outer walls of the shed. The south-east gable end wall of the warehouse block survives, with a return to the sides of the first windows to front and rear, while the shed walls retain on their inner face the profile of the saw-tooth shed roof (Fig 2) with its north-east facing lights and 32 cast-iron wall boxes to support the ends of line shafts.

Additions to the mill

The original mill was extended south east by an extension of both the warehouse block and the single-storey weaving shed. The **warehouse block** is of two storeys and is built of squared stone rubble with a slate roof. It is 15 bays long with a four-bay wide gable end, the three bays at the front at this end are hidden by a modern addition which replaces minor buildings added between 1910 and 1929-30. A single-storey office range attached to the front wall of the warehouse extension survives, itself extended across part of the original warehouse, its chamfered and stopped ashlar window surrounds indicating its intended use. It has a hipped slate roof. The weaving shed is single storeyed but small: it did not add significantly to the capacity of the mill, and its floor is on a higher level than that of the original shed. Its rear wall has projecting gutter ends discharging into downpipes.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Pendle Street Shed
Pendle Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99003
NGR: SD 8574 3830**

Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Simon Taylor

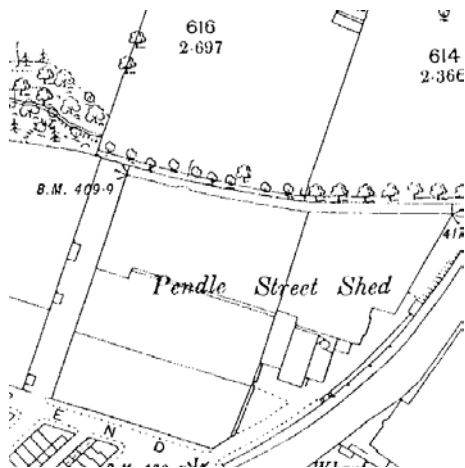
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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND



LancashireNBR No. 99003

NelsonNGR: SD 8574 3830

Pendle Street Shed, Pendle Street

SUMMARY

Pendle Street Shed is a large steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built by the Pendle Street Room and Power Company in 1885, a stone panel set in the gable of the engine house reads

'PENDLE STREET ROOM AND POWER CO LIMITED AD 1885', and in 1887 it was occupied by at least four firms of cotton manufacturers. Although large and irregular in plan the mill appears to be of single-phase construction. It is built of coursed and random stone rubble and consists of a north-west facing gabled two-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block fronting Chatham Street with a large single-storey weaving shed with a shaft alley and saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north east and slated to the south west, with a large gabled engine house, a boiler house and circular brick chimney attached side by side to the centre rear. A second single-storey weaving shed, roughly a third of the size of the first, butts against its south-east side and the north-east sides of the engine and boiler houses, with a second gabled office, warehouse and yarn preparation block to its front facing south east onto the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. The mill has not been altered or extended and almost all of the components survive in good condition with the exception of the boiler house and a building behind it related to the transmission of power, both of which have been demolished.

HISTORY

Pendle Street Shed was built in 1885, the date on the building, by the Pendle Street Room and Power Company Limited. In spite of its large size and sprawling plan it is of single phase construction and is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1890 (Fig 1) at its fullest extent.¹ In 1887 the mill was occupied by William Hartley & Son, W Holland & Co, Read & Co and Fergus Wilkinson & Co, also of Netherfield Mills, all cotton manufacturers.² The mill remained in multiple occupation for most of the 20th century, the only constant occupier being the firm of Fergus Wilkinson & Co who are described in a trade directory of 1963 as '1,000 looms; rayon fancies, rayon/spun check shirtings, dress, blouse, lingerie and lining fabrics, pure silk cloths, nylon, "Terylene" and circular fabrics (loom state only)', the other occupiers being J J Duckworth Ltd and William Fell

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 269.

& Co Ltd (1897).³ Anthony Pilling, writing in 1969, states that Fergus Wilkinson & Co Ltd owned the room and power company and were the largest occupiers of the mill but were themselves owned by J J Duckworth of the adjacent Reedyford mill. Other



occupiers were the Calder Riverside Weavers and East Lancashire Automatics, a light engineering firm and an indication that the building was by this time having to take replacement industry, who occupied the part of the mill vacated by William Fell & Co Ltd.⁴ In 1998 most of the mill buildings survived in good condition with the exception of the boiler house and a small workshop and office near the

chimney, which had recently been demolished.

DESCRIPTION

Pendle Street Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on level ground on the north-west bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal from which it took water for the boilers and by which coal was evidently transported to feed them, unloading facilities remian at the waters edge. The mill is of single-phase construction having from the outset been built as large as possible for the largest locally available engine.⁵ There are no additions.

The mill of 1885

The mill of 1885, as shown on the map of 1890, consisted of a large office, warehouse and yarn processing block on the west side of the site, facing Chatham Street across a yard, with a large weaving shed to the rear with the engine house, boiler house and chimney attached side by side in turn to the centre rear. A further smaller weaving shed, with its own office, warehouse and yarn preparation block to the east, was attached to the north of the power source to the rear wall of the larger shed. Drive from the engine ran both east and west through the large shed and along the south wall of the smaller shed respectively.

The western **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) faces west and is

³ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 351, 354.

⁴ Anthony Pilling, *Nelson, Barrowford & Barley. Growth and Change* (manuscript, 1969).

⁵ Anthony Pilling, *Nelson, Barrowford & Barley. Growth and Change* (manuscript, 1969).

two-storeys high with basement and attics and is built of coursed squared stone rubble to the front and south elevations and random stone rubble to the north elevation. It is gabled with a slate roof with laylights. The front elevation is 31 bays long with rectangular stone lintels and sills to the windows and a bracketed eaves cornice. There are original vehicle



entrances with cast-iron lintels and chamfered ashlar quoins to the sides in the 1st, 7th, 13th and 27th bays from the north and original pedestrian entrances with stone surrounds with interrupted jambs in the 15th, 20th and 28th bays from the north. The north gable-end elevation is four bays wide and has a taking-in door at attic level with a stone surround and a hole above for the hoist beam. The south

elevation is similarly fenestrated and both bond in with the parapet walls of the weaving shed behind. The rear elevation could not be closely inspected but did include a gabled addition to the roof to allow for the transmission of power from the drive shaft from the engine house, via the shed, into the attic.

To the rear is a large single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 3) with a saw-tooth roof of 33 bays, glazed to the north with slated return slopes, behind parapet walls of coursed stone



rubble to the south and random rubble to the north. A shaft alley runs east to west through the shed, a little to the north of its centre, from one end of the engine house carrying the main drive shaft and counter shafts ran from into the weaving shed to the north and south. Attached side by side to the centre of the rear wall is the gabled **engine house** (Fig 4) built of coursed squared stone rubble with a slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The south elevation has two tall narrow round-headed

windows with keyblocks and impost band. Above is a panel inscribed 'PENDLE STREET ROOM AND POWER Co. LIMITED A D 1885'. The east elevation, formerly obscured at a low level by the single-storey boiler house, was fenestrated above and is five bays wide with tall narrow transomed windows with smooth stone segmental heads with a ashlar band at transom level. The single-storey **boiler house** (Fig 5)⁶ formerly adjoining to the east has recently been demolished but is known from photographs taken just prior to this to have been of coursed squared stone rubble with a triple span pitched roof with three round-headed boiler doors with ashlar voussoirs and keyblocks and smooth stone piers between and quoined sides. An extra storey was added sometime later over part of the boiler house, three bays wide by one long, butting against the upper

⁶ Photograph supplied by David Morris of Pendle Borough Council.

level of the engine house. Its purpose is unknown. The **chimney**, by the side of the boiler house, is built of red brick. It is circular and tapering, and has a moulded cap.

The eastern **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 6), fronting the canal,

is three storeys high, trapezoidal in plan and built of coursed and random stone rubble with a saw-tooth roof behind parapets. The east elevation is 15 bays long with pedestrian entrances, with monolithic surrounds with interrupted jambs, in the fourth and eleventh bays from the south. The north elevation is six bays wide and the south-east elevation is two bays wide and has a wide vehicle entrance in the first bay from the west with chamfered quoins and a cast-iron lintel. To the rear the **weaving shed** served by this warehouse is set back to back with the main weaving shed and is roughly a third its size. It is trapezoidal in plan with a saw-tooth roof glazed to the north east behind parapet walls of coursed stone rubble. The south-west wall, formerly butting against the rear of the boiler house and storeroom, contains a series of large wall boxes set between stone pads, presumably carrying the main shaft from the engine along the south-west side of the shed.



METHODOLOGY

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**Premier Dye Works
Brunswick Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99004
NGR: SD 8692 3687**

Surveyed: 7 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

LancashireNBR No. 99004

Nelson NGR: SD 8692 3687

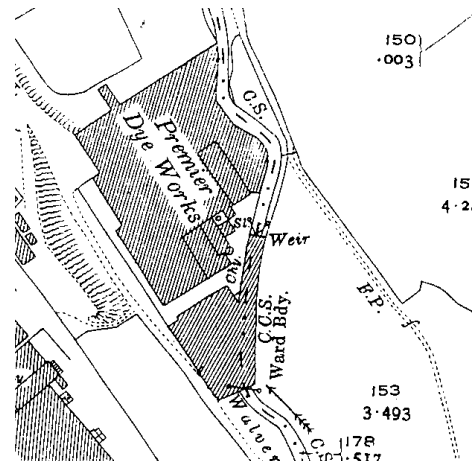
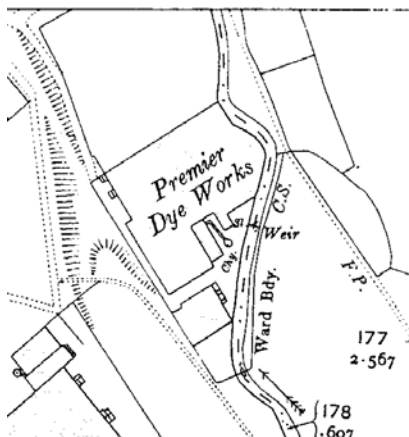
Premier Dye Works, Brunswick Street

SUMMARY

Premier Dye Works was built by Penny Brothers and Winder between 1902 and 1909 on a valley bottom site beside Walverden Water. The firm occupied it until after 1963 when it was completely demolished but for lengths of squared stone rubble walls beside the road.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Premier Dye Works was built between 1902, when it is not included in a directory, and



1909 when it is shown on a map (Fig 1a); it was extended between 1909 and 1929 (Fig 1b). It was evidently built by Penny Brothers and Winder Ltd., who are listed there in all directories from 1911 until 1963. In 1911 they were listed as cop and warp dyers, in 1924 as dyers of all fast washing and fast bleaching colours on cop and in bundle, and in 1963 as dyers on warp and cheese, and winders of cotton yarn on beam, cheese and cone.¹ The site subsequently closed for dyeing and by 1998 it had been cleared, only

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.11, revised 1909, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929, published 1931; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 467; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 513; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 695; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 445; *ibid.* 1941, 363; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 349.

fragments of the squared stone rubble wall (Fig 2) to Brunswick Street surviving. Maps indicate, however, that its main block, irregularly shaped because of its position next to the Walverden Water, vital for its water supply, included an engine house, boiler house and chimney.

METHODOLOGY

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**Reedyford Mill
Scott Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99005
NGR: SD 8580 3838**

Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99005

Nelson

NGR: SD 8580 3838

Reedyford Mill, Scott Street

SUMMARY

Reedyford Mill is a cotton-weaving mill built of stone rubble and red brick. It was built between 1924 and 1929-30 and was commercially linked from the earliest times with the adjacent, earlier and much larger Pendle Street Shed and it is unclear whether Reedyford Mill had its own source of power or whether power was in some way transferred from the engine there. The mill was enlarged in the 1950s and in 1998 was in retail use as a Factory Outlet.

HISTORY

Map evidence indicates that Reedyford Mill was built between 1910¹ and 1929-30² and the mill is mentioned in the trade directory of 1932³ as occupied by J J Duckworth Ltd, cotton manufacturers, who also occupied the adjacent Pendle Street Mills. Reedyford Mill is not mentioned by name in other trade directories of this time but both Kelly's Directory⁴ of 1924 and Barrett's Directory⁵ of 1933 both list J J Duckworth Ltd as cotton manufacturers occupying Pendle Street Shed and Pendle Street Mill respectively, the latter probably misnamed. J J Duckworth Ltd was still occupying Reedyford and Pendle Street Mills in 1963⁶ and was involved in the manufacture of a variety of textile products including rayon and nylon goods. The Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30 (Fig 1) does not indicate any conspicuous power plant in the original mill but a cluster of three small blocks in the north-west corner, now obliterated by later rebuilding and extending, may have been related to this. In 1998 the mill was occupied by the Gift Tree Factory Outlet and used for warehousing and retail.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

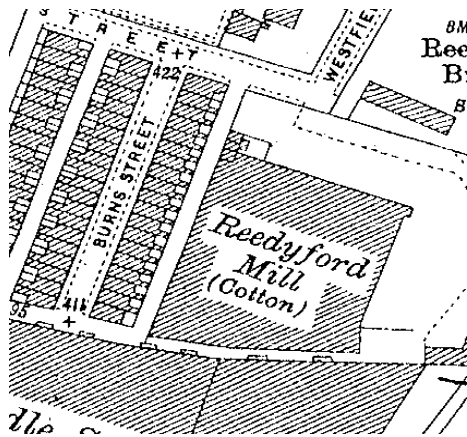
² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

³ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1932), 17.

⁴ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 691.

⁵ Barrett's *Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 425.

⁶ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 351.



DESCRIPTION

Reedyford Mill occupies level ground to the west of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and just south of Reedyford Bridge. It is bounded on the west by the lane at the rear of the terrace fronting Burns Street and to the south by the much larger Pendle Street Shed. The mill was built between 1910 and 1929-30 and has since been enlarged to the front and east side, possibly in the 1950's.

The original mill

The original mill comprises a single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 2) built of random rubble with a 20-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north east and slated to the south west. 19 gutter ends drain through the north-west parapet wall into a cast-iron box gutter on brackets. The internal structure consists of cast-iron columns with lugged D-section bolting heads supporting I-section beams which in turn support the roof gutters. It is



unclear whether the original mill included a multi-storey block, usually used for yarn preparation, as a warehouse and sometimes for office purposes, the north-west elevation includes an area of low stone wall connecting the weaving shed with the later extension which might have been part of a multi-storey block but it is in the position of the three small blocks shown on the 1929-30 Ordnance Survey map. The apparent front wall of the original mill, now an internal wall, is built of brick with a series

of wide ground-floor windows with I-section steel lintels (Fig 3). No evidence for a power plant could be found and it is unclear where it was positioned.

The extensions

Reedyford Mill has been extended to the front and to the east side and the styling of the new main entrance in the front elevation suggests that this took place in the 1950s. The

front extension (Fig 4) is built of randomly coursed stone rubble and is divided between a two-storey office section to the right and a single-storey goods area to the left. The office section is five bays wide to the front and two bays wide to the side with smooth stone sills and shaped stone lintels to the windows. The first bay from the left at ground-floor level is occupied by a wide pedestrian doorway with an elaborate stone surround suggestive of a 1950s date. The goods area to the left is also built of random rubble and is 9 bays wide, the fourth bay from the left has been converted to a wide goods entrance. The shed has also been extended to the east towards the canal and the east wall has been rebuilt in red brick.

METHODOLOGY



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**Riverside Mill
Crawford Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99006
NGR: SD 8624 3844**

Surveyed: 5 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99006

Nelson

NGR: SD 8624 3844

**Riverside Mill, formerly Bradley Shed, then Riverside Mill and Bradley Shed,
Crawford Street**

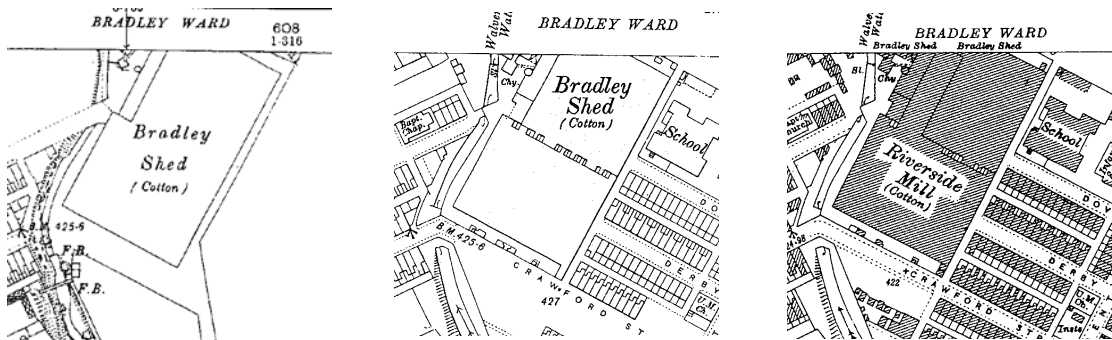
SUMMARY

Bradley Shed, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill sited next to Walverden Water, was built between 1887 and 1890 and was extended before 1910, a third stage being added by 1910 thereby creating an L-shaped block of buildings. It was built for room and power working but during the 1920s one tenant renamed his part of the building Riverside Mill, the remainder retaining its original name. The original mill had a mirror-image plan with a pair of back-to-back single-storey weaving sheds with a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block across their outer ends. An engine house, boiler house and associated chimney are attached to the side of one shed. The extension was of a further weaving shed with its own three-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block, itself later enlarged. The mill, most of it built of stone rubble but with a brick chimney, is in good condition and is now known by the single name, Riverside Mill.

HISTORY

Bradley Shed, which was approached from Elizabeth Street to its west, was built in the late 1880s: it is not mentioned in a Directory published in 1887 but is shown on a map revised in 1890 (Fig 1a). It was built for room and power working, its north-east and south-east sheds, both on the 1890 map, housing six different cotton manufacturers in 1893. At some time between 1890 and 1910 (Fig 1b) the mill was extended with the construction of the north-west shed. Directories indicate that the mill housed nine cotton manufacturers in 1902, seven in 1911 and five in 1923. In 1924 one of the mill's longstanding tenants, Edward Dyson & Sons Ltd., renamed as Riverside Mill that part of the mill which they occupied, namely the south-east shed fronting Crawford Street and part of the north-east shed. The remainder retained the original name, Bradley Shed, in 1924 housing three cotton manufacturing firms. The 1929-30 map (Fig 1c) shows the extended but renamed mill. Riverside Mill had the same single tenant in 1933 and 1941 as in 1924, and Bradley Shed likewise the same two, but by 1963 one of the latter, J T Clegg and Co. Ltd., occupied the whole building, their address being Bradley Mills and Riverside Mills in which they ran 386 Lancashire looms and 250 Northrop looms.¹ In

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.3 and 7, surveyed 1890-1 and 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 310, 323, 327, 330; *ibid.*, 1902, 423, 441, 457, 459, 460, 468, 473; *ibid.*, 1911, 439, 440, 445, 454, 468, 471, 482; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 490, 494, 501, 513, 525; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London,



1998 the whole site was occupied by John Wilman Ltd., and was called Riverside Mill.

DESCRIPTION

Bradley Shed, a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill operating on a room and power basis, was built beside Walverden Water on a site which sloped gently down to the river on the then northern outskirts of Nelson. The original building is in two parts, a north-east and south-east shed, both built between 1887 and 1890, and approached from the west down Elizabeth Street and from the south by Crawford Street. Each shed comprised a weaving shed and associated warehouse block, the whole built to a mirror-image plan, the north-east shed the narrower because the engine and boiler houses were attached to its west side. The north-west shed, added to the west of the power block between 1890 and 1910, has a warehouse at its east end and a weaving shed behind, its west wall eventually bounded by Charles Street. Riverside Mill was a name given to part of it in 1924, and it has since become the name of the whole site. All the buildings are of squared rubble but for the chimney and later additions which are of brick.

The north-east shed

The north-east shed has an **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** three storeys high, 20 bays long by four deep, running across the north end. Its front elevation (Fig 2) has two wide vehicle doors with adjacent pedestrian doors, the former with cast-iron lintels with sunk panels over the opening, the latter with monolithic surrounds with interrupted jambs. Parapet walls with paired brackets up to the coping run around the wall top on all except the rear elevation, and gutter ends projecting from the front elevation and discharging into downpipes indicate a series of small pitched or saw-tooth roofs running front to back. The **weaving shed** is single-storeyed with a 14-bay saw-tooth roof with glazed north-east facing lights. The power block down the west side of the building has a one-bay wide, five-bay deep, tall **engine house** attached to the side of the shed (Fig 3). Its windows are round-headed and it has a parapet wall all round. The **boiler house** is in line with and south of the engine house and the associated **chimney**

1924), 690-1, 693, 698; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 422, 426, 457; *ibid.* 1941, 348, 351, 371; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 349.

has a circular tapering red brick stack with a moulded stone cap and the name BRADLEY SHED picked out in white bricks close to the top.

The south-east shed

The south-east shed, attached to the south side of the north-east shed, may have been built at the same time as the latter or immediately after it: both are shown on the 1890



map. The **weaving shed** is single storeyed with parapet walls to the sides: to the west gutter ends project and discharge into downpipes. The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** along the south side of the weaving shed (Fig 4) faces Crawford Street and is three storeys high, 24 bays long and four bays deep. Its windows have rectangular cast-iron lintels and the front elevation has a wide vehicle door with a flanking pedestrian door towards its west end. They, as well as the wall top detailing and roof arrangement, are like those on the warehouse block of the north-east shed.



The north-west shed

The north-west shed, added between 1890 and 1910, and built across a ground-floor passage down the west side of the existing power block, has a **warehouse and yarn preparation block** at its eastern end. Three storeys high, 12 bays long and 6 deep, it has a tier of taking-in doors in its

south end wall, facing the mill yard. The wall top has a parapet wall all round and a roof like those on the other warehouse blocks. The **weaving shed** is single storeyed and has a stepped west parapet wall to the 12-bay shed which has a saw-tooth roof with north-facing lights. The gutter ends to Charles Street to the west have angular sheet-metal covers with cable edging, added no doubt when Charles Street was created some years after the completion of the shed. A **north addition to the warehouse block** (Fig 2), built after 1929-30, is three storeys high, nine bays long by six wide, and has a north-facing saw-tooth roof. It is built of brick which has been rendered.

METHODOLOGY

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industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Scholefield Mill
Brunswick Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99007
NGR: SD 8688 3712**

Surveyed: 7 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor

Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99007

Nelson

NGR SD 8690 3704

Scholefield Mill, Brunswick Street

SUMMARY

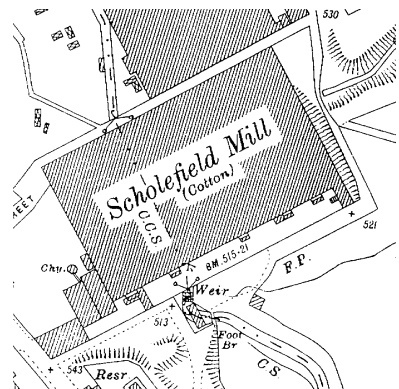
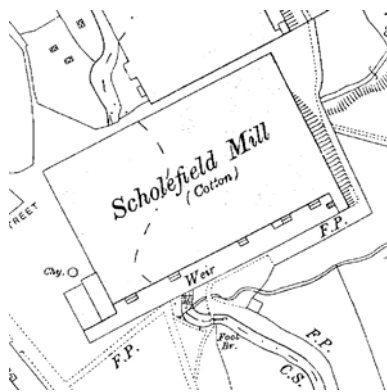
Scholefield Mill is a steam-powered cotton weaving mill built between 1893 and 1910 in a valley bottom location over Walverden Water. It comprised a 41-bay, three-storey office and processing block with a 19-bay north-east-light weaving shed attached to the south west. The engine house, boiler house and chimney were attached at the south-west end of the office and processing block. A coal store and an additional single-storey office block were added shortly after completion. The mill building remains almost completely intact with only the chimney having been demolished.

HISTORY

The Ordnance Survey map of 1890¹ shows the site of the present mill as undeveloped fields and meadows but by the time of the revision of 1910² the mill complex had almost reached its full extent (Fig 1a), the only omissions being a coal store and two minor ancillary additions to the west and south which appear on the revision of 1929-30 (Fig 1b).³ In 1911 it was occupied by Mather Bros and Co Ltd, Ridehalgh and Cunliffe and

Sutcliffe Bateson and Co, all cotton manufacturers.⁴

The mill has not been significantly developed and all original buildings survive with the exception of the chimney. In 1998 it was occupied by the



¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 502.

Benefits Agency and used as a file store.

DESCRIPTION



Scholefield Mill (Fig 2) is a steam-powered cotton weaving mill built between 1893 and 1910 in a valley bottom location with Walverden Water culverted below. It consisted of a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block facing south east with a 19-bay weaving shed to the rear, and an engine house and a boiler house, with a detached chimney, to the south-west. A covered coal store at the

at the base of a two-bay gabled delivery range, in the form of a part-hipped stone shed which drops with the contour of the valley side from the boiler house below to a low gable end elevation on Brunswick Street above, had been added by 1929-30.

The original mill



The south-east facing **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** is three storeys high with a gabled slate roof, copings and kneelers, and ceramic ridge tiles. The walls are built of coursed, squared stone rubble and the front elevation (Fig 3) is 41 bays wide with stone lintels and sills to all windows. Large wagon entrances with ashlar quoins occupy the 3rd and 15th bays from the right. Internally the

structure consists of two rows of cast-iron columns with compression plates supporting timber beams. The rear elevation, above the line of the shed, is 40 bays wide with two rows of windows. The south-east elevation is 4 bays wide, 2 storeys high and built of random rubble.

The single storey **weaving shed** (Fig 4) has a slated 19-bay north-west light saw-tooth roof bounded on the north east and south west by high parapet walls of random rubble with stone copings and with 19 gutter ends, and corresponding fall pipes, protruding from the wall face to drain rainwater from between the roof bays. The north-west wall is of similar construction but lower to avoid obscuring the glazing of the final roof bay. The corners are quoined.

The **engine and boiler houses** (Fig 5) are set side by side attached to the south-west end of the multi-storey range which is itself built up to and over the engine house. The boiler

house is to the left and the engine house to the right enabling power to be transmitted directly into the weaving shed and the multi-storey block itself. The engine house is built of coursed squared stone rubble and has a truncated pitched roof with stone coping. The south-east elevation features a tall round-headed engine window with an ashlar surround, quoins and impost band. It is bonded in with the south-east elevation of the boiler house which has a large boiler opening with a cast-iron I-



section lintel. The detached chimney stood behind.⁵

Later Additions

Historic map evidence indicates that the former **coal store** that links the mill below with Brunswick Street and enabled direct loading of fuel for the boiler from the street, presumably with the aid of gravity, was not part of the original mill but was added later. It is built of coursed squared rubble and the roof is slated and hipped to the north east where it connects with the boiler house and pedimented to the south west, fronting the road, over double loading doors with a cast-iron lintel by Dorman Long and Son of Middlesbrough.

There is a narrow yard in front of the multi-storey range with, at the north-east end, a single-storey **office** (Fig 6), rectangular in plan and added after 1929-30. It butts against the warehouse block, they are not bonded together. The front of the office faces south west and is three bays wide with a central door flanked by a pair of two-light mullioned windows with stone surrounds. The overlight above the door is engraved with the words 'SUTCLIFFE, BATESON & CO LIMITED REGISTERED OFFICE'. The walls are built of coursed, squared rubble and the roof is slated and hipped.



METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Spring Bank Mills
Every Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99008
NGR: SD 8526 3748**

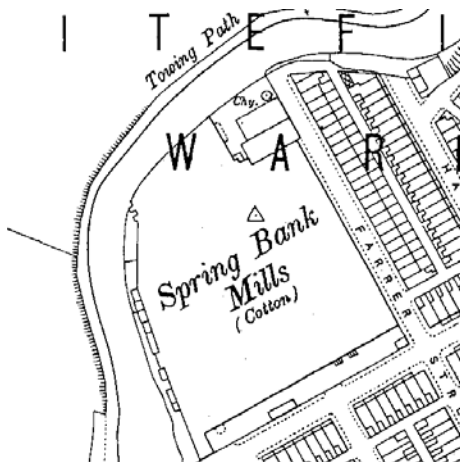
Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

LancashireNBR No. 99008

Nelson NGR: SD 8526 3748

Spring Bank Mills, Every Street

SUMMARY

Spring Bank Mills is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built for room and power working and opened in 1893. It stands on the bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and is built of stone rubble, squared on the principal elevations. It comprises a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with a single-storey weaving shed to its rear. The engine house, boiler house and chimney were attached to the rear corner of the shed which was slightly extended before 1910. Offices were added in front of the mill between 1910 and 1929-30. The mill is in good condition, the chimney and boiler house being the only losses.

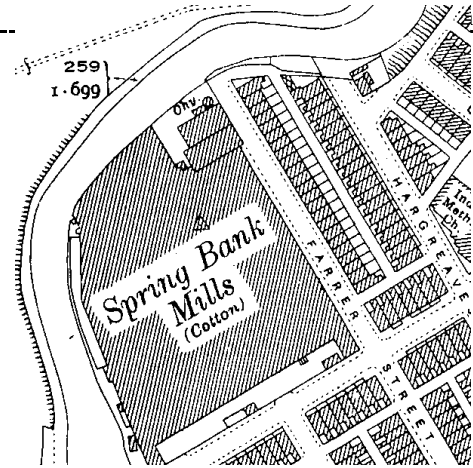
HISTORY

Spring Bank Mills was opened in 1893, the date of its steam engine. This date is confirmed by other evidence since in 1890 the mill's site was shown as open fields on the Ordnance Survey map and in 1893 it was occupied by Francis S Whitham, cotton manufacturer. It was built for room and power working since photographs of the now-scrapped steam engine show that its gantry included a plate cast with the text SPRING BANK ROOM AND POWER CO NELSON 1893.¹ The fact that it only had one occupant in 1893 must reflect its recent opening since by 1903 it had four, all of them cotton manufacturers. In 1911 three cotton manufacturers were listed, in 1923 four, in 1924, three and in 1933 and 1941, two. In 1963 the sole occupant was William Reed and Sons Ltd., who had 876 looms and wove rayon and nylon fabrics. The firm, initially Reed and Dyson Brothers, had been in the mill since at least 1902, and they still occupied it in 1998.² The mill is shown on the 1910 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) and, little changed, on that of 1929-30 (Fig 1b).³

¹ Notes and photographs in National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collections, Spring Bank Mill, Nelson, Lancashire, WAT169.

² Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 334; *ibid.*, 1902, 452, 456, 459, 472; *ibid.*, 1911, 469, 481, 502; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 509, 515, 520; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 694, 696, 697; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 441, 447; *ibid.*, 1941, 360, 365; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 353.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



DESCRIPTION

Spring Bank Mills was built on the western outskirts of Nelson on a site sloping down to the north and west to a bend in the Leeds and Liverpool Canal which on these sides forms its boundary. The mill faces Every Street to its south; Farrer Street runs down the east side. The mill is of one main build with only relatively minor later additions. It is built of stone rubble with slate roofs.

The original mill

The original steam-powered cotton-weaving mill opened in 1893 comprised a multi-storey block, a weaving shed and a power block. The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) faces Every Street to its south but is set back behind a long and narrow mill yard. It is three storeys high with a basement at its west end, 32 bays long and 5 bays deep. A parapet wall with brackets up to the coping except along the rear elevation hides either a saw-tooth roof or a series of narrow pitched roofs whose gutters



empty into downpipes on the front wall. The ground floor of the front elevation has wide vehicle entrances with cast-iron lintels cast with the name SPRING BANK MILLS within a sunk panel in the 9th and 24th bays from the west. Both have a pedestrian doorway with a monolithic surround with interrupted jambs in the adjoining east bay. There are small windows over these doors.

The **weaving shed** (Fig 3) behind the warehouse block is single storeyed and was

originally sub-rectangular in shape, its west side canted to reflect the curve of the canal, its rear wall running west from the engine house and leaving a clear area beside the canal.

The shed's outer walls are flat-topped, the side walls acting as parapet walls with rectangular ashlar-bound ventilation openings into alternate bays of the saw-tooth roof with its glazed north lights. Cast-iron gutter ends project through the west side wall and discharge into downpipes. The east side wall to Farrer Street has, built into it, the ends of

23 large corbels which project into the interior of the shed to support the main drive shaft and the bevel gears which transferred drive to countershafts. The outer ends of the corbels are seated between substantial rectangular blocks of stone.

Power came from the **engine house** (Fig 4) attached to the rear north-east corner of the shed. A tall rectangular building, gabled to east and west, it has three windows in both its side walls, one in its front wall and two in its rear wall. They are all tall, narrow and round-headed, the heads of ashlar and springing from a flush impost band. The street elevation has a wide doorway and a small window at its base, the doorway with interrupted jambs, its head raised. The roof retains two of its three original conical sheet-metal ridge ventilators. The original steam engine was scrapped in 1962 but records by George Watkins (see above) indicate that it was built in 1893 by Musgrave of Bolton. It was called Victory. The **boiler house**, shown attached to the side wall of the engine house on the 1910 map, has been demolished. Since the stone end wall to Farrer Street survives, its boiler openings must have been into the yard to the north. The circular **chimney** shown on the 1910 map projecting in front of the east end of the boiler house has also been demolished. A blind section of indifferent masonry on the north wall of the engine house, towards its west end, rather like that hidden from view when the boiler house, may be where it was intended to build the original chimney.

Additions to the mill

Map evidence indicates that by 1910 a small extension had been added to the weaving shed. The **weaving shed extension**, added to the rear wall of the original shed west of the engine house, is single storeyed, has brick walls with stone quoins and coping, and



was built up to the edge of the canal. Cast-iron gutter ends project through the north parapet wall and discharge into a trough: there are 13 implying a 14-bay shed. There are also six rectangular ventilation openings in the wall. The interior of the shed appears to have been renewed since a modern roof now covers it.

A second addition, on map evidence built between 1910 and 1929-30, was of a single-storeyed **office** range built at the east end of the mill yard fronting Every Street. The office, on the site of an earlier but smaller building whose masonry it partially incorporates, is a single-storey building with a hipped roof. It has four original windows in the wall to Farrer Street but that in the front wall is new. The office now links up with a single-storey three-bay long building, gabled to the west, which is shown on the 1910 map.

The **warehouse block** has been subject to some alterations, notably the demolition of the short gabled block which projected forward at its west end and the insertion of wide

modern ground-floor windows at the east end of the front elevation and on the Farrer Street elevation. Rectangular cast-iron plates at the base of the latter elevation relate to power brought into the building and up the inner face of this wall on the evidence of circular cast-iron tie-rod plates around the first-floor blind window.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Throstle Nest Mill
Bankhouse Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99009
NGR: SD 8637 3824**

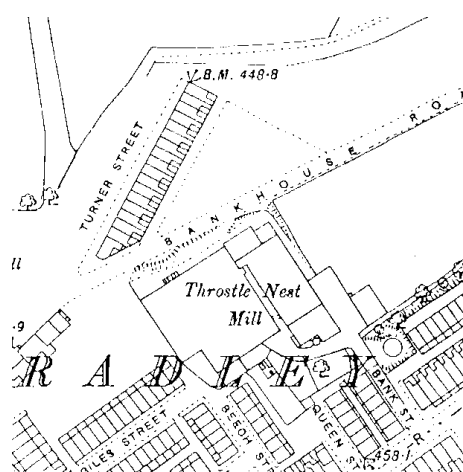
Surveyed: 5 November 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99009

Nelson

NGR: SD 8697 3824

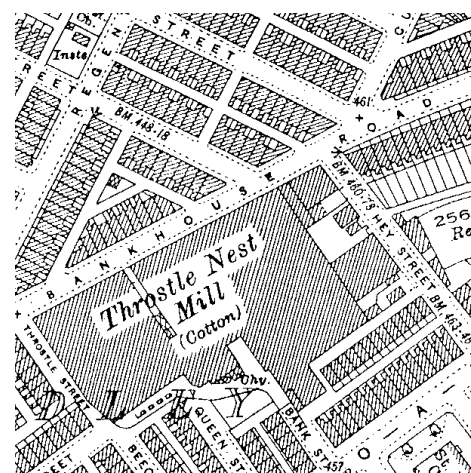
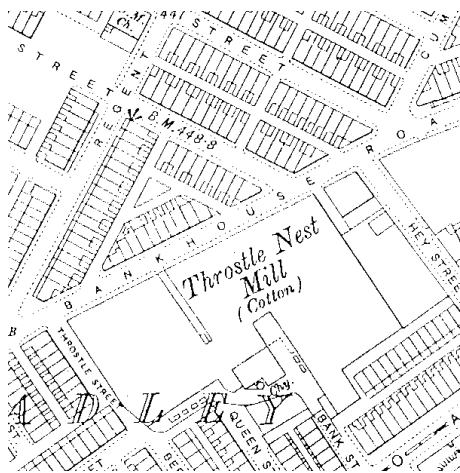
Throstle Nest Mill, Bankhouse Road

SUMMARY

Throstle Nest Mill is a steam-powered cotton-spinning and weaving mill of at least three building phases. The evolution of the site is complex. A cotton mill stood on the site in 1844, was probably water powered, since it had a mill pond, and may be incorporated in the present mill. In 1854 the firm of Henry Tunstall and Son, cotton spinners and manufacturers, were listed within the township of Great and Little Marsden, the firm of Tunstall Brothers being listed as the occupiers of Throstle Nest Mill, Nelson, in 1887. The first phase consists of the cotton-spinning mill, built before 1844, that occupied the site of the multi-storey block at the core of the present mill which bears a date of 1851 and is built of coursed watershot and random stone rubble with a triple-pitched roof. The engine and boiler houses and the chimney were attached to the end but have been demolished. Between 1844 and 1890 a single-storey weaving shed was added to the one side and between 1890 and 1929-30 a corresponding single-storey weaving shed was added to the other side. A multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block was later added to the earlier weaving shed. The mill buildings have been much altered and the engine and boiler houses have been lost, but the existence of the early building at the core of the site lends it great importance. In 1998 it was in multi-occupancy as a business centre.

HISTORY

Throstle Nest Mill was first built as a cotton-spinning mill sometime before 1844 when it appears on the Ordnance Survey map of that year (Fig 1a)¹ as a rectangular building, identified as a cotton factory but otherwise not named. By 1890, when the mill is shown and named on an Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1b), the building on the site of the original spinning mill had been enlarged to the north an engine house, boiler house and chimney had been added to the south, the water course from the mill pond diverted south, and a partly detached weaving shed built to the west. A further weaving shed was subsequently built to the east and is shown on the map of 1910 (Fig 1c). By the time of the map revision of 1929-30 (Fig 1d) additional blocks had been built on the east side of the second weaving shed.² The central block, in the position of the original spinning mill, is multi-storeyed and is dated 1851 although the top half of the date has been dressed back



and lost. It is uncertain whether the 1851 date refers to rebuilding or heightening work undertaken on the original mill. A trade directory of 1854 lists Henry Tunstill and Son, cotton spinners and manufacturers, within the township of Great and Little Marsden, although their mill is not mentioned, and in directories of 1887 and 1893 Tunstill Brothers, cotton spinners and manufacturers, are listed as the sole occupiers of Throstle Nest Mill, by now within the town of Nelson. By 1902 the mill had switched to weaving only and was in multiple occupancy, the directory of that year listing Bracewell and Duerden, Normanton & Co Ltd and John Thomas Whitaker as the occupiers. Between 1911 and 1923 the number of firms occupying the mill had risen from three to six, probably reflecting the building of the second weaving shed, and the mill remained in multiple occupancy at least until 1941, although the number of tenants was reduced to two, and in 1963 a trade directory lists only one firm at the mill, Cornes & Co Ltd, described thus '336 looms; rayon crepes, taffetas, coloured rayon checks, dress fabrics, silk, nylon and wool fabrics from 37-61 in.'³ In 1998 most of the mill buildings

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

³ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 762; Barrett,s

survived in moderate condition, although the steam-power block and some other buildings had been demolished, and were in multiple occupation but not for textile manufacture.

REPORT

Throstle Nest Mill (Fig 2) originated as a cotton-spinning mill,⁴ The yarn then being put out for weaving, built in a relatively isolated, semi-rural position in the township of Great



and Little Marsden, close to the village of Bradley. The town of Nelson had not yet developed. The original mill was probably water powered, the 1844 map shows Hendon Brook running through its southern end and the 1890 map shows a mill pond, weir and head race a short distance to the north east, the head race by this time entering diverted south and entering a culvert beside a large unidentified circular feature with banked sides, perhaps a former gasometer, at the south-west end of a

terrace of houses.

The original mill



The original spinning mill, shown on the 1844 map, was rectangular in plan and water powered, being fed by a mill pond to the east via a mill race which apparently drove a water wheel within a wheel house at the south end of the mill. The building presently on the site (Fig 3) is rectangular in plan and may incorporate the earlier mill including the internal end water wheel house, suggested by wider bays in the east and west walls at the south end. It is three

storeys high over a basement and has a triple-span roof, the north-east and south-west elevations are of watershot stone rubble and are both nine bays long with a lintel band at first floor. The gabled south-east elevation was originally buttressed against by the steam-

General and Commercial Directory of Burnley (Preston, 1887), 269; *ibid.*, 1893, 331; *ibid.*, 1902, 419, 454, 474, *ibid.*, 1911, 501, 435, 502; *Barrett's General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1923), 485, 486, 487, 493, 526; *ibid.*, 1941; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 351.

⁴ Anthony Pilling, *Nelson, Barrowford & Barley. Growth & Change* (manuscript, 1969).

power source, now demolished, and is of random stone rubble with a band continuing the first-floor lintel band of the main elevations and doorways with stone lintels and sills, now exposed at first and second floor level in the eastern most bay. A large wall box on the left side, high in the first floor and cutting the line of the second-floor band, took power from the engine into the mill. It has been removed but its stone seatings remain and blocking is evident. The north-west gabled elevation is three bays wide and of random stone rubble with a projecting privy tower. The building is dated 1851 at second floor level on the south-west elevation but it is uncertain whether this relates to an enlargement or remodelling of the existing mill, shown on the 1844 map, possibly when it converted to steam power which would have been necessary when a weaving shed was built, or a new build following its demolition. The existing block is apparently in the same position as the original mill and of the same dimensions.

The additions of 1851-1890

Between 1844 and 1890 the mill was converted to steam power and a power block was built to the south of the site of the original mill. It may have taken place in 1851 when the spinning mill was rebuilt. The power block is shown on the map of 1890.

A large rectangular single-storey **weaving shed**, shown on the map of 1890, was built to the south west of the original mill. Only the south-west parapet wall (Fig 4) is now



visible and is of random stone rubble with punch-dressed quoins to the corners and the ends of punch-dressed stone blocks, to seat line shaft ends internally, set between stone pads, and four rectangular vents. The roof was doubtless of saw-tooth profile and glazed to the north east. It has been replaced. A warehouse and yarn preparation block was also built across the south-east side of the shed.

The map of 1890 also shows two additional rectangular blocks added to the north-west end of the original mill and a tall narrow block built of random stone rubble, two storeys high and four bays long by two wide, with a five-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north west, behind parapets on the south east and north east sides, occupies this position but is probably a later rebuild as it runs as far as Bankhouse Road, which the block on the 1890 map doesn't.

The additions of 1890-1910

A further single-storey **weaving shed** was built to the north east of the 1851 mill, roughly rectangular in plan with a saw-tooth roof glazed to the north east, behind parapet walls of random stone rubble. The north-west elevation has a vehicle entrance with tooled stone quoins to the sides, and two pedestrian entrances with monolithic surrounds. It is not certain if both are primary as one has interrupted jambs. The shed's size was restricted

on the south east side by a terrace of houses and the probable gasometer mentioned earlier. A small square extension was however added shortly after the completion of the main shed, it is shown on the 1910 map, on the site of the suggested gasometer.

The earlier **weaving shed** was also enlarged to the north west, up to the line of Bankhouse Road, in random stone rubble. The north-west elevation has six rectangular vents with monolithic surrounds and there are tooled stone quoins to the west corner.

Additions between 1910 and 1929-30

Between 1910 and 1929-30 a group of rectangular buildings, shown on the map of 1929-30, was added to the north-east side of the mill but these have largely been demolished.

Later 20th century additions

Later, probably in the mid 20th century, an **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 5) was built, butting against the south-east side of the earlier weaving shed, replacing the earlier building on the site. It is two storeys high over a basement and built of coursed squared stone rubble with a 12-bay saw-tooth roof behind parapets, drained by valley gutters discharging into downpipes on the south-east wall. It is 12 bays long by three wide and has a vehicle entrance with tooled stone quoins and a cast-iron lintel in the south-west elevation and a vehicle entrance with channelled quoins in the 11th bay from the south west with a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround and interrupted jambs adjacent.



METHODOLOGY

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**Vale Street Shed
Vale Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99010
NGR: SD 8656 3750**

Surveyed: 9 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99010

Nelson

NGR: SD 8656 3750

Vale Street Shed, Vale Street

SUMMARY

Vale Street Shed was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill first built between 1879 and 1887 and rebuilt between 1890 and 1910. It comprised two north-east facing multi-storey office, warehousing and yarn preparation ranges separated by a wide boiler house with chimney and two flanking engine houses. To the rear was a large rectangular weaving shed or sheds. Most of the buildings survive in good condition with the exception of the boiler house and chimney which have been demolished.

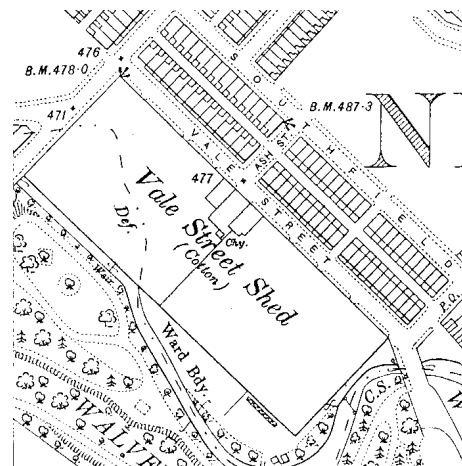
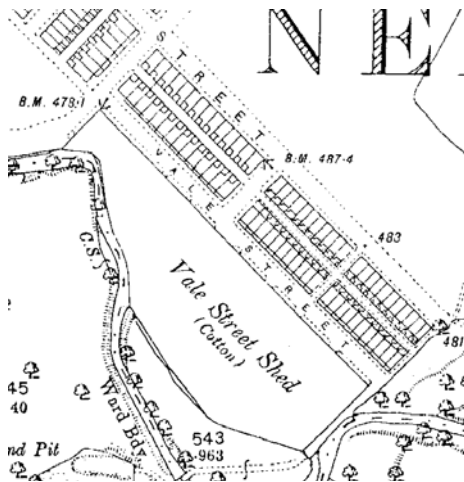
HISTORY

Trade directories indicate that Vale Street Shed was built between 1879, when the mill was not listed, and 1887 when the only listed occupier was James Nelson, cotton manufacturer. James Nelson had worked as manager of a mill in Winewall, on the outskirts of Colne, until its closure in 1881. He then rented space for 160 looms in Brook Street Mill, Nelson, the original home of the room and power system. James Nelson initially entrusted the starting of his business to his son Amos, the firm starting with just 100 looms but within 18 months reaching 160. Space for an extra 60 was taken in Netherfield Shed, and in 1886 a further 100 were installed in premises in Leeds Road, Nelson. In 1887 the looms from these mills were transferred to a new mill in Vale Street, presumably Vale Street Shed, where space for 580 looms had been leased on the room and power system. Although James Nelson was evidently the first tenant at Vale Street Shed the mill was in multiple occupancy in 1893 when the cotton manufacturing firms of James Nelson, Simpson Laycock (executors of), Taylor & Dean, James Tattersall & Sons, and Greenwood, Pickles and Holt were in operation there. In 1911 the mill was evidently under the control of the Nelson Room & Power Company and six cotton manufacturing firms are listed in the trade directory.¹

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879); *ibid.*, 1887, 258; *ibid.*, 1893, 344; *ibid.*, 1911, 502. Other historical information is taken from *Nelsons of Nelson: The storey of James Nelson Ltd 1881-1915* (Nelson, 1951).

The Ordnance Survey map of 1844² shows the site of the present mill, within a meander of Walverden Water to the south east of the settlement of Nelson, as undeveloped fields and meadows. The re-survey of 1890³ shows the first building of Vale Street Shed, as part of the mill based expansion of the cotton weaving industry south eastward from the centre of Nelson (Fig 1a). On this map no internal divisions are indicated within the building and the rear south-west elevation is shown to have originally been built to respect the line of a footpath or trackway, to the side, and the meander of Walverden Water, and was quite irregular as a result. This edition of the map also shows that Vale Street Shed, Vale Street itself and the parallel Southfield Road, both of which stopped on line with the end of the mill, marked the furthest extent of development in this direction at this time.

The map revision of 1910⁴ shows Vale Street Shed as a complete rectangle (Fig 1b), Walverden Water having been diverted west and the footpath or trackway having been incorporated into the newly built Walverden Park and now running on the south-east side of the mill to a new foot bridge, thus allowing the rebuilding of the shed to the south west. A wide boiler house with chimney behind and two flanking engine houses are also indicated, in an internal central position, and the weaving shed is divided into two sections, north west and south east, along a line running south west from the rear of the south engine house. The



map revision of 1929-30⁵ shows no change

to this layout.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2 500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

DESCRIPTION

Vale Street Shed is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of at least two major phases of construction. The first mill building on this site was constructed between 1879 and 1887 and was irregularly shaped to the rear, its shape being dictated by the meandering course of Walverden Water which also marked the line of the ward boundary, and by the route of a public footpath or trackway. The layout of the The second phase of development took place between 1890 and 1910 when the mill was evidently rebuilt to a rectangular plan.

Vale Street Shed consists of two multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks facing north east onto Vale Street, with a pair of corresponding weaving sheds behind. The multi-storey blocks are separated by the power block that served the mill and which was located internal centrally. A central boiler house, housing three boilers,⁶ served two flanking engine houses which were in turn positioned at the ends of the two multi-storey ranges, at the south-east and north-west ends respectively. The chimney was located internally, directly behind the boiler house. This type of layout suggests phased construction, the south-east section being built first and the north-west section added afterwards, as at Marsden Mill further up the valley,⁷ but no direct evidence exists to confirm this and the north-east front of the mill had reached its fullest extent within three or four years of its first build.

With the exception of the boiler house and chimney, both demolished, most of the mill buildings survive in good condition and were occupied by a number of engineering firms in 1998.

⁶ Notes and photographs by George Watkins in the National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Vale Street Shed, Nelson, Lancashire, WAT704A/B.

⁷ RCHME Historic Buildings Report, NBR No.99000 (1999).

The original mill, south-east part

Although map evidence indicates that the weaving shed at least was substantially rebuilt between 1890 and 1910 the mill as it now stands gives little clue as to its original form.



The gabled **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** is two storeys high over a basement and is built of stone rubble, squared and coursed to the front elevation and random to the rear and south-east side, with a slate roof. There are rusticated quoins to the

corners and the front elevation is 26 bays long with an ashlar band above the first floor windows and a bracketed eaves cornice. The windows have stone lintels and sills. Primary doorways for human entry and exit, all with monolithic stone surrounds, are located in the 7th, 12th and 26th bays from the left and corresponding primary vehicle entrances with quoined sides and plate steel or cast-iron lintels occupy the 8th, 14th-15th and 21st bays from the left. The south-east, gable, elevation (Fig 2) is built of random stone rubble and is three bays wide. The central bay has a wide taking-in door with a monolithic surround, and a hole for a hoist beam above, opening into an attic storage area and a second



taking-in door, possibly a later insertion as it looks cramped, opening onto the first floor, also with a monolithic surround incorporating the stone lintel of the central ground floor window. The two side bays each have conventional windows to the ground and first floors with quoined sides and stone lintels and sills. Both corners have rusticated quoins except for the lower portion on the

left hand side which is bonded in with the random rubble of the south-east cheek wall of the weaving shed. The north-west elevation is obscured by the engine house.

The **engine house** (Fig 3) is in an attached north-west end position in relation to the south-east multi-storey range and the front elevations are bonded in. The roof

however is flat and has a low water tank on it. The north-east elevation is dominated by two tall and narrow round-headed engine house windows, now converted to one wide wagon door, with rusticated keyblocks and surrounds. The side elevation, facing north west, is four bays wide with four rectangular windows above the scar line of four bays of a saw-tooth roof which formerly covered the area of the boiler house attached end engine house which although bonded in across the front wall does not share the same roof. Watkins states that it housed a geared horizontal engine of 650HP which provided the main power for the shed.⁸

The single-storey **weaving shed**, to the rear of the multi-storey block, has a south-east parapet wall of random stone rubble with 17 cast-iron gutter ends



protruding, implying an 17-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north east. The rear wall is also of random rubble with rectangular vents arranged in pairs or in threes. There is no straight joint in the rear wall to indicate a division between the two weaving sheds implying that this part at least is of one build..

The north-west part, 1886-1890

The gabled **office, warehouse and yarn praparation block** (Fig 4) is two storeys high over a basemet and is built of coursed stone rubble. At some time after 1929-30 a portion of the north-west end was demolished and the gable wall rebuilt in coursed rubble. The front elevation is now 13 bays long, including the internal end engine house at the south-east end, and all windows have stone lintels and sills and there are no basement windows evident. There is an ashlar band above first floor window level and there is a bracketed eaves cornice in the same style as on the south-east range. A doorway into the attic has been inserted above the 6th bay from the left.

⁸ Gorge Watkins Collection, WAT704A/B.

The internal end **engine house** (Fig 3) shares the same pitched slate roof with the bracketed eaves cornice and ashlar band continuing to the end. The front elevation is dominated by a single large full-height round-headed engine house window with a rusticated keyblock and surround. To the left of the window the wall is partly constructed of random rubble, running into coursed rubble



above and to the right. There are rusticated quoins to the corner except for the lower portion where a fragment of the low boiler house wall remains keyed in with the engine house wall. Watkins states that it housed a roped vertical engine, by the Phoenix foundry of Nelson, of bout 1906. It was roped to the shed mainshaft if the load was too great for the horizontal engine.⁹

The single-storey **weaving shed**, to the rear of the multi-storey block has a north-west parapet wall of fine appearance (Fig 5) as it has always fronted a road. It is built of coursed squared rubble with rusticated quoins to the west corner. There are stone brackets to the copings and 17 narrow vent windows with tooled stone lintels and sills and 17 cast-iron gutter ends implying a 17-bay saw-tooth roof, glazed to the north east. The rear wall is of the same build as that of the south-east shed.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.

⁹ George Watkins Collection, WAT 704A/B.



**Valley Mills No. 1
Southfield Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99011
NGR: SD 8688 3712**

Surveyed: 7 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99011

Nelson

NGR: SD 8688 3712

Valley Mills No. 1, Southfield Street

SUMMARY

Valley Mills No 1 is one of a group of four mills built close together by James Nelson between 1895 and 1910. This mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill between 1895 and 1902 in a valley bottom location on the north-east bank of Walverden Water. It comprised a multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, a single-storey weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof of 12 bays, glazed to the north-east with the return slopes slated, and an engine house and a boiler house and chimney within the northern corner. An additional rectangular office block and a coal store had been added by 1929-30, both fronting onto Southfield Road at a higher level. Much of the site has been demolished and only the walls and some roofs of the weaving shed, a fragment of the processing block, part of the coal stores and the facade of the office block survive.

HISTORY

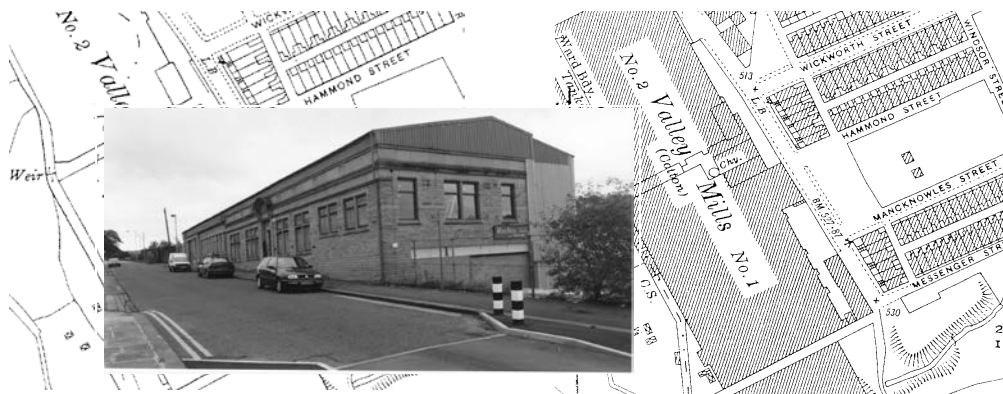
The Ordnance Survey map of 1890¹ shows the site of the present mill as undeveloped fields and meadows but by the time of the revision of 1910² Valley Mills 1, 2 and 3 had been built, as had Scholefield Mill to the south (Fig 1a). Barrett's Directory for 1902 lists James Nelson, cotton manufacturer, as the occupier of Valley Mill.³ The 1910 map shows a distinct gap between Valley Mills 1 and 2 and shows Valley Mills No.1 with its weaving shed, multi-storey range, engine house, boiler house and chimney. The only additions shown on the revision of 1929-30⁴ are a rectangular block linking the multi-storey range with Southfield Street and the coal sheds rising up the bank side, also to Southfield Street. The former space between Valley Mills 1 and 2 is also shown as covered although the former mill divisions are indicated (Fig 1b).

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2 500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2 500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1910, published 1912.

³ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 454.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2 500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



DESCRIPTION

Valley Mills No. 1 was a steam-powered cotton weaving mill in a valley bottom location, roughly rectangular in plan with a multi-storey (the exact number of storeys is not known as it has been reduced to a fragment) office, warehousing and yarn preparation range along the long north-east side with the power complex (engine house, boiler house and chimney) positioned across its north-west end, and an attached weaving shed with a north-east-light roof to the south west.

Valley Mills No. 1 has been much altered and all of the major components have been either demolished or substantially rebuilt. The engine house, boiler house and chimney have been destroyed and of the multi-storeyed office, warehousing and yarn processing block only a single-storey fragment of wall survives at the south-east end.

The parapet walls of the single-storey **weaving shed** (Fig 2) are built of random rubble and have been heightened by roughly four feet. The south-east wall has 13 cast-iron rainwater heads with downpipes fed by gutters between roof bays. The shed within was lit from the north east but has now been largely rebuilt. A



straight joint in the south-east wall marks the division between the shed and the multi-storey block which originally ran continuously along the whole of the north-east side. All that now survives is a fragment of the south-east end wall built of coursed squared stone, four bays wide with window openings with stone lintels and sills, but reduced to

less than one storey in height.

In front of the multi-storey block is a narrow yard before a steep bank rising to Southfield Street. At the south end is a series of **coal stores** loaded from southfield Street above via wide loading doors in a low coursed rubble wall. To the north is a rectangular **office** building (Fig 3), rebuilt except for its single-storey elevation onto Southfield Street, facing north east, and an end wall. This is seven bays wide and built of coursed squared stone with an ashlar architrave

along the front and a blind moulded parapet all round but with small panels to the front. The roof is modern. There is a central doorway with a segmental pediment supported by two paired brackets above pilasters. The Ordnance Survey map of 1910 shows the yard empty of buildings but by 1929-30 both the office and coal stores are shown.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Valley Mills No. 3
Southfield Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99012
NGR: SD 8686 3733**

Surveyed: 7 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99012

Nelson

NGR: SD 8686 3733

Valley Mills No 3, Southfield Road

SUMMARY

Valley Mills No 3 is one of a group of four mills built close together by James Nelson between 1895 and 1929-30. This mill, partly terraced into the valley side, was built in 1903 as a steam-powered cotton-doubling mill. It is built of squared stone rubble and has an engine and boiler house at one end of the original two-storey range which was extended by a three storey block before 1910 and by sheds behind in 1921.

HISTORY

Valley Mills, which grew into a group of four adjacent mills, was built by the firm of James Nelson.¹ The founder of the firm, James Nelson, had worked as manager of a mill in Winewall, on the outskirts of Colne, until its closure in 1881. He then rented space for 160 looms in Brook Street Mill, Nelson, the original home of the room and power system. James Nelson initially entrusted the starting of his business to his son, Amos, the firm starting with just 100 looms but within 18 months reaching 160. Space for an extra 60 was taken in Netherfield Shed, and in 1886 a further 100 were installed in premises in Leeds Road, Nelson. In 1887 the looms from these mills were transferred to a new mill in Vale Street where space for 580 looms had been leased on the room and power system. By 1890 space had been taken in Whitefield Shed for 112 looms and shortly afterwards 56 looms were installed in Bradley Mills. The success of the firm induced James Nelson and his son to build their own weaving mill, what became known as Valley Mills No 1 being completed in 1895, followed by another weaving mill, Valley Mills No 2, in 1899. Nelsons did not occupy the whole of the space in these two mills, some space being leased on the room and power system. A directory of 1902 lists four firms of cotton manufacturers, including James Nelson, in Valley Mills, and in 1906 Nelson registered the Valley Room and Power Company as a limited company.

¹ The historical information in this section is taken from *Nelsons of Nelson. The Story of James Nelson Ltd. 1881-1951* (London, 1951), passim; Jeffrey Hill, *Nelson. Politics, Economy, Community* (Edinburgh, 1997), esp 22-3, 25, 53, 83-4, 128, 132; Daniel O'Neill, *Sir Edwin Lutyens Country Houses* (London, 1980), 144-8; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1902), 423, 425, 453-4; *ibid.*, 1911, 440, 441, 465; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 490, 511; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 694; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 443, *ibid.*, 1941, 362; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 354.

In a move towards vertical integration uncommon in the Lancashire cotton industry, but spurred by the need to secure their supplies of yarn, James Nelson in 1903 built Valley Mills No 3, a doubling mill for gassing and doubling yarns. This was extended before 1910 and in 1921. The 1911 Directory lists James Nelson as cotton manufacturers and doublers, and in the years both before and after the First World War the firm acquired further interests in the spinning trade, purchasing mills in the spinning centres of Bolton and Rochdale. James Nelson died in 1912, and by this time his firm was one of the largest in Nelson, and it was to become the largest in the town under his son, Amos, knighted in 1922 and who died in 1947, having commissioned the architect Edwin Lutyens to design Gledstone Hall for him in 1923.

In 1911 the firm of James Nelson still let room out in Valley Mills, but by 1923 there was only one other firm there, and subsequently no others. Valley Mills was too small for the firm in Nelson even in 1923, since that year they also had looms in Marsden Mill, in 1924 in Hendon Mill and in 1933 and 1941 in Clover Mill. During the interwar years Nelsons developed from a local into a national and even international firm. They took the radical initiative of moving into the production of rayon, also known as artificial silk, undertaking research into acetate and viscose spinning in the early 1920s, establishing Nelsons Silks Ltd. at Lancaster in 1927 to produce acetate yarn. The firm registered another company, Lustrafil Ltd., in 1923 to develop viscose yarn. Lustrafil was intended as the brand name of artificial silk but the term rayon was adopted instead. Valley Mills produced viscose yarn from 1924, improving the machinery and yarn over the next years and building Valley Mills No 4 before 1929-30 for its production.

Extensive rebuilding and modernisation took place at Valley Mills immediately after the Second World War, including the opening of a new weaving shed, probably the southern extension of Valley Mills No. 4, in 1947 with over 1200 crepe looms. The mills continued to be managed by the Nelson family after the death of Sir Amos. In 1963, the year in which they were taken over by Courtaulds, the company had 1520 looms at Valley Mills. In the early 1980s Courtaulds began the closure of the mills which was complete by the end of the decade. Valley Mills Nos 2 and 4 have since been demolished, the others being in non-textile use.

The valley of the Walverden Water is shown before the construction of any of the four Valley Mills on the Ordnance Survey map of 1890. Valley Mills Nos 1, 2 and 3 are shown on the 1910 map (Fig 1a), Valley Mills No 4 being built by 1929-30 (Fig 1b).²

DESCRIPTION

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



James Nelson's four Valley Mills were built next to each other at the bottom of the valley



of the Walverden Water, the stream being channelled into straighter courses as the mills and nearby terraces were built. Valley Mills No 3 stands at the foot of the valley slope, its buildings (Fig 2) built along it but rising up the base of the steep slope. An aerial photograph of it is reproduced in the 1951 book, *Nelsons of Nelson*, page 36.

The original mill

The earliest part of Valley Mill No 3 was built in 1903 and was a steam-powered cotton doubling mill. The **doubling mill** is shown, after its first extension, on the 1910 map and is built of squared stone rubble and has a 16-bay long, two-storey high front elevation to Southfield Street, the 10th bay from the south end being a wide vehicle door with rusticated quoins and a cast-iron lintel with the name VALLEY MILLS in a sunk panel. Next to it, surmounted by a window, is a pedestrian door with a monolithic surround. Many of the window frames on the front elevation are original with three small lights above a pair of narrow lights, the timber chamfered and stopped. The mill is built against the hillside, and although it is three blocks deep under a triple span roof, the rear block can only be one storey high. The mill was powered from an engine house and attached boiler house set against its south gable end. The front elevation here (Fig 3) has been altered, but the **engine house** has a single central round-headed window, its base now cut away, and an oculus with a keyed-in ashlar surround over. A water tank with decorative side panels sits on top of the engine house which rises above the mill to support it. The **boiler house** next to the engine house has a later arched central opening but to either side of it are the rusticated sides of the probable original ground-floor opening. The **chimney** to the rear has been demolished; it was circular.

Additions before 1910

The 1910 map shows that by that date the doubling mill had been extended north by a 13-bay long addition (Fig 4) which, because of the fall of the ground, was three storeys high.

The two bays next to the original mill contain a pedestrian and a vehicle door, their detailing similar to those noted above, and then six bays which project forward slightly to



relieve the long elevation and are surmounted by a low, blind parapet. The north end of the mill extension is triple gabled, the front range three bays deep, the other two two bays deep. The fenestration here has been altered.

Additions after 1910

The Ordnance Survey map revised in 1929-30 shows that between 1910 and then the

multi-storey mill was extended to the rear by a block of single-storey sheds mostly with north-east facing saw-tooth roofs. These have wide windows in their end and long side walls, with parapets screening the roof ends.

In 1914, the date on its keyblock, the boiler house of the original mill was altered. A slightly-projecting central bay with a wide, round-headed opening with attenuated keyblocks being added.

South of the mill a tall single-storey garage with a hipped roof, now four bays wide but originally five, was built on the street frontage.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Valley Mills No. 4
Southfield Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99013
NGR: SD 8678 3722**

Surveyed: 9 October
Report by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99013

Nelson

NGR: SD 8678 3722

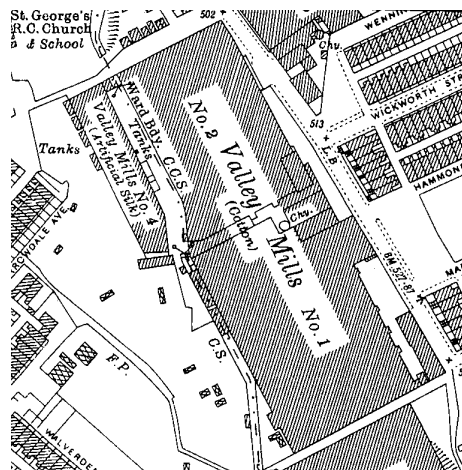
Valley Mills No 4, Southfield Road

SUMMARY

Valley Mills No 4 is one of a group of four mills built close together by James Nelson between 1895 and 1929-30. This mill, built along the valley side in the late 1920s for spinning artificial silk, and subsequently extended, is represented now only by fragments of the side walls retained as boundary walls.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Valley Mills No 4 is the last of a group of textile mills, Nos 1 and 2 for weaving, Nos 3 and 4 for doubling and spinning, built adjacent to each other by James Nelson. An outline history of the firm is given in the report on Valley Mills No 3.



Valley Mills No 4, shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1929-30 (Fig 1),¹ was built in the late 1920s for the spinning of viscose yarn. It was probably extended in 1947 when a new weaving shed for 1200 crepe looms was built. It was demolished in the early 1990s. An aerial photograph² shows the original part of the mill, at the north end, to have been a long, narrow single-storey shed with north-east facing saw-tooth roofs, perhaps five in number. Additions to the south were of a quintuple-span single-storey block and a long rectangular single-storey shed with a north-facing saw-tooth roof.

The mill has been demolished.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, revised 1929-30, published 1932.

² *Nelsons of Nelson. The Story of James Nelson Ltd. 1881-1951* (London, 1951), 36.

RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Vulcan Mill
Bradley Hall Road
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99014
NGR: SD 8670 3838**

Surveyed: 14 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99014

Nelson

NGR: SD 8670 3838

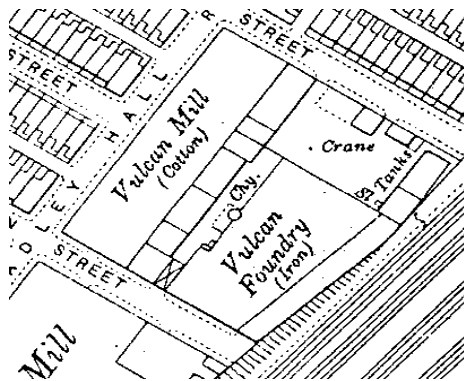
Vulcan Mill, Bradley Hall Road

SUMMARY

Vulcan Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1897 and 1902. It is constructed of stone rubble, squared to the front, and comprises a three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with the engine house and boiler house set at one end and the single-storey weaving shed to their rear. An apparent later shed has been demolished.

HISTORY

Vulcan Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built, on the evidence of directories, between 1893 and 1902. It is shown on the 1910 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) and by 1929-30 had evidently expanded behind and on part of the site of the adjacent Vulcan Foundry (Fig 1b). Vulcan Mill was evidently built for room and power working since in 1902 it was occupied by two cotton manufacturers and in 1911 by three. By 1923 there was just a single new occupant, Hindley Brothers, cotton manufacturers, and they remained at the mill until between 1941 and 1963. It is now in multiple occupation, but not for textiles.



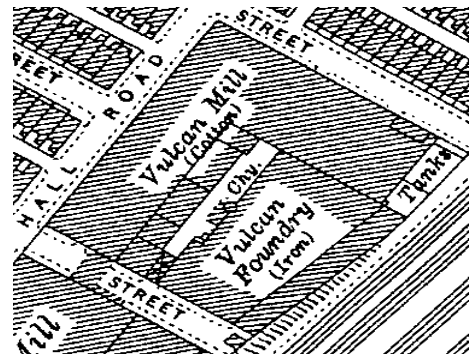
DESCRIPTION

Vulcan Mill was built towards the then eastern outskirts of Nelson between 1893 and 1902 on a site which slopes gently down to the south west.



The original mill was long and rectangular in shape and comprised a multi-storey block with a weaving shed behind. The **multi-storey block** (Fig 2) is unusual in that because of the narrowness of the site it contains the warehousing and yarn preparation functions as well as the engine and boiler house. It is a three-storey building over a basement, is built of stone rubble, squared to the front, and is gabled with a slate roof. The **warehouse and yarn preparation** functions occupied most of the block, having a front elevation to Vulcan Street some five bays wide by three deep. The middle front bay has a basement-level pedestrian door with a monolithic surround and next to it a tall and wide vehicle door with smooth quoined sides and a cast-iron lintel. The wall at the east end of the front elevation has a pair of ground-floor openings and a blind wall over. This may be where the **engine**

and boiler houses were, although maps and the building give little away. The **weaving shed** (Fig 3) is single-storeyed and rectangular on plan. Its walls are of stone rubble,



surmounted by parapets, those to Bradley Hall Road having cast-iron gutter ends projecting through and discharging into downpipes. The windows in this and the rear wall are all later. The shed has a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing lights.

The apparent rectangular weaving shed shown on the 1929-30 map running along Eagle Street from the side wall of the original shed has been completely demolished.

METHODOLOGY

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**Waids House Mill
Townsley Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99015
NGR: SD 8630 3672**

Surveyed: 13 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99015

Nelson

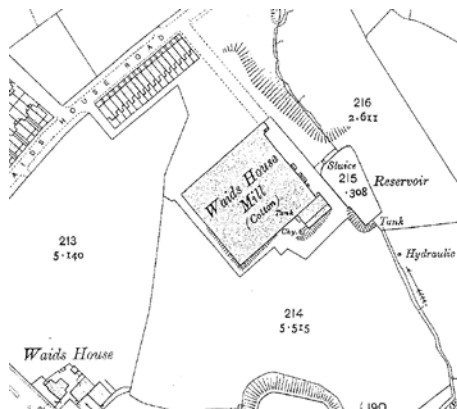
NGR: SD 8630 3672

Wadds House Mill, Townsley Street

SUMMARY

Wadds House Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton weaving mill built on a previously undeveloped site between 1891 and 1909. It is built of stone rubble and comprised a two-storey office, warehouse and yarn processing block with a weaving shed with a saw-tooth roof of 15 bays to its south west and an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached to and overlapping the south-east end of the two-storey block. The mill is now occupied by a polythene packaging company and survives in fairly good condition with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished.

HISTORY



The Ordnance Survey map of 1891¹ shows the site of the present mill as undeveloped fields and meadows but by the time of the revision of 1909² the mill had reached its full extent (Fig 1) and the map revision of 1929³ shows that no development of the site took place in the intervening years. In 1911 it was occupied by Riley and Sutcliffe Ltd, cotton manufacturers.⁴

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.11, surveyed 1891, published 1893.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.11, revised 1909, published 1912.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.11, revised 1929, published 1931.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 470, 503.

DESCRIPTION

Waid's House Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton weaving mill on a previously undeveloped site to the north east of Waid's House from which the mill takes its name. It consists of a two-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block with a weaving shed to the rear and an engine house, boiler house and chimney attached and overlapping to the south-east end of the multi-storey block. When built a reservoir was provided to the north east of the mill buildings but this has since been lost.

The mill buildings have not been significantly altered or extended and all survive in good condition with the exception of the chimney which has been demolished.



The north-east facing gabled **warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) which runs across the whole of the north-east end of the weaving shed is two storeys high over a basement and is 20 bays long with rectangular lintels and sills to the windows. It is built of coursed rubble and has a pitched slate roof with stone copings and kneelers to the front elevation. The twelfth bay from the left is occupied by a large

quoin entrance.

A small rectangular **office block** projects from the north end of the front elevation, originally only one storey high it is also built of coursed rubble and is bonded in with the north-west elevation of the warehouse and yarn preparation block. A second storey was subsequently added and a straight joint marks the junction at first floor level. It has a pitched slate roof with copings and kneelers.

The north-west elevation is constructed of coursed rubble and is three bays wide with rectangular lintels and sills and rock-faced quoins to the windows, now blocked except for those on the first floor, including lights to the basement. The wall of the weaving shed extends south westwards and is bonded in with the warehouse and yarn preparation range. The south-east elevation is obscured by the engine house which is built at right angles across it.

Internally the ground floor of the building has two rows of cast-iron columns with lugged D-section bolting heads, to support line-shafting, supporting chamfered and stopped timber beams carrying timber joists and boards.

The single-storey **weaving shed**, attached to the rear of the warehouse and preparation block, has a 15-bay saw-tooth roof glazed to the north east with slated return slopes and a single south-west facing bay which butts against the warehouse and processing range. The north-west parapet wall is built of coursed rubble and is bonded in with the north-west elevation of the warehouse and yarn preparation block. It has seven narrow ventilation openings with stone lintels and sills and an original doorway with dressed back sides, now narrowed to the left and with an inserted concrete lintel, occupying the fourth bay from the left.

The south-east parapet wall is built of coursed rubble and has a ventilation openings in every second bay. Rainwater heads between the roof bays discharge directly into a cast-iron gutter.

The south-west wall could not be inspected.

The interior consists of cast-iron columns with bolting heads, to support line shafting, supporting cast-iron gutters which in turn support saw-tooth roof trusses, glazed to the north east and with T-section cast-iron mullions. The north-east wall has a number of prominent stone blocks seated on stone pads, as well as wall boxes also set on heavy stone pads, to support gearing for line shafting.

The engine and boiler houses (Fig 3) at Waids House Mill are attached to the south-east end of the two-storey block, the engine house, with the boiler house adjacent, butting at right angles against its gable end.



The **engine house**, a tall single-storey gabled bay, has a pitched slate roof with stone copings and kneelers. The front elevation is largely obscured by a modern extension but enough is visible above this to indicate that it is constructed of coursed rubble. The south-east elevation has six windows and is built of random rubble with the boiler house butting against it below the line of the

upper windows. The rear elevation is built of coursed rubble and is two bays wide with two narrow engine house windows with stone lintels and sills, now partially blocked to form two windows to each bay. In the centre of the wall between the window bays are four bolt heads, secured by two cast-iron wall plates, associated with the former internal transmission of power.

The **boiler house**, built alongside the engine house but much lower, is gabled and

has a pitched slate roof, stone copings and kneelers. Its rear elevation is built of coursed rubble and is bonded in with the engine house. The south-east elevation is also built of coursed rubble and has three window bays, now blocked, with stone lintels and sills. A later extension obscures the final bay positions. The north-west elevation is also built of coursed rubble and has a wide boiler house doorway.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Whitefield Mill
Craven Street
Nelson
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99016
NGR: SD 8540 3782**

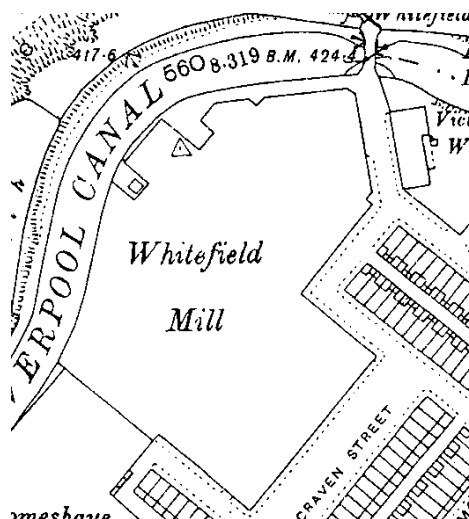
Surveyed: 4 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

LancashireNBR No. 99016

Nelson NGR: SD 8540 3782

Whitefield Mill, Craven Street

SUMMARY

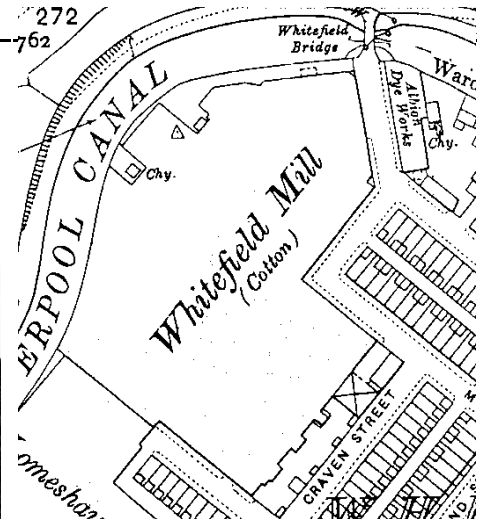
Whitefield Mill, also known as Whitefield Shed, is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built on the banks of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal in the late 1880s and worked on the room and power system. It is built of squared stone rubble and has two three-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation blocks, one fronting Craven Street, the other Victoria Street, both serving an extensive single-storey weaving shed. The engine house, boiler house and chimney were attached to the rear of the shed, next to the canal. Offices were added in front of the mill between 1890 and 1910. The Craven Street warehouse block has been reduced to half its length and the power block demolished; the other components survive.

HISTORY

Whitefield Mill, usually called Whitefield Shed in directories, was built as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, operating the room and power system, in the late 1880s. It is not listed in a directory of 1887 but is shown on the 1890 Ordnance Survey map and in 1893 was occupied by eight different firms of cotton manufacturers. This high number continued well into the 20th century with nine cotton manufacturers in 1902 and 1911, eight in 1923, six in 1924, five in 1933 and 1941, and two in 1963. The mill is no longer in textile production. The mill achieved its main extent in its first build, which is shown on the 1890 map (Fig 1a). There were minor extensions towards Craven Street between then and 1910 (Fig 1b), but little more by 1929-30.¹

DESCRIPTION

¹ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 304, 306, 313, 321, 323, 326, 332, 344; *ibid.*, 1902, 428, 432, 442-3, 454, 460, 468; *ibid.*, 1911, 436, 447, 451, 456, 465, 472, 476, 478; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 489, 495, 502, 511, 517, 545; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 690, 693, 695-6; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 415, 417, 421, 453, 457; *ibid.*, 1941, 344, 345, 348, 366, 369; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 349, 354; Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.7, surveyed 1890, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929-30, published 1932.



Whitefield Mill stands on a flat site on the east bank of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal on the western outskirts of Nelson. It is a large

steam-powered cotton weaving mill with an extensive weaving shed with the power block attached to the rear and with two multi-storey blocks.

The original mill

Whitefield Mill, as built in the late 1880s, had an extensive weaving shed with the engine and boiler houses attached to its rear and two multi-storey blocks, one on Craven Street, the other on Victoria Street. The mill is built from squared stone rubble and has slate roofs.

The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** on Craven Street (Fig 2) has been reduced to half its length. Three storeys high, it originally ran the full length of the street but now only the north-east end stands. It is eleven bays long by three deep and is surmounted by a parapet wall with paired brackets up to the coping to the front and end only.



Cast-iron gutters discharging into downpipes on the rear elevation indicate roof spans running from front to rear. The north-east end wall has a central vehicle entrance with smooth quoined sides and a cast-iron lintel with a sunk panel over the opening. The ground-floor of the south-west end wall survives on St Mary's Street and has a similar entrance as well as a narrower pedestrian door with a monolithic surround. There do not seem to have been vehicle entrances in the front

wall of the building. The surviving structure has an original cross wall acting as its present end wall. This wall is of stone rubble with red brick dados and surrounds to the original central segmental-headed doorways. There are original wall boxes for the

transmission of power on both the first and second floors, their off-centre position implying two rows of cast-iron columns. The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** on Victoria Street (Fig 3) is complete. It is triangular in shape with canted corners, a consequence of the irregular shape of the site which fronts an obliquely-angled Victoria Street. It is three storeys high with an eight-bay elevation to Victoria Street, seven bays to the canal and fifteen to the rear wall overlooking the weaving shed. A parapet wall runs around the building, with downpipes on the rear wall draining the individual roof spans. The street elevation has two vehicle entrances exactly like those on the Craven Street block, each with an associated pedestrian door with a monolithic surround with interrupted jambs. There is an inserted second pedestrian door next to the northern vehicle entrance.

The **weaving shed** is single storeyed with flat-topped side walls. The short length of wall to St Mary's Street to the west has three rectangular vents while gutters discharging into downpipes on the angled wall towards the canal serve a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing lights. The shed was powered from an **engine house, boiler house and associated chimney** set against its rear wall and now largely demolished. The massive ashlar blocks of the engine bed survive, but little else. The chimney was square.

Additions to the mill

Maps indicate that between 1890 and 1910 an apparent office range and warehouse extension were built in front of the warehouse block on Craven Street. The **office** (Fig 4) is a two-storey building with three two-light windows with square mullions to the street and one, and an entrance door, in the north gable end. First-floor front windows are conventional, but the gable end has a two-light window. The **warehouse extension** is of two storeys, the ground-floor an open carriageway at its inner end where it abuts the warehouse. The extension has a stone wall with three first-floor windows to the street and a slated triple-span roof, hipped towards the warehouse.

METHODOLOGY



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**Fence Mill, formerly Field Top Mill
Wheatley Lane Road, Fence
Old Laund Booth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99017
NGR: SD 8263 3734**

Surveyed: 6 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99017

Old Laund Booth

NGR: SD 8263 3734

Fence Mill, formerly Field Top Mill, Wheatley Lane Road, Fence

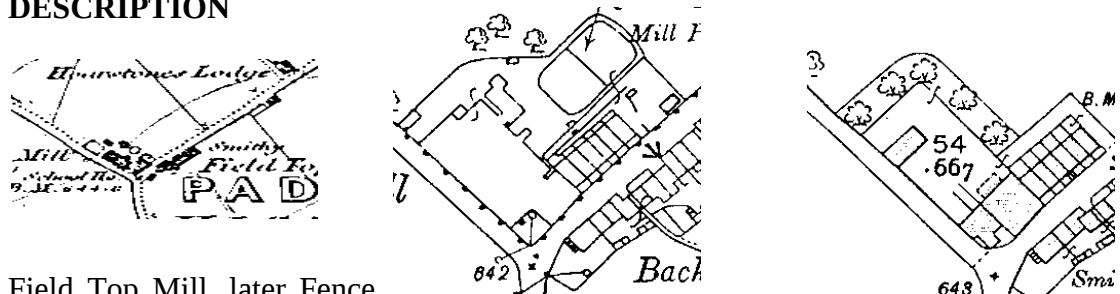
SUMMARY

Field Top Mill was built before 1844 as a steam-powered worsted mill and by 1890-1 had become a cotton-weaving mill known as Fence Mill. By 1910 most of the mill buildings had been demolished and the site, known as Field Top Works, was used by Holgate Brothers, joiners, builders, wheelwrights and undertakers. The buildings which survive are of coursed stone rubble and consist of a two-storey four-bay gabled warehouse and yarn preparation block on the site of the School House shown on the 1844 map, and some of the outer walls of the mill behind. The engine house attached to a corner of the presumed shed has been demolished and a mill pond filled in.

HISTORY

Field Top Mill is named and identified as a worsted mill on the 1844 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 1a) but by 1890-1 (Fig 1b) had become a cotton mill known as Fence Mill. Field Top was then the name of the road the mill was built on, Fence the name of the dispersed settlement it formed part of. Maps show that by 1910 (Fig 1c) the mill no longer functioned and had been partially demolished; the site is no longer identified with a name and is shown unchanged on the 1929 map. In 1911, however, a directory indicates that it was known as Field Top Works and was used by Holgate Brothers, joiners, builders, wheelwrights and undertakers, and they were still its occupants in 1998.¹

DESCRIPTION



Field Top Mill, later Fence

Mill, stands on a corner site which slopes very gently up to the north.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.6, surveyed 1890-1, published 1892; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929, published 1931; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1911), 604; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 554.

The **worsted mill** shown on the 1844 map stood behind a building identified as a School House. The mill is shown as a rectangular building with a small projection on the north-east side, and though this building was evidently incorporated into the cotton mill, it was later largely demolished. Fragments of the stone rubble south-west side wall (Fig 2) survive and comprise the rusticated quoins of the north-west corner, rising to about 12 feet, and the base of three windows in the wall close to it. These may be part of a storeyed building. Part of the rubble north end wall survives, built against.



The **cotton mill**, shown on the 1890-1 map, was larger than the worsted mill, extending further to the east. It may well have been remodelled as a single-storey shed but since all walls on this side have been demolished, it is impossible to confirm this. The 1890-1 map shows what was probably an engine and boiler house projecting from the north-east corner of the main building, and a mill pond next to it. The two-storey building on the street front (Fig 3) appears to be on the site of the School House of the 1844 map, though whether this is in any way incorporated into what appears to be the warehouse and yarn preparation block of the cotton mill is uncertain. This building is built of coursed rubble with rusticated quoins to the front elevation and a slate roof. It is four bays long with a south-west gable wall with windows on both floors either side of doors, that on the first floor a taking-in door with a blocked hole for the hoist beam.



METHODOLOGY

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**Spring Mills
Wheatley Lane Road, Fence
Old Laund Booth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99018
NGR: SD 8315 3779**

Surveyed: 6 November 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99018

Old Laund Booth

NGR: SD 8315 3779

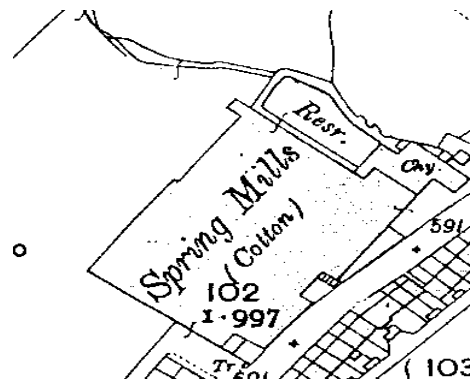
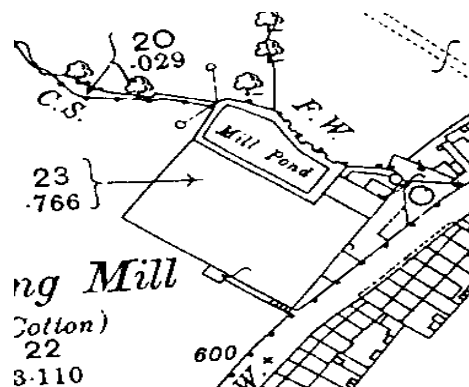
Spring Mills, Wheatley Lane Road, Fence

SUMMARY

Spring Mills is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill built between 1844 and 1890-1 and had doubled in size by 1910. The buildings are of squared stone rubble. The original mill comprised an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block of three storeys and attics with an attached but rebuilt engine and boiler house. The mill extension, erected between 1890-1 and 1910, consists of a single-storey office block and separate warehouse block, the latter with distinctive detailing, and a single-storey weaving shed. The buildings are in good condition although the boiler house has been reduced in size.

HISTORY

Map evidence indicates that Spring Mills, originally Spring Mill, was built between 1844 and 1890-1 (Fig 1a) and extended by 1910 (Fig 1b). The 1929 map shows little change. The earliest directory reference to the mill is of 1902 when it was occupied by Proctor Brothers who continued in occupation until after 1941. In 1963 it was occupied by rayon manufacturers.¹



DESCRIPTION

¹ Ordnance Survey, 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVI.6, surveyed 1890-1, published 1893; *ibid.*, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1929, published 1931.

Spring Mills stands on the north-west side of the main street through Fence, on land which slopes up to the north. It is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of two main phases.

The original mill

The original mill forms the eastern half of the present mill and when built comprised a multi-storey block with a weaving shed behind and the engine and boiler houses attached to the side. The buildings are built of stone rubble, squared on the multi-storey block, and are set back from the street behind a mill yard.

The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) set along the street front is three storeys high and ten bays long with an engine and boiler house attached to its north-east gable wall. The other gable wall is three bays deep with windows into the attics. A later addition hides most of the ground-floor front openings, and only the two easternmost are visible from outside. The eastern one is a wide vehicle entrance with rusticated quoins and a later rolled steel joist as a lintel with a window converted to a door next to it. The rear windows of the building, above the weaving shed roof, have all been blocked. The original **engine house and boiler house** were attached to the north-east end of the warehouse (Fig 3) but a straight joint on either side of the single-bay wide engine house indicates that it has been rebuilt, perhaps after the mill was extended. The engine house has a tall and narrow round-headed window to front and rear, that at the front now divided into two heights and with what is probably a widened door at ground



level. It is of the proportions of a beam engine house. The map shows a millpond behind these buildings. The **weaving shed** behind the warehouse block has a new roof but is single storeyed with a parapet wall along the rear wall screening what was no doubt a saw-tooth roof with north-east facing lights. The 1890-1 map shows that steps ran up the western side of the shed to a projection mid-way along the wall. This may well have been the workers' entrance to the mill.

Additions to the mill

Between 1890-1 and 1910 the original mill was doubled in size to the west, the principal addition being of weaving rather than storage capacity since the buildings on the front are main offices. There were changes to the power source at this time.

The **new weaving shed** (Fig 4) is single storeyed and the same depth as the original one. It retains its saw-tooth roof with its north-east facing lights.

The **office and storage block** (Fig 5) built in front of the new weaving shed is in two parts, the western one of a tall single storey under a double-span roof. It is seven bays long but its end walls have wide round-headed windows with stilted sides and oversize keyblocks typical of their date. There is an off-centre door in the west wall.

Infilled between the office and the original warehouse is a plain single-storey **office** with a pair of two-light windows and a door which must have served as the workers' entrance to the mill.



The alterations to the **engine house** may be of this date, but it would seem that the boiler house was altered at this time. The front ground-floor wall has two round-headed arches and the springing for a third east of the present east wall. Above the two full arches rises a three-bay wide building with a wide central second-floor opening with a segmental-arched head with a blocked hole for a hoist beam over it. It is likely that this part of the building provided extra storage capacity and was an alternative to extending the original warehouse block west. The remains of a substantial arched brick substructure supporting massive, oily ashlar blocks indicates that there was once an engine at this end of the power block.

METHODOLOGY

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**Thorneyholme Mill
Barley Road, Thorneyholme
Roughlee Booth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99097
NGR: SD 8354 4006**

Surveyed: 6 May 1999
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99097

Roughlee Booth

NGR: SD 8354 4006

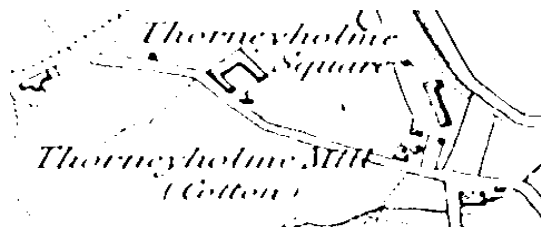
Thorneyholme Mill, Thorney Holme, Barley Road

SUMMARY

Thorneyholme Mill is identified as a cotton mill on the 1844 Ordnance Survey map, but ceased to function as such soon afterwards. A long rectangular block two storeys high with one and three-light windows and doors, all with monolithic surrounds, may have originated as a mill but has since been much altered in conversion to farm and domestic use.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Thorneyholme Mill is named on the 1844 Ordnance Survey map ¹(Fig 1), and identified as cotton mill, and although the same building is shown on subsequent maps, it is no longer identified as a mill. It has not been identified in textile use in any directories, and from 1879 only farmers are recorded at



Thorneyholme.

The mill was built on a flat valley bottom site and is a long rectangular block aligned more or less north-south with a slight expansion east at the north end. The surviving building has a house across its north end, and the domestic accommodation has crept into the north end of the main range. This range (Fig 2) is two storeyed, is built of roughly-squared rubble, and is gabled with a slate roof. It is in two parts, with a slight but marked change of angle where the two join. Each has a wide and tall segmental-headed cart opening which relates to farm use, but three-light mullioned windows, single-light windows and doorways all with monolithic surrounds suggest an origin in a textile mill. They cannot be coherently explained, however.

METHODOLOGY

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 56, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

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**Salterforth Shed
Earby Road
Salterforth
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 62157
NGR: SD 8900 4540**

Surveyed: 7 May 1999
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 62157

Salterforth

NGR: SD 8900 4540

Salterforth Shed, Earby Road

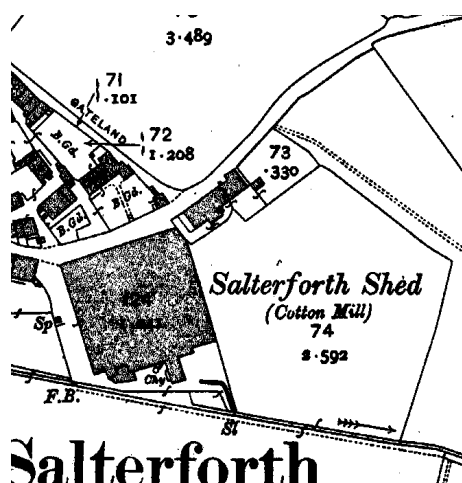
SUMMARY

Salterforth Shed was built as a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill in 1888. It is of coursed and random stone rubble and was extended in 1899. In 1999 only the multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block and the engine house survived, the weaving shed, boiler house and chimney having been destroyed.

HISTORY

Salterforth Shed was built in 1888 as a room and power shed with space for 400 looms.

It was extended in 1899 providing space for an additional 238 looms. The mill is shown at its fullest extent on the Ordnance Survey map of 1906-7 (Fig 1) and in 1917 it was owned by the Salterforth Shed Company and was occupied by Anthony Brown, there in 1927, and James Slater, there in 1927, 1936 and 1963, both cotton manufacturers.¹ In 1999 the weaving shed and boiler house and chimney had been demolished leaving only the multi-storey block, in use as offices, and the now detached engine house.



DESCRIPTION

Salterforth Shed was built as a steam-powered room and power cotton-weaving mill on level ground close to the centre of Salterforth. It was extended to the east in 1899.

The original mill

¹ W P Atkinson, *Old Barlick* (1915), manuscript in Barnoldswick Library 'Presented to Mr & Mrs A Atkinson by his father W P Atkinson, 1917'; Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Yorkshire, Sheet CLXXXIV.5, revised 1906-7, published 1909; Kelly's *Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire* (London, 1917), 55; *ibid.*, 1927, 69; *ibid.*, 1936, 54; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274.

The original comprised an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block, a weaving shed, engine house, boiler house and chimney. The weaving shed, boiler house and chimney have been demolished.

The north-facing three-storey gabled **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block**



(Fig 2) is of coursed stone rubble to the front and west side and random stone rubble to the rear with a slate roof. It is twelve bays long by three wide. The north elevation has a pedestrian entrance in the first bay from the east and vehicle entrances, with quoined sides and flat steel lintels, in the eighth and fifteenth bays from the east. The west elevation has an attic light and has been re-fenestrated at ground floor level. The south elevation is blind and of a different masonry type at

ground floor level where the single-storey shed formerly butted it.

The gabled engine house (Fig 3) is of random stone rubble with tooled quoins to the corners and a slate roof with laylights. The south elevation has a single tall round-headed window with a monolithic surround with interrupted jambs, transom, archivolt and hoodmould. Above is a rectangular vent.



The west elevation has a high-level pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround, reached from steps, at the south end, giving access to the engine floor. Fragments of the weaving shed wall, of random stone rubble, butt to the east and west, the latter has a low round-headed opening, for the flue to the chimney, with a rectangular window over. There is also a further low opening with a monolithic

surround and a pedestrian entrance with a rectangular stone lintel.

Additions of 1899

In 1899 the office, warehouse and yarn preparation block was extended to the east by five bays, a straight joint marking the junction. The extension is similar in style to the original building but the window lintels and sills are finer. The weaving shed was also extended but this has been demolished.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related

industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Black Carr Mill
Skipton Road, Trawden
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99019
NGR: SD 9114 3900**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99019

Trawden Forest

NBR: SD 9114 3900

Black Carr Mill, Skipton Road, Trawden

SUMMARY

Black Carr Mill was built on the initiative of the inhabitants of Trawden as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill, let on a room and power basis. Subscriptions were sought in 1880 and the mill opened in 1882. The mill, occupying a constricted site beside the Trawden Beck, was stone-built and comprised a three-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block with a single-storey weaving shed attached to its rear with the engine and boiler houses attached in turn to the back wall of the shed. In 1885 a mill extension, in effect a mirror-image of the original mill but utilising the existing but no doubt enhanced power source, was built to the north. The warehouse block is three storeyed, with a two-storey extension and added two-storey office block, and the weaving shed is single storeyed. The mill closed in the late 20th century and the original weaving shed was demolished.

HISTORY

Trawden, in the early 19th century, was an elongated and somewhat loosely grouped village which stretched from Trawden House at its north-west upland end down, past the area known as Chelsea, across the Beech Beck, and on to St Mary's Church, erected in 1845.¹ A cluster of terraced houses on Chapel Street, Low Street, Mill Street, Top Street and Clogg Heads, most of them now demolished, was built immediately downstream of Chelsea by William Midgley of Stunstead,² on map evidence before 1892, as well as a Wesleyan Chapel and school. North of all these two textile mills were built before 1892, Black Carr Mill in 1880-82 and Forest Shed in about 1890.³

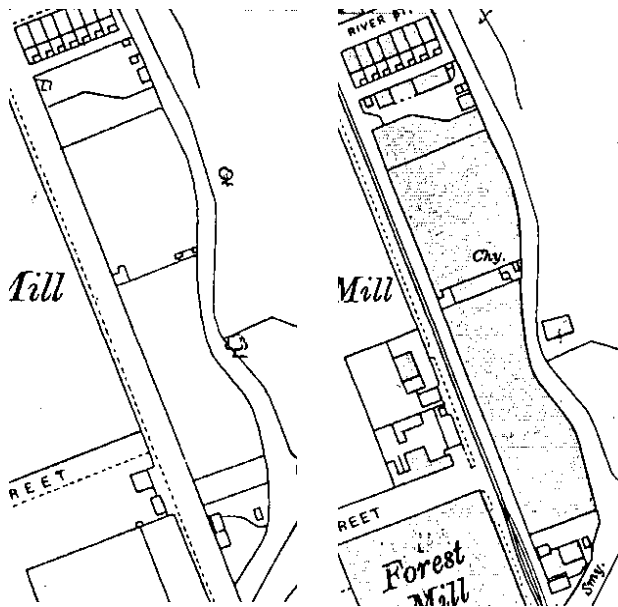
¹ Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 1190.

² Jack Greenwood, *A Trawdener's View* (Burnley, 1987), 7.

³ RCHME Historic Building Report (1999), NBR No. 99021.

Black Carr Mill was built after a public meeting in Trawden in February 1880, chaired by the village schoolmaster, George Sowerby, elected a committee of inhabitants which canvassed the village and received subscriptions sufficient to float a Limited Liability Mill Company. The mill was completed in 1882 and let off as room and power, in 1885 being extended to double its original size.⁴

Black Carr Mill occupies a long narrow site bounded by Skipton Road on the west and by



the sinuous course of the Trawden Beck on the east. In 1844⁵ the site was part of a field and Skipton Road had not been built. This road, which runs north along the valley bottom from Trawden through Winewall to meet the main road from Colne across the Pennines to Keighley and Skipton, replaced Keighley Road which ran along the eastern valley side. The 1891 map (Fig 1a)⁶ shows Skipton Road as well as both the original mill and its extension. No earlier map shows just the original mill, but stylistic evidence indicates that it occupied the southern part of the site. The 1910 map (Fig 1b)⁷ shows a few additional buildings along the

northern boundary of the site and a Smithy to the south. By 1930 (Fig 1c)⁷ there had only been minor further additions. On all three maps the mill is identified as 'Black Carr Mill (Cotton)'.

⁴ Fred Bannister, *The Annals of Trawden Forest* (Colne, 1922, reprinted Staining, Blackpool, 1992), 33-4.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

⁷ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1930, published 1932.

Black Carr Mill was built as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill intended for use by room and power. Room and power mills were built with the principal intention of providing rented workspace for a number of tenants for whom a major advantage was the low capital outlay required, and though established in the late 18th century and more widely available in the early 19th century, they became particularly important in specialist weaving areas later in the century.⁸ The factory-based textile industry in Trawden was entirely concerned from the mid 19th century with the powerloom weaving of cotton,⁹ and Black Carr Mill was taken by several cotton manufacturers. The first Directory published after the mill opened also post-dates its doubling in size, but it indicates that in 1887 Black Carr Mill housed five cotton manufacturers, a similar number to that in the mill in 1893 and 1902. In 1911, 1923 and 1924 there were four firms, in 1933 three, and in 1941 and 1963 just one.¹⁰ The firm in the mill in 1963, Hopkinson (Trawden) Ltd, who had 491 looms and wove harvards, oxfords, checks, poplins and flannelettes, had been in the mill since it opened. In 1887 John Hopkinson was one of the five named firms of cotton manufacturer. The mill ceased to be used for textile production in the late 20th century and in 1998 it had several occupiers, the principal one being Victoria Forge (Nelson) Ltd.

DESCRIPTION

Black Carr Mill occupies a valley-bottom site and is built up to Skipton Road on the west and to the sinuous course of the Trawden Beck to the east.



The original mill, 1880-82

The original mill, built after subscriptions were sought in 1880, opened in 1882, and it is evident on stylistic grounds that it is represented by the buildings at the south end of the site. It comprised a warehouse and yarn preparation block and a weaving shed with attached engine and boiler houses and chimney.

⁸ Colum Giles and Ian H Goodall, *Yorkshire Textile Mills. 1770-1930* (London, 1992), 107-10; D A Farnie, *The English Cotton Industry and the World Market, 1815-1896* (Oxford, 1979), 289-95.

⁹ Bannister 1920, 30-35.

¹⁰ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1887), 311; *ibid.*, 1893, 432-3; *ibid.*, 1902, 602-3; *ibid.*, 1911, 680-1; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 741-2; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 1190; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 690, 693; Barrett's *General & Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1941), 571; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274.

The **warehouse and yarn preparation block** at the south end of the site is a three-storey gabled building (Fig 2) with walls of coursed rubble with quoined corners and a slate roof. Shaped brackets support the gutters. It faces south, the front and rear elevations being six bays long, the end walls two bays wide. The front elevation has an original ground-floor pedestrian door with a monolithic surround in the easternmost bay and a similar door with quoined jambs in the fourth bay from the east. The latter door is not necessarily original, certainly the door in the fifth bay along is a former window, having the rectangular stone lintel with a dressed margin and a raised centre cut by diagonal chisel-cut lines found over all other primary window openings in the building. Several windows have what may be original small-pane glazing, three panes wide by four panes high. There is no wide vehicle door into the building, and in the west gable wall the uppermost of two small windows between the ground-floor windows may have lit a privy.

The single-storey **weaving shed** has been demolished but for the start of the parapet walls down the east and west sides which are of coursed stone rubble. The shed was irregular in shape since on the east it was built up to the sinuous course of the Trawden Beck. The main drive shaft was taken down the inner face of the side wall to Skipton Road (see George Watkins record, noted below). The **engine house and boiler house**, which were set end to end, together with the **chimney**, which are shown on maps to have been attached to the north end of the shed, have been demolished.

The mill extension of 1885

In 1885 the original room and power mill was doubled in size to the north, the extension being effectively a mirror-image of the original mill and comprising a weaving shed with its own multi-storey warehouse block along its north side. The extension utilised the existing power source which was no doubt enhanced in some way.



The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** is a three-storey building (Fig 3) of coursed rubble with quoined corners, tooled as before, and a gabled slated roof. It occupies only the

western two-thirds of the width of the site, has a double span roof, and is irregular in shape. The twin-gabled west end is three bays wide with one window under the central valley, has eight-bay long north and south elevations, the former angled and with a shallow gable to meet the roof, and a two-bay wide east gable wall. Lintels and sills are tooled as on the original mill. The north front wall has a tall wide but now blocked vehicle entrance in its west bay but the position of the pedestrian entrance is not clear - the door in the fourth bay from the west is a former window.



The **weaving shed** survives in its entirety and is single storeyed, built of rubble with a parapet wall to the west (Fig 4) but not the east where the gables of the saw-tooth shed roof, with its steeply-glazed north-facing lights and slated return slopes, are visible (Fig 5). The shed is 14 bays long, the bay against the warehouse block lacking the glazed slope. The east gable ends each have a rectangular ventilation opening in the gable. The west wall has identical openings and the ghosts of tall dumb-bell-shaped brackets lining with rows of columns inside. The plates, 14 in total originally, must relate to the transmission of power down the mill.

The engine and boiler houses of the original mill also powered the extension, and in about 1960 it is known that they contained a steam engine made by William Roberts of Nelson and a boiler dated to 1912.¹¹

Later additions to the mill

Between 1885 and 1891 a gabled two-storey building, three bays long and two wide, built of coursed rubble with a slate roof, was added to the east end of the 1885 warehouse block, abutting the weaving shed to its south. Its windows are more widely spaced than those of the building it adjoins, but it may represent an extension of that building.

Between 1892 and 1910 a row of low one and two-storey red brick buildings, most now painted white, was built against the north boundary of the site. They are gabled with slate roofs.

An office block was added to the rear of the northern multi-storey block between 1910 and 1930. It is two storeys high and built of rubble with a gabled, slate roof. Its north elevation is three bays wide on the ground floor where it includes a door with a chamfered ashlar surround with interrupted jambs, and a four-bay wide first floor. The west gable, the entrance front, has two windows on each floor as well as a door on the ground floor close to the south corner; the doorway has a plain surround with interrupted jambs.

Black Carr Mill ceased to function as a textile mill in the late 20th century and one consequence of its reuse was the demolition of the original weaving shed on the southern part of the site and of the associated engine and boiler houses and chimney.

¹¹ Notes and photographs by George Watkins in the National Monuments Record, George Watkins Collection, Black Carr Mill, Trawden, WAT1025.

METHODOLOGY

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**Brook Shed, Colne Road
Trawden
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99020
NGR: SD 9106 3864**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99020

Trawden Forest

NGR: SD 3864

Brook Shed, Colne Road, Trawden

SUMMARY

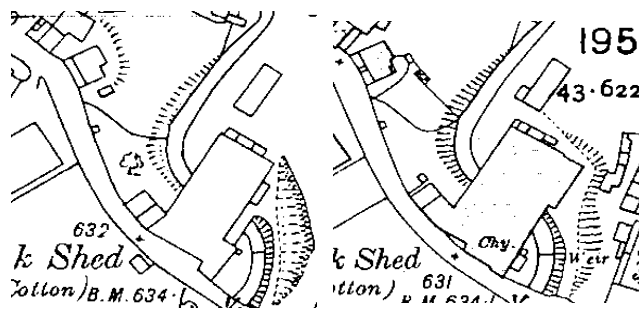
Brook Shed was built in about 1860 as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill working on a room and power basis. It had an in-line engine house and boiler house, the latter with an attached chimney, set against the side wall of the shed. The shed, now just a fragment, was single storeyed and had a steeply-pitched saw-tooth profile roof supported on cast-iron columns. The engine and boiler houses have been demolished, as has a small extension of the shed, but the chimney, of stone and square in section with a tapering shaft, stands. Brook Cottage has recently been built within the curtilage of the former mill.

HISTORY

According to Fred Bannister, writing in 1922,¹ Brook Shed was built in about 1860 by William Pilling, 'Little Will', and was later extended by Messrs W and T Chadwick. Bannister observed that many manufacturers commenced business there and then

removed to larger premises, an instance being John and James Pilling before they moved to Colne.

The site of Brook Shed is shown without buildings in 1844² but the mill is shown on the map of 1892 (Fig 1a).³ The map of 1910 (Fig 1b)⁴ shows it with its east side extended, but with little further change by 1930,⁵ the evidence



indicating that the extension should be identified as the work of Messrs W and T

¹ Fred Bannister, *The Annals of Trawden Forest* (Colne, 1922, reprinted (Staining, Blackpool, 1992), 31.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1930, published 1932.

Chadwick. However, on all three maps the mill is called 'Brook Shed (Cotton)', and directories indicate that W & T Chadwick of Church street, Trawden, were boot and shoe makers. It is possible that they occupied Brook Shed, or part of it, but it is not indicated in Directories. Instead these indicate that the mill was occupied by cotton manufacturers, initially on a room and power basis. In both 1879 and 1887 there were three separate firms, in 1893 one, in 1902 two, and in 1911, 1923 and 1924 just one.⁶ In 1963 the mill was occupied by Derbyshire & Knowles Ltd., described as 'dry tapers and chain beamers for ticks, crêpes, poplins, gaberdines, etc.'⁷ The mill survives now in fragmentary state, with Brook Cottage, a modern house, built within its curtilage.

The original mill of c1860

The original cotton-weaving mill, built in about 1860, is shown on the 1892 map, before its extension, as a rectangular building running back from the road at its south-west end and across the course of the Beech Beck. A small rectangular building is set against its south-east corner while at the south-west corner its side wall is angled where it respects the wall of an earlier building, identified as a 'School' on the 1844 map.

The building depicted on the 1892 map can be identified as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill with a weaving shed and attached engine house, boiler house and chimney. The **weaving shed** (Fig 2) survives incompletely, much of its rear part having been demolished, but what stood in 1998 were the random rubble walls of the south-west end of a single-storey shed with substantial quoins at both corners. The south-east side wall, which continues on beyond them, retains the gables of four saw-tooth roofs, the steep

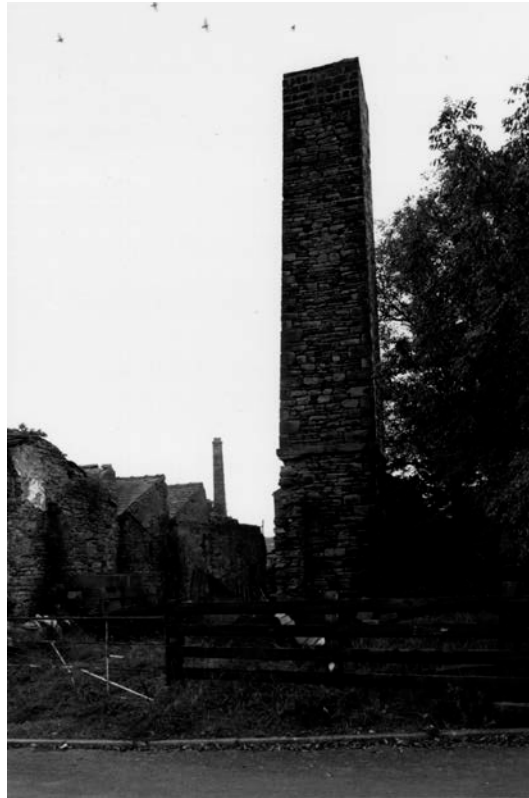


north-east facing slopes all originally glazed, the return slopes slated. These roofs survive incompletely within the shed where a number of cast-iron columns with bolting heads survive. The cast-iron gutters which the columns support project beyond the outer face of the south-east wall where they drained into now-lost downpipes. Seven substantial stone blocks in the south-west end wall must project into the interior of the shed as corbels which carried the main line shaft at those points where power

was transferred by bevel wheels to countershafts which ran down the shed.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 222; *ibid.* 1887, 311; *ibid.* 1893, 433; *ibid.* 1902, 602; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 741; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 1190.

⁷ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 275.



The line of corbel blocks implies an **engine house**, and this, together with the **boiler house**, occupied the building which abutted the south-east corner of the shed and projected beyond it. The building has been demolished, but its function as an engine house is evident because of the substantial heavily oil-stained ashlar blocks set at the corner of the shed which relate to the transfer of power from the engine house into the shed. The evidence that the rear of the building was the boiler house comes from the position of the **chimney**, which still survives and is shown attached to the rear corner of this building on the maps. The chimney (Fig 3) is square in section, built of random rubble with quoined corners, and has a straight-sided plinth which rises to a band above

which the shaft tapers gently to a now-reduced top. A sloping scar against the outer face of the south-east side wall of the shed is part of the evidence for a gabled roof over the engine and boiler house, but it is possible that it is secondary and is raised over the shed wall, the original roof probably being gabled at both ends.

The demolition of the majority of the weaving shed has removed evidence for the appearance and use of the small buildings which are shown projecting from it on the 1892 map. Some may have been toilets. Whether there was a multi-storey warehouse and preparation block is uncertain, but it is possible that one of the pair of cottages at the south-west corner of the shed on the 1892 map, which replaced the school which was there in 1844, was used in part for this purpose. On the 1910 map the internal boundary between the shed and the first cottage is omitted, implying shared use.

Additions to Brook Shed

Between 1891 and 1910 maps show that a long, narrow extension was built against the south-east side of the shed, starting at the rear of the engine and boiler houses and running almost to the rear wall - almost because the original north-east corner can just be detected on the later map. The extension, like the building it was added to, was built over the Beech Beck, to the rear of which it broadened out, perhaps to a storeyed warehouse since a track led to and past it. The extension has been completely demolished as has the pre-1910 addition to the side of the boiler house and as have the minor additions shown

on the 1930 map.

METHODOLOGY

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**Forest Shed
Skipton Road, Trawden
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99021
NGR: SD 9112 3892**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No: 99021

Trawden Forest

NGR: SD 9112 3892

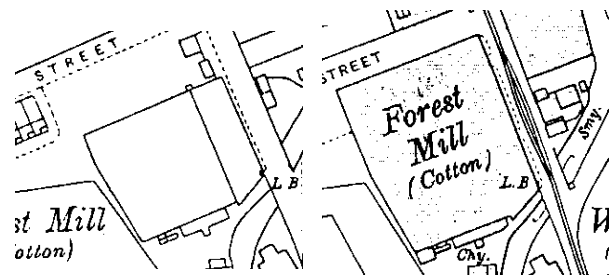
Forest Shed, Skipton Road, Trawden

SUMMARY

Forest Shed was built in about 1890, certainly before 1892, as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill working on a room and power basis. It had an office, warehouse and yarn preparation block of two storeys, basement and attics with a single-storey weaving shed behind it. Power came from engine and boiler houses attached to the side of the shed. The shed was extended before 1910, but not the warehouse block which was burnt out in 1938 and rebuilt. Textile production ceased at the mill during the late 20th century.

HISTORY

Forest Shed was built in about 1890;¹ the site was vacant in 1844² but it is shown built on in 1892 (Fig 1a).³ The buildings had been enlarged to the north by 1910 (Fig 1b)⁴ but are shown unchanged in 1930.⁵ The building is identified as 'Forest Mill (Cotton)' on all these maps although trade directories and other sources all call it Forest Shed. It is first mentioned in the 1893 Directory when it was occupied by two firms of cotton manufacturers, from 1902 to 1933 it housed three firms, and in 1941 and 1963 respectively two and one.⁶ On 26 May 1938 the multi-storey warehouse and preparation



¹ Fred Bannister, *The Annals of Trawden Forest* (Colne, 1922, reprinted Staining, Blackpool, 1992), 34.

² Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII, revised 1930, published 1932.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 432-3; *ibid.* 1902, 602-3; *ibid.* 1911, 680-1; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 741-2; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 1190; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 690, 693-4; *ibid.* 1941, 569, 571; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274.

block along the Skipton Road frontage was burnt out.⁷ In 1963 the mill was occupied by H W Bannister Ltd., a subsidiary of Bannisters of Trawden Limited, who as well as Forest Shed occupied Hollin Hall Mill, Trawden, Riverside Mill, Colne and Briercliffe Mill, Burnley.⁸ In 1998 the building was not in textile use.

DESCRIPTION

Trawden, in the early 19th century, was an elongated and somewhat loosely grouped village which stretched from Trawden House at its north-west upland end down, past the area known as Chelsea, across the Beech Beck, and on to St Mary's Church, erected in 1845.⁹ A cluster of terraced houses was built in the valley bottom north of and immediately downstream of Chelsea by William Midgley of Stunstead,¹⁰ on map evidence before 1892, as well as a Wesleyan Chapel and a school. North of all these, two textile mills were built before 1892, Black Carr Mill in 1880-82¹¹ and Forest Shed in about 1890.

Forest Shed was built at the foot of the valley slope, on the west side of Skipton Road immediately north of its crossing of the beck. The slope was sufficiently steep for the rear part of the site to have to be terraced back into the earth.

The original mill of about 1890

⁷ Jack Greenwood, *A Trawdener's View* (Burnley, 1987), 28.

⁸ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274. The firm had 606 looms and produced zephyrs, seersuckers, flanelettes, wincyettes, gingham, nurse cloths, shirtings and fancy rayons, checks and stripes.

⁹ Kelly 1924, 1190.

¹⁰ Greenwood 1987, 7.

¹¹ RCHME Historic Building Report (1999), NBR No. 99019.

The original mill, built in about 1890, was a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill with a warehouse and preparation block fronting Skipton Road with the weaving shed behind. The **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block**, part of the exterior and much of the interior rebuilt after a fire on 26 May 1938, was originally of two storeys, basement and attics, the attics lost on rebuilding. Built of coursed rubble to the front and to the angled south gable, and of rubble elsewhere, it was twelve bays long and three bays deep with a gabled and no doubt slated roof. The front elevation had a door for pedestrians, under a window, in the first bay from the south and a tall wide vehicle entrance with smooth quoined sides rounded from just below the steel-plate lintel, in the seventh bay. Apart from the last opening, all others on the building have rectangular stone lintels. The south gable wall, on the evidence of the photograph taken at the time of the 1938 fire, had two windows on the ground and first floors towards the front, a with a ground-floor door with a monolithic surround just beyond mid point, and a mullioned and transomed window set mid-floor in the last bay, no doubt lighting a staircase. The attic was lit by three symmetrically-placed windows. The rear elevation had 13 windows at first floor, looking over the shed, with three in the north gable which had no attic lights.¹² The roof of the building and much of its interior was lost in the 1938 fire.

The **weaving shed** attached to the rear of the warehouse block is a single-storeyed building with a 13-bay saw-tooth roof with north-west facing glazed lights with slated return slopes. The south side wall and the rear wall, the latter angled to fit the site, are built of roughly squared rubble and are flat-topped parapet walls. The north side wall was taken down when the shed was extended but the south and west walls remain. The south side wall incorporates a series of substantial stone blocks which must project into the shed as corbels to support the main line shaft and carry the bevel wheels which transferred drive on to countershafts. The rear wall has rectangular ventilation openings into each roof. The shed interior has rows of cast-iron columns with east-facing D-section bolting heads supporting the gutters and the roof.



Power for the mill came from an **engine house and boiler house** attached to the south side of the weaving shed. Both have been demolished, but the aerial photograph and that showing the 1938 fire both include the **chimney**, itself now demolished, which was built of stone and was square in section, tapering gently to its cap.

The extension of the mill between 1892 and 1910

Maps of 1892 and 1910 show that the mill was extended north between these years to the edge of Dean Street. An increase from two to three in the number of firms in the mill

¹² The south gable wall can be seen on the aerial photograph taken, on map evidence, between 1910 and 1930, in Greenwood 1987, 7.

between 1893 and 1902 might suggest an early date in this period for the extension. The aerial photograph taken after the construction of Trawden Council School in 1910 shows that the L-shaped extension, which wrapped around the end of the existing multi-storey warehouse block, was then, as now, entirely roofed with a glazed saw-tooth roof which continued the lines of the existing shed's roof (Fig 2). The main part of the extension was a weaving shed, rectangular in shape and single storeyed. It has five saw-tooth profile roofs, four with north-facing glazed slopes, that at the north end reversed. The outer walls are of stone rubble, and all are flat-topped parapet walls except for the lower part of the north wall where the slope made it unnecessary. Internally, as noted earlier, the north wall of the original shed was taken down on extension and its rows of cast-iron columns with east-facing D-section bolting heads was continued on, as must have been the power source. The warehouse block was not extended as a storeyed building, but the front area of the extension was clearly used for this purpose since there is a lit part basement here. The front wall onto Skipton Road has a central wide and tall vehicle doorway with a lintel formed by a rolled steel joist, and on both sides there are two basement and two ground-floor windows, all with rectangular lintels. There is one window, now blocked, in the side wall onto Dean Street: another may have been lost when the modern wide doorway was inserted.



Alterations in the mid and late 20th century

A fire at the mill on 26 May 1938 burnt out the warehouse block of the original mill. This was rebuilt (Fig 3) without its former attic storey, comparison of the 1938 photograph of its south end with what now survives showing that the front and rear walls were taken down so that the eaves ran along the top of the first-floor windows, not

several courses above them. At the south end the apex of the gable was rebuilt above the sills of the three original attic windows, the sills being left *in situ*, and the rear half of the wall was rebuilt in two bays creating a four-bay deep wall including a door towards its rear. This door replaced that on the front, just round the corner, which is blocked. The stair window, and presumably the staircase it lit, were not retained.

After the mill closed for textile use a wide door was inserted in the side wall of the north extension, close to the corner of Dean Street with Skipton Road, to enable vans to drive into that part of the building.

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**Hollin Hall Mill
Lane House Lane
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99022
NGR: SD 9162 3802**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF ENGLAND

Lancashire

NBR No. 99022

Trawden Forest

NGR: SD 9162 3802

Hollin Hall Mill, Lane House Lane

SUMMARY

Hollin Hall Mill is a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of multi-phase construction built on a valley bottom site on the west bank of Trawden Brook at the south-east end of the village of Trawden. The first phase, built in 1855, the date on the engine house, is of coursed and random stone rubble and consists of a south-west facing multi-storey office, warehouse and yarn preparation block with an engine house and boiler house with rectangular chimney attached to one end and a single-storey over basement weaving shed and a dyehouse to the rear. Between 1910 and 1930 a detached lorry garage was built to the north west. The second major building phase was in 1946 when the firm of H W Bannister Ltd, whose initials appear on the new portion of the building along with the date, added an extra storey to the dyehouse and the original multi-storey block and rebuilt the interior of the weaving shed, partially re-roofing it. The third phase, built in the 1950s, consists of a multi-storey block built behind the weaving shed and up to the edge of Trawden Brook, a new two-storey block with a triple-span roof built onto the south-east side and the remodelling of the dyehouse. Hollin Hall Mill, now known as Empress Mills, is used for yarn spinning and is also the home of the Hollin Hall Sewing Centre.

HISTORY

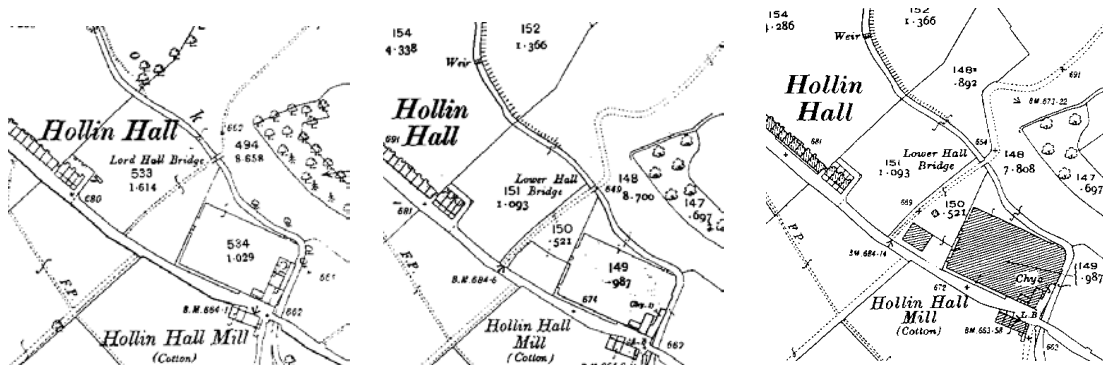
Hollin Hall Mill was built in 1855, the date on the engine house, in a relatively remote rural position. The Ordnance Survey map of 1844¹ shows the site of the present mill as undeveloped countryside to the south east of Lane House Cotton Mill (rebuilt in 1887 as a laithe house). The re-survey of 1892² (Fig 1a) shows the mill as rectangular in plan with a complex of smaller component buildings along the south-east side including an engine house, boiler house, chimney and what might be a gasometer or reservoir. Subsequent map revisions in 1910 and 1930³ show that the mill was not extended in the intervening periods but that the gasometer or reservoir had been removed by 1910 (Fig 1b). The 1930 map also shows a large detached rectangular block to the north west, the garage (Fig 1c). There is no reference to Hollin Hall Mill in a trade directory of 1854 but

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.5, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.5, revised 1910, published 1912; *ibid.*, revised 1930, published 1932.

the mill is listed in directories of 1879, 1887 and 1893, John Sagar, cotton manufacturer, the tenant throughout and Sagar & Co Ltd the tenants in 1902. The occupiers in 1911 and 1923 were the Hollin Hall Manufacturing Co Ltd and by 1941 the tenant was James Moorhouse and Sons Ltd.⁴ Shortly after this H W Bannister Ltd, also and formerly of Forest Shed, Trawden, became tenants and are listed in a directory of 1963 as manufacturers of zephyrs, seersuckers, flannelettes, wincyettes, gingham, nurse cloths, shirtings and fancy rayons, checks and stripes.⁵ In 1998 the mill remained in textile usage but had switched to yarn spinning and had been renamed Empress Mills and is also the home of the Hollin Hall Sewing Centre.



DESCRIPTION

Hollin Hall Mill occupies a valley bottom site on the west bank of Trawden Brook, originally nestling within a meander such that the brook naturally ran along two sides of the mill. It was built in 1855, had been modified by 1910 and a detached lorry garage was added between 1910 and 1930. It was greatly enlarged in 1946 and again in the 1950s when Trawden Brook was culverted beneath the extensions.

The original mill

The steam-powered cotton-weaving mill of 1855 consisted of a south-west facing two-storey **office, warehouse and yarn preparation block** (Fig 2) built of coursed stone rubble. It is 16 bays long, the fourth bay from the left occupied by a pedestrian entrance with a monolithic surround and the final bay by a vehicle entrance with rusticated quoins and a flat steel lintel which has latterly been raised.

Attached to the south-east end of the warehouse block, but recessed back, is the **engine house** (Fig 3), also built of coursed stone rubble and now flat roofed and bearing a later water tank. The front elevation, its openings blocked, has a central doorway with a

⁴ Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854); Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 222; *ibid.*, 1887, 311; *ibid.*, 1893, 433; *ibid.*, 1902, 603; *ibid.*, 1911, 680; *ibid.*, 1923, 742; *ibid.*, 1941, 572.

⁵ John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 274.



monolithic stone surround and a panel above inscribed 'A D 1855' with a large stone block, possibly the seating for the pivot of the entablature beam of the beam engine within, flanked by a pair of narrow round-headed windows with archivolt, keyblocks and imposts. The adjacent

boiler house projects forward from the engine house and is built of random rubble with a mono-pitched roof with lights. The front elevation has tooled stone quoins to the corners and full-width double boiler doors with large tooled stone jambs. The south-east side which is five bays long with a pedestrian door with monolithic surround occupying the second bay from the front. It is unlikely that the boiler house survives in its original form as the random rubble of the front elevation clashes with the relative finery of the engine



house and it is probable that it has been partially rebuilt. To the rear is a tapering square **chimney** built of coursed squared stone, now partially dropped.

To the rear of the multi-storey block is a **weaving shed**. It is of one storey but with a basement, accommodated by the fall of the land, housing a dyehouse. The shed was re-roofed as part of the alterations of 1946 and internally only nine of the original cast-iron columns survive. Externally it was inaccessible due to later additions on all sides.

Additions of 1910-1930

Between 1910 and 1930 detached lorry garage (Fig 4) was built to the north west of the mill and set slightly back from the road. It is gabled and rectangular in plan with a wide vehicle entrance facing south east onto a cobbled yard between the mill and the garage

Additions of 1946

The mill was greatly enlarged in 1946 when it was occupied by H W Bannister Ltd. The warehouse and preparation block was raised to three storeys and a lift tower was inserted centre rear. It rises above the gabled roof and on its north-east face bears the inscription 'HWB 1946'. The weaving shed was re-roofed and a second gabled dyehouse of two storeys, bearing the same inscription, was also built behind the boiler house.

Later additions

In the 1950s a large three-storey block of rendered red brick on a stone base and of irregular plan was built across the rear of the weaving shed up to the brook. It is 13 bays long by five bays wide with a tall attached lift tower. Some time after this a two-storey triple-gabled extension of random stone rubble was built on the south-east side over Trawden Brook and butting against the dyehouse of 1946.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Lodge Holme Dyeworks
formerly Lodge Holme Cotton Mill
Skipton Road
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99023
NGR: SD 9104 3934**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Simon Taylor
Photographs by Ian Goodall

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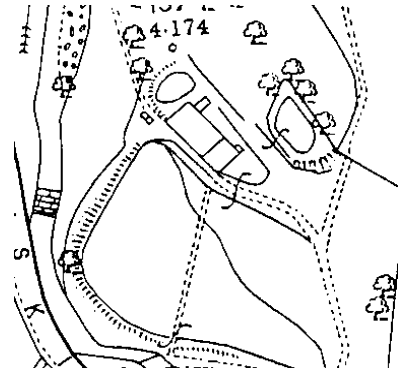
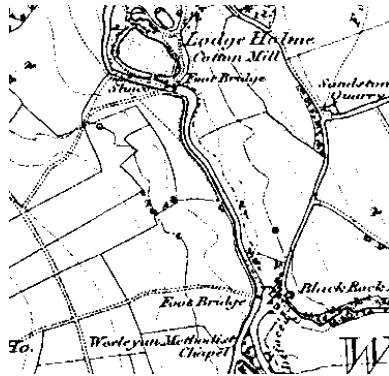
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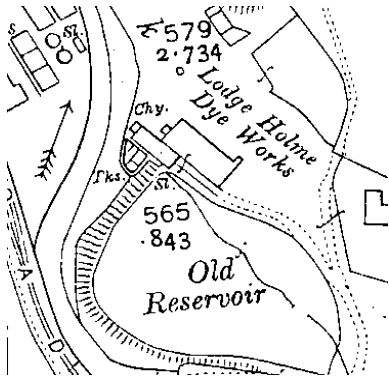
Lancashire

NBR No. 99023



Trawden Forest

NGR: SD 9104 3934



Lodge Holme Dyeworks formerly Lodge Holme Cotton Mill, Skipton Road

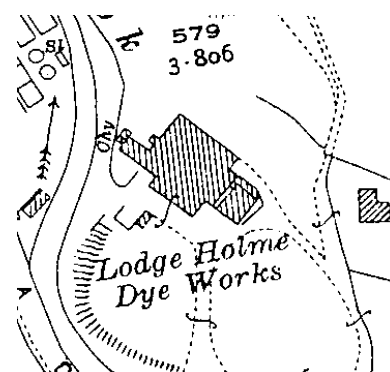
SUMMARY

Lodge Holme Dyeworks originated as a water-powered cotton-spinning mill built in the late 18th or early 19th century on sloping land to the east of Trawden Brook, a weir and mill dam supplying water to the mill. It was later extended in two phases. The original building consists of a gabled rectangular block built of random stone rubble with an internal end water wheel chamber (in the north-west end). By 1892 the building had become a dye works although no additional building appears to have taken place to accommodate this change of use. The first rebuilding took place between 1892 and 1910 when the dyeworks switched to steam power and the former wheel chamber was converted to house a steam engine, a boiler house and chimney being built against a side wall. The second major building phase took place between 1910 and 1930 when a second gabled block was built to the north east, butting against the original mill which was also extended to the south west. The north-east block and the original mill block survive in good condition, although the roof line has been dropped, but the boiler house and chimney have been demolished and the south west extension has been lost with the building of a new factory on the site of the mill dam.

HISTORY

Lodge Holme dyeworks was built as a cotton-spinning mill some time in the late 18th or early 19th century and certainly by 1844 when the mill is shown, and named as 'Lodge Holme Cotton Mill', on the Ordnance Survey map of that year (Fig 1a).¹ A trade directory of 1854 mentions a John Smith, cotton spinner and manufacturer, of Lodge Holme, the house a short distance to the south east of the mill, who was presumably the owner of Lodge Holme Mill.² By 1892 the mill had become a dyeworks, being named on the Ordnance Survey map of that year 'Lodge Holme Dye Works' (Fig 1b)³ and a trade directory of 1893 Lists the occupier as Samuel Makin, dyer.⁴ The Ordnance Survey map of 1910⁵ (Fig 1c) shows that the works had by this time switched to steam power as a new rectangular block, presumably the boiler house, and a chimney had been built onto the west side and the mill dam was labelled as the 'Old Reservoir'. By the time of the map revision of 1930 the old mill dam had

evidently been drained and the old mill building extended to the north east, south east and south west (Fig 1d).⁶ The building was still a dyeworks in 1923 when it was occupied by



Multi Color (Dyers) Ltd, cop dyers.⁷ In 1998 a large modern factory making woodworking machinery occupied the site of the old mill dam and partly incorporated the former dyeworks. The original mill building survived and was in use as a carpentry workshop.

DESCRIPTION

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Mannex, *History, Topography, and Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1854), 468.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.5, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

⁴ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1893), 433.

⁵ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.5, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁶ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.5, revised 1930, published 1931.

⁷ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 742.

Lodge Holme Dyeworks (Fig 2) was built as a water-powered cotton-spinning mill of the late 18th or early 19th century to the north west of Lodge Holme House, to the east of Trawden Brook and against the valley side, a weir taking water from the brook to feed a large mill dam just to the south of the mill and within a bend in the brook. With the conversion of the works to steam, after it had become a dyeworks, the mill dam was abandoned and the former wheel chamber, within the north end of the old mill, was



converted to house the engine, a new boiler house and chimney being built against part of the south-west wall. It was later extended to the north east, south west and south east. The original mill building and the north-eastern addition survive in fairly good condition although it has been partly incorporated into the modern factory on the site of the mill dam. The boiler house and chimney have been lost as has the extension to the south.

The original mill

The original late 18th or early 19th century water-powered cotton-spinning mill, as shown on the 1844 and 1892 maps comprised a rectangular three-storey (reduced to two) gabled block built of random stone rubble with a slate roof with lights and simple stone copings. The north-west gable-end elevation (Fig 3) is irregularly fenestrated but is basically two bays wide with irregularly sized window openings, all with monolithic stone surrounds and all now blocked. At the apex of the present gable is a small blocked opening with no surround which acted as a vent. Both corners were originally quoined, and they survive to the north corner where a straight joint defines the junction with the secondary block to the north east. The quoins to the west corner have largely been removed, probably with the building of the boiler house, but some survive at a high level.



The south-east elevation has an inserted segmental-headed window to the first floor and pedestrian entrances to the ground and first floors on the right side. The rest is obscured by the modern factory building. It is evident that the line of the roof has been lowered as the top floor windows in the north-west elevation are positioned too high in the gable and would interfere with the line of the tie beams.

The internal water wheel chamber, later the engine house, was set across the north-west end of the block and remains a discrete unit rising through two storeys. It is now featureless except for the boarded engine-house ceiling.

The additions of 1910-1930

Of the additions made between 1910 and 1930 only the north-east block, parallel and butting against the original building, survives (Fig 4). It is two storeys high, gabled and built of well coursed and random stone rubble. It was itself built in two, possibly three phases, beginning with the central portion and extended at either end. The central section, of which only the north-east elevation is visible, is built of well coursed stone rubble and is three bays long with wide rectangular windows with monolithic jambs and overlapping sills and lintels. The roof is of slate with lights and two ridge ventilators and stone copings to the original north-west gable end. Butting against this and the wheel chamber of the adjacent original building is a lower gabled extension of random stone rubble with a quoined corner. The north-west elevation is blind and the north-east elevation has an inserted pedestrian entrance at first floor level. The central section has also evidently been extended to the south east where a small block has been added, a ragged joint defining the junction, also of random stone rubble and continuing the line of the roof but not the roof lights. It has wide taking-in doors at first floor level in the north-



east and south-east elevations, the latter also has an inserted vehicle door at ground floor level.

METHODOLOGY

This report has been prepared following a rapid survey of textile mills and related industrial buildings in the Borough of Pendle. The survey, conducted by the former RCHME in partnership with English

Heritage and the Borough of Pendle, had the objective of providing a brief record, based mainly on external examination, of the surviving sites.



**Pave Shed
Colne Road, Trawden
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99024
NGR: SD 9097 3874**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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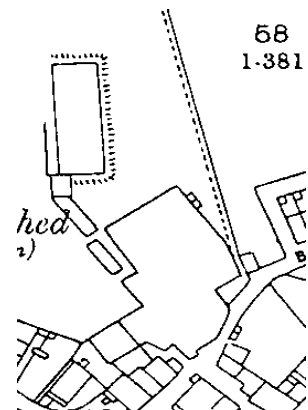
Pave Shed

SUMMARY

Pave Shed, or Salts, was a cotton-weaving mill built between 1844 and 1879. It was extensive by 1892, was only extended a little thereafter, and was recently demolished but for a minor length of wall.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Pave Shed was built between 1844,¹ when its site was clear, and 1879 when it was first listed in a Directory. It occupies a flat site on the valley side above the main settlement of Trawden and was already extensive by 1892 (Fig 1).² The extent of the mill is unchanged on the 1910 map,³ but by 1930⁴ it had a northern addition. The mill is identified as 'Pave Shed (Cotton)' on all three maps.



¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1930, published 1932.

According to Bannister⁵ Pave Mill or 'Salts' was built by William Marsden, who bought Trawden Hall and lived there. This is supported by Directories which list William Marsden, cotton manufacturer, in 1879, 1887 and 1893. For part of the 20th century it was occupied by John Wilkinson & Son, cotton goods manufacturers, and in 1963 by some printers of furnishing fabrics.⁶ The older part of the mill was a 'dandy' house, used for handloom weaving,⁷ and a gas installation was set up for the use of this mill, gas also being supplied to Scar Top Mill.

In 1998 the site had been cleared of all buildings, a fragment of a wall built of stone rubble, its inner face of brick, and containing a window sill, surviving from the north-west wall, with the scar of stairs to an upper floor. An old photograph⁸ shows the interior of a weaving shed at the mill with cast-iron columns supporting I-section steel beams which in turn support the gutters of a saw-tooth profile glazed and no doubt slated roof.

METHODOLOGY

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⁵ Fred Bannister, *The Annals of Trawden Forest* (Colne, 1922, republished Staining, Blackpool, 1992), 31.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 222; *ibid.* 1887, 311; *ibid.* 1893, 433; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley & District* (Preston, 1923), 743; Kelly's *Directory of Lancashire* (London, 1924), 1191; Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* (Preston, 1933), 696; *ibid.*, 1941, 574; John Worrall, *The Lancashire Textile Industry* (Oldham, 1963), 275.

⁷ Jesse Blakey, *The Annals and Stories of Barrowford* (Nelson, 1929), 351-3.

⁸ J W & S Greenwood, *Trawden. Another Glance. Characters, Clogs & Cottages* (Nelson, 1993), 43.



**Scar Top Mill
Church Street, Trawden
Trawden Forest
Lancashire**

**NBR Index No. 99025
NGR: SD 9110 3870**

Surveyed: 8 October 1998
Report by Ian Goodall
Photographs by Simon Taylor

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Trawden Forest

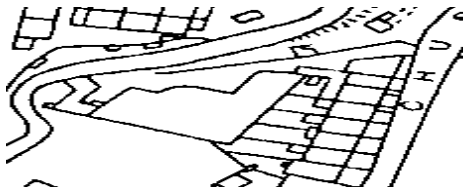
NGR: SD 9110 3870

Scar Top Mill, Church Street, Trawden

SUMMARY

Scar Top Mill was built, initially for renting out, as a steam-powered cotton-weaving mill in the middle of the 19th century. It comprised a single-storey weaving shed with a west-facing saw-tooth profile roof with the boiler house, chimney and presumably engine house attached to its west wall and a two-storey warehouse block attached to the north wall. The mill had a variety of commercial uses: in about 1890 it was a chemical factory making gun cotton from cotton waste, soon after being part weaving shed, part laundry. In the late 20th century it was a bakery. Permission was granted in 1998 for its demolition and replacement by housing.

HISTORY



Scar Top Mill, also known as Shirley, was built between 1844¹ and 1892 (Fig 1)² on a site behind a terrace of houses on the west side of Church Street, Trawden. The building is not named on this map, nor on the 1910³ or 1930⁴ maps. The shape of the building on the 1892 map, an irregular L, is repeated unaltered on the 1910 map except for a small west addition. The 1930 map shows some further changes of shape.

¹ Ordnance Survey 1:10560, Lancashire, Sheet 57, surveyed 1844, published 1848.

² Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, surveyed 1892, published 1893.

³ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1910, published 1912.

⁴ Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Lancashire, Sheet LVII.1, revised 1930, published 1931.

According to Fred Bannister, writing in 1920,⁵ Scar Top Mill was built by his grandfather, John Bannister, while he was the corn miller, and was rented by James Preston who afterwards moved to Walk Mill, Colne. It was then occupied by John Bannister and Sons, Bannister enlarging the mill, the 'New End' being built entirely of material from Wycollar Hall which was then being dismantled and sold piecemeal. The outer gate pillars of Wycollar Hall were placed in Church Street at the entrance to the mill road, and Bannister also bought the 'haunted chamber', front doorway and entrance hall and erected them behind his own house. A Directory of 1879 lists John and David Bannister, cotton manufacturers, at the mill.⁶

Scar Top Mill was bought in about 1890 by a Mr Brindle who started a chemical factory for making gun cotton from cotton waste, but this industry had only a short life, and when Bannister was writing the mill was partly a weaving shed and partly a laundry.⁷ In the later 20th century the site was a bakery known as Chelsea Bakery from the locality in which it stood. During 1998 permission was given for the demolition of the former mill and the erection of housing on its site.

DESCRIPTION



Scar Top Mill stands on a site which slopes down to the north towards Beech Beck (Fig 2). Its rear wall is built against the garden wall of a terrace of houses which fronts Church Street to its east. The mill is reached down a narrow lane off Church Street at the north end of the terrace.

The mill was only observed from a distance but its buildings, all of which are of rubble with slate roofs, can be seen to incorporate a single-storey **weaving shed** with a saw-tooth roof with steeply-pitched glazed lights facing west, the return slopes slated and with beehive-like circular brown-glazed ceramic ridge ventilators. A door in the west end wall has a monolithic stone surround; a wider opening at the west end of the north wall is an insertion. A **chimney** and **boiler house** are set against the outer face of the shed's west wall, the former shown on all the maps, the latter on the 1930 map but evidently a partial enlargement of an earlier one. The chimney has a tall square-section base which rises to a stone band above which the shaft, still square, tapers gently to a moulded band with an added top to enhance draw. Steel bands now strengthen the shaft. The boiler house has a slated single-pitch roof and two doors in its north gable wall, one up steps for pedestrians, with a monolithic stone

⁵ Fred Bannister, *The Annals of Trawden Forest* (Colne, 1920, reprinted Staining, Blackpool, 1992), 31-2.

⁶ Barrett's *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley* (Preston, 1879), 221.

⁷ Bannister 1920, reprinted 1992, 32.

surround, and the other wider to allow access to the boiler. The position of the **engine house** is not clear.

Attached to the north side of the shed, mid-length, is a two-storey warehouse and yarn preparation block. It is glazed to east and west and has a canted north-west wall gable wall with a ground-floor door and window and a first-floor door, evidently a taking-in door, with a monolithic stone surround. The north wall is two bays long with a window on both floors.

METHODOLOGY

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