

# Stacksteads Mill



Was built in 1833 by Robert Munn and his brother John whilst, John Munn looked after the family mill in Manchester Robert Munn remained in the area to manage the local mills such as Irwell Mill. Robert Munn was known to have strong objections to the Ten Hour Factory Act Bill which restricted the hours of labour of women and children aged 13-18 to 10 hours a day and not more than 58 hours a week. Robert Munn had also been one of ten people who had signed a petition against the Public Health Act of 1848 for Bacup.

Munns was, however, one of the first firms in the area to install a fire engine and brigade known as Prince Albert, the engine was horse-drawn and was a manual pump. In 1882 the weaving shed was put up for sale and was bought in 1884 by Mr George Ormerod who reopened the weaving shed of the mill in 1885. Ten years later in 1894 the weavers went out on strike, demanding that they be paid the same amount as others in the district.

The shed, however, continued to work due to the non-union hands working the looms. Eventually the dispute was resolved. Mr Ormerod continued to run the weaving shed part of the mill until the end of the First World War when it was taken over by A.B.Law. Stacksteads mill became home to various businesses including cycle manufacturer Messer's A. Ashworth & Sons in 1898 who according to the Bacup Times of February 1898 displayed two of their cycles in the window of Stacksteads

furniture dealer Messer's Worswick. In 1917 Ormerods shed had been sold to the British Clog Company. In 1928 the mill was sold to Bacup Shoe Company who by 1953 employed 500 people.

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