

History uncovered!

Demolition crew drop in on ancient machine



AN OLD water wheel pit has been uncovered during demolition work at Healey Hall Mills, Healey Dell.

The pit, which still contains some of the original gear mechanism, was found under the main building.

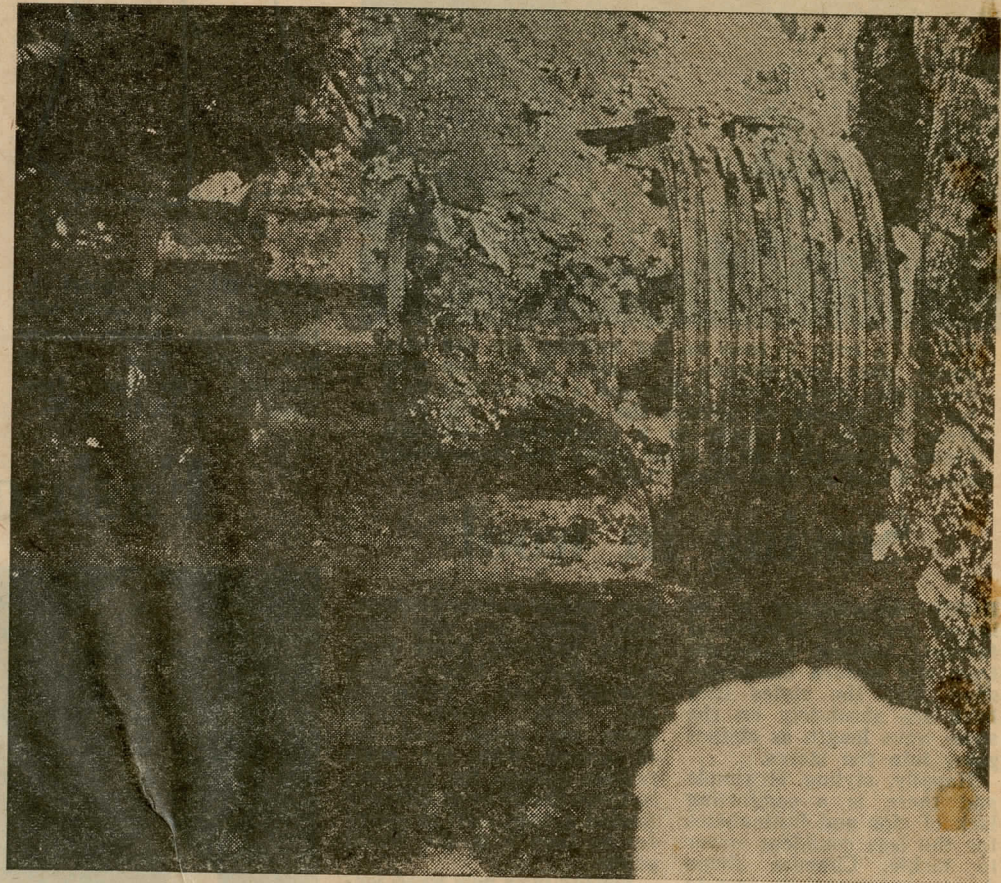
Parts of the mills are being demolished because they have been found to be unsafe.

The mills have been owned by Arnold Greaves (Rustproofing) Ltd, since 1960 and are let to 12 businesses.

Demolition work is centred on the original

stone-built building which until 1936 was used as a dyeing and bleaching factory by Samuel Heap and Sons Ltd.

During the war it was used by the Ministry of Supply as a filling factory. The ministry owned it until 1949.



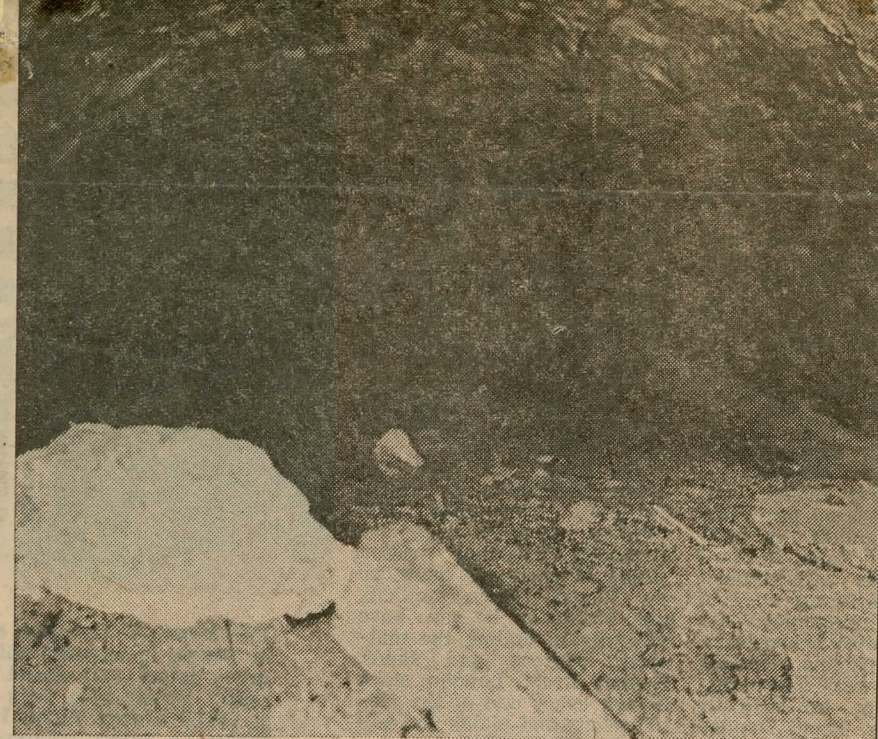
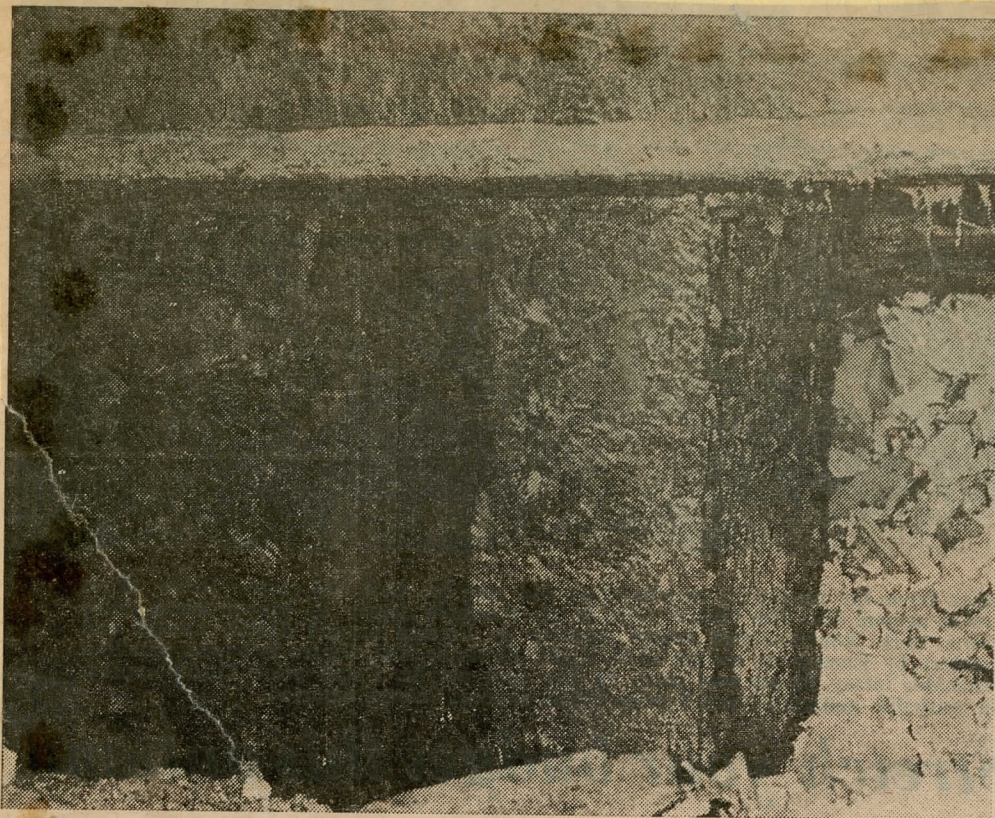
A CLOSE-UP of the turbine and 6-groove rope pulley. Water carried to the turbine through the large feed pipe in the background came from a lodge at ground level.

(42016)



MR FRED GARSIDE, chief engineer at the Healey Hall mills, down in the bowels of the earth with the ancient water turbine behind him.

(42015)



AFTER driving the turbine the water was carried away through this ductin and fed into the tunnel (above) to run back into the river.

(42017)



A MECHANICAL digger claws at the fabric of the original part of Healey Hall Mills.

(42002)