

# Irwell Mill



Irwell Mill was one of Bacup's earliest mills built by Robert Munn, between 1824 and 1825, it was known locally as Bottom O'th Street Mill. In April 1826 it found itself visited by the Power Loom rioters who destroyed 28 looms.

By 1913-1914 the multi-storey building had been converted to yarn doubling by Taylor and Hargreaves and shoe manufacturers Hargreaves and Crowther Ltd. During the Great War, parts of the mill were used as a munitions factory.

In 2003, the mill was sold for over £35,000 in order to demolish and build a multi-purpose 5.5 million pound health centre which opened in 2005. The demolition took a dramatic turn when the water tower crashed to the floor. Today there are only parts of the original mill still standing, one of these is the beam engine house which is one of the oldest remaining mill buildings to survive in Bacup and the two storey office block, thought to have originally been loom weaving cottages. On Rochdale Road what was the scutching room, has been incorporated into the new building that houses the chemist.