

# Lee Mill



Built-in 1825 and powered by a water wheel which was removed in 1890, Lee Mill began by manufacturing woollen goods; but by 1835 the mill was producing cotton goods, and as with many other mills had been separated into several small businesses one of these being the production of cotton carpeting. By the early 1870s, the whole mill was in the hands of John Maden of Rockliffe House who worked the mill until the First World War when it closed due to a shortage of labour.

Following Sir John Henry Maden's death in 1920, the mill was put up for sale. By 1923 the mill had been taken over by Gaskells, who occupied the site at Lee Mill, along with others at Britannia and Peel Mills, until mid-1990. In 1999 demolition and clearance of the site began and had been completed by May 2002, with construction underway a year later on a new £5.3m industrial estate which included the office block known today as the Kingfisher Centre, which was opened by local opera singer Sean Ruane in June 2004.