

Acre Mill



Driven by a water wheel and beam engine and built by James Ashworth in 1839, Acre Mill Woollen Mill was extended several times providing space for cotton spinning and woollen production. The business was run by several members of the Ashworth family, including Miles who often commented that his workforce was his family and often gave treats to his workforce some of these being trips to places like Blackpool.

£8,000 to provide for his wife and to go towards the building of public baths or recreation ground at which time the grounds of Stubylee were purchased. Miles also provided the Mayoral robes and chains.

The company was incorporated in 1905, but by 10th December 1931, it had entered into voluntary liquidation. By 1935 the mill had closed and the mill put up for sale. Bought by a Bradford company, the mill continued to trade as James Ashworth Limited.

By 1966 the company had once again gone into liquidation, two years later the mill was added to the listed buildings register by English Heritage.

Acre Mills lodge was known as the suicide lodge it being the chosen place for people to end their life's due to the waters of the lodge being warmer than most.

1914 Mr James Hensley of 16 Shepherd Street, Bacup was fixing a leather belt onto a scutching machine when his hand became caught in the machinery tearing the hand of at the wrist.

June 1915 A fire breaks out the slashing, beaming and twisting departments are all burnt out.

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