

Globe Works SD 757 282

One of the most important textile machinery works of Lancashire, established 1853 by John Howard and James Bleakley. James Bullough, the elder, joined firm 1857 following withdrawal of Bleakley. Works undertook millwrighting, repairs and production of sizing plant (the 'slasher'). During 1860's spinning machinery manufacture began. John Bullough introduced to firm in 1862, rapidly became principal partner.

Some extensions 1865. (Scaitcliffe and Fountain Streets), 500 employees in 1866. In 1878 manufacture of Rabbeth (ring) spindle commenced, massive extension and reconstruction followed.

1882: Brown Street Foundry (Moulding Shop no 1) and three storey joiners' shop built, extended 1885/94-95

1888: 'Top Shop' machine works for fluted rollers erected, extended c 1900, 1928. 1893 additions to buildings in Scaitcliffe Street.

1895: Two horizontal 300 ihp engines (Burnley Ironworks) for 280 hp dynamo unit. 1897 Commercial Mill purchased, further extensions to 'A' block.

1899 Fountain Mill acquired, Moulding Shops 2/3 constructed to rear of A Block.

Canning Street demolished to make way for timber stores/joiners shops. 3500 employees by 1902, making ring spinning machinery and weaving preparation plant for domestic and export markets. 5000 hands by 1915.

Howard and Bullough Ltd formed 1891, public company 1894. Howard and Bullough American Machine Co Ltd incorporated 1893 to build works at Rhode Island USA.

1905: Alfred Hitchon, managing director of Howard and Bullough Ltd, registered Hitchon Gear and Automobile Co Ltd to manufacture Globe Cars. Works erected on Charter Street 1906. Two models 12-14 hp (£330) and 22-25 hp (£500). Taken over 1907 by Howard and Bullough for production of ring spindles, extended 1914.

In 1920 a new timber yard, Back Lonsdale Street, constructed. 'B' Block extended to Brown Street and along Richmond Street. Charter Street Works greatly extended by spindle machine shops in Stevenson and Exchange Streets. (Charter Street known as Moulding Shop no 4)

By mid 1920's Howard & Bullough Ltd were the largest employers of labour in Accrington and their works dominated the industrial landscape of the town. Textile Machine Makers Ltd, formed 1931 by Howard & Bullough Ltd, and five other leading firms among them Platt Brothers.

Some contraction thereafter resulting in temporary closure at Stevenson Street. 1939-45 war production: shells, smoke bombs, bomber fuselages, gun carriages, 6000 employees.

1947 Stevenson Street Technical School opened. 1958 modernisation scheme, beginning of contraction in foundry operations. 1966 moulding shop closes; 1967 Stevenson Street closed. 2200 operatives in 1970. Name of Howard and Bullough vanished 1970, works became Platt International, after 1975 Platt Saco Lowell. 1973 Textile Mouldings Ltd (a subsidiary company) moved from Top Shop to Stevenson Street Works. Further redundancies reduced workforce to 832 in 1976.

Buildings

A Block SD 757 283

Basically a rectangle of three, four and five storey brick built machine shops and offices enclosing yard with smaller buildings. Five storey façade on Scaitcliffe Street (dating from 1892-3) is rock-faced with cornices, quoins and round headed windows. Originally stables on ground floor, packing and fitting departments above. Cold drawing shop and blow rooms along Fountain Street, machine, paint, fitting and erection departments Ormerod Street. Moulding shops no 2/3 on ground floor of four storey block Brown Street.

B Block SD 756 283

Similar design to A Block, rectangle of three and four storey buildings surrounding yard with large chimney (1896) and other structures. Boiler House on ground floor/cellar level at Brown/Fountain Street corner. Saw mills and woodworking departments along Fountain Street. The four storey brick range in Richmond Street replaced the original wood yard after 1920. Fire station attached at junction of Fountain and Scaitcliffe Streets.

#### Brown Street SD 755 282

Two storey stone built structure on Brown Street (cylinder shop during 1920's) large single storey moulding shop (no 1) extends to rear. Former bays for offloading iron, sand etc on Richmond Street now removed and replaced by car park.

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#### Top Shop SD 755 281

Former Fluted roller/spindle and flier departments, now empty. Original four storey section on south east is a most attractive building, with ashlar and rock-faced masonry, distinctive cornices and large round headed windows. Integral hoist tower separates building from three storey extension on early 1900's.

Brick built extension of 1928 to rear of original building.

#### Charter Street No 4 Moulding shop SD 749 282

Two and three storey brick built machine shops along Charter Street, cupola and single storey sheds to rear. Former boiler house and chimney on Back Exchange Street/Charter Street corner.

Buildings partially occupied by J&T Engineering Ltd.

#### Stevenson Street SD 751 282

Former spindle works, an extensive range of single and two storey blocks, brick walls with corrugated iron and glass roofs. Various firms occupy the site among them Textile Mouldings Ltd.

#### Timber Yard SD 746 282

Originally the site of Crossley, Whewell & Co's Antley perimeter wall with window openings, gate and ruins of saw mill in large yard.

#### Housing

Although the firm of Howard and Bullough's never engaged in house building, the development of the works after 1880 provided a great stimulus to urban development in the Richmond Hill area. Many of the streets in this district date from the last twenty five years of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century and the Co-operative Society was very active in their construction.