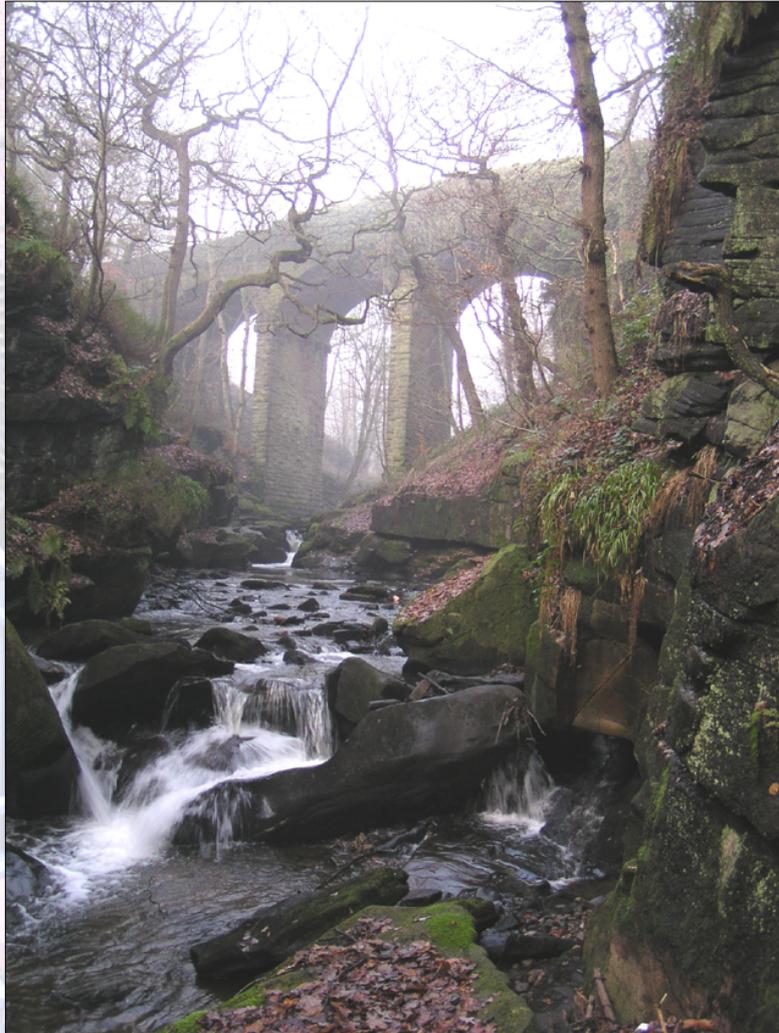


# Healey Dell

## An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

### Vol 1: The Text



**MANCHESTER**  
1824

The University of Manchester

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## **VOL 2: The Illustrations**

# *1. Introduction*

- 1.1 The University of Manchester Archaeological Unit was commissioned by Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council to carry out an archaeological desk-based assessment of Healey Dell, Rochdale. The aim was to identify, as far as reasonably possible, the nature of the archaeological resource and assess its significance. The report would serve to inform the future treatment and presentation of the archaeological remains, including further archaeological works, publicity, open days or guided walks, on-site interpretation and school information packs.<sup>1</sup>
  
  - 1.2 The study area lies within the valley of the River Spodden. Like a number of other watercourses on the western flank of the Pennines, including the Roch of which it is a tributary, the Spodden played a role in the region's Industrial Revolution as the location for a string of early water-powered mills. Such mills, sited on relatively fast flowing rivers and streams, represented the earliest application of power in the woollen and cotton industries, predating the advent of the steam power towards the close of the 18<sup>th</sup> century.
  
  - 1.3 The following sections of this report first outline the methodology used within the assessment (section 2) and briefly describe the character of the study area (section 3). The historical and archaeological background of the study area and individual key sites within it are then considered in some detail, with this section concluding with an overview on the development of its various mills (section 4). For convenience a brief summary of the mills is also provided in **Table 17** (p 60). Section 5 contains a gazetteer of sites identified by the assessment. The significance of the sites is then discussed (section 6), before consideration is given to possible further work (section 7).
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- 1) The assessment was carried out by Dr Peter Arrowsmith, UMAU. Thanks are due to Martin Riley, Countryside Service Manager, Rochdale MBC; Norman Redhead, Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester; Peter Isles, Lancashire Archaeology Service; Sue Southward and Richard Whittle, Healey Dell Nature Reserve Visitor Centre; Barbara Anglicas, Rochdale Arts and Heritage Resource Centre; and the staff of Rochdale Local Studies Library. Sue Mitchell, University of Manchester Field Archaeology Centre, kindly gathered the census information.

## *2. Methodology Statement*

### **2.1 The Study Area**

2.1.1 The study area examined in detail for the assessment comprises the Healey Dell Nature Reserve and adjoining areas of interest. These included an extension to the main study area, consisting of a corridor along the Spodden on the north side of Spotland Bridge (**III. 1**).

2.1.2 In addition to the above, the desk-based study also identified sites within a wider area of within c 500m from the main study area, to provide a broader archaeological context (**III. 1**).

### **2.2 Data Gathering**

2.2.1 The assessment of the detailed study area and its southern extension involved a desk-based study and a site inspection.

2.2.2 Sources consulted for the desk-based study comprised:

- X The Sites and Monuments Records (SMR) for Greater Manchester, held by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, and Lancashire, held by the Lancashire County Council Archaeology Service
- X Printed and manuscript maps
- X Published and unpublished documentary sources
- X Aerial and other photographs
- X Previous archaeological surveys

Archives consulted included:

- X John Rylands University Library of Manchester
- X Lancashire Record Office
- X Manchester Central Library
- X Rochdale Local Studies Library

2.2.3 The site inspection aimed to relate findings of the desk-based study to the existing topography and land-use and to recover evidence not available from the desk-based sources. Most of the study area was available for access, the main exceptions being the areas of private housing in the vicinity of Healey Bottoms Mill and the allotments in the southern extension to the main study area. The interiors of occupied buildings at Healey Bottoms Mill were also not inspected.

2.2.4 In the case of the wider area of within c 500m from the main study area, sites were principally identified using:

- X The Sites and Monuments Records (SMR) for Greater Manchester and Lancashire
- X Printed maps

2.2.5 Sites identified by the assessment are listed in section 5 of this report, and are numbered as follows:

A1-58: Sites within the main study area;

B1-8: Sites within the southern extension to the main study area;

C1-69: Sites within c 500m of the main study area.

The location of these sites is shown on **Ills. 4-38**.

## 3. The Setting

### 3.1 Location and Use

#### 3.1.1 *Main Study Area*

The main study area principally comprises a linear area extending along the valley of the River Spodden for a distance of c 2km, and located c 1.5-3.5km north-west of Rochdale town centre. This area principally comprises the Healey Dell Nature Reserve and, to the south of the Healey Viaduct, also encompasses an area of privately owned land which includes Healey Bottoms Mill. The greater part of the area is wooded, with open grassland in the far north and bodies of water which were formerly the reservoirs of Healey Bottoms Mill, Broadley Mill and Broadley Wood Mill. Vehicle access into the study area is provided by Station Road in the north and Dell Road in the south. A dismantled railway line, which crosses the Spodden valley on the Healey Viaduct, runs almost the full length of the study area and now serves as a footpath.

In addition, certain sites were also examined in detail which lie on the periphery of this area and represent key elements in the development of this section of the Spodden valley. These sites comprise: in the north, Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**site A1**); the associated quarry tramroad (**site A2**); and the millrace and reservoir of Tonacliffe Mill (**site A3**); in the east, Healey Hall and associated buildings (**site A20**); and in the south, Brotherod Mill and the associated weir and reservoir (**sites A45-47**).

#### *Southern Extension to the Main Study Area*

The southern extension to the main study area comprises a corridor c 0.5km long, along the Spodden on the north side of Spotland Bridge. In the north-west it includes an enclosed area of allotments, while the remainder is partly covered with light woodland.

### 3.2 Topography

#### 3.2.1 *Main Study Area*

The study area lies within the valley of the River Spodden. Between the Station Road bridge and the Healey Viaduct this narrows to form a dramatic ravine, Healey Dell, which on the east is broken by the steep valley of a tributary stream, the Spaw. To the north of Station Road and to the south of Healey Bottoms Mill, the valley has steeply sloping sides with a relatively narrow bottom valley. The profile broadens out at Healey Bottoms Mills and, to a greater extent, in the far north of the study area.

OS mapping shows that at the northern end of the main study area ground levels rise to above 215m AOD on either side of the Spodden, with the river itself lying below 195m AOD. At the southern end, at and adjacent to Brotherod Wood, levels rise on either side of the river to an average of c 170m AOD, with the river lying below c 145m AOD.

### 3.2.2 *Southern Extension to Main Study Area*

The southern extension to the main study area comprises, on the east, ground sloping steeply down towards the river, with flatter more low-lying ground on west. In the north-west a bend in the river is bordered on the west by steep cliffs, while in the north-east ground level falls in a near vertical cliff face along the river.

OS mapping shows that ground levels in the north of this area rise to over 145m AOD on either side of the Spodden, with the river lying below 130m AOD. In the south levels fall to a maximum of c 140m AOD on the east side of the river, with the river lying below c 125m AOD.

## 3.3 **Geology**

### 3.3.1 *Solid*

The solid geology of the main study area and its southern extension, as mapped by the OS Geological Survey (sheet 76), comprises Lower Coal Measures of the Carboniferous.

### 3.3.2 *Drift*

As mapped by the OS Geological Survey (sheet 76), the solid geology of the main study area outcrops to the east of Healey Bottoms Mills and, continuing northwards, on the east side of the Spodden at Healey Dell. The remainder of the main study area has a drift geology of boulder clay, with an area of alluvium on the west side of a bend in the river in the extreme north, and an area of sands and gravels on the highest fringe of Brotherod Wood.

The drift geology of the southern extension to the main study area also comprises boulder clay, with an area of alluvium on the east side of the northern bend of the Spodden, and the edge of an extensive area of sand and gravel encroaching onto the southern end.

## 4. *Archaeological and Historical Background*

### 4.1 **Introduction**

#### 4.1.1 *Historical Setting*

Historically Healey Dell lay within Spotland, which comprised the most north-westerly of four divisions of the extensive parish of Rochdale, the others being Hundersfield, Castleton and Butterworth. Spotland was in turn divided into eleven hamlets (Fishwick 1889, 2). The Healey Dell study area, with the exception of the extreme northern end, lay in two of these hamlets, with that part east of the River Spodden lying in the hamlet of Healey and the part west of the river in the hamlet of Catley Lane. For rating and taxation purposes Spotland was also divided into three larger portions. Again almost all of the Healey Dell study area lay within two of these, Nearer Spotland on the east of the Spodden and Further Spotland on the west. The third division, Whitworth and Brandwood, lay to the north of these and encroached into the extreme northern end of the main study area. The majority of mill sites within the study area lay on the eastern side of the river, in the hamlet of Healey and the Nearer Spotland division. This is also the location of Healey Hall, the ancestral home of the Chadwicks who owned much of the land within the study area on both banks of the river.

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century the study area was also divided by a new political and administrative boundary. Rochdale was created a Parliamentary borough in 1832, a municipal borough in 1856, and a county borough in 1888 (Farrer & Brownbill 1911, 193). On the north-west, by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century the borough boundary ran as a straight line across the study area, bisecting the buildings at Healey Hall, before turning southwards where it met the Spodden (**III. 38**). In that same period the parts of the hamlets of Healey and Catley Lane which lay beyond the borough boundary became respectively parts of Whitworth UDC and Norden UDC (Farrer & Brownbill 1911, 206). Under changes in local government in 1974, Whitworth was included within the new district of Rossendale, in Lancashire, and Norden and Rochdale in the Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale, in Greater Manchester. Boundary stones for the old county borough are still extant within the study area and now delineate the modern districts and counties (**sites A26 & A29**) (**III. 85**).

#### 4.1.2 *Sources*

##### *Documentary*

There is at present no detailed published account of the history and archaeology of Healey Dell and its surrounds. Summary details have been provided by Allan Marshall (1976, 6-8), John Cole (1988, 43) and Philip Blackshaw (2001), and there is also a useful discussion on the industrial development of the area in an undergraduate thesis by Dominic Collis (2001).

There is a considerable body of available primary documentary material, much of it unpublished. A large part of the material consulted for the present study has comprised records of local rates and national taxation, held in the Lancashire Record Office and Rochdale Local Studies Library. From the early 19<sup>th</sup> century there are two useful valuations of property in Spotland, made for the purposes of the poor rate, which detail the components of individual properties. One dates from 1834, and is appended by updated details added in 1843 (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). The other survives as a copy made in 1823 of an original

survey of 1819-20 (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1). For this period and the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, changes in ownership and occupancy of sites have been traced through the annual Land Tax Returns for 1780-1832 (LRO QDL/S/86 & 87), and by consultation of selective Poor Rate Books which survive for a number of years from 1768 onwards. An earlier assessment list, of 1750, is contained within the minutes and accounts of the overseers of the poor and has been published (RLSL LA Z/1/S1; Gordon 1914-16, 23-8). In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century an important body of information on local industrial sites is provided by a valuation of mills in Spotland, again compiled for rating purposes. This document dates from 1880, but most of the information which it contains was gathered in 1863, with a number of later additions (LRO CBR/5/158). Further details from this period have been provided by examination of other selective late 19<sup>th</sup>-century rating documents (LRO CBR/5/145, 153, 156 & 160; CBR/7/84). Extensive use has been made of the published trade directories of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. For Healey Hall and associated sites, the information from this range of sources has been supplemented by use of the available census returns, from 1841-1901. Those sources which have been published include the survey of the manor of Rochdale made in 1626 (Fishwick 1613), which provides the earliest detailed picture of the area. For the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century details of local mills are provided by evidence which was collected in 1847 in connection with the construction of new reservoirs under the Rochdale Waterworks Amendment Act, and which has been conveniently reproduced by the industrial historian A P Wadsworth (1935-7, 155-6).

Consultation has also been made of a number of unpublished sources specific to a particular site or person. Of particular importance are several documents within the collection of Rylands Charters in the John Rylands University Library of Manchester, comprising leases of property and mining rights in Healey granted by the Chadwick family. Useful information has also been provided by probate documents held at the Lancashire Record Office. A number of descriptions of individual sites within the study area, together with details of their history, are found within the notebooks compiled by the local antiquarian J L Maxim in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, held at Rochdale Local Studies Library. The library also holds a history of the Leach and Tweedale families who played a leading role in the industrial development of the study area, written in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century by Mrs Tisdall, a descendant utilising family papers. Finally a number of useful details on ownership and occupancy of individual sites are provided within the works on local datestones compiled in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century by Richard Heape of Healey Hall (Heape 1919-22 & 1926).

### *Cartographic*

Detailed mapping of the study area effectively begins in the 1840s. From this period we have the first 6in to 1 mile Ordnance Survey map, surveyed between 1844 and 1848 (or, in the case of the sheet covering the southern extension to the study area, between 1844 and 1847). In addition a lease of 1846 of mining rights below the Healey Hall Estate includes a hand-drawn map showing the area to which those rights applied (JRULM RYCH/3574). The map is of particular use in that the buildings and fields which it shows are numbered and cross-referenced to a schedule which details the buildings, the field-names, and their tenants (**III. 142 & Table 1**). This is information which is normally provided at this same period by the tithe award for a township. The award for Spotland, dating from 1845-53, unfortunately shows only a few parts of the township, with most, including the study area itself, being evidently exempt from the payment of tithes (LRO DRM 1/71). Whether the map accompanying the lease of 1846 was surveyed in that year is uncertain. When comparison is made with the OS map of 1844-8, the two show a number of discrepancies which tend to suggest that the lease's map is copied from an earlier survey.

Detailed mapping of Spotland is known to have been carried out in 1819-20, in connection with the assessment of the poor rate (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S3). The accompanying written survey, which was cross-referenced to these maps, has survived in a copy of 1823 (see above) but within a century the maps themselves appear to have been lost apart from that for the Falinge division (Yarwood 1925, 75). The 1819-20 maps of Spotland were also cross-referenced by the valuation of 1834, making their loss further regrettable.

Prior to the 1840s much useful information can be gleaned from successive county maps of Lancashire, by Yates in the 1770s, Greenwood in 1818, and Hennet in 1828-9 (Ils. 2 & 3). After the 1840s later OS editions begin in 1890, from which date sheets were produced at both 6in to 1mile (1:10,560) and 1:2500. The Healey Dell Nature Reserve Visitor Centre and the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit each holds photocopies of two plans of Healey Bottoms Mill relating to its use as a munitions factory in the Second World War, one of which depicts the buildings in pictorial style (Ils. 43 & 44).

### *Illustrations and Photographs*

The documentary and cartographic evidence is supplemented by photographs and other illustrations. The main collection of these is held at Rochdale Local Studies Library but copies of material are also kept at the Healey Dell Nature Reserve Visitor Centre. The illustrative sources include an early depiction of Meanwood Mill, not dated but probably no later than the 1810s (Ill. 141), and later 19<sup>th</sup>-century representations of sites in the vicinity of Healey Viaduct, an obvious focus of attention for artists (Ils. 125, 126, 134). Photographs of the study area were also being taken by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, among the earliest being views of Broadley Mill (Ils. 121 & 122). This photographic and illustrative evidence is not comprehensive. There are, for example, no known representations of several of the study area's mills.

### *Previous Archaeological Investigations*

Three archaeological studies are known which include parts of the study area, all of which have been carried out in recent years. In 1999 the Spodden was included within a rapid identification survey of archaeological sites along the rivers of the Roch, Irk and Medlock catchment area, carried out by Lancaster University Archaeological Unit. In the case of the present study area, the survey appears to have relied principally on OS mapping and no site inspection was undertaken (LUAU 1999).

In 2003 Broadley Rubbing Mill (**site A1**) and the adjacent Bagden Tramway (**site A2**) were included within an archaeological assessment of quarries and associated sites in the Rossendale area carried out by the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit. For historical material this drew largely on secondary sources and OS mapping. The fieldwork for the assessment included production of a sketch plan of the Rubbing Mill and identification of its visible components (Gregory & Lloyd 2003) (Ill. 45).

In December 2003 - January 2004 David Higgins Associates carried out an archaeological assessment of Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**) (Higgins 2004). This report also draws principally on secondary sources and OS mapping, supplemented by the unpublished plans of the munitions factory. It also refers to the 1880 Spotland mill valuation (LRO CBR/5/158) but mistakenly supposes the description of 'Healey Hall Fulling Mill', and not that of 'Healey Hall Bottoms Woollen Mills', to refer to the site in question. The assessment is of particular value in listing and plotting buildings on the site, both surviving and demolished.

## 4.2 Early Development

- 4.2.1 Evidence for human activity within the study area is scant prior to the medieval period. In the wider locality flints of the Mesolithic, c 8300-3200BC, have been found in the Borough of Rochdale on the higher uplands above the valleys of the Roch and its tributaries, typically where such flints have been exposed by the erosion of a later accumulation of blanket peat. Stray finds from the Neolithic, c 3200-2000BC, and Bronze Age, c 2000-600BC, have been recovered from both the valley of the Roch and the surrounding uplands, with a general distribution which suggests a concentration of activity close to local watercourses. From the Bronze Age there are also several known barrow sites, generally located on commanding high ground (Pearson *et al* 1985, 104-10).
- 4.2.2 The closest evidence for Roman activity to the study area is provided by a series of coin hoards found along the valley of the Roch. Their distribution suggests the possible line of a road along the valley, linking the Manchester-Ribchester road on the west with the Manchester-Ilkley road on the east (Pearson *et al* 1985, 111-13).
- 4.2.3 The earliest evidence of activity within the study area may be provided by local place-names, some of which are believed to be of Old English origin and as such to date back either to the Anglo-Saxon or early post-Conquest period. Among the earliest of these place-names may be that of Healey itself, which is documented by the early 13<sup>th</sup> century. Its second element is believed to be the Old English **leah**, ‘a woodland clearing’ (Ekwall 1922, 60; Schram 1935-7, 41), which along with **tun**, ‘a farmstead’, is the most common of Anglo-Saxon place-name elements in the Manchester region. Healey’s meaning is thus the ‘high clearing’ (Ekwall 1922, 60), a reference to its position on the side of the valley of the Spodden.

The lesser local place-name Brotherod, also first documented in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, is believed to have an Old English derivation meaning ‘broad clearing’, and is thus also suggestive of early woodland clearance (Ekwall 1922, 59; Schram 1935-7, 43). An Old English origin has also been proposed for Broadley, again meaning the ‘broad clearing’ (Schram 1935-7, 41), but the fact that known instances of the name appear relatively late, and the position of Broadley alongside the Spodden, might better favour a Middle English derivation, ‘the broad meadow’. The name of Dunisbooth on the west side of the Spodden, however, is documented at a relatively early date, and has a derivation which suggests that cattle were being grazed in the area by the late Anglo-Saxon or early post-Conquest period. The first element is an Old English personal name Dunning; the second element is **both**, originally an Old Danish term meaning ‘a herdman’s hut’ or ‘cow house’, which was adopted into Old English (Schram 1935-7, Kenyon 1986, 66). 19<sup>th</sup>-century mapping shows the name attached to two settlement sites, Higher and Lower Dunisbooth (**sites C9 & C11**). The ‘wood of Dunisbooth’ is documented in about 1238 (Fishwick 1889, 509). At the northern end of the study area, Tonacliffe is first documented in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century as Tunwal(e)clif and is believed to have an Old English derivation meaning the ‘**tun** brook (or well) cliff’, with the **tun** in question possibly being Healey (Ekwall 1922, 60; Schram 1935-7, 36).

There is no evidence to support the suggestion that Th’Owd Mill I’t Thrutch in Healey (**site A19**) was the site of an Anglo-Saxon corn mill (Blackshaw 2001, 39). On the contrary, the place-name evidence implies that Healey was a somewhat peripheral and probably scarcely populated area of the pre-Conquest manor of Rochdale. The lord of that manor on the eve of the Norman Conquest, Gamel the thane, appears from Domesday to have been a figure of

some significance, holding several estates in the North. As such he may possibly have had a corn mill, although the evidence of place-names and Domesday suggests these to have been rare in the North-West at this period, but this mill is more likely to have centrally located on the Roch.

- 4.2.4 In the medieval period the main landowners in Spotland were the abbot and monks of the Cistercian abbey which was originally founded at Stanlaw near Runcorn in Cheshire and later moved to Whalley in Lancashire. The abbey's estates in Spotland were accumulated as gifts from a number of local landowners. After the dissolution of the monasteries in the mid-16<sup>th</sup> century, these lands were acquired by the Holt family of Gristlehurst in Middleton parish (Farrer & Brownbill 1911, 206). In the Rochdale manor survey of 1626 the largest landowner in Healey was Theophilus Holt with 106 acres, which were formerly the property of Whalley Abbey. Some 75 acres of this property were comprised of 'two tenements...called the Hallowes', ie Hollows to the south-east of the study area (Fishwick 1913, 225). To the west of Healey, the abbey owned Brotherod, described in 1626 as a tenement of 21 acres, owned by Theophilus Holt (Farrer & Brownbill 1911, 207; Fishwick 1913, 183).
- 4.2.5 There is archaeological evidence that activity within the study area in the medieval period included iron working. In 1918 J L Maxim recorded the remains of an iron bloomery at Birches in Healey, discovered by William Grindrod while gardening. The precise location of the site (**site A58**) is uncertain but according to Maxim it lay 'in a slight hollow in the hill-side' which was 'on the left bank of River Spodden, immediately behind "Birch Villa" and overlooking the ruins of Broadley Mill' (Maxim 1917-19). The remains noted by Maxim included charcoal and slag and may represent the base of a bloomery, the superstructure of which would have comprised a cylindrical clay furnace. Such bloomeries were used to smelt iron ore into a spongy mass of purer iron or 'bloom', which was then refined by primary smithying. There is documentary evidence and a small body of archaeological evidence for bloomeries on a number of sites within the south-west Pennine region. Only one bloomery site, however, has been scientifically excavated within this area, in the Castleshaw valley in Oldham, and produced evidence of a 12<sup>th</sup>- or 13<sup>th</sup>-century date (Redhead 1994). At that period the Castleshaw valley was owned by the Cistercian Abbey of Roche. Given that monastic houses were often at the forefront of improving the economic potential of the medieval countryside, such bloomery sites may have been especially frequent on their estates. It is unknown, however, whether or not the Birches bloomery lay on land owned by Stanlaw and Whalley Abbey.
- 4.2.6 To the south of Birches, the central part of the study area was certainly not part of the abbey's lands. Instead it was held by local landowners whose residence is likely to have been at an early dwelling on the site of the present Healey Hall (**site A20**), with a commanding position above the Spodden valley.

### 4.3 **Healey Hall Estate: pre-1800**

- 4.3.1 Healey Hall and its associated lands were originally held by a family who took their name de Healey from the place. Individuals with this family name are documented by the early 13<sup>th</sup> century, and appear among the local benefactors of Stanlaw Abbey. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century the male line of the family is reported to have died out and the de Healeys' lands to have passed by marriage to the de Ogdens, from whom in the 15<sup>th</sup> century they passed in a similar fashion to John Chadwick. The Chadwick family then retained possession until the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Fishwick 1889, 480-5; Farrer & Brownbill 1911, 210).

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century the Chadwicks gained further lands through marriage. John Chadwick (1618-68) in 1636 married Katherine daughter and heiress of Lewis Chadwick, the lord of the manor of Ridware in Staffordshire, and when his father-in-law died in 1658, the manor came into John's possession. In 1665 his son Charles Chadwick (1637-97) married Anne, the daughter of Valence Sacheverell, lord of the manor of New Hall in Warwickshire and Callow in Derbyshire, estates which in the 18<sup>th</sup> century passed to the Chadwicks. As a consequence of these new connections, after the death of John Chadwick in 1668, for nearly a century the owners of Healey lived here only rarely if indeed at all. The occupancy of the hall during this period is uncertain but it was presumably used as a residence by junior members of the family or was leased out to other tenants. This situation changed when under the terms of the will of Charles Chadwick, who died in 1756, his Lancashire estates were inherited by his younger son, John Chadwick (1720-1800). In 1765 he moved from Manchester to Healey where he lived until his death. John's son, Charles Chadwick (1753-1829), however, in 1791 moved to Ridware and later to New Hall (Corry 1825, 570-81). His son, Hugo Malveysin Chadwick (1793-1854) never lived at Healey, nor seemingly did his son, John de Heley Chadwick, the last of the family to have owned the estate (Fishwick 1889, 484-5).

- 4.3.2 The changing relationship of the Chadwicks with the estate was reflected in the building history of Healey Hall. When John Chadwick returned to Healey in the 1760s he is reported to have found the hall in a state of decay (Corry 1825, 579). As a consequence in 1774 he had the building taken down and replaced with a new hall, still standing, built in a Georgian style and crowned with a pediment (**site A20a**) (**Ill. 83**). The adjoining coach house was also the work of John Chadwick and carries the date 1800 (**site A20b**). From other datestones it is evident that he was also responsible for the stables, demolished in 1883, and adjoining farm buildings (Heape 1919-22, 40).

The hall which John Chadwick's new mansion replaced was a 17<sup>th</sup>-century building of two storeys with four gables to the front, with mullioned and transomed windows on the ground floor and low mullioned windows above. A datestone, which was incorporated within the late 18<sup>th</sup>-century hall, carries the date 1618 and is believed to commemorate the construction of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century building in that year by Robert Chadwick (d 1625) (Fishwick 1889, 483; Farrer & Brownbill 1911, 211). Something of the internal arrangements of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century hall can be gleaned from the rooms listed in the probate inventory of John Chadwick of Healey Hall in 1669. These comprised 'the Hall' (historically the principal room in such a house and probably centrally placed); 'the Higher Parlour' and 'the Lower Parlour' (probably ground-floor rooms at either end of 'the Hall'); 'the Dineinge Room' (a private room for meals, which at an earlier period would have been taken in 'the Hall'); 'the Buttery' (a service room, used for storage); and five rooms named as chambers which were probably located on the upper floor, namely 'the Doctor Chamber', 'the Buttery Chamber', 'the Studdy Chamber', 'the Parlour Chamber' and 'the Kitchin Chamber' (LRO WCW). The 1669 inventory also includes mention of a barn, a reminder that the Hall was also the centre of a farming estate.

1819-20	1834	1846
<i>Healey Hall:</i> Ending Ending Road Building & Road Rough Corndeane Buildings & Garden Reservoir Buildings Long Meadow Greatdean Copyhold Bee House & Meadow Hall Meadow High Field Plantation in High Field Buildings, Garden &c Croft Mansion House & Kiln Warehouse, Barn, Drying Stove &c Higher Mill, Waterfall &c Lower Mill, Waterfall &c New Mill Mill Lodge	<i>Healey Hall:</i> Endings Abel Brow Road Sale &c Croft Rough Corndeayn Scite & gardens Reservoir Scite Long meadow Great deyn Copyhold Beehouse meadow Hall meadow High Field Plantation Yard Garden Croft Hall &c Warehouse & stove in yard Barns &c stables & warehouse Piece Lodge in tenter field 2 cottages in Hall Yard 2 cottages at Beehouse  <i>Healey Bottoms:</i> Fulling mill, & power & tenters Brimstone stove, walching room, blue room & spring lodge Lower Mill & water power Loom shop New warehouse New warehouse over cottages Stove, smithy & small buildings Gasworks & House Size & waste house Cottages & Warehouse (old) 3 cottages at water side (old) 14 New cottages	19 The High Field or Healey Butts 20 & 21 Two Plantations in 19 22 Warehouse and Garden adjoining 24 Great Meadow Brow or Knowl 25 The Nearer Henden 26 Plantation at Henden Hill 146 Croft Bank, Rabbit Bank and Spaw Wood Plantation 147 Healey Dean, Fulling Mill, Buildings, Watercourse and Road thereto 148 The Croft Head 149 Lane adjoining 150 Healey Hall, Offices, Buildings, Warehouses, Garden, Barn, Croft and Yard 152 The Acre and Acre Bank 153 The Grey Meadow and Hall Meadow 154 & 155 Tenements and Gardens 156 Great Holme and Corn Dean 157 Stone Quarry and Rough 158-160 Tenements 161 & 162 Tenements and Gardens 163 Tenement 164 Two tenements 165-178 Tenements and Small Gardens 180 The Coppice Field 179 Mill Factory, Warehouse, Workshops, Buildings, Yard, Pool and road &c (formerly the Two Long Fields) 181 Plantation 182 Part of Great Dean including Rough Bank 183 Plantation 185 & 186 Tenements and Gardens 187 & 188 Gardens

**Table 1:** Details of the Chadwicks' Healey Hall Estate, from the Spotland Poor Rate valuations of 1819-20 and 1834 (RLSL) and an 1846 lease of mining rights (JRULM RYCH/3574).

4.3.3 In the Rochdale survey of 1626 Jordan Chadwick was recorded as owning land in all four divisions of Rochdale parish, with over 80 acres of freehold land in the hamlet of Healey. This included one area of land containing 32 acres and comprising 'A capital messuage called Healey Hall & divers closes of ar.[able] mead.[ow] & past.[ure] called the Great Dean, the Long Meade & the New Meade lying altogether on the West side of the Lane' (Fishwick

1913, 226-7). It is possible that this was the same area which in the 19<sup>th</sup> century appears to have represented the core of the Healey Hall Estate. It extended from Shawclough Road on the east to the Spodden on the west and from the Spaw on the north to the boundary with the adjoining Lower Fold Estate on the south, and included parts named Great Dean, and Long Meadow or Long Field (**Ill. 142 & Table 1**).

Among the other property of Jordan Chadwick in Spotland in 1626 were 26 acres of freehold land described as ‘Divers closes of ar. mead. & past. & Wood ground called the Dunnesbooth adjg South East on Spotland Water’. His lands on this, western, side of the Spodden would seem to have included the farm known as Harper Road (**site C16**), since he had in his possession a deed relating to ‘Harpe roade’ dating back to 1312-13 (Fishwick 1913, 189-90). Dunisbooth Wood and Harper Road were still in the possession of the Chadwicks in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, while datestones at Harper Road and Lower Dunisbooth (**C11**) recorded building work by John Chadwick in 1774 and 1775 respectively (Heape 1926, 158, 169).

In addition to his freehold land, in 1626 Jordan Chadwick held a number of properties by copyhold tenure. They included land ‘extending northward to Tunnyclyffe by the name of Henden’ (Fishwick 1913, 230), ie Ending, to the north of Healey Hall. Tonacliffe itself is given in the 1626 survey as the name of a piece of copyhold land held by a Henry Garside and described as ‘A close called Tunnycliffe with a Barn thereupon’ (Fishwick 1913, 231).

By 1772, as shown by the Poor Rate Book of that date (RLSL DB 120), the Chadwicks themselves had acquired land at Tonacliffe. This may possibly have been from the Milnes of Milnrow who owned land here in the late 17<sup>th</sup> and mid-18<sup>th</sup> century, as shown by local datestones of 1688 and 1750 (Heape 1926, 62, 137). Later in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Tonacliffe Mill was built on land owned by the Chadwicks. Perhaps in 1761, the Chadwicks also acquired the site of Broadley Mill which had itself previously belonged to the Milnes of Milnrow (see below, 4.6.1). The Chadwicks’ land in Broadley also included Broadley Fold Farm (**site C5**), rebuilt by John Chadwick in 1771 (Heape 1926, 157).

- 4.3.4 In 1626 the 32 acres adjoining Healey Hall contained only three closes or fields, considerably less than the divisions recorded in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. However, the further enclosure of this area may have been well underway by the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. In 1699 Charles Chadwick, then of Sutton Coldfield, leased out for the term of one year Healey Hall with land in Spotland and Hundersfield. This included several field-names which are also documented in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in addition to Great Dean, and Long Meadow, namely the Acre Bank and Acre, the Grey Meadow and the ‘Corne deane’ (JRULM RYCH/3560; **Table 1**).
- 4.3.5 John Corry, writing in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, recorded that plantations of trees were established on the Healey Hall Estate between 1776 and 1790, presumably as an improvement of the surrounds of John Chadwick’s new hall. In these, ‘forest-trees of great variety grow with luxuriance and vigour; even the Weymouth-Pine flourishes, and retains a beautiful verdure, in a sheltered situation here’ (Corry 1825, 639). The plan accompanying the 1846 mining lease shows two main areas of plantation, one immediately to the west of the hall and another on the south-west boundary of the estate, by Healey Bottoms Mill (**Ill. 142, nos 151 & 183**). Corry also refers to older woodland: ‘The natural woods of oak, ash, alder birch &c thrive well in this warm valley, in defiance of the browsing of cattle, and make good building timber’ (Corry 1825, 639). Healey Dell Wood is indicated on the OS map of 1844-8 (**Ill. 12**), and is shown as woodland on Greenwood’s map of 1818 (**Ill. 3**). Dunisbooth Wood, on the opposite side of the valley, is named among the land of Jordan Chadwick in the 1626 Rochdale survey and of Charles Chadwick in the 1699 lease (JRULM RYCH/3560), and may

be documented as early as the 13<sup>th</sup> century (see above, 4.2.3). In keeping with this picture, Alan Marshall has noted that most of the non-native species within the Dell, such as sycamore, are found on the eastern side of the river, 'where it can be assumed that the land formed part of the grounds of Healey Hall, and will have been cultivated on the style of old parklands', while oak and birch on the opposite bank are probably a survival of earlier woodland (Marshall 1976, 7).

#### 4.4 Healey Hall Estate, Owners and Occupants: 1800 onwards

##### 4.4.1 *Healey Hall Printworks*

In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, following the death of John Chadwick in 1800, his successor Charles Chadwick leased out Healey Hall to tenants. This process had already begun by 1813 when the hall and adjacent land were rented to Robert Leach, John Tweedale and Jacob Tweedale. The original lease survives among the Rylands Charters in the John Rylands University Library and is an important source for the history of the hall and the Dell. The list of property included within the lease begins with,

'All that capital messuage or mansion house called Healey Hall with the barns stables shippens and other the outhousing courts yards gardens and appurtenances thereunto belonging and therewith usually occupied, lately in the possession of Cowgill Sandiford and Company and used by them for bleaching and printing cotton goods (but at present unoccupied)' (JRULM RYCH/3564).

The document of 1813 specifies that as well as the hall itself, the lease of the previous tenants had included a surrounding area of land. This extended from the Rochdale and Burnley turnpike on the east (Shawclough Road) to the Spodden on the west. On the north its boundary was formed by a road leading from the turnpike to the old fulling mill, ie Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**), with the mill itself thus lying within the area of land. On the south it was bounded by a separate freehold property, at that date owned by the widow Mary Hargreaves. This last property can be identified as the Lower Fold Estate which in 1828 was owned by John Hargreaves (LRO NCHa/51/1).

The lease of 1813 also included 'all such additional buildings alterations and improvements' made by the previous tenants within this land. Presumably these had been made, in part at least, in connection with the bleach and printing business.

The Healey Hall printworks are also mentioned in the 1840s in the account by John Graham of the history of the calico-printing industry around Manchester. Graham reports that the firm of Henry Sandiford and Segar began printing here in 1804 and had 'about 25 tables' (used for block printing) and that the business failed in 1809 (Graham 1846, 387). The Land Tax Returns list Henry Sandiford and Co as occupants of Healey Hall in 1808 (the tenants are not named for previous years) and continue to give their name until 1812 (LRO QDL/S/87). The short-lived nature of their business was typical of early calico-printing firms which were notoriously prone to failure and bankruptcy. When Charles Chadwick granted a new lease in 1813, to Robert Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale, he explicitly instructed that there was not to be a resumption of the use of the site as a cotton-finishing works; the new tenants were allowed to use the property for 'the trade or business of woollen manufacturers in all its branches and for the finishing of flannels (but not for the purpose of carrying or exercising or

enjoying therein the trade or business of a cotton printer or bleacher' (JRULM RYCH/3564).

#### 4.4.2 *The Leach and Tweedale Families*

The lease of 1813 was an important turning point in the development of the study area, and marked the beginning of nearly seventy years of occupancy of Healey Hall and its associated mills, Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**) and Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**), by the Tweedales. This was initially in partnership with the Leach family, and the two families were subsequently associated with other mills in the study area, Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**) and Broadley Mill (**site A10**) in the case of the Tweedales and Harridge Mill (**site A43**) in the case of the Leaches.

In the lease itself, the three recipients are listed as Robert Leach, a fuller and finisher of flannels at Belfield Mill, John Tweedale of Smallbridge and Jacob Tweedale of Hollows, woollen manufacturers. Two recent published accounts of Healey Dell both make a passing reference to the firm of Leach, Tweedale & Co, although they differ in the details of its origin. According to John Cole, Jacob Tweedale, the son of a farmer, saved up enough money to buy handlooms which he installed in his home, and carried the cloth to Belfield to be finished at the fulling mill of Robert Leach. The two later formed a partnership and first established a mill at Tonacliffe and then built Healey Hall Bottoms Mill in 1813 (Cole 1988, 43). Philip Blackshaw gives an earlier date for the firm's origin. He states that 'In 1781 John and Jane Lord had a flannel mill built in the name of 'Leach, Tweedale and Company'. At the time it was known as Healey Hall Bottoms Mill, and soon after, John Tweedale became the sole owner' (Blackshaw 2001, 31). This earlier dating may in part be an inference from the fact that John and Jane Lord were the owners of the Lower Fold or Harridge Estate in 1781 when their initials were recorded on a datestone at Swine Rootings (**site C63**) (Heape 1926, 180), but that estate lay immediately south of the Healey Hall Estate on which Healey Bottoms Mill was located (see above, 4.4.1). In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, Richard Heape recorded a 'stone well or trough' bearing the date 1781, which in 1908 was to be found at Healey Bottoms Mill 'upon the east side of the road and against the Lodge bank' but by 1918 had been moved into the mill yard (Heape 1926, 181). This feature may have been one of a number of improvements carried out on the estate by John Chadwick but it cannot be used as evidence that the mill itself was established at that date.

Details of the family tree of the Tweedale family were recorded by the Rochdale historian R L Maxim (RLSL F8/4/MAX/53), and in more recent years the available information on both the Tweedale and Leach families has been substantially increased by Mrs Tisdall's account. From these sources it is known that the Jacob and John Tweedale named in the lease of 1813 were sons of Abraham Tweedale (1741-1814), a tenant farmer at Hollows (**site C66**). John, the elder was born in 1771, Jacob in 1783. Mrs Tisdall repeats the tradition, also given by Cole,

'that Jacob saved 2d. a day from his dinner money and when he had saved £5 bought a handloom which he set up in his attic. Later he employed other weavers to work for him and took his cloth to be "finished" by Robert Leach at Belfield. The latter, around 1808, then took him into partnership because "though he is poor he is as ambitious to get on as I am"' (Tisdall nd (a), 6).

Jacob's older brother John Tweedale began his career as a shopkeeper in Smallbridge, before becoming a co-founder of Leach Tweedale & Co. Robert Leach had been brought up in his uncles' fulling and finishing business, before setting up his own firm by 1806 and making a

profit of £1000 within the first year. The new firm of Tweedale, Leach & Co initially operated from Shawclough Mill, with John Leach, Robert's brother, as foreman, and Jacob Tweedale as carter (Tisdall nd (a), 4, 11-12). Maxim also notes the firm's early connection with Shawclough Mill, which he describes as a three-storey building situated 'near where the Water Wheel Tavern once stood'. From 1813 onwards they operated this mill as well as their works on the Healey Hall Estate, but the Shawclough side of the business came to an end when the mill was destroyed by fire in 1823 according to Maxim, or 1821 according to Mrs Tisdall (RLSL F8/4/MAX/156U; Tisdall nd (a), 5).

In 1813 the lease refers to Jacob and John Tweedale as woollen manufacturers and the firm of Leach Tweedale & Co are similarly described in trade directories of 1813 and 1814 (**Table 8**). From 1818 the directories more explicitly describe the firm as flannel manufacturers, and from 1821 as manufacturers of flannel and baize. These directories all give the firm's address simply as Healey Hall, possibly because following the lease of 1813 both Robert Leach and Jacob Tweedale took up residence there. Robert's association with the place was relatively short-lived, for he died in March 1816. In his will drawn up in February of that year he is described as of Healey Hall, and a partner in 'Leach Tweedale and Company of Healey Hall, manufacturers of flannels' (LRO WCW).

In that same year, 1816, Jacob Tweedale married Elizabeth Leach, Robert's sister (Tisdall nd (a), 5). (Robert's will shows that another sister, Ann, was married to Thomas Holland, presumably the fuller of that name who occupied Tonacliffe Mill (see below, 4.5.1)). Details recorded in a Tweedale family bible show that the first four of Jacob's and Elizabeth's six children were born at Healey Hall, between 1817 and 1824 (Tisdall nd (b)). Under the terms of his will, Robert Leach's share in the company passed to his brother John. He was involved for a while in marketing the business in London, a role later taken over by Jacob (Tisdall nd (a), 12). Jacob's fifth and sixth children were born in London, in 1827 and 1828 (Tisdall nd (b)).

The original lease of Healey Hall in 1813 was for thirty years. It included the land previously leased to Sandiford & Co, together with three additional fields on the east side of the Rochdale and Burnley turnpike, High Field, Nearer Henden and Great Meadow Knoll (**III. 142 & Table 1**). In August 1823, in recognition of the improvements which they had made to the site, John Tweedale, Jacob Tweedale and John Leach of Healey Hall were granted an extension of eight years to the original lease. In 1833, however, a new lease of fifty years for the same property was granted by Hugo Malveysin Chadwick to John Leach, John Tweedale and Jacob Tweedale, woollen manufacturers. The lease describes Jacob Tweedale as lately of Hollows, then of London, and the other two lessees as of Healey (JRULM RYCH/3567).

By 1834 the firm of Leach Tweedale & Co were themselves landowners, having acquired the former Lower Fold or Harridge Estate of John Hargreaves (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). Richard Heape dated that acquisition to 1833 (Heape 1926, 180).

John Tweedale left the firm in 1840. When he died in 1846 he left £60,000, and property including Mount Cottage (**site C55**) (Tisdall nd (a), 4). Maxim reports that on leaving the partnership John Tweedale went to Broadley Mill (**site A10**) (RLSL F8/4/MAX/156U). In about 1830 a woollen-manufacturing business had been established there by his sons John and Robert Tweedale, born respectively in 1804 and 1808 (RLSL F8/4/MAX/53). By 1838 there was also a cotton-spinning business at Broadley Mill, run by the firm of John Tweedale & Sons (**Table 4**) this presumably being John Tweedale the elder, who at that time was still also a partner in Tweedale, Leach & Co.

In July 1844 the two remaining co-founders of that firm, Jacob Tweedale and John Leach, dissolved their own partnership. Leach continued in business as John Leach & Sons, flannel manufacturers, operating initially from Calliards Mill. Leach died in 1845, but the business continued under his sons, Robert, Edmund and Stephen (Tisdall nd (a), 19). In the 1850s the firm erected Harridge Mill (**site A43**) (see below, 4.12.1).

On the dissolution of his partnership with John Leach, Jacob Tweedale continued to run the mills on the Healey Hall Estate with his sons Robert Leach Tweedale and John Tweedale. About three years after the dissolution, there was also a change in the tenure of the estate. In a letter dated 1847, attached to the lease of 1833, Hugo Mavesyn Chadwick noted that John Tweedale and John Leach were both deceased, and agreed to transfer the residue of the lease to Jacob Tweedale and his two sons (JRULM RYCH/3567). Other evidence suggests that not long after that agreement, those lessees bought the property, for in the testimony collected for the Rochdale Waterworks Amendment Act of 1847 the Healey Hall Estate mills were described as both owned and occupied by ‘J Tweedale & Son’ (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). This is evidently an error. A later rate book, of 1864, names Jacob Tweedale & Sons as the occupant of Healey Hall and its associated mills but identifies the owner as John de Heley Chadwick (LRO CBR/5/145), and he is still named as such in a rate book of 1884 (LRO CBR/5/153).

The directories show that in the 1850s the firm also took over Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**), which according to the 1880 valuation they owned as well as occupied (**Tables 2 & 3**). The claim of ownership may again be mistaken, for in the 1864 rate book the owner is named as John de Heley Chadwick (LRO CBR/5/145).

In the 1840s the firm diversified its activities. John Graham records that in 1843 Jacob Tweedale revived printing at Healey Hall, by printing ‘druggets’, a name usually associated with a coarse woollen fabric (Graham 1846, 387). This was on a relatively small-scale, however, using only ten tables, and as an experiment may have been short-lived.

The departure of John Leach from the firm in 1844 led to a change of occupancy at Healey Hall. In the census of 1841 he is listed as residing here, being described as a woollen manufacturer, then aged forty-eight. At this period he evidently shared the house with Jacob Tweedale, since in a directory of the same year Healey Hall is given as the home address of both men (Pigot & Slater 1841, 128, 132). At the time of the 1851 census the hall was still home to two households, one headed by Jacob Tweedale, but the other comprised the family of Robert Leach Tweedale, his son.

Following Jacob’s death in 1859, the firm continued to operate under the name of Jacob Tweedale & Sons. Of the two brothers, it is Robert Leach Tweedale who appears to have been most involved in its running. He continued to live at Healey Hall and in the census of 1871 is described as a woollen manufacturer and merchant employing 457 workpeople.

#### 4.4.3 *After the Tweedales*

The fifty-year lease granted in 1833 by Hugo Malveysin Chadwick to John Leach, John Tweedale and Jacob Tweedale would have expired in 1883. In 1882, however, the firm of Jacob Tweedale & Sons closed down due to a bank failure, and the Tweedales’ association with the Healey Hall Estate came to an end (Tisdall nd (a)).

Not long afterwards the Chadwicks' ownership of the estate also ended. Although John de Heley Chadwick was still listed as being possession in 1884, in 1888-9 we find the name of Robert Landor and in 1894 of a Colonel and Major Edwards (LRO CBR/5/153, 160, 156). According to Richard Heape, after centuries of ownership by the Chadwicks, 'mortgagees took possession, who in 1900 sold the hall and home farm to Mr. Gerald Radcliffe' (Heape 1919-22, 34).

With the departure of the Tweedales, the hall was occupied by new tenants. The 1884 rate book names John Stothart Littlewood as the occupant. It also lists a number of outbuilding which were included within his lease; on the south of the site, within the Rochdale Borough boundary, were a 'coach house and gateway' (**site 20b**) and 'outoffices (empty)', while on the north, outside that boundary, were 'stables, loft and storeroom', a 'hothouse and vinery' and a 'greenhouse'. Littlewood was still living here in 1891 when the census describes him as a flannel manufacturer. By 1894 the tenancy was held by Arthur Thomas Radcliffe, who is also listed in the 1901 census where he is described as a woollen manufacturer.

In 1903 the owner Gerald Radcliffe sold the hall and home farm to Robert Taylor Heape, who afterwards also acquired 'the Dell and land adjoining'. In 1908 he in turn conveyed the property to Richard Heape, who was still living at the hall in the 1920s (Heape 1919-22, 34; Kelly 1924, 427). Heape encouraged public access to the Dell, paying for the construction of two shelters (**sites A14 & A16**) and at least nine wooden and iron benches (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W). One of these shelters was constructed adjacent to the Spaw, and opened in 1912. The other lay near the top of the steps leading down to the Fairy Chapel in the ravine below Station Road (Blackshaw 2001, 27) (**Ill. 124**).

#### 4.5 **Tonacliffe Mill (site A4) (Ills. 5-10)**

- 4.5.1 Tonacliffe Mill straddled the boundary between Nearer Spotland, which contained the majority of the mill buildings, and Brandwood and Whitworth, which contained the mill's reservoir (**site A3**). A useful starting point for tracing the history of the site is provided by the Spotland Poor Rate valuation book of 1823, which copies the original survey of 1819-20. It lists 'Tunncliffe Mill' as owned by Charles Chadwick, the owner of Healey Hall, and occupied by Thomas Holland (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1).

The Land Tax Returns name Holland as occupant of the mill from 1821, and identify his predecessor as James Wrigley, who is listed from 1801 to 1820 (LRO QDL/S/87). The mill is not explicitly identified in the returns prior to 1801, but can be traced back by reference to the Poor Rate Books. These record that in 1788 James Wrigley was the occupant of an 'Engine House', with the same property being listed in 1790 as a mill (LRO CBR/5/97 & /99).

By the 1820s, under Thomas Holland, there is clear evidence that the mill was used for fulling. Thus trade directories in both the 1820s and 1830s list Holland as a fuller at Tonacliffe (**Table 2**). The Poor Rate valuation of 1834 describes the mill as including in Healey a 'Fulling Mill, 'Warehouse, wash & flock room', a 'Blue Room' and a 'Brimstove', and in Whitworth a 'Lodge', 'Piece Lodge in Yard', 'Cottage', 'Cottage & Piece Lodge at Barn', 'Tenters', 'Spring Lodge' and 'Waterfall' (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). At this date the mill, owned was Hugo Chadwick, is still listed as being occupied by Thomas Holland, fuller. By 1836, however, there had been a change in the firm's name, which is now listed as Thomas Holland & Son, and an expansion of its business, which is now given as the

manufacture of flannel and baize (**Table 2**). Perhaps in association with this development, between 1834 and 1843 new additions were made to the site; according to an appendix to the 1834 valuation, on the Healey side of the site these comprised a ‘New Mill & Carding Room’, a ‘Cartshed & Warehouse’ and ‘Part of Stove’, and on the Whitworth side ‘Part of Stove and Cottage’, and ‘a Smithy and Gas Works’ (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8).

The directories also indicate that in the 1850s the site was taken over by Jacob Tweedale & Sons of Healey Hall (see above, 4.4.2), who are listed here as fullers. In a rate book of 1864 the mill, owned by John de Heley Chadwick and occupied by Jacob Tweedale & Sons, was described as comprising, in Nearer Spotland, a ‘Fulling Mill, New Mill & Power, Blue Room & Power, Warehouse, Loomsheds, new Boilerhouse, Gasworks &c’, while in Brandwood and Whitworth the site also included ‘Part of Stove, Chimney & flues, Waterfall, Tenters, Land, Stable & Lodge’ (LRO CBR 5/145).

Jacob Tweedale & Sons are still named as the occupant in the Spotland mill valuation of 1880 and in a directory of 1882 (**Tables 2 & 3**). In 1882, however, that firm was wound up, and Tonacliffe Mill was evidently closed. On OS 1:2500 mapping of 1890 the mill is shown as disused, and by 1908 was evidently ruinous (**Ills. 7 & 8**). The site is now mostly occupied by light woodland, with only slight visible remains.

1821-2	Thomas Holland, fuller, Tunncliff	Pigot & Dean, 81
1834	Thomas Holland, fulling miller, Tonacliff	Pigot & Co, 528
1838	Thomas Holland & Son, woollen manufacturers, Tonacliffe	Pigot & Son, 129
1851	Thomas Holland & Son, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Tunncliffe Mill	Slater, 465
1858	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, fulling millers, Tunncliffe Mill	Slater, 381
1861	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, fulling millers, Tunncliffe	Slater, 402
1869	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Healey Hall and Tunacliffe Mills	Slater, 668
1882	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, manufacturers of white, coloured and fancy flannels, Healey Hall and Tunacliffe Mills	Slater, 487

**Table 2:** Occupants of Tonacliffe Mill listed in trade directories.

- 4.5.2 The OS mapping of 1890 shows the mill as principally consisting of a rectangular range c 20m by 30m, which on the evidence of the 1880 Spotland mill valuation largely consisted of a two and a half-storey mill above a cellar, with a boiler house and engine house probably at its northern end (**Ill. 7; Table 3**). This later mill was in existence by 1863 and may have represented two phases of building, for the 1844-8 OS map shows two detached blocks on the same site (**Ill. 6**). The more southerly of these corresponds with the southern half of the later mill, and was possibly built by Thomas Holland & Son when the firm expanded from fulling to manufacture, ie the weaving of cloth. As such it may also be the ‘New Mill & Carding Room’ built between 1834 and 1843. The more northerly and smaller of the two buildings shown on the 1844-8 map was possibly the original fulling mill, which was perhaps rebuilt by Jacob Tweedale & Sons after they took over the site in the 1850s. The 1844-8 map also shows an elongated range running north-south on the north-east of the site. This straddled the boundary between Nearer Spotland and Whitworth and Brandwood, and was therefore presumably the location of the stove and stable listed in 1843 and 1864. The same map shows a circular gasometer to the north-west of the mill. This corresponds with the documentary evidence which indicates that gasworks were built on the Whitworth side of the site between

1834 and 1843, and also shows that by 1864 the gasworks had been transferred to the Healey side (see above, 4.5.1). The mill's tenterfields lay on the higher ground to the north-east (**site C30**).

4.5.3 Water power was brought along a leat which broadened into a tear-shaped lodge, or reservoir immediately north of the mill (**site A3**), later used for filter beds and now infilled. Steam power was introduced to the mill by 1847, when it was powered by a 24hp steam engine and a 12hp waterwheel (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). Water power was still utilised on the site in 1879, when the mill was described as containing a 20hp condensing engine and a 27hp waterwheel (**Table 2**). The apparent doubling of the mill's water power implies the installation of a new wheel. This may have occurred when the mill was rebuilt, possibly in the 1850s, and can be seen as a testament to the continuing importance of water power within the Spodden valley.

		No of Storeys	Dimensions
1863	Woollen Mill 1 <sup>st</sup> section	2½	87ft 9in x 69ft 7in
	" 2 <sup>nd</sup> section	1½	72ft 10in x 34ft 6in
	Cellar under	1	72ft 10in x 34ft 6in
	Closets	2	5ft 3in x 3ft 5in
	Store Place	2	11ft 5in x 8ft 2in
	Devil Hole Fireproof	1	21ft 10in x 21ft 5in
	"	1	14ft 10in x 15ft 10in
	Boiler House & Drying Room	2	71ft 0in x 12ft 8in
	Wash Place	1	20ft 8in x 12ft 1in
	Wool Room & Loading Place	3	36ft 0in x 25ft 5in
1877	Spinning & Twinding Room *Ruins	2	85ft 5in x 24ft 2in
	Woozing Place & Passage	1	14ft 10in x 10ft 9in
	Urinal Store		8ft 0in x 12ft 0in
1866	Addition Room over	1	18ft 6in x 11ft 0in
	Store Cellar under Cottages	1	37ft 6in x 23ft 10in
1872	Packing & Dry Warp Shed	1	36ft 0in x 20ft 0in
	Chimney		
1879	Condensing Engine 20 Horse		
	Water Wheel 17 Horse		

\* Added in a later hand.

**Table 3:** 'Tonacliffe Mill, owners and occupiers Messrs Tweedale', details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

#### 4.6 **Broadley Mill (site A10) (Ills. 5-10, 58-59, 121-122)**

- 4.6.1 Broadley Mill was one of the earliest mill sites along the Spodden. According to John Corry writing in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, Broadley Mill served as a corn mill after an earlier mill in the valley, at Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch, was converted to fulling after 1636 (see below, 4.8.2). Richard Heape, however, states that Broadley Mill was originally a fulling mill, which is mentioned in a deed of 1640 when it was owned by the Milne family of Milnrow. He adds that other deeds show that it remained in the possession of the Milnes until perhaps 1754, and that 'after 1757, probably 1761', it was bought by John Chadwick of Healey Hall from the trustees of John Milne, gent, deceased (Heape 1926, 193). The mill does not appear to be listed in the Rochdale Survey of 1626, implying that its construction, for whatever original purpose, was later than that date.

In 1750 the Poor Rate Assessment for Spotland included John Taylor, assessed 'for Mill and Birches' (RLSL DA LA Z/1/S1; Gordon 1914-16, 24). The farm and settlement of that name (**site C34**) lay on the high ground to the east of Broadley Mill, and it is likely that this is the mill site which is meant.

The Spotland Poor Rate Book for 1768 lists Broadley Mill as owned by John Chadwick and occupied by John Clegg, described as the tenant of the 'Mill & Clod at Broadly' (RLSL DB 120). In 1772 the occupant of 'Broadleymill' was Thomas Butterworth (RLSL DB 120) and in 1776 Richard Turner (LRO CBR/5/88). In the Poor Rate Book of the following year his name had been struck through and replaced by that of Mary Turner who is still listed here in 1780 (LRO CBR/5/89 & 91).

By 1782 there had been a significant change of occupancy, with the mill for the next four decades being in the hands of the Holts. The first of these were John and Robert Holt, listed in the Land Tax Returns as occupants from 1782 to 1801, while Robert Holt is named between 1802 and 1823 (LRO QDL/S/87). Trade directories in the mid-1810s list John and Robert Holt & Co as woollen manufacturers, with their address being given as Lower Place (Wardle & Bentham 1814, 197; Wardle & Pratt 1816, 290), and in 1818 name Francis Holt, merchant, again at Lower Place (Rogerson 1818, 31).

Robert Holt undertook new building work at Broadley Mill, which included the datestone 'RH 1790' (later removed, by 1918, to the nearby Birch Villa), and another stone inscribed 'RH 1804'. According to Richard Heape, this last datestone was 'the keystone to the arch over the river, and when this part of the building fell, the stone went into the river bed, where it remained' (Heape 1926, 192, 204). The earlier datestone would appear to relate to a major building phase, for in the Poor Rate Book of 1790 the site is described as 'Broadley Mill New Mill & Dam' (LRO CBR/5/99).

In 1823 the Spotland Poor Rate valuation, which copies the earlier 1819-20 survey, lists Broadley Mill as owned by Charles Chadwick and occupied by Francis Holt (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1). It also shows that by this period the site lay on either side of the Spodden. Thus on the eastern side of the river, in Healey, the mill is described as comprising 'Old Mill, New Mill, Blue House, Stove &c', while on the western side, in Catley Lane, the valuation lists a 'Dryhouse & yard', 'Tenter Ground', 'Cottage & Mill', 'Lodge', 'Piece House & Tenter Ground', 'Mills, Waterfall &c', 'Little Lodge', 'House, Barn & Garden' and seven cottages. The extent of the mill on this western side of the river seems to exceed that suggested by later evidence, including the Poor Rate valuation of 1834. In this later valuation, the Healey side of the mill was described as including a 'Fulling Mill & water power with blue house & wash

house' and a 'Brimstone stove', while the Catley Lane side contained a 'Barn &c', 'Dry house' and 'Tenter ground' (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). It seems likely that the entry for Catley Lane in 1823 refers both to Broadley Mill and Broadley Wood Mill (**site A11**), which is otherwise not mentioned in the valuation of that year. Fortunately there is evidence to confirm that this was the case. In both valuations these entries include numbers relating to mapping of 1819-20, now lost. From these it emerges that the 'Cottage & Mill' and 'Lodge' listed in 1823 were the 'Scite of Mill' and 'Lodge of Mill' explicitly listed as components of Broadley Wood Mill in 1834.

The occupancy of Broadley Mill by the Holts may have ended shortly after the 1823 valuation was produced, for in 1824-5 John Chadwick & Sons are listed as woollen manufacturers at the mill (**Table 4**). By 1834 the mill, owned by Hugo Chadwick, was occupied by Robert and John Tweedale, the sons of John Tweedale of Leach Tweedale & Co (see above, 4.4.2). According to Maxim, Robert and John Tweedale took over the mill in 1830 and remained here until 1875, during which period they constructed a cotton mill adjacent to the woollen mill (RLSL F8/4/MAX 150). Trade directories list John and Robert Tweedale as manufacturers of baize and flannel at Broadley Mill in 1834 but by 1838 a second firm is listed here, that of John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners who by 1841 also operated from Smallshaw Mill (**site C12**).

By 1843, probably as a result of recent additions to the site, the entry for the mill in the 1834 Poor Rate valuation was evidently deemed to be inadequate and a new, more detailed description was appended (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). According to this, on the Healey side the site consisted of 'Part of Mill', 'Fulling Mill, Stocks, Water Wheel and Water Power', 'Woollen Mills, staircase, Card room and oil room', 'Fire engine house', 'Engine house, Boiler house, Dry house and steam power', 'Dye house, Dye pans & Cisterns', 'Gas works one half', 'Weighing Machine & Office', 'Chimney' and 'Counting House'. On the Catley Lane side there were a 'Stove, or Dry house', 'Smithy', 'Press Room, Glossing Room, Firehole & Counting House', 'Store room, Staircase, Warehouse, Carding & Throstle Rooms', 'Old Washing Room', 'Tenters', 'Part of Gasworks' and 'Spring Water'. The same source names Messrs Tweedale & Sons were named as both the owner and the occupant of the whole site, but all other evidence examined identifies them only as tenants.

In 1847 the evidence given in connection with the Rochdale Waterworks Amendment Act lists two Broadley Mills and describes both as a woollen mill occupied by Messrs J and R Tweedale. One of these mills was powered solely by a waterwheel, of 21hp. The other was equipped with a 30hp steam engine and 24hp waterwheel (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). According to Maxim, the boiler house at Broadley Mill carried a datestone '1836' (RLSL F8/4/MAX 150). The implication is that steam power, which is not mentioned in the valuation of 1834, was installed at that date.

In a separate account, Maxim cites an undated advertisement for the sale or lease of the mill, described as being held by the Tweedales for a term of years expiring in 1890. According to this account the site included a woollen mill for spinning and weaving. Fulling was also taking place on the site, which contained seven stocks, sulphur stoves, and buildings for dyeing and drying goods. There were still two waterwheels at the mill, while the cotton mill was supplied with 30hp. Maxim himself states that the site had two waterwheels of 14ft diameter and a steam engine of 30hp (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156U).

From the evidence of the trade directories John Tweedale & Sons were still operating as cotton spinners at the mill in 1873 (**Table 4**). A rate book of 1864, however, lists the site,

which was owned by John de Heley Chadwick, as occupied by Samuel Tweedale (LRO CBR 5/145), who is named in a directory of 1873 as a woollen manufacturer here. According to the 1864 rate book on the Nearer Spotland side the site comprised ‘Part of Mill, Fulling Mill, River, Carding Mill, Fire Engine House, Weighing Machine, Counting House and one half of Gasworks &c’, and on the Further Spotland side ‘Tenters, Land & Spring Water, Stove, Dryhouse & Smithy, Part of Mill & Warehouse, Press shop & Counting house, Staircase, Cartshed, Part of Gasworks, Hays shed &c’ (LRO CBR 5/145).

The censuses of 1841 to 1871 record Robert Tweedale and his family living at Broadley Mill. In 1841 and 1851 he is listed as a woollen manufacturer but in 1861 this is given as his former occupation. In line with this the firm of John and Robert Tweedale no longer appears to be listed within the directories. The 1864 rate book shows that Robert Tweedale owned the house which he occupied at Broadley Mill, thereby perhaps explaining his continuing association with the place after the occupancy of the mill had passed to Samuel Tweedale (LRO CBR 5/145). In the final years of his life Robert seems to have resumed an active involvement in the textile industry. In the census of 1871 he is listed as a dyer, while in a directory of two years previously he appears with the same occupation, with the address explicitly given as Broadley Mill. He died in 1873 (RLSL F8/4/MAX/53).

It is stated that the mill finally closed in about 1880 (Blackshaw 2001, 14). On the 1890 OS map, which names the site as disused, the majority of the buildings are shown as intact, but by 1908 all but one appear to have been a shell (Ils. 7 & 8). The mill chimney, which was about 150 feet tall, was blown up with dynamite in June 1913. The event was recorded in a contemporary newspaper which noted that the ‘old ruinous mill buildings’ were also under contract for demolition (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156U), but the mapping shows much of the site still standing in 1928 (III. 9). All the buildings have since been demolished, but foundations of a number of buildings are still visible, albeit much overgrown.

1824-5	John Chadwick & Sons, woollen manufacturers and merchants, Packer-St & Broadley Mills, near Whitworth	Pigot & Dean, 414
1834	John & Robert Tweedale, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Broadley Mill	Pigot & Co, 530
1838	John & Robert Tweedale, woollen manufacturers, Broadley Mills John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Broadley Mills	Pigot & Son, 136 Pigot & Son, 136
1841	John & Robert Tweedale, woollen manufacturers, Broadley Mill John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Broadley and Smallshaw Mills	Pigot & Slater, 132 Pigot & Slater, 132
1858	John & Robert Tweedale, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Broadley Mills John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Broadley and Smallshaw Mills	Slater, 383 Slater, 379
1861	John Tweedale & Sons [ <i>sic</i> ], manufacturers of flannel and baize, Broadley Mills John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Broadley and Smallshaw Mills	Slater, 405 Slater, 400
1865	John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Smallshaw and Broadley Mills	Slater, 721
1869	John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Smallshaw Mills Robert Tweedale, dyer, Broadley Mill	Slater, 660 Slater, 661
1873	Samuel Tweedale, woollen manufacturer, Broadley Mill John Tweedale & Sons, cotton spinners, Smallshaw	Kelly, 1818 Kelly, 1818

**Table 4:** Occupants of Broadley Mill listed in trade directories.

- 4.6.2 The relatively early date at which Broadley Mill ceased to operate means that it was not listed in the Spotland mill valuation of 1880. Consequently the main information about its layout is provided by mapping, early photographs (Ills. 121 & 122), the details provided in the earlier rating documents and, to a lesser extent, by the surviving visible remains.

The 1844-8 OS map shows a plan which remained largely unchanged at the mill's demise (Ill. 6 & 7). The main part of the site lay on the north, and comprised an irregular range running roughly south-east to north-west. Its western half straddled the river (site A10a), and so must have been the part which Maxim states to have had a datestone of 1804 as the 'the keystone to the arch over the river'. On the east this abutted a narrower build (site A10b) which straddled the headrace and can therefore be assumed to have contained a wheelhouse. Whether this contained both of the mill's two waterwheels is uncertain.

The other buildings of the mill ran southwards from this main range, on either side of the river, where a number of stone footings are still visible (Ills. 58 & 59). On the south-east these buildings included what would appear to have been the millowner's house (site A10c), a building which seems to have remained intact long after the mill itself had become ruinous (Ills. 6-8). This was presumably the residence of Robert Tweedale and his family.

The reference to 'throstle rooms' on the Catley Lane side of the site in 1843 implies that this was the location of the cotton mill. It was presumably located in the rectangular building lying parallel to the west bank of the river (site A10d). This is not a part of the site which would readily have lent itself to water power, in keeping with which the cotton mill, on Maxim's evidence, was solely steam-powered.

At the south-west corner of the site, the 1844-8 OS map shows a circular gasometer (site A10e), while the 1864 rate book indicates that the mill's gasworks were to be found on either side of the river, suggesting that the retort house may have been among the buildings on the east bank. The columns which supported the gasometer are shown on one of the early photographs of the mill (Ill. 122), while the site of the gasometer is still evident as a stone-lined circular depression (Ill. 58).

The mill's tenterfield, documented from 1823 onwards on the Further Spotland side of the river, is shown on the 1844-8 map to have been located to the north-west of the mill buildings (site A9).

- 4.6.3 Water power was provided to the mill via a leat which may possibly have originally been fed from a weir c 250m to the north (site A7). By the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, however, it appears to have commenced at a weir situated immediately south of Tonacliffe Mill, c 300m to the north of Broadley Mill (site A5) (Ill. 51), and to have then run along the east bank of the Spodden before twice crossing the river (site A6) (Ills. 52-54). To the south of the second crossing point, the leat broadened into a reservoir built within a bend of the river, before continuing to the mill (site A8) (Ill. 56).

#### 4.7 **Broadley Wood Mill (site A11) (Ills. 5-10, 39, 62-64)**

- 4.7.1 Unlike the other mills within the study area, this site was located not on the Spodden but on a

small tributary stream. Its date of construction is not known for certain but was evidently no later than 1818 when a water-powered site is shown here on Greenwood's map of 1818 (III. 3). In the Spotland Poor Rate valuation of 1823, which copies the survey of 1819-20, the mill is listed under Broadley Mill (see above, 4.6.1), implying that at this period the two were worked together. In the Land Tax Returns Broadley Wood Mill appears to be first identifiable as a distinct concern in 1824, as a factory occupied by Charles Haigh (LRO QDL/S/86). Similarly it can first be traced in the trade directories in 1824-5 when Edmund Lord & Co, cotton spinners and manufacturers, are listed here (Table 5).

- 4.7.2 The name of Charles Haigh was associated with the mill for over forty years. The Spotland Poor Rate valuation of 1834 gives Haigh as the occupant and Hugo Chadwick as the owner of the mill, which is described as comprising the 'scite of mill', 'lodge' and 'little lodge' (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). Trade directories list Charles Haigh as a cotton spinner at Broadley Wood Mill in 1834 and subsequently name him as a cotton spinner and manufacturer (Table 5). Under Haigh, by 1843 the mill appears to have undergone some expansion, which merited a new description being appended to the valuation of 1834. According to this, the mill now comprised 'Steam power, water power, Cotton mill, wheelrace & engine house, Boiler house, loomshade & Counting house, Warehouses and Cart Shed, Smithy, Gas works, Warping Room & Stable'. In a rate book of 1864 the mill, then owned by John de Heley Chadwick and occupied by Charles Haigh, was described in similar terms, as comprising 'Mill & Power, Engine house, Boiler house & Loomsheds, Counting house, Warehouse, Cartshed & Gasworks, Smithy, Warping Room, Scutching room &c' (LRO CBR 5/145).

Charles Haigh is still listed at Broadley Wood in 1873 (Table 5). In 1874, however, the mill entered a new phase of occupancy, under the Broadley Wood Mills Spinning and Manufacturing Co Ltd, which in 1897 also bought the site (HD Abstract of Title).

This firm is still listed in a trade directory of 1924 but by 1927 was in liquidation (HD Abstract of Title) and OS mapping of 1928 shows the mill as disused (III. 9). The buildings had been largely demolished by 1960 (III. 10). Fragments of stone walling survive against the mill dam but the most substantial visible remains are brick and stone engine beds (site A11a) (Ils. 62 & 63) and, in the south-east of the site, a ruined building identified as stables (Blackshaw 2001, 19) (site A11b) (III. 64).

1824-5	Edmund Lord & Co, cotton spinners and manufacturers, Broadley-wood & Rudman's Waste	Pigot & Dean, 428
1834	Charles Haigh, cotton spinner, Broadley Wood Mill	Pigot & Co, 528
1838	Charles Haigh, cotton spinner and fustian manufacturer, Broadley Wood	Pigot & Son, 128
1843	Charles Haigh, cotton spinner and manufacturer, Broadley Wood Mill	Slater, 154
1869	Charles Haigh, cotton spinner and manufacturer, Broadley Wood Mill	Slater, 660
1873	Charles Haigh, cotton spinner, Broadley Wood	Kelly, 1818
1876	Broadley Wood Mills Co Ltd	Slater, 583
1885	Broadley Wood Mills Spinning and Manufacturing Co Ltd, Broadley Wood	Worrall, 134
1924	Broadley Wood Spinning and Manufacturing Co Ltd	Kelly, 1691

**Table 5:** Occupants of Broadley Wood Mill listed in trade directories.

- 4.7.3 OS mapping shows little alteration to the plan of the mill between 1844-8 and 1890 (**Ills. 6 & 7**), so that the majority of the components listed in the 1880 mill valuation must have been in existence by that earlier date (**Table 6**). These included a ‘weaving place’ which from its considerable size, 134ft by 58ft 10in, was probably a single-storey weaving shed, a type of building which was introduced into the industry in the late 1820s. The 1880 valuation also includes four entries for cotton mills, one described as being of two and a half storeys and the others of two and a quarter storeys, the first of which had been raised in height by 1875 to four storeys. By 1863 the site also included a staircase of three and a half storeys, possibly indicating that then, as now, the site was set on different levels within the narrow valley. The engine house, which must have contained the surviving engine beds (site A11a), was also of three and a half storeys.
- 4.7.4 Water power to the mill was provided by damming the tributary stream on which it was located to create a reservoir (**site A12**) (**Ill. 60**). From here water was fed directly to the mill by a headrace shown on a plan accompanying the 1897 sale (**Ill. 39**), while any surplus water was diverted around the south side of the mill in a byewash, still extant (**Ill. 61**). The waterwheel itself must have been situated where the leat passed under the mill; this position was roughly in the centre of the mill complex and adjacent to the engine house which lay just to the north-east.

A small stream of this size would have been of limited potential compared to the Spodden. In keeping with this, Broadley Wood Mill seems to have been the first mill within the study area to have abandoned water power in favour of a total reliance on steam, with this changeover occurring by 1879 when the only power source given for the mill is a 45hp engine (**Table 6**).

		No of Storeys	Dimensions
1863	Weaving Place	1	134ft 0in x 58ft 10in
	Room under 1 <sup>st</sup> section	1	56ft 0in x 18ft 6in
	" 2 <sup>nd</sup> section	1	43ft 0in x 17ft 7in
	Bottom Room	1	31ft 10in x 17ft 2in
	"	1	49ft 6in x 12ft 0in
	"	1	35ft 7in x 13ft in
	End of Boiler House	1	13ft 0in 9ft 0in
	Gangway End of		10ft 6in x 4ft 6in
	Dust Place	1	12ft 6in x 9ft 0in
	Scutching Place Fireproof	2	30ft 0in x 24ft 0in
	Adjoining Fireproof	1	18ft 2in x 11ft 8in
	Blacksmith's Shop	1	31ft 5in x 15ft 0in
	Retort House	1	20ft 0in x 15ft 3in
	Closets	3	3ft 9in x 3ft 3in
	Hoist	3	3ft 10in x 3ft 7in
	Staircase	3½	13ft 0in x 12ft 4in
	Cotton Mill	2½	60ft 0in x 38ft 10in
	"	2¼	41ft 4in x 23ft 3in
	"	2¼	41ft 4in x 38ft 10in
	"	2¼	38ft 10in x 13ft 3in
Water Wheel Place		44ft 4in x 7ft 0in	
Engine House	3½	41ft 4in x 16ft 6in	
Mechanics Shop	1	39ft 0in x 12ft 9in	
Chimney			
1875	Mill raised	1½	60ft 4in x 38ft 10in
	Scutching Place raised	1	30ft 0in x 24ft 0in

1879	Condensing Engine 45 Horse		
1863	Office	1	23ft 10in x 16ft 7in
	Lumber Store	1	15ft 0in x 10ft 3in
	Closets	2	9ft 9in x 6ft 3in
	Store & Entrance	1	15ft 0in x 11ft 0in
	Stable & Loft	2	28ft 9in x 20ft 7in
	Provender Store	2	25ft 9in x 19ft 7in
	Gig House	1	14ft 6in x 16ft 2in
	Warehouse	2	75ft 6in x 31ft 9in

**Table 6:** ‘Broadley Cotton Mills, owners and occupiers Broadley Spinning and Manufacturing Co, (Limited)’, details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

#### 4.8 **Healey Dene Mill / Th’Owd Mill I’t Thrutch (site A19) (Ills. 11-16, 40-41, 46, 69-82, 125-131)**

4.8.1 This is a mill site with a bewildering array of names. The earliest known is Healey Dene Mill, but Healey Mill is also found and by the 19<sup>th</sup> century Healey Old Mill and simply Old Mill. The present name Th’Owd Mill I’t Thrutch may not appear in the written sources before the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, Richard Heape at that time noted that locally ‘it was and is always spoken of’ in that way (Heape 1926, 52), and the name incorporates a dialect word for the valley bottom which is attested from at least the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when it appears in John Corry’s history of Lancashire (see below).

4.8.2 Along with Broadley Mill, this appears to represent the earliest mill site within the study area. According to John Corry,

‘The ancient corn mill for the hamlet of Healey would be placed as usual, near the chief mansion of the hamlet; and immediately beneath the Hall, below the Thrust and near the Spaw, is a natural fall of water from the rock, sufficiently powerful for modern machinery, therefore more than enough for the moderate means of our frugal ancestors. From the ancient “Grist-yate” by the Rochdale Road, a winding horse-way (paved with stones set on edge) led down the steep of the bank, and pointed to this sequestered spot where the first water corn-mill in Healey stood for ages. But after the family moved to Ridware, this ancient corn-mill was converted, since 1636, into a fulling mill, and its place for grinding corn supplied by another higher up the stream in Healey, though usually called Broadley Mill, because held with the Broadley Estate. And the above statement is agreeable, not only to the usual course of events, but to the decided opinion and belief (frequently expressed) of the late Robert Entwisle, Esq, who died in 1778 having been born in 1692; whose deliberate and repeated assertion, partly from his own observation, and partly from that of his father and grandfather, who must have passed and repassed so frequently between Levensgreave and Foxholes, may be received as undoubted authority, and proof sufficient that he felt himself well assured of the fact’ (Corry 1825, 612).

Corry also asserts that this was the earliest mill in Healey:

‘The River Spodden, which now keeps so many fulling mills and engines in

almost perpetual motion (but not a single one grinding corn) formerly turned only one solitary water-corn-mill in Healey, for the supply of the hamlet in feudal ages; which mill was scituate near the Hall' (Corry 1825, 643).

Corry's starting point for his discussion of the origins of this mill is a reference to the 'attachment of a damme of a corn-mill' in a document of 1479 which he states to have been connected with Jordan Chadwick of Healey (Corry 1825, 559). 'Attachment' refers to the fixing of a weir or dam on a bank of a watercourse, an issue which was often the subject of formal agreement when one of the banks was not the property of the owner of the mill.

Despite Corry's assertion of the antiquity of Healey Dene Mill, the Rochdale Survey of 1626, while noting corn and fulling mills in other parts of the parish, makes no mention of a mill in the hamlet of Healey (Fishwick 1913). If Jordan Chadwick had a corn mill on the Healey Hall Estate in 1479, the silence of the Rochdale Survey suggests that it had gone out of use by 1626 and that the use of the site as a fulling mill followed a period of abandonment. It should also be noted that Corry himself does not specify that the corn mill referred to in 1479 lay in Healey. On the other hand, the memory of a corn mill here could well have been part of the family tradition of the Entwistles which Corry cites as a source.

Whether there was an earlier corn mill here or not, other evidence supports a date for the foundation of the fulling mill in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Richard Heape of Healey Hall had a stone at the mill inscribed with 'The Owd Mill ut bottom o' th' Thrutch was built in the year 1676. R Heape' (Heape 1926, 52). A sketch plan and elevation of the mill by Maxim show that this stone was built into the mill wall along the eastern side of the Spodden. He also reports that by June 1948 it had fallen into the river (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W & 156U) (Ills. 40 & 41).

The basis for Heape's date for the mill appears to have been a long rambling Latin inscription set up by Charles Chadwick at Healey Hall in 1774, in which he recorded a number of details about himself, his family and his estates. It includes mention of rents from a fulling mill on the Spodden in Healey hamlet (probably Broadley Mill), a corn mill on the Roch in Hundersfield, and a fulling mill 'opposite Broadley', which the inscription goes on to describe as 'a Mill in Healey so called [but] in more recent times spoken of as in Healey Dell – built in 1676 by a family of old time' (Heape 1926, 160-4). The last reference is probably to the construction of the mill by a tenant of the Chadwicks, with the date and the name of that tenant perhaps being derived from a deed within the family muniments or an original datestone at the mill itself.

- 4.8.3 The earliest surviving contemporary reference to the mill may possibly be found in the Poor Rate Assessment compiled for Spotland in 1750. In this Joshua Taylor was listed for 'Healey Hall & Miln' (RLSL DA LA Z/1/S1; Gordon 1914-16, 24), each of which he must have occupied as the tenant of the Chadwicks. In the Spotland Poor Rate Books for 1768 and 1772 this is probably the mill listed in a group of properties owned by John Chadwick and occupied by Mr James Ashton, comprising 'House, Land, Fulling Mill and Cottages' (RLSL DB 120). In the rate book for 1776 the mill is mentioned by name in a list of properties occupied by John Crossley and James Turner and consisting of 'the Birches Farm and Healey Dayn Fulling Mill, the two lower Henden Tenter fields' (LRO CBR/5/88). The same entry is found in the rate books for 1777 and 1778-9 (LRO CBR/5/89 & 90), while in the rate book for 1780 we find 'Healey deyn fulling mill, Birches farm and Lower Ending Tenterfields' owned by John Chadwick and occupied by William Kay and John Roades (LRO CBR/5/91). The Land Tax Returns for the same year, 1780, imply that the mill was no longer leased out.

While one entry lists ‘William Kay and Rhodes for Birches House and Land’, another names John Chadwick as owning and occupying ‘Healey Hall, Land and Mill and new House and Smithy’. However, in 1782 we find William Kay as the occupant of ‘Birches House Land and Healey Mill’, a property for which he was still listed in 1804 (LRO QDL/S/87).

On the evidence of the Poor Rate Books and Land Tax Returns it is clear that from at least the 1770s the mill was leased to the tenants of Birches (**site C34**), just as in 1750 the tenant of the same place appears to have leased Broadley Mill (see above). That this arrangement seems to have come to an end in 1804 is consistent with the statement of John Graham that Henry Sandiford & Segar began printing at Healey Hall in that same year (see above, 4.4.1).

In December 1813 Healey Dene Mill was included within the land associated with Healey Hall which was leased for thirty years by Charles Chadwick to Robert Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale (JRULM RYCH/3564). That document confirms that prior to that date the site had been used as a fulling mill but shows that it was then unoccupied and in a state of disrepair, describing it as,

‘All that old fulling mill edifice or building commonly called Healey Dene Mill with the dam goits wheelrace cawl weir and all the other appurtenances thereto belonging or appertaining and a small narrow slip of ground situated on the opposite side of the river there, to which the said cawl or weir of the said old mill is tied, which said last unoccupied premises have for some back ceased to be used as a fulling mill in consequence of which and for want or repairs the same or some part thereof are or is in a ruinous state but to be rebuilt and otherwise improved in the manner hereinafter mentioned’.

No evidence has been found to show that Henry Sandiford & Co made use of the fulling mill during their tenure of the estate, and it thus seems likely that the mill had been disused since the departure of John Kay some nine years previously.

- 4.8.4 The 1813 lease is of further importance in tracing the history of the mill in that it points to a major rebuilding of the site shortly after that date. According to the terms of the agreement Robert Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale,

‘shall and will at their own expense forthwith begin to take down the walls and other materials composing the said old mill and with all convenient speed shall and will afterwards build and finish another mill edifice or building of such size and dimensions and in such manner as that the same shall be sufficient for the holding and working therein of four pair of fulling stocks, one perching mill (at the least) and shall and will affix to such new intended mill a good and sufficient water wheel’ (JRULM RYCH/3564).

In the 1823 Spotland Poor Rate valuation the fulling mill is listed under the heading of Healey Hall as the ‘Higher Mill, Waterfall &c’, owned by Charles Chadwick and occupied by Leach & Tweedale (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1) (**Table 1**). In the valuation of 1834 it appears under the entry for Healey Bottoms, owned by Hugo Chadwick and occupied by Leach Tweedale & Co. Thus within that later valuation the reference to a ‘Fulling Mill & water & tenters’ is almost certainly to the Th’Owd Mill I’t Thutch, as is the reference, immediately following this, to ‘Brimstone stove, walching room, blue room & spring lodge’(RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8).

The mill appears to have remained in use as a fulling mill until its closure in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Thus in 1847 the site is listed as Healey Hall Mill, a fulling mill occupied by Messrs J Tweedale & Son (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156), while in the previous year, the plan and schedule accompanying the lease of mining rights describes the site as ‘Healey Dean, Fulling Mill Buildings, Watercourse and Road thereto’ (**Table 1**). It is presumably the Old Mill which is listed in trade directories of the 1860s and 1870s as occupied by Jacob Tweedale & Sons, flannel manufacturers and fullers, along with Healey Bottoms Mill and Tonacliffe Mill (Heape 2004, Table 1). In the Spotland mill valuation of 1880 it appears as Healey Hall Fulling Mill, occupied by Messrs Tweedale (**Table 7**).

The close association between Th’Owd Mill I’t Thrutch and Healey Bottoms Mill was described by Maxim, who noted after being woven at Healey Bottoms Mill, cloth was

‘taken to the fulling mill higher up the stream and treated in “mill bottom” driving stocks by another water wheel. Then sulphur stoves and bleaching. Then carted to tenterfields above Heald, brought in over passageway and finished and packed into house behind Healey Hall’ (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156U).

The OS map of 1844-8 shows a substantial tenterfield on the high ground on the east side of Shawclough Road opposite Healey Hall (**site C50**) (**Ill. 37**). This is evidently the site to which Maxim refers, with later OS mapping showing Heald Farm (originally known as Healey Cottage) below its southern end (**site C59**) (**Ill. 38**). Maxim’s evidence suggests that from this tenterfield an overhead gantry, not depicted on the mapping, led directly over Shawclough Road to Healey Hall where other evidence shows there to have been a drying stove and warehousing (see below, 4.10.3).

The latest evidence found for the use of Th’Owd Mill I’t Thrutch dates from 1882 when Jacob Tweedale & Sons were listed as fulling millers at Healey Hall (**Table 8**). In that year, however, the firm closed and the working life of the fulling mill appears to have come to an end. In 1890 OS mapping shows the site as a ruin (**Ill. 13**).

Following the end of its use as a fulling mill, Th’Owd Mill I’t Thrutch became a new focus of attention as a picturesque ruin. Maxim, writing at a time when the mill was still partly standing as a shell, noted that its preservation was largely due to its secluded location and the antiquarian interest shown by Richard Heape of Healey Hall (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W). Since Heape’s time, the free-standing walls having almost entirely collapsed but significant remains still survive.

- 4.8.4 The 1844-8 OS map and the plan accompanying the 1846 mining lease show the mill site comprising two main components (**Ills. 12 & 46**), also evident on late 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustrations of the site (**Ills. 125 & 126**). The more easterly of these was a V-shaped range, comprising a main block aligned alongside the Spodden and, adjoining this on the north-east, a wing spanning the river. Maxim reports that this wing was carried on three arches (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W; **Ill. 40**), and the two which supported its external walls still stand today (**site A19a**) (**Ills. 69 & 70**). Early photographs show two storeys rising above those arches, and the adjoining riverside wall of the main block being of a similar height (**Ills. 127 & 128**). Maxim’s notes on the site indicate that the partition wall between the two parts of the building was broken at ground level by a large arched opening, also known from the photographic evidence. The stone inscribed with the date 1676 was set into the north side of this arch; to its south, a bearing box was set into the wall at both ground-floor and first-floor

level, through which power was transmitted to the wing over the river (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W; **Ills. 40 & 41**). The wheelhouse was situated at the eastern end of the main block (see below, 4.8.5), where an 1877 watercolour shows it partly contained in a projecting outshut (**Ill. 125**) This illustration also depicts the roof-line of the main block as running parallel with its eastern wall, with the ridge of the wing over the river following the same axis but at a lower height. The photographic evidence is consistent with this arrangement in that it shows the riverside walls of the building to have been gabled (**Ills. 127 & 128**). The wheelpit was thus set in the usual position, ie at a right angle to the main axis of the mill. The main range of this building can be identified with the two and half-storey fulling mill listed in the 1880 Spotland mill valuation, while the wing over the river appears to have been the two-storey 'perching room' (**Table 7**).

To the west of this mill building was the other main component of the site shown on the 1840s mapping. This was a rectangular range aligned alongside the river. The late 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustrations show it rising above the fulling mill building, suggesting that it was of at least two and possibly of three storeys in height. The 1880 Spotland mill valuation suggests that one of the upper floors was used for fulling, with a 'blue room' in the lower part of the building (**Table 7**). The site of the eastern end of this building is now marked by the remains of three stone vats (**site A19c**) (**Ills. 75 & 76**), which seem to have been the features described by Maxim as 'blue pits' (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156U). A fourth vat lies to the east within what would have been the north-west corner of the main fulling mill building but since this vat overhangs the river it has very probably been displaced (**Ills. 75 & 77**). To the west of these vats Maxim noted four arched 'sulphur stoves' (**Ill. 40**), which he described as 'arched structures of dressed stone 6ft wide and 9ft high close set, and two have collapsed, whilst a third now has a dangerous hole in the roof' (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W). Remains of the two westernmost of these chambers are still visible (**site A19d**). Although their barrel-vaulted roofs have now totally collapsed, their outline is evident in the surviving masonry (**Ill. 78**). On the mapping evidence, these two chambers were located just beyond the western end of the two- or three storey rectangular range (**Ill. 46**), and this arrangement is confirmed by a photograph of 1910 (**Ill. 129**). It shows the two western chambers with their vaulted roofs still in place and to the east of this the shell of a third chamber, at this date open to the sky but with evidence of vaulting in its southern wall. All three were each entered by a doorway facing the river but significantly the eastern chamber appears to have been larger while between it and its western neighbours the northern external wall showed a vertical straight joint. It seems, therefore, that the eastern chamber formed part of the original rectangular building, while the two adjacent chambers were later additions. On the cartographic evidence the two western chambers would seem to be no earlier than the mid-1840s, while the 1880 Spotland mill valuation implies that they were no later than 1863 (**Table 7**).

In the south-west of the site are the remains of a small reservoir formed by a polygonal wall or embankment revetted with stone (**site A19f**) (**Ill. 80**), and fed from a stone arched culvert in the slope above. This reservoir is clearly shown in its present form on the OS map of 1890 (**Ill. 13**) but a similar feature seems to be indicated on the mapping of 1844-8. The reservoir was possibly the 'spring lodge' listed in 1834 (see above, 4.8.3).

Much, if indeed not all, of the complex shown in the 1840s, and also recorded in the 1834 Poor Rate valuation, can be assumed to date back to the rebuilding of the site in 1813. It should be added that Maxim suggested that the portion built over the river was no earlier than a great flood in July 1838 which is known to have caused damage to a number of mills (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156E & 156U). The present assessment has found no evidence to support this. Moreover, this wing seems to have been an integral part of the plan of the fulling mill,

so that if the known structure here did postdate that flood it is likely to have been a replacement of an earlier building of 1813.

A third major component of the site comprised a three-storey building situated by the roadway leading down to the mill (**site A19g**) (**Ills. 81 & 130**). Maxim described it as the mill's warehouse and office, and noted that a footbridge once connected it to hillside steps leading to Ending (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156U & 156W). Its date is uncertain. It is clearly shown on OS mapping of 1890 (**Ill. 13**), and presumably predated the demise of the fulling mill in the early 1880s. Although a building is shown on this approximate site on the OS map of 1844-8, this appears to have been smaller than the known warehouse building. It is not explicitly named in the 1880 mill valuation but entries within that document suggest that it was built by 1863, when its third floor was used for storage, one half of the remainder of the building served as a cottage, and the other half contained a millwrights shop on the ground floor and a store on the first (**Table 7**).

The provision of accommodation at the mill is also evident from the census returns. Thus the Old Mill is listed in 1851 as the place of residence of two households, headed by Samuel Spencer, fuller, and Thomas Hartley, fulling finisher. Two are again listed in 1861, with the family of Richard Child, gardener, having now replaced the Spencers. Thomas Hartley was still living at the Old Mill in 1871, when he is described as a fulling miller, and this is also given as the place of residence of no fewer than six other families containing seventeen individuals. In 1891 the census names Healey Hall Old Mill but no occupants are listed.

A fourth major element of the site is more poorly known. This was a polygonal structure situated on the south side of the road which runs past the mill, opposite to the site entrance (**site A19h**). On the cartographic evidence it was built after 1844-8. No photographs or other illustrations of the building are known and there are only scant visible remains, which may include evidence of a stone vat (**Ill. 82**). The precise function of the building is uncertain but one possibility is that this was the two-storey 'dry and tenter house' which on the evidence of the 1880 mill valuation was added to the site by 1865 (**Table 7**).

- 4.8.6 In 1847 it was reported that the mill was powered by a waterwheel of 48hp; no steam engine was listed (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). The wheelpit is still visible on the eastern side of the site and measures c 1.5m wide and c 9m long (**site A19b**) (**Ills. 71-74**). The headrace tunnel is cut through the bedrock with ashlar coursing above forming this end of the wheelpit; the remainder of the wheelpit is lined with a rougher coursing and includes a central housing for the axle. From the height of the headrace the wheel must have been of the low breast-shot type, with the water filling the wheel's buckets below the level of the axle. Maxim noted that there were indications of a wheel '12ft in diameter at least' (RLSL F8/4/MAX 156W), but since wheelpits typically closely corresponded to the size of the wheel, its dimensions may have been closer to 30ft in diameter and 5ft in width.

Water was brought to the mill along a relatively short leat (**site A18**), evidently running in a tunnel and leading off a weir situated c 40m upstream (**site A17**) (**Ills. 68 & 132**). This tunnel is likely to date from no later than the rebuilding of the mill in 1813. Prior to that time there may have been a different arrangement, for running alongside the river between the weir and the mill is a rock ledge which could have originally carried the leat in a timber launder (**Ill. 69**).

The 1880 Spotland mill valuation shows that steam power was installed at the site by 1863, when a boiler house and chimney were listed. The late 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustrations of the mill

seem to place the chimney against the eastern elevation of the western rectangular range (Ils. 125 & 126). However, an early photograph shows that the chimney was still standing after the mill itself had fallen into ruin (Ill. 131) and this may favour the chimney being a feature shown on the map of 1890 roughly at the south-west corner of the main fulling mill building (site A19e) (Ils. 13 & 46). From the 1880 mill valuation it appears that the boiler house was originally a single-storey structure which was built over by 1865 (Table 7). It was possibly located on the south side of the main fulling mill, where the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustrations show a structure rising to the height of the roof-line of that building (Ils. 125 & 126). In 1865 the engine provided a meagre 2hp. No engine house is mentioned in the 1880 valuation and this small engine was presumably installed within one of the other buildings. By 1880 steam power had been increased to 9hp, but the main driving force was still the mill's waterwheel, then estimated to provide 20hp.

		No of Storeys	Dimensions
1863	Brimstone Stove	1	20ft 6in x 14ft 9in
	"	1	20ft 9in x 18ft 8in
	Blue House	1	36ft 5in x 22ft 11in
	Fulling Mill	1	36ft 9in x 19ft 6in
	Perching Room	2	24ft 4in x 24ft 4in
	Fulling Mill	2½	44ft 10in x 22ft 9in
	"	2½	44ft 0in x 17ft 4in
	Fulling Mill Projection	1	9ft 0in x 6ft 6in
	Boiler House	1	24ft 7in x 11ft 0in
	Fireing Up and Loading Shed	1	18ft 3in x 11ft 0in
	Millwrights Shop	1	24ft 9in x 18ft 0in
	Store Room	1	25ft 11in x 17ft 5in
	Store Room over Cottage	1	52ft 6in x 17ft 8in
	Chimney		
1865	New Dry & Tenter House	2	49ft 6in x 24ft 3in
	Room over Boiler House	1	19ft 0in x 23ft 0in
	High Pressure Engine 2 Horse		
1880	High Pressure Engine 9 Horse		
	Water Wheel 20 Horse		

**Table 7:** 'Healey Hall Fulling Mill, occupiers Messrs Tweedale' (Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch), details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

4.9 **Healey Bottoms Mill / Healey Hall Mill (site A33) (Ills. 11-16, 42-44, 47, 89-111, 137-140)**

4.9.1 Healey Bottoms Mill is an extensive site with several phases of occupancy, usage and building development, which include a woollen mill of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a finishing works of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century and a Royal Ordnance Factory of the Second World War.

4.9.2 As outlined earlier in this report, modern accounts differ as to whether the use of the site as a woollen mill dates from 1781 or 1813 but the documentary evidence points to the later date (see above, 4.4.2).

When in December 1813 Charles Chadwick leased to Robert Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale Healey Hall and adjoining land, this included both the old fulling mill (Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch) and

‘that newly erected mill edifice or building situated in the Long Meadow below the said old mill and called or intended to be called the New or Lower Mill, with the water wheel shafts and other machinery now standing in and fixed to the said New or Lower Mill and with liberty to bring and place other engines and machinery therein’ (JRULM RYCH/3564).

The Poor Rate Books for Spotland for 1813 and 1814 also make reference to the New Mill, described in 1814 as ‘empty’ (LRO CBR/5/112 & 113). It is possible that this mill had originally been built for the printworks and bleaching works of Henry Sandiford and Co (see above, 4.4.1). Cotton finishing required a considerable amount of clean water, the obvious source for which within the Healey Hall Estate was the river. Likewise water power was used in the early finishing industry for the powering of dashwheels, wooden drums which were used to clean the cloth. The lease of 1813 makes no suggestion that Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch, then in a state of disrepair, had been used for anything other than fulling.

According to Maxim, when Leach Tweedale & Co took over Healey Bottoms Mill, ‘at that time it was only a small building at the N. end of the present one, and connected by a gangway to a warehouse over the three-storied cottages that once stood here. It was driven by a small waterwheel’ (RLSL F8/4/MAX/53). It is presumed that this ‘small building’ was the New or Lower Mill referred to in the 1813 lease, while in 1823 probably the same building was described as ‘the former mill or engine house’ (see below).

4.9.3 The lease of 1813 was for thirty years but in August 1823 this was extended for a further eight years in recognition of the additions made to the property by John Tweedale, Jacob Tweedale and John Leach, executor of Robert Leach deceased. According to the new agreement they had lately

‘erected built and finished at their own expense a large edifice or building...below the former mill or engine house and near or on the left bank of the Spodden and have or are about to fit up the same with a water wheel and sundry engines machines and other works and things requisite or expedient for the carding and scribbling sheeps wool at and in the same and have also cut made and constructed several goits sluices lodge reservoirs for the conveying holding and using water adapted to the supply of the said new edifice building and premises and laid out roads and ways for the occupation of the same’ (JRULM RYCH/3564).

These alterations can be dated slightly earlier by reference to the Poor Rate valuation for 1823, which copies an original document of 1819-20. In this Healey Hall Estate, occupied by Leach Tweedale & Co, is described as including the 'Lower Mill, Waterfall &c', the 'New Mill' and 'Mill Lodge' (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1).

By 1834 there appear to have been further additions. The Poor Rate valuation of that year lists the site as comprising the 'Lower Mill & water power', 'Loom Shop', 'New Warehouse' and 'New Warehouse over cottages', 'Stove, smithy & small buildings', 'Gasworks & House', 'Size and wastehouse', 'Cottages & Warehouse (old)', '3 cottages at Water Side (old)' and fourteen cottages described as 'new' (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). In the previous year, a new lease of the Healey Hall property also included one group of seven cottages and another of fourteen, built by John Leach, John Tweedale and Jacob Tweedale in the 'Low Meadow', together with a 'large and spacious warehouse' which they had also built (JRULM RYCH/3567). In 1846 the mining lease plan and schedule describe the mill as comprising a 'Factory, Warehouse, Workshops, Buildings, Yard, Pool and Roads &c (formerly the Two Long Fields)' (**Table 1**). In the 1864 rate book it is listed as 'Lower Mill, Loomshop, new Warehouse, Warehouse over cottages, Gasworks [this entry has been struck through], Size & washhouse, Warehouse out of old, Engine house, Twining & Willow Rooms, Stove & Smithy' (LRO CBR 5/145).

The mapping shows that by 1844-8 the factory comprised a substantial rectangular block straddling the headrace at the south end of the mill's reservoir (**III. 12**). From the available evidence, which includes photographs of the site (**IIIs. 137-139**), this range contained two mill buildings. These were each of three storeys with an attic but were distinguishable by their differing arrangement of windows, the northern building being of eight bays (**site A33a**), and the southern of four (**site A33b**) (**III. 47**). The mapping evidence suggests that the leat ran through the southern end of the more northerly mill making it likely that this was the earlier of the two. Maxim, however, in a sketch of the western elevation, referred to the northern mill as 'a newer structure' and the two northern bays of the southern mill as 'including water wheel race now turbine motor'. The bay adjoining these on the south was distinctive in having a single arched window on each floor (RLSL F8/4/MAX/156W) (**III. 42**). The arrangement might favour this as the location of an engine house but there is an alternative and location for this adjoining the southern end of the same mill building.

Maxim placed the original mill, already in existence at the time of the 1813 lease, to the north of this range (see above, 4.9.2). If this is correct, then one or both of the mills which comprised the range in 1844-8 can be equated with the New Mill documented in 1819-20 and with 'the large edifice or building' used for carding referred to in 1823. Certainly there is evidence for a building on this site by 1828. In that year John Hargreaves allowed Leach Tweedale & Co to build a new roadway to Healey Hall Mill across his Lower Fold Estate, this being the southern section of Dell Road. A plan showing the course of the proposed routeway depicts two buildings at the mill, one adjacent to the river and, to the east of this, a structure on the site of the main mill range (LRO NCHa/51/1). It is uncertain, however, whether this represents the northern mill of eight bays, the southern mill of four bays, or both.

The OS map of 1844-8 and the mining lease map of 1846 both show two rectangular projections against the southern end of the southern mill, with an irregular group of buildings to the east (**III. 12**). On the map of 1890 this group, somewhat expanded in size, is shown linked by a probable flue to a detached chimney to the east (**site A33f**) (**III. 13**) and it is likely that it contained the original boiler house, the forerunner of the building which stands on the site (**site A33p**). The steam engine, which is documented in the mill in 1847 (see below), may

have been located within an engine house forming the more easterly of the two projections against the south gable. The 1890 map shows that these had been replaced by a continuous, self-contained bay, itself suggestive of an engine house (**site A33c**); furthermore an engine house of roughly the same width is listed in the Spotland mill valuation and was in existence by 1863 (**Table 9**). It should be noted, however, that early 20<sup>th</sup>-century photographs show the ground-floor western elevation of this bay as open (**Ills. 137 & 139**) and allow the possibility that it contained a through-passage, providing access to the boiler house area to the rear.

To the south of this possible engine house, the main mill range continued as a third building of three storeys and three bays (**site A33d**). In the mill valuation this last building is listed as Woollen Mill No 2 which was also built by 1863, while the entire range to the north is named as Woollen Mill No 3, some 160ft in length (**Table 9**).

The mill valuation also lists a Woollen Mill No 1, which was smaller in size than the other two, and was also in existence by 1863. It can be identified as a three-storey building at the southern end of the main mill range, which is indicated on the mapping of 1890 but post-dates the survey of 1844-8 (**site A33q**).

To the north of the range of mill buildings, the mapping of the 1840s shows two detached blocks. The more northerly of these (**site A33g**) is known from the plan and schedule accompanying the 1846 mining lease to have included two cottages at its northern end (**Table 1**, no 164). The more southerly block (**site A33h**) is shown by the same source to have comprised fourteen cottages built as back-to-backs (**Table 1**, nos 165-178), which must have been the fourteen cottages mentioned in 1833. Mapping of 1890 indicates that they had been converted to seven through-houses (**Ill. 13**). From the 1880 mill valuation it appears that above these houses was an upper floor occupied by warehousing 117ft long, so that this building can be identified as containing both the fourteen cottages and the 'large and spacious warehouse' which were built by Leach Tweedale & Co between 1813 and 1833 (see above).

Both of these buildings were demolished by 1908 and no photographs of them are known. If Maxim is correct, one of them must have been the three-storey cottages with a warehouse above, which was linked by a gangway to the first mill on the site (see above, 4.9.2). The description most closely matches the more southerly building (**site A33h**), suggesting that the original mill lay adjacent to this. It is possible that the more northerly building (**site A33g**), with the two cottages at its northern end, had itself begun life as that mill. While the early mill is not mentioned after 1823, by 1834 there is reference to 'cottages & warehouse (old)' and in 1864 to 'warehouse out of old'. It may have been the case that after Leach, Tweedale & Co built their new mill, the original building was put to a new use as warehousing, linked by a gangway to the adjoining warehouse which the firm erected above the fourteen back-to-backs.

At the far northern end of the site, the 1840s mapping shows a group of other cottages, comprising three double-depth cottages on the north, with three single-depth cottages adjoining these on the south (**site A30**). Photographic evidence shows these all to have been of two storeys (**Ill. 136**). They were presumably among the cottages built by Leach Tweedale & Co between 1813 and 1833 (see above).

The gasworks, which existed at the mill by 1834, were probably sited at the south-east corner of the main factory range, where a small group of buildings is shown on the mining lease plan of 1846 and a gasometer (**site A33e**) and a rectangular 'coke kiln' (**site A33qq**) are indicated on the OS map of 1844-8. The gasworks appear to have gone out of use by 1880 (**Table 9**) and

may have done so by 1864 (see above). A gas supply must now have been provided from another source, possibly from another of the valley's mills.

The 1844-8 and 1890 maps show a small group of buildings aligned against the river bank to the west of the main mill range, where a building is also indicated on the map of 1828 (LRO NCHa/51/1). The most southerly of this group of buildings appears to be unchanged on later mapping and to still survive as a single-storey single-bay structure with a monopitch roof and stack (**site A33s**) (**III. 97**). From its size and form it is likely to be the blacksmith's shop, or possibly one of two wheelwright's shops, listed in the 1880 Spotland mill valuation (**Table 9**). This is adjoined on the north by a single-storey range, which also seems to have been a workshop area (**site A33t**) (**III. 97**). In its present extent it dates from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. However, in part it occupies the site of a building shown on the 1844-8 and 1890 maps and may include some of that structure within its fabric.

At the south entrance to the mill, two semi-detached stone-built cottages which are also still standing had been built by 1890, presumably during the working life of the mill under Jacob Tweeddale & Sons (**site A33i**) (**III. 89**).

Apart from these cottages and smithy-workshop range, the 19<sup>th</sup>-century mill buildings of the Tweedales have been largely demolished. Of the main mill range, the only visible remains are those external walls which have been retained as components of later structures. They include the north wall of the northern mill (**site A33a**) (**III. 101**) and the south and east walls of the southern mill (**site A33d**) (**III. 100d**), with the wall in each case surviving to the first storey. The most recent loss has been the southernmost mill (**site A33q**). This has been destroyed by fire, with the only remains now standing being the ground-floor wall of the western façade and the north wall which stands to first-floor height as part of an adjoining building (**III. 95**).

- 4.9.4 In 1847 power was provided by a 48hp waterwheel and a 30hp steam engine (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156), while in 1879 the mill was reported to contain a 40hp wheel and a 40hp engine. Further details of the waterwheel are provided by Maxim, who states that it was made at Shawclough 'in the yard near Waterworks Tavern and ironworks at the old foundry of Chadwicks', and was a high-breastshot wheel 8ft wide (c 2.4m) and 16yd (c 14.5m) in diameter, with 125 buckets each holding 36 gallons. He also states the power to have been of 100hp (RLSL F8/4/MAX/156U). That last figure is considerably greater than the figures given in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and may be an overestimation.

Water power was brought to the mill along a leat and reservoir system c 0.5km long, fed from a weir situated immediately below Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A22**) (**IIIs. 86 & 133**). The northern half of this system comprised a leat which flowed first as an open channel and then below ground (**site A23**) (**IIIs. 87 & 134**). It emerged into a substantial elongated reservoir, still extant (**site A31**), in turn continuing as a broad section of leat which curved to terminate to the rear of the main mill block. This reservoir system presumably dates from the improvement of the site by Leach & Tweeddale between 1813 and 1823, when the extension of the lease make specific mention of recent works to supply water to the firm's new carding mill (see above, 4.9.3). At its junction with the reservoir system, the broad leat is crossed by a stone bridge which may well with contemporary with the reservoir's construction (**site A54**) (**III. 102**).

Both the reservoir and the leat were formed by the construction of a massive embankment at the foot of the valley slope, with the terminus of the leat being carried on a further projecting embankment. From here the headrace must have been carried on an overhead launder to the

wheelhouse and its 16yd high breastshot wheel. At some date after the 1844-8 survey this launder was enclosed within a projecting wing (**III. 13**).

- 4.9.5 Following the demise of the firm of Jacob Tweedale & Sons in 1882, the mill entered what appears to have been a lengthy period of disuse.

By 1901, however, the site had been taken over by Samuel Heap & Son, dyers and finishers of yarns and piece goods (**Table 8**). This business had been founded in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century by William Heap, who in 1825 established a woollen mill at Caldershaw, and was named after William's son Samuel, who died in 1873. The acquisition of Healey Bottoms Mill was part of a subsequent process of expansion by the firm which by the late 1890s also occupied Spotland Bridge Mills. By 1910 the company was said to be running no fewer than six mills, each carrying out a series of specialised processes in the finishing of cloth, which at this date include cotton. At Spotland Bridge rough cloth was transformed into flannelette; the Caldershaw Mills were used exclusively for bleaching and dyeing; while at Healey Bottoms Mill cloth underwent mercerising, a preparatory process to dyeing which gave a high-gloss finish (Cole 1988, 9-10). The firm remained at Healey Bottoms Mill until at least the 1920s, with OS mapping of 1928 still referring to the site as a finishing and dyeing works (**III. 15**).

Under Samuel Heap & Son the mill complex was first modified and then substantially extended. The early modifications are shown on the OS map of 1908 (**III. 14**). It indicates that to the south-east of the main range an irregular group of earlier buildings had been swept away and replaced by a block which evidently contained a new boiler house, linked to the detached chimney to the east (**site A33f**). Adjacent to this boiler house, the gap between the main mill range and the detached mill to its south was now infilled (**site A33r**). This infilling building still stands and is of two storeys, suggestive of a possible engine house (**III. 96**).

On the east side of the main mill range, the wing containing the launder was taken down and replaced by a shallower structure, while at the same period the western end of the broad leat was refashioned in its present straight form. This still fed a raised launder, identified on the 1908 map as an 'aqueduct'. It was perhaps at this time that the waterwheel was replaced by a turbine. This is noted on Maxim's sketch of the site (**III. 42**), but at present is otherwise poorly known.

In the space between the north-east corner of the main mill range and embankment of the leat, filter beds, a common feature of finishing works, were added.

Alongside the river, to the west of the main mill range, the workshop building was rebuilt or remodelled (**site A33t**) and to the north of this two adjoining two-storey warehouses were added (**site A33u & A33v**) (**Ills. 98 & 99**), the more southerly of which was linked to the main mill range by a gantry. These warehouses are still standing, as is a two-storey office building, erected by the site's southern entrance (**site A33k**) (**III. 93**). In the north of the site, by 1908 demolition had taken place of the early block of houses with warehousing above (**site A33h**) and of the adjoining warehouse block (**site A33g**), leaving only the cottages which had formed its northern end. By this same date, only three of the row of six cottages to the north of the mill were also still standing (**site A26**). Perhaps in place of these lost dwellings, Healey Dell Cottages had been erected close to that last site.

The main phase of expansion came between 1908 and 1928, when the mill was doubled in size (**III. 15**). To the north and north-east of the earlier main mill range, large shed-like brick buildings were now erected, typical of finishing works of the period (**sites A33x & A33y**).

On the east these extended almost to the bank of the reservoir, and covered one of the earlier filter beds. On the west, the riverside buildings were also enlarged. Brick extensions were built to the rear of the two earlier warehouses so that these now straddled the river (**sites A33u & A33v**) (**Ills. 91 & 97**), and a new range was added to their north (**site A33w**). On the south-east of the site, the boiler house was rebuilt on a larger scale (**site A33p**) (**Ill. 94**), with a new chimney against its south-east corner (**site A33n**), while the old chimney was demolished.

4.9.6 Maxim refers to the mill being used for a while for the manufacture of alumino-ferric prior to being taken over in 1941 by the government for war work (RLSL F8/4/MAX/156U).

From 1941 until 1943 the mill was used as a munitions factory. Of the main phases of the site's development, this is at present the least well-documented. No detailed written sources are now known in local collections but it is possible that some information on the site is contained within government records in the National Archive. According to an undated newspaper report, 'The Government shell-filling factory at Healey Dell largely recruited its labour from amongst those who were displaced from cotton. Opened in 1941, it closed two years later, having been engaged in filling 25 pounder shells and doing some mine work' (Anon nd). A post-war publication on the Royal Ordnance Factories noted that 'Healey Hall filled 136 million 20-lb. bombs for the R.A.F.' (Hay 1949, 68).

The principal information on the arrangement of the Royal Ordnance Factory is derived from a contemporary sketch plan, which is labelled with the names of its various components (**Ill. 43**). This is supplemented by a plan showing the site as an aerial view, on which the buildings are numbered. A copy of a key is also known, but unfortunately this does not correspond with the aerial plan (**Ill. 44**).

The sketch plan (**Ill. 43**) indicates that the processes of producing shells were carried out in a production line extending through the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century sheds and into the main early mill range. Thus the northernmost sheds are identified as 'empty bomb stores', with the southern sheds being used bomb filling, and northern end of the main mill range for bomb packing. The southern mill buildings contained a pellet room and pellet press.

Buildings at the southern end of the mill, towards the site entrance, were used for ancillary purposes such as a police station and police accommodation, administration offices and a canteen. The police station was a new single-storey building, still standing (**site A33j**), while the 'police quarters' were in the adjacent late 19<sup>th</sup>-century cottages (**site A33i**). The office accommodation was provided by the existing office building (**sites A33k**) and by two new neighbouring structures which from the aerial plan of the site can be identified as Nissen huts (**Ill. 44**). The canteen was a new building, set at the foot of the steep valley side and is still extant (**site A33m**), while the canteen stores were housed in an early 20<sup>th</sup>-century building adjacent to the boiler house and chimney (**site A33o**).

To the west of the main mill range, the main warehouse buildings continued in use as stores (**sites A33u & A33v**), with their northern extension serving as a garage (**site A33w**). To their south the single-storey range (**sites A33t & A33s**) served partly as workshops, but with the southern two bays used as magazines.

Other new buildings were erected at the northern end of the mill, along the western side of Dell Road, where they partly occupied the site of the earlier cottages (**site A30**). The largest was a single-storey block identified on the sketch plan as a first aid post (**Ill. 43**), which still

stands and has been converted to accommodation (**site A33pp**).

In addition the munitions factory extended onto the west side of the river, an area which was the former site of Healey Hall Colliery (**site A32**) and in which the main feature had for long been a circular pond. Here a new road system served a series of magazines, placed at a suitable distance both from one another and the main factory buildings. These magazines, brick-built of a single storey with concrete roofs, are still extant (**sites 33aa, 33bb & 33cc**) (**Ills. 106 & 107**). Subsequently roughly three dozen Nissen huts were also erected on this western side of the river, mostly to the north and north-west of the pond, with a few to the south. The concrete lower walls of the majority of these are still visible (**site A33ii**) (**Ill. 109**), while two preserve their corrugated roofing (**site A33jj**) (**Ill. 108**). They seem to have been erected in two main phases. None are shown on the sketch plan of the site, while twelve are indicated on the aerial plan (**Ill. 44**). Others are known from later OS mapping (**Ill. 16**) and the surviving visible remains and are mostly only half the size of the earlier examples.

This western side of the site also included a pump house (**site A33hh**), and a complex of septic tanks and filter beds (**site A33dd**). It also contained two small air raid shelters (**sites A33ff & A33gg**) (**Ills. 110 & 111**). Larger shelters were situated on the eastern side of the river to the rear of the main factory buildings where they were constructed in the former filter beds (**site A33z**). The WWII plans of the site show further shelters adjacent to Healey Dell Cottages. These last shelters lay outside the factory perimeter and were perhaps for the night-time use of the occupants of the cottages who, according to the sketch plan, were factory employees.

On both sides of the river, the factory perimeter was marked by a fence which can still be traced for most of the length by concrete posts c 3m high. The WWII sketch plan indicates that the northern and southern gateways through this perimeter were provided with a defence post, with that on the north also been shown on the only known photograph of the munitions factory (**Ill. 140**). In addition brick pillboxes, still extant, were positioned along the perimeter fence. One of these guarded the eastern approach to factory via the footbridge (**site A33mm**) (**Ill. 103**), while two others were located on the commanding high ground on the eastern and western sides of the valley (**sites A33kk & All**) (**Ills. 104 & 105**). Another pillbox lies to the west of the perimeter fence, outside the present study area (Richard Whittle, personal communication).

1814	Leach & Tweedale, woollen manufacturers, Healey Hall	Wardle & Bentham, 197
1816	Leach & Twedale, woollen manufacturers, Healey Hall	Wardle & Pratt, 290
1818	Leach & Tweedale, flannel manufacturers and merchants, Healey Hall	Rogerson, 35
1821-2	Leach & Tweedale, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Healey Hall	Pigot & Dean, 449
1848	Leach & Tweedale, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Healey Hall	Slater, 768
1858	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Healey Hall	Slater, 383
1865	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Healey Hall	Slater, 726
	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, fulling millers, Healey Hall	Slater, 723
1882	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, manufacturers of white, coloured and fancy flannels, Healey Hall and Tunacliffe Mills	Slater, 487
	Jacob Tweedale & Sons, fulling millers, Healey Hall	Slater, 484
1901	Samuel Heap & Son Ltd, dyers and finishers of yarns and piece goods, Healey Hall, Caldershaw and Spotland Bridge Mills	Kelly, 1564
1905	Samuel Heap & Son Ltd, dyers and finishers of yarns and piece	Kelly, 1637

goods, Caldershaw, Brookside, Spotland Bridge and Healey Hall Mills  
 1924 Samuel Heap & Son Ltd, bleacher, dyers and finishers, Caldershaw, Kelly, 935  
 Brookside, Spotland Bridge and Healey Hall Mills

**Table 8:** Occupants of Healey Hall Mill/ Healey Bottoms Mill listed in trade directories.

		No of Storeys	Dimensions
1863	Woollen Mill No 1	3	63ft 0in x 42ft 10in
	Wheelwright's Shop	1	25ft 4in x 16ft 2in
	"	1	22ft 3in x 19ft 10in
	Blacksmith's Shop	1	24ft 2in x 17ft 10in
	Scouring Place	1	23ft 1in x 17ft 0in
	Size Place	1	10ft 0in x 18ft 0in
	Drying Stove	3	34ft 8in x 31ft 8in
	Boiler House & Stove	2	39ft 9in x 22ft 3in
	Wool Store Place	1	36ft 0in x 15ft 0in
	Woollen Mill No 2	3¾	70ft 7in x 43ft 0in
	Mechanic's Shop	1	35ft 0in x 11ft 3in
	Engine House	3¾	13ft 9in x 35ft 9in
	Scouring Place	3	19ft 10in x 18ft 0in
	Woollen Mill No 3	3¾	160ft 2in x 63ft 9in
	Dirt & Sorting Place	1	11ft 10in x 12ft 0in
	Closets	1	11ft 0in x 7ft 0in
	"	1	17ft 10in x 7ft 0in
	Blacksmith's Shop	1	18ft 10in x 24ft 5in
	Chimney		
1879	Condensing Engine 40 Horse		
	Water Wheel 40 Horse		
1863	Warehouse over Cottages	2½	33ft 2in x 34ft 7in
	"	1	117ft 0in x 34ft 1in
	Office	1	15ft 0in x 14ft 2in
	Warehouse	3	68ft 2in x 40ft 2in
	Attic over	½	43ft 0in x 40ft 2in
1863	Warehouse 'Healey Hall'	4	73ft 5in x 23ft 6in
	Attic 'Healey Hall'	½	26ft 0in x 23ft 6in
	Warehouse & Dining Store	2	43ft 11in x 23ft 0in
	Warehouse & Cart Place	2	33ft 5in x 19ft 1in
	Warehouse & Cellar	3	82ft 0in x 20ft 5in
	Offices & Coachhouse	2	33ft 2in x 33ft 0in
1869	'Tenterfield Healey Lodge'		
	Wet Piece Store	2	21ft 6in x 20ft 0in
	Dry Piece Store	2	17ft 0in x 21ft 6in
	Cellar under	1	17ft 0in x 21ft 6in
	Workshop Wood	1	12ft 0in x 15ft 6in
	Cottages adjoin the above		

**Table 9:** 'Healey Hall Bottoms Woollen Mills, occupiers Messrs Tweedale', details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

#### 4.10 Other Buildings on the Healey Hall Estate

- 4.10.1 Following the departure of the Chadwicks in 1800, Healey Hall (**site A20**) remained the centre of a working farm. A barn is documented here in the 1669 inventory of John Chadwick (LRO WCW) and was also a feature of the site in the 19<sup>th</sup> century under the Leaches and Tweedales (**Table 1**). In the census of 1871 Robert Leach Tweedale of Healey Hall is described not only as a flannel manufacturer but also as a farmer of 27 acres employing three men. When the Tweedales left in the early 1880s, the farm evidently became the subject of a separate lease. Thus in a Spotland valuation of 1884 while John Stothard Littlewood occupied the hall and various outbuildings George Holt was the tenant of a house and farm buildings, listed as being in the north of the site, outside the borough boundary (LRO CBR/5/153). By 1888-9 in place of Holt we find James Crabtree (LRO CBR/5/160), listed in the census of 1891 as a farmer at Healey Hall Farm, and also named as the tenant in 1894 (LRO CBR/5/156).
- 4.10.2 In the late 18<sup>th</sup> century the sources show the Chadwicks owning a smithy. Between 1780 and 1801 this is named in the Land Tax Returns, where it is listed alongside Healey Hall itself (LRO QDL/S/87). In the Poor Rate Books for the 1780s and 1790s, on the other hand, it appears as part of a separate entry, 'Smithy and Cottage, Ending', which would suggest that it lay to the north-east of the hall on the edge of the estate (**III. 142**). Its function is likely to have been to profit from traffic on the Rochdale and Burnley turnpike, but whether it remained in use after 1801 is unknown.
- 4.10.3 With the increasing development of the estate for industrial purposes in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the site of the hall itself seems to have taken on a more industrial appearance. It is possible that this process began under Henry Sandiford & Co who established the early printworks on the estate, but it was undoubtedly promoted by the later woollen manufacturers. The Poor Rate valuations of 1823 and 1834 list a warehouse at the hall and a drying stove in the yard, and by 1846 there is mention of 'warehouses' (**Table 1**). The 1864 rate books lists a warehouse and 'stove in yard' alongside a barn, cartshed, coach house and counting house (LRO CBR/5/145), while the 1880 Spotland mill evaluation has several entries for warehouses at the hall (**Table 9**). As Maxim notes, the warehousing here was part of the overall production process, with cloth being brought here from the adjacent tenterfield for finishing and packing (see above, 4.8.4).

As well as the barn, stables and warehousing, the hall also included workers cottages. Two are listed in the valuation of 1834, which describes them as being located in the Hall Yard (**Table 1**). These cottages were presumably the two tenements at the hall listed in 1846 as being occupied by James Taylor and John Bentley (JRULM RYCH/3574). Taylor, a carter, is listed at Healey Hall in the censuses of 1841-81, while Bentley is named in the 1841 census as a fuller. Another household is listed at the hall in 1841, that of James Aults, a dyer. Similarly in addition to James Taylor in 1851-71 we find Robert Pickles, variously described as a cow man or agricultural labourer, followed in 1881 by his son John Pickles, a warehouseman, and in 1851 Thomas Scholfield, a woollen finisher, followed by in 1861-71 by Abel Clegg. The departure of the Tweedales in the 1880s may in turn have brought about a change of tenants. In 1891 'Healey Hall Cottage' was occupied by a Henry Colebourne, spindle maker, and in 1901 by Hugh Hunter, a coachman.

The greater part of the Healey Hall complex as shown on mapping of the 1840s is still extant

(**Ills. 11 & 12**). In addition to the hall (**site A20a**) and its coachhouse (**site A20b**) the site includes, to the north of these, the substantial two- and three-storey block of Healey Hall Farm and, on the west, a narrow elongated range of two storeys (**site A20c**). Both buildings are now occupied as housing and their original arrangement and usage are not entirely clear, but the farm building appears to have combined domestic accommodation and agricultural components within a single large block, while the two-storey western range may have been built as warehousing.

- 4.10.4 Situated to the west of Healey Hall, Bee House (**site A28**) is shown by the map and schedule accompanying the 1846 mining lease to have then comprised two adjoining cottages (JRULM RYCH/3574). These dated back to at least 1823 when the site is named in the Poor Rate valuation (**Table 1**). In 1846 the western cottage was occupied by Robert Lord and the eastern by James Butterworth. The 1841 census identifies Butterworth as a woollen slubber and names the other cottage as occupied by John Boothman, a woollen weaver. In 1851 two households are listed at Bee House, one headed by Mary Greenhalgh, a widowed washer woman whose five children were all factory operatives, the other comprising a Benjamin Westhead and his wife, both bobbin workers. Ten years later, in 1861, two households are again named, one headed by Samuel Shore, wool stapler, the other by James Taylor, carter, possibly the son of the man of the same name living at the cottages in Healey Hall Yard. In 1871 only the family of Samuel Shore is listed, now described as a foreman in a wool warehouse. By 1881 Shore was dead, and his household was now headed by his son-in-law, Edward Hall, a silk weaver. The other cottage was again occupied at this date, by John Johnson, excavator.

By 1890, however, the two cottages into which Bee House was originally divided appear to have been remodelled as a single, larger property, shown on OS mapping of that year, with a new dog-legged plan to which a further addition was made by 1908 (**Ills. 13 & 14**) (**Ill. 84**). In keeping with this remodelling the social status of the property also seems to have changed, so that the census of 1891 records that Bee House was now occupied by Thomas Langley, assurance agent, his wife, and their ten children.

#### 4.11 **Meanley's Mill / Lower Fold Mill / Clough Mill (site A38) (Ills. 17-22)**

- 4.11.1 The origins of this site can be traced back to 1795 when the Land Tax Returns for Nearer Spotland list Benjamin Meanley as the owner of an 'engine house' occupied by John Clough. Later returns continue to name Meanley as the owner until 1823, with the occupant being named from 1808 onwards as Francis Clough and the site itself being identified from 1811 as a 'mill' (LRO QDL/S/87).

In the Poor Rate valuation of 1823 'Meanley Mill' is listed as owned by John Hargreaves Esq and occupied by Frank Clough (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1). In the valuation of 1834 the occupant is similarly given as Francis Clough but the owners as Leach & Tweedale, the occupants of Healey Hall, who had acquired the Lower Fold Estate on which the mill was situated (see above, 4.4.2). This later valuation also identifies the site as a carding mill. Trade directories list Francis or Frank Clough as a woollen scribbler in 1818 and as a woollen carder in 1824-5 and 1834; in each case the address is given as Lower Fold. The map accompanying the lease of the road through the Lower Fold Estate in 1828 also names the site as Lower Fold Mill (LRO NCHa/51/1).

The mill is still shown on the 1844-8 OS map where it is named as Meanley's Mill (**Ill. 18**). It

is also evidently the Clough Mill, listed in 1847 as a woollen mill owned by Messrs Leach and occupied by Francis Clough (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156).

- 4.11.2 The mapping shows the mill as a single L-shaped block. In 1847 it was said to be powered by a 48hp waterwheel and 30hp steam engine. These are substantial figures for a relatively small mill, employed for carding. Since they exactly correspond to the figures given for Healey Bottoms Mill which immediately precedes Clough in the 1847 list, the suspicion must be that those figures have wrongly been repeated.

Water to the mill was provided by a weir c 200m upstream (**site A36**). It fed a leat which widened into a reservoir located immediately above the mill (**site A37**), below which a tailrace of c 120m long discharged the water back into the river (**site A39**).

- 4.11.3 The mill probably ceased to operate by the 1850s when Harridge Mill was constructed, with a water supply system which utilised the earlier mill's own leat and reservoir (see below, 4.12.3).

The 1890 OS map shows no trace of the mill, but by this date cottages had been erected adjacent to the mill site, possibly reusing material from that building (**site A38b**). The cottages were demolished by 1960 and their site is now marked by wall footing covered by an overgrown mound of demolition material (**Ill. 117**). There is no visible evidence of the mill itself. Upstream of the mill the reservoir and leat are extant as earthworks but in their present form these probably date from their adoption for Harridge Mill.

1818	Francis Clough, woollen scribbler, Lower Fold	Rogerson, 24
1824-5	Francis Clough, woollen carder, Lower-fold	Pigot & Dean, 414
1838	Frank Clough, wool carder, Lower-fold	Pigot & Son, 127

**Table 10:** Occupants of Meanley's Mill /Lower Fold Mill listed in trade directories.

#### 4.12 **Harridge Mill (site A43) (Ills. 17-22)**

- 4.12.1 According to Mrs Tisdall, Harridge Mill was built by John Leach after leaving the firm of Leach Tweedale & Co in July 1844 and founding the firm of John Leach & Sons, flannel manufacturers, and had been completed by the time of his death in the following year (Tisdall nd (a), 19). This date for the mill's foundation may be a little too early. It is not shown on the OS mapping surveyed between 1844 and 1848 (**Ill. 18**), nor does it appear within the list of mills on the Spodden compiled in connection with the Rochdale Waterworks Amendment Act of 1847 (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). Furthermore, trade directories of 1848 and 1851 place the new firm at Calliards Mill. On the evidence of the directories, Harridge Mill was built in the 1850s, between 1851 and 1858, and operated for a short while in conjunction with Calliards Mill. By 1861, however, production was based solely at Harridge Mill (**Table 11**).

Its construction would thus have been the work not of John Leach himself, but his sons Robert, Edmund and Stephen who continued the business after his death. During this period the family occupied the residence known as Harridge (**site C61**), situated close to the mill. According to Mrs Tisdall, this was begun by John Leach and in 1853 became the residence of his son Robert, who had previously lived at Calliards (Tisdall nd (a), 19). Datestones suggest that Harridge was of an earlier origin and that John Leach thus remodelled or replaced an

existing building.

The 1880 Spotland mill valuation states that John Leach & Sons owned, as well as occupied the mill (**Table 12**), and this is confirmed by other rating documents (LRO CBR/5/145 & 153).

Mrs Tisdall reports that the firm was wound up in 1900 (Tisdall nd (a), 19). In keeping with this, directories list the firm in 1898 but not in 1901 (Kelly 1901), and on OS mapping of 1908 Harridge Mill is shown as disused (**Ill. 20**). It was subsequently occupied by the Turner Brothers Asbestos Company. The mill was demolished in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century and its site is now landscaped with no visible remains.

1848	John Leach & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Calliards Mills	Slater, 767
1851	John Leach & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Calliards Mills	Slater, 465
1858	John Leach & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Calliards and Harridge Mills	Slater, 383
1861	John Leach & Sons, manufacturers of flannel and baize, Harridge Mills	Slater, 405
1898	John Leach & Sons, flannel manufacturers, Harridge Mill Harridge Mills	Kelly, 818

**Table 11:** Occupants of Harridge Mill listed in trade directories.

4.12.2 The 1880 valuation shows that the site principally comprised two main buildings, a five-storey factory, presumably for spinning, and a two-storey factory of fireproof construction at ground-floor level, presumably used for weaving (**Table 12**). OS mapping shows these to have comprised two adjoining blocks in a dog-legged arrangement, with ancillary buildings set in a range on the south. When the mill was converted to use as an asbestos factory the main complex was extended over the site of those southern buildings (**Ills. 19-21**).

4.12.3 In 1880 the mill was powered by a 30hp steam engine and a 30hp waterwheel. This is a strikingly late use for the installation of water power, given that the mill was only first erected in the 1850s.

Water power was brought to the mill by a leat c 0.55km long, fed by a weir situated immediately below Healey Bottoms Mills (**site A34**). This leat incorporated the earlier leat and reservoir supplying Meanley's Mill (**site A37**) but to the north and south of this involved the cutting of a new channel (**sites A35 & A41**). The reservoir is still extant as an earthwork and sections of the leat survive to the north and south of this (**Ills. 115 & 116**). Both the reservoir and leat are retained by substantial embankments on the downward slope, towards the river. They show a similarity in scale and form which makes it likely that the earlier reservoir and leat for Meanley's Mill were remodelled for the new system.

	No of Storeys	Dimensions	
1863	Woollen Mill	5½	101ft 3in x 69ft 0in
	Staircase	5	27ft 0in x 20ft 7in
	Woollen Mill (ground floor fireproof)	2¼	107ft 10in x 69ft 6in
	Boiler House & Drying Stove	2	47ft 3in x 22ft 0in

	Shed adjoining	1	29ft 0in x 24ft 3in
	Scouring Shed adjoining Mill	1	27ft 2in x 9ft 9in
	"	1	26ft 3in x 14ft 0in
	Rooms over Engine House	2½	37ft 6in x 13ft 8in
	Store & Dirt Wood Shed	1	37ft 8in x 23ft 0in
	Blacksmith's Shop, Store, Office & Lodge	1	77ft 7in x 17ft 0in
	Chimney		
1879	Condensing Engine 30 Horse		
	Water Wheel 30 Horse		
1869	Office & Telegraph Room	2	23ft 6in x 19ft 9in
	Shed adjoining	1	19ft 6in x 13ft 6in

**Table 12:** ‘Harridge Mills, owners and occupiers John Leach & Sons’, details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

#### 4.13 Brotherod Mill (site A47) (Ills. 23-28)

4.13.1 The 1823 Spotland Poor Rate valuation again provides a useful starting point, which lists ‘Boothroyd Mill’ as owned and occupied by James Royds (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1). Using the Land Tax Returns the origins of the mill can be traced back to the 1780s, with the site first being mentioned in 1787 as Mr Royds’ ‘Broderode Mill’ (LRO QDL/S/86). It was evidently built on the Brotherod estate, which in the medieval period had belonged to Whalley Abbey and which after the dissolution was acquired by the Holts of Gristlehurst (see above, 4.2.4). Fishwick reports that in the 18<sup>th</sup> century Brotherod was bought by James Royds of Deeplish, and subsequently became the residence of his younger son William Royds, merchant, who died in 1766. Brotherod Hall (**site C20**) was still in the Royd family’s possession in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Fishwick 1889, 497). Directories of the mid-1810s list James Royds & Sons as woollen manufacturers. with the address given as Falinge (Wardle & Bentham 1814, 197; Wardle & Pratt, 290). In the mid-1820s they identify Brotherod Mill as a wool-carding mill and suggest that it was being run at this date on behalf of James Royds by Samuel Tweedale (**Table 13**).

By the mid-1830s the site had been converted to cotton spinning. This process probably involved a major phase of rebuilding, to create a mill which was powered by both water and steam, and which was lit by gas produced in its own gasworks. Thus the Poor Rate valuation of 1834 describes Brotherod Mill, then owned by Clement Royds and occupied by John Butterworth, as comprising a ‘Mill, Engine, House & Power’, ‘Boiler House & Smithy’, ‘Gasworks’, ‘Lodge scite & waste’ (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8).

In 1847 it was listed as a cotton mill owned by Clement Royds Esq, and occupied by Messrs. Boswell & Co (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). Directories list Lumb & Boswell, cotton spinners, here in the late 1840s and early 1850s, but by the late 1850s it was in the control of Levi Lumb whose firm is still named here in the late 1890s (**Table 13**). The rate book of 1864 lists the site, then owned by Albert Hudson Royds and occupied by Levi Lumb, as comprising ‘Mill & Power, Staircase, Coal house, Boiler house, Scutching rooms &c, Warehouse, New Mill & Power, Counting house &c’ (LRO CBR/5/145).

Details of the later history of the mill are provided in a newspaper article reporting the demolition of the mill chimney in March 1939 (RLSL F8/4/MAX/156E). According to this, on the death of Levi Lumb, the mill passed to his son, William Lumb of Brotherod Hall. It was then taken over by R H Holt and Thomas Ogden, whose firm of Holt and Ogden was

subsequently transformed into a limited company. In about 1920 the mill was sold to a new company, Brotherod Mill Limited, and in 1930 was acquired by the Lancashire Cotton Corporation which ran the mill for some years before closing it. The buildings were then acquired by the Turner Brothers Asbestos Company, which had them demolished.

1824-5	Samuel Tweedale, manager to Messrs Royds, Brotherod-mill	Pigot & Dean, 422
1825	Samuel Tweedale, wool carder, Brotheroyd Mill	Baines, 544
1836	Butterworth & Pilkington, spinners, Brotheroyd Mill,	Pigot & Son, 105
1841	James Butterworth, cotton spinner, Brotheroyd Mill	Pigot & Slater, 124
1848	Lumb & Boswell, cotton spinners, Boothrod Mill	Slater, 765
1851	Lumb & Boswell, cotton spinners, Brotherod Mill	Slater, 462
1858	Levi Lumb, cotton spinner, Brotherod Mill	Slater, 379
1898	Levi Lumb, cotton spinner, Brotherod Mill	Kelly, 820
1901	Holt & Ogden Ltd, cotton spinners, Brotherod Mill	Kelly, 868
1918	Holt & Ogden Ltd, cotton spinners, Brotherod Mill	Kelly, 853
1924	Brotherod Mill Ltd, cotton spinners	Kelly, 930

**Table 13:** Occupants of Brotherod Mill listed in trade directories.

4.13.2 In 1863 the site contained two mills (**Table 14**). Old Mill was over 126ft long, of two storeys with a basement, plus an extension to one end. It is probably to be identified with the L-shaped building which comprised the mill at the time of the 1844-8 OS mapping (**Ill. 24**), and may have been built when the site was converted to cotton in the late 1820s or early 1830s. The other mill listed in 1863 was more square in plan suggesting that it was relatively new in date, and was described as being of two storeys with a double basement. By 1878 this last building was raised a storey. It can be equated with a broader block which abutted the southern end of the earlier mill and which OS mapping suggests to have been terraced into the valley side (**Ills. 25-27**).

4.13.3 The 1834 Poor Rate valuation shows that steam power had been installed in the mill by that date (see above). In 1847 power to the mill was provided by two waterwheels, providing a total of 24hp, and a steam engine of 16hp (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). In 1879 the site was powered by a 40hp engine, and a 15hp waterwheel. The mill reservoir (**site A46**) and the weir which fed it (**site 45**) are still extant.

	No of Storeys	Dimensions
1863 Cotton Mill	2	91ft 2in x 70ft 9in
Cellar under	2	91ft 2in x 70ft 9in
Engine House	4	56ft 0in x 12ft 8in
End Projection	2	35ft 8in x 21ft 6in
Staircase	3	15ft 9in x 17ft 2in
Boiler House & Offices	1	30ft 4in x 53ft 4in
Old Mill	2	126ft 7in x 34ft 0in
Bottom Room or Cellar below	1	126ft 7in x 34ft 0in
End of Old Mill	2	31ft 7in x 26ft 9in
Bottom Room or Cellar below	1	31ft 7in x 26ft 9in
Staircase	3	8ft 6in x 10ft 9in
Adjoining	1	19ft 3in x 8ft 4in
Closets	3	5ft 0in x 6ft 5in
Open Store Shed	1	56ft 8in x 10ft 2in

	Dirt Place	1	60ft 0in x 14ft 7in
	Chimney		
1879	Condensing Engine 40 Horse		
	Water Wheel 15 Horse		
1863	Stable	1	16ft 9in x 12ft 6in
1875	Reel Room over Boiler House Fireproof	1	53ft 0in x 33ft 6in
1878	Mill raised	1	91ft 0in x 70ft 0in
	Staircase	1	17ft 0in x 17ft 6in

**Table 14:** ‘Brotherod Mills, owner and occupier James Levi’, details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

#### 4.14 Coal Mining and Quarrying

4.14.1 Coal was being mined on the Healey Hall Estate by 1813. The lease granted by Charles Chadwick in that year to Robert Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale included the right to mine coal for use on the estate itself, but limited such mining to those ‘parts thereof as hath and have been appropriated for that purpose’. Any surplus coal mined in such places could only be used at ‘a certain woollen factory’ at Shawclough, which was powered by a steam engine (JRULM RYCH/3564). This was presumably the mill which Leach Tweedale & Co operated at Shawclough until it burnt down in the early 1820s (see above, 4.4.2).

4.14.2 The terms of the 1813 lease suggest that mining was initially on a fairly small scale. In 1846, however, Hugo Malveysin Chadwick leased to Jacob Tweedale the right to work the seam known as the Mountain or Three Quarters Mine. The lease was for a term of twenty years, backdated to the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1845. It included the seam below the lands associated with Healey Hall which Tweedale had leased from Chadwick since 1813, and a further adjoining area to the west, extending from the Spodden to Rooley Moor Road (JRULM RYCH/3574; **III. 142**).

This lease may have led to the establishment of Healey Hall Colliery. Its pithead (**site A32**) lay on the west side of the Spodden, opposite the northern end of Healey Bottoms Mill, within an area included in the 1846 lease. It is shown on the OS map of 1844-8 when it comprised a shaft and three buildings, with access to the site being provided by a wooden bridge over the river (**III. 12**). Later mapping shows an air shaft on the eastern side of the river (**site A27**), by the northern end of the mill’s reservoir (**III. 14 & 15**).

From this later period, the Tweedales are found producing commercially as well as for their own use, with the firm of Jacob Tweedale & Sons being listed as coal masters at Healey Hall in directories of 1853-82 (Davies 1992; Higgins 2004). Precisely how long Healey Hall Colliery remained in operation is uncertain. It is listed in a rate book of 1864 as a colliery at Healey Hall Bottoms, owned by John de Heley Chadwick and leased by Jacob Tweedale & Sons (LRO CBR/5/145). The lease of 1846 should have expired in 1865, so that either it was renewed or after that date the Chadwicks were mining elsewhere. At the latest Healey Hall Colliery had gone out of used by 1890 when OS mapping shows it as disused (**III. 13**) and its demise may have come in 1882 when the firm of Jacob Tweedale & Sons was wound up.

4.14.3 The 1834 Poor Rate valuation lists a colliery at ‘Thruich near Broadley Mill’, worked by Charles Haigh who occupied Broadley Wood Mill (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). Its precise location is unknown and it is possible that this colliery was relatively short-lived.

By the mid-1840s Birches Colliery was in operation with a pithead just to the east of the study area (**site C36**), but it had gone out of use by 1890. To the south-east of the study area, OS mapping shows a group of shafts, abandoned by 1890 (**site C65**), which Maxim appears to identify as Brotherod Colliery. The site is not shown on the mapping of 1844-8 and presumably postdates that time (RLSL F8/MAX/150).

- 4.14.4 Quarrying is poorly documented compared with many other industries within the region, particularly in its earliest phases, prior to the large-scale quarrying evident by the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The lease of the Healey Hall Estate in 1813 by Charles Chadwick to Robert Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale included the lessees' right to extract stone and gravel for their own use but not for sale (JRULM RYCH/3564). The earliest explicit evidence for quarrying within the vicinity of the study area may be contained within the lease of 1828 by John Hargreaves giving John Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale the right to build and use a roadway across his Lower Fold Estate (LRO NCHa/51/1). It makes reference to a stone quarry which was then being worked on the estate. This was presumably the same quarry which in the Poor Rate Valuation of 1834 is listed as being both owned and occupied by Leach Tweedale & Co, who had obtained the estate in the previous year (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). From the OS mapping it can be located immediately east of the study area, by the present Harridge Street (**site C60**). On the Healey Hall Estate, the map accompanying the lease of mining rights in 1846 indicates an area along the east bank of the Spodden to the north of Healey Bottoms Mill as 'Stone Quarry and Rough' (**site A24**). This quarry is not indicated on the 1844-8 OS map and may have been disused by that date. Its site may now be marked by overgrown earthworks.

## 4.15 **Transport**

### 4.15.1 **Roadways**

The industrial development of the study area must have been greatly facilitated by improvement in the local transport infrastructure. In the case of roadways, the first key development came as early as 1755 when an Act of Parliament allowed the creation of a turnpike road between Rochdale and Burnley, one of the first within the Rochdale district. The chosen route ran along Shawclough Road, where a toll bar was later erected, in 1786, at Swinerootings (**Site C63**). In 1758 the turnpike was diverted through 'Enden Meadow' and Birches (Wadsworth 1917-19, 59-60). This diversion presumably created the present Market Street, with the earlier route being along Tonacliffe Road.

Of the early routeways which led from the Rochdale to Burnley road into the study area, the best preserved is that which served Meanley's Mill. The eastern end of this road was truncated by the construction of the railway in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century but sections survive on either side of Dell Road, partly as a hollow way (**site A57**) (**Ills. 113-114**).

To the south of Healey Bottoms Mills, Dell Road itself dates from 1828 when John Hargreaves leased to John Leach, Jacob Tweedale and John Tweedale the right to build and use a road through his Lower Fold Estate, linking the mill with the turnpike (LRO NCHa/51/1). Previously access to the mill must have been provided by a route which gradually climbed the valley side via Bee House (**Ill. 12**) and perhaps alternatively by a steep trackway which crossed the mill leat and reservoir by an early bridge (**site A54**) and climbed

straight up the hillslope, a route only passable on foot or horseback. Dell Road offered a gentler more direct route to the turnpike but within the study area its construction required cutting into the steep and near sheer valley side to create a terrace (III. 113). To the east of the study area, its course was modified in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century as a result of the construction of the railway but, as shown on the 1844-8 OS map, originally ran to the toll bar at Swinerootings (III. 12).

North of Healey Bottoms Mill, the present course of Dell Road which joins with Shawclough Road at Healey Corner dates largely from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. This new alignment involved reducing the curve of the road to the west of Bee House, while to the east of the Healey Viaduct a completely new road was constructed. The roadway which leads down to Th'Owd Mill I't Thutch from Dell Road, however, predates those changes and appears as a routeway on the map of 1844-8 (III. 12). This road retains a surface of setts (III. 82).

#### 4.15.2 *The Railway*

The railway which ran through the study area was built by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway and originally linked Rochdale and Facit, a principal function being to serve the local quarries. Work began in 1865 and the railway opened in 1870. To the north of Wardleworth it consisted of a single track. Between 1878 and 1881 the railway was extended from Facit to Bacup, with this northern section comprising a double track. A passenger service operated on the line until 1947. Quarry traffic ceased in the same year with the closure of last quarry incline at Facit. The Rochdale to Fact section continued to be used for freight until the 1960s, with good trains carrying coal and serving the Turner Brothers Asbestos Company at Shawclough. In 1963 this service was terminated at Whitworth, and in 1967 finally ended (Roberts 1974, 4, 10-12; Holt 1978, 157).

In both the northern and southern ends of the study area the line passes through cuttings which give way to terracing on the valley sides as it approaches the lofty Healey Viaduct, now a Grade II Listed Building (site A21). A second lofty bridge (site A51) carried Station Road over the line. This new road, contemporary with the railway, led to a station at Broadley (site A13) and continued beyond this to serve Broadley Wood Mill (site A11), with the road being retained on the west by a substantial stone revetment (III. 65). Further revetting in the south-east of the study area carried the railway and Dell Road. In this last area a bridge, now replaced by a footbridge, carried the line over a new route providing access from Harridge Street and Shawclough Road. Further to the north, another bridge carried the line over a footpath running down the valley side to Healey Bottoms Mill and immediately west of this is a second railway bridge (site A55). The latter, seemingly redundant, lacks parapets while the retaining arms which run down the slope and flank the former footpath are partly ruined and displaced (III. 112). Traditionally, this was the original bridge which was abandoned as the result of a landslip, when the second bridge was constructed as a replacement (Blackshaw 2001, 20).

The station at Broadley (site A13) comprised a loop and single platform (Roberts 1974, 11) and was set below the retaining wall of Station Road (IIs. 65 & 123). Footings still survive of a station building added between 1890 and 1908 (IIs. 7 & 8), while a break in the platform marks the site of a later signal box. Within the wider study area there was also Shawclough and Healey Station on Shawclough Road (site C64).

In the north of the study area, a siding served the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (see below, 4.16). On the north side of the Healey Viaduct, other sidings are reported to

have been constructed during the Second World War to serve the munitions factory at Healey Bottoms Mill (Blackshaw 2001, 37) (**site A52**). Since this site is not linked to any road and is not directly accessible from the mill, the sidings here were presumably used in close conjunction with the nearby Broadley Station.

#### 4.16 **Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (site A1) (Ills. 5-10, 45, 48-49)**

- 4.16.1 From OS mapping this site, situated adjacent to a siding on the railway, is known to have been built by 1890 (**Ill. 7**). The earliest known explicit documentary reference is within a rate book for Spotland of 1894, among the entries for the Broadley area of Catley Lane. This names Henry Heys as the owner and occupier of a 'Railway Siding in Norden Local Board District' and of a 'Polishing Mill, Dressing Shed and Engine Power' (LRO CBR/5/156). The same details are also given in a rate valuation for Norden of the following year, 1895 (LRO CBR 7/84). In addition trade directories of 1890 and 1895 give Broadley Siding as the address of Henry Heys junior (Slater 1890, 560; Slater 1895, 674).

The site would seem to have been built no earlier than 1884 since it does not appear in a rate book for that year (LRO CBR/5/153). Nor is it listed in the Spotland mill valuation of 1880, a document which contains details of other industrial sites including rubbing mills (LRO CBR/5/158). It may be no earlier than 1887, since Henry Heys junior is not named in a directory of that year (Slater 1887).

It seems likely that the Broadley stone rubbing mill mill was an offshoot of the quarrying firm of Henry Heys & Co. In a trade directory of the 1885 this advertised itself as:

'Henry Heys & Co; Stone Merchants, Stacksteads, nr. Manchester.  
All kind of Landings, Flags, Curbs, Channels and Setts of the Hardest  
Material, either Self-faced or Polished.  
Facit Quarries, near Rochdale; Hambleton Quarries near Burnley;  
Brandwood Quarries, Stacksteads' (Slater 1885, 41).

The mill itself would have been used to grind such products to a smooth finish.

By 1890 Broadley Siding was the terminus of a mineral railway (**site A2**), comprising a 3ft gauge incline running eastwards from what on mapping of the time was described as an 'old quarry'; from here a northward continuation of the line served quarries at Lower Bagden, Bagden and Middle Bagden on the eastern side of Rooley Moor (Roberts 1974, 22).

- 4.16.2 Among the stone rubbing mills listed in the 1880 valuation was Brandwood Stone Mill, near Stacksteads, owned and occupied by Henry Heys, and details of its layout within the valuation provide a useful comparison with the Broadley site. Like the Broadley Rubbing Mill, the Brandwood Mill was situated next to the railway and was provided with its own siding; again like Broadley, it was served by a quarry tramroad (Roberts 1974, 17-188). Brandwood Stone Mill was evidently built at the same time as the railway, since the entry within the valuation is dated back to January 1870. It describes the site as comprising three components each of a single storey: a boiler house, measuring 31ft by 11ft; a rubbing mill with '2 tables', measuring 31ft by 61ft; and a 'machine house and office', measuring 17ft by 6ft 9in. The entry for the mill also lists its chimney, and a high pressure engine of 10hp (LRO CBR/5/158). Brandwood Stone Mill was still being operated by Henry Heys in 1894, when it was listed as a 'Polishing Mill, Power and High Machine Shed, and Engine Power' (LRO CBR/5/156).

- 4.16.3 OS mapping shows that the tramroad (**site A2**) adjacent to the Broadley Rubbing Mill had been dismantled by 1908, but the stone mill itself would still appear to have been in use, being named as a 'stone works' (**Ill. 8**). By 1928, however, the building is shown as a shell (**Ill. 9**).

From the OS mapping we know the mill to have comprised a rectangular range aligned along the siding platform. The surviving remains here include two grinding pits set between a central engine bed and from the mapping it is evident that these were positioned within a building c 30m long which made up the northern half of the site. Abutting this on the south was a narrow bay with a chimney at its western end. This bay is now difficult to identify on the ground but may have been a boiler house. The southern part of the range, now evident as a linear depression, was divided into two equal bays and was possibly the 'dressing shed' listed in the 1890s' rating documents. The OS mapping implies that on the east the building was open-sided with the exception of the engine, which may therefore have been enclosed within its own engine house, and the central bay, suggested as being a boiler house. It seems likely that these open-sided buildings were of a single storey.

#### 4.17 **Meanwood Mill (site B4) (Ills. 29-35, 118-119, 141)**

- 4.17.1 This is a relatively early water-powered site. A waterwheel is shown here on Yates's map of Lancashire surveyed in the 1770s (**Ill. 2**), and is probably to be identified with a mill owned and occupied by John Royds, which is listed in the Land Tax Returns of 1780 and the Poor Rate Books of 1768 and 1772 (LRO QDL/S/87; RLSL DB 120).

The function of this early mill is uncertain but later evidence suggests that it was a fulling mill, to which was later added a dye works. Thus an early illustration of the site shows only the fulling mill (**Ill. 141**). The Poor Rate valuation of 1823, which copies an original document of 1819-20, names James Royds as both owner and occupier of a 'Dyehouse & Mill' at Meanwood (RLSL DB LA Z/3/S1), while Greenwood's map of 1818 may indicate two waterwheels at the site (**Ill. 3**). The two works are also listed in the Poor Rate valuation of 1834, by which date the owner, Clement Royds Esq, was leasing these out to tenants (RLSL DB LA Z/1/S8). One of these, James Gibson, who is named in a contemporary directory as a dyer, occupied a property described in the valuation as comprising a 'Dyehouse &c', 'Warehouse', 'Stove & flues' and a tenterfield. The other tenant, Thomas Barratt, occupied Meanwood Mill, which included a 'Fulling Mill & water power', 'Brimstone stove' and 'Piece Lodge in tenter field'. By the mid-1840s trade directories suggest that Gibson had also taken over the fulling mill and subsequent occupants seem likewise to have been engaged in the two sides of the business (**Table 15**).

The list of mills along the Spodden compiled in association with the Rochdale Waterworks Amendment Act of 1847 included two sites at Meanwood, both owned by Clement Royds, the more northerly of these being Meanwood Mill. It is described as a dyeing works, occupied by James Gibson, while Meanwood Brow was a cotton mill occupied by a Mr Smith (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). Trade directories also list James Smith as a cotton spinner at Meanwood in the mid-1840s to early 1850s (Slater 1845, 160; Slater 1851, 462). The location of Meanwood Brow Mill has not been firmly identified, but the fact that in 1847 it was provided only with steam power suggests that it may not have been located directly on the river.

On the OS map of 1844-7 the Meanwood fulling mill and the dye works are shown positioned adjacent to one another along the river bank, with the fulling mill on the north (**Ill. 31**). The 1890 1:2500 map shows a rectangular building here, aligned roughly at a right angle to the river (**Ill. 32**), which in size closely corresponds with the two-storey fulling mill listed in the 1880 Spotland mill valuation (**Table 16**). A projection at its north-east corner was presumably the wheelhouse. The resulting L-shaped plan is also evident on the 1844-7 map. A map of Rochdale town of 1831 shows two separate buildings here (**Ill. 30**) but this may be in error, since the early illustration of the fulling mill also shows a single L-shaped block (**Ill. 141**).

The dye works comprised a somewhat larger complex, also L-shaped in plan, comprising a main range alongside the river and, at the south-west corner of this, a square block set at a higher level up the valley slope. The mapping shows this L-shaped plan as established by 1831 (**Ill. 30**). The surviving physical evidence on the site suggests that the plan represented at least two phases of construction, distinguishable by narrow and larger coursing. The Spotland mill valuation of 1880 shows that these buildings were single-storey and two-storey structures, typical of such finishing works (**Table 16**). At the time of the OS map of 1844-7 the dye works and fulling mill were two separate blocks but subsequently an infill building was added (**Ills. 31 & 32**). From the mill valuation this would appear to have been a two-storey drying room built by 1876.

On the evidence of trade directories, the works remained in use until the early to mid-1880s, but by 1890 OS mapping shows the site as disused. By 1908, apart from the building in its south-west corner, the site was in a state of ruin and appears to have partly demolished (**Ills. 32 & 33**).

- 4.17.2 In 1847 Meanwood Mill had two waterwheels, with perhaps a total output of 10hp (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). The 1880 mill valuation also lists two wheels, of 5hp and 7hp respectively (**Table 13**). It is evident from the history of their occupancy and building development that the fulling mill and dye works were each served by its own waterwheel. While the likely position of the wheelhouse of the fulling mill can be located (see above), that of the dye works is uncertain.

In 1879 the site also included three steam engines with a total output of 23hp (**Table 13**). Finishing works of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries were typically served by a number of engines, reflecting the multiplicity of the processes which these works carried out. It is unknown, however, whether the three engines at Meanwood Mill powered only the dye works or were divided between them and the fulling mill.

- 4.17.3 To the north of the mill a three-storey range shown on the early 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustration may have contained the 'stable and lumber room' and 'outbuilding' listed in the 1880 mill valuation (**Table 16**). The given dimensions of those elements do not account for the full extent of this range as shown on OS mapping (**site B2**), and it is possible that the building also included domestic accommodation. After the mill was abandoned this range was taken down in stages (**Ills. 32-35**). Stone footings are visible at the site which appears to have included a vaulted cellar (**Ill. 120**)

1814	Edmund Taylor, fuller, Meanwood	Wardle & Bentham, 195
1818	Edmund Taylor, fulling miller, Meanwood	Rogerson, 48
1825	Hugh Dawson, fulling miller, Meanwood Mill	Baines, 541

1834	James Gibson, dyer, Meanwood	Pigot & Co, 528
1838	James Gibson, woollen dyer and fulling miller, Meanwood	Pigot & Son, 128
1845	James Gibson, woollen dyer and fulling miller, Meanwood	Slater, 155
1848	James Clegg, fulling miller, Meanwood Mill	Slater, 176
1851	James Clegg, fulling miller, Meanwood Mill	Slater, 463
1861	William Mitton Dunhill, dyer (woollen & domet), Meanwood	Slater, 401
1869	William M Dunhill & Co, dyers and fulling millers, Meanwood	Slater, 661
1876	James Holroyd, dyer (woollen & dometts), Meanwood Dye Works	Slater, 583
1882	James Holroyd, dyer (woollen & dometts), Meanwood Dye Works	Slater, 481

**Table 15:** Occupants of Meanwood Mill / Dye Works listed in trade directories.

		No of Storeys	Dimensions
1863	Lumber Room & Stable	3	31ft 6in x 25ft 4in
	Stone Outbuilding	3	31ft 7in x 28ft 0in
	Fulling Mill	2	51ft 6in x 37ft 3in
	Finishing Room	2	17ft 8in x 20ft 11in
	Loading Shed	1	17ft 8in x 11ft 0in
	Colour Room	1	30ft 10in x 30ft 8in
	Dye House	1	56ft 0in x 42ft 10in
	Store Room	2	36ft 9in x 37ft 0in
	Stove	2	212ft 4in x 27ft 3in
	Chimney		
1879	3 High Pressure Engines 23 Horse		
	1 Water Wheel 5 Horse		
	1 Water Wheel 7 Horse		
1869	Washing & Drying Place	1	26ft 0in x 38ft 0in
1876	New Drying Place	2	31ft 0in x 21ft 0in

**Table 16:** ‘Meanwood Dye Works, owner A. H. Royds, occupier James Holroyd’, details from Spotland Mill Valuation Book 1880 (LRO CBR/5/158).

#### 4.18 **The Development of the Mills in the Study Area: An Overview**

##### 4.18.1 *The Woollen Industry*

###### *Fulling Mills*

The valleys of the rivers and streams of the west Pennines were one of the cradles of the Industrial Revolution in Lancashire. These fast-flowing watercourses powered some of the first textile mills in the region, the earliest use of which was for fulling woollen cloth. Woollen production was of particular importance in the Rochdale area. By the 16<sup>th</sup> century Lancashire already had a well-established textile industry whose two main staples were linens and woollens. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, however, these older branches were largely replaced by the introduction and spread of cotton, at this period in the form of fustians with a cotton weft and linen warp. By 1700 woollen production was almost entirely confined to the eastern border of the county, including the Rochdale district where woollen manufacturers retained a monopoly until the late 18<sup>th</sup> century (Wadsworth 1935-7, 136-7).

Fulling, the first process within the textile industry to which water power was applied, had two purposes. It removed natural oil and grease from woven cloth, a necessary step before dyeing could be carried out, and it tightened and thickened the fabric. In the fulling mill this was achieved by pounding the cloth with water-powered hammers, or stocks, while soaking it

in water mixed with a cleaning agent for which fuller's earth and stale urine were used. Before the application of water power to the process, fulling was carried out by treading, or 'walking', the cloth; hence fulling mills were themselves also known as walk mills.

The Rochdale Survey of 1626 lists some six fulling or walk mills within the parish (Fishwick 1913, 99, 138, 159, 168, 172, 213). These do not include the two fulling mill sites in the main study area, both of which appear to be later in date. Broadley Mill (**site A10**) may possibly have existed by the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century. Healey Dene fulling mill, or Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**), was possibly established after the Chadwicks ceased to live at Healey Hall in the 1660s and perhaps dated from 1676. It may have been situated on the site of an earlier corn mill. That mill, however, is itself not mentioned in the Rochdale Survey of 1626, and may have been abandoned before that date. Meanwood Mill (**site B4**), in the southern extension of the study area, was also a fulling mill. This was built by the 1770s when it is indicated on Yates's map of Lancashire but for how long it had been in existence by that date is unknown.

In the closing decades of the 18<sup>th</sup> century the textile industry entered a period of unprecedented expansion. Several new mills were established in the study area during this period, among these being Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**) which appears to have been built in 1787-8 and which from the 1820s is firmly documented as a fulling mill.

Cloth which had been fulled was stretched and dried in the open air on a tenter frame, a line of upright posts, with an upper and lower rail fitted with tenter hooks to which the cloth was fastened. The Spotland Poor Rate valuations of 1823 and 1834 and OS mapping of 1844-8 show tenterfields in association with Tonacliffe Mill (**site C30**), Broadley Mill (**site A9**), and Healey Dene Mill (**site C50**), while both OS mapping and an early 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustration show a tenterfield to the west of the Meanwood fulling mill (**Ills. 31 & 141**).

By the early 19<sup>th</sup> century fulling mills within the study area were also carrying out bleaching. At this period this process was carried out by soaking woollen cloth and hanging it in a room containing burning sulphur. The brilliance of bleached cloth could be improved using a blueing agent. A 'brimstone stove' is recorded at Meanwood fulling mill, while both 'Blue rooms' and 'brimstone stoves' are documented at Tonacliffe Mill, Broadley Mill, and Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch. This last site includes surviving remains of vaulted sulphur stoves (**site A19d**) (**Ills. 78 & 129**) and stone vats may have been used in the blueing process (**site A19c**) (**Ills. 75-77**).

### *Woollen Carding Mills*

After fulling, the next stage of woollen manufacture to be powered was carding or scribbling. This process, which was also integral to the cotton industry, was a preparatory stage prior to spinning and involved disentangling and straightening the fibres by drawing wire teeth between these to produce a roll or sliver. Small mills containing carding machines or 'engines' were being established in Rochdale in the 1780s. Some were for the carding of cotton and effectively mark the beginning of cotton manufacture within the district (Wadsworth 1935-7, 138-9).

For the first two decades or so of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, fulling and carding represented the limits of the application of power to woollen manufacture. Woollen spinning continued to be carried out by hand until the introduction of the fully automatic self-acting mule in the 1820s, while powerloom weaving was first adopted in the woollen industry in the 1830s (Giles & Goodall 1992, 9-11).

Within the study area, the earliest known carding mill was Brotherod Mill established in about 1787 (**site A47**), followed by Meanley's Mill in about 1795 (**site A38**). Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**), established in 1813, also originally operated as a carding mill. Meanley's Mill was occupied in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century by Francis Clough who is described solely as a carding miller, suggesting that he belonged to a number of small independent carders who carried out work on commission (Wadsworth 1935-7, 148-9).

### *The Emergence of Larger Woollen Concerns and the Growth of Mechanization*

By the early to mid-19<sup>th</sup> century most of the fulling and carding mills in the study area were elements in larger concerns. Healey Bottoms Mill was operated by Leach Tweedale & Co as part of a larger manufacturing business which also included the Healey Dene fulling mill. This interdependent relationship between the two mills continued from 1813 until the firm's demise in 1882. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century, Brotherod Mill likewise may have been part of a larger business. In 1823 it was owned and occupied by James Royds who also held Meanwood Mill, which by this date comprised a dye works as well as a fulling mill.

In keeping with the wider nature of their business, we find Leach Tweedale & Co styled as woollen manufacturers, and more particular as manufacturers of flannel, a material of key local importance. In the 1790s Aikin noted flannels as one of the principal products of the woollen industry of Rochdale parish (Aikin 1795, 248). In 1825 it was reported that eight thousand pieces of flannel were manufactured in the town and its neighbourhood weekly (Baines 1825, 534), while in 1856 when Rochdale was made a corporate borough it was stated that the town produced nine-tenths of all the flannel made in England (Pearson *et al* 1985, 122).

Broadley Mill, originally a fulling mill, itself became the centre of a larger manufacturing business. The Holts who took over the mill in the early 1780s added new buildings to the site and are likewise subsequently named as woollen manufacturers. Later, in the mid- 19<sup>th</sup>-century under the Tweedales, there is evidence for not only fulling and carding at the site but also dyeing.

Tonacliffe Mill also underwent an expansion of its business. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century its occupant Thomas Holland was described as a fuller, suggesting that his was an independent concern, carrying out fulling on behalf of other manufacturers. In the 1830s, however, the firm of Thomas Holland & Son were now themselves listed as flannel manufacturers. This expansion may be reflected in the two main building ranges shown on the site on the OS map of 1844-8, which were possibly the original fulling mill and a later factory.

The extent to which prior to their mechanization, the processes of spinning and weaving were carried out on site, in addition to carding, is uncertain. The earliest evidence for these processes of manufacture relates to Healey Bottoms Mill. In 1827 Leach Tweedale & Co were at the centre of a strike called by the Rochdale Association of Journeymen Weavers and Man Spinners, after the firm acquired a machine with an increased number of spindles. The dispute lasted nearly three months, and ended in the firm's favour (Tisdall nd, 12-14; Cole 1985, 43). Weaving was taking place at Healey Bottoms Mill by 1834, when a loomshop is listed here in the Poor Rate valuation.

Spinning and weaving are more fully attested from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. By the early 1860s there is mention of loom sheds at Tonacliffe Mill, in addition to the loomshop at Healey

Bottoms, while an advertisement of about the same period mentioned both weaving and spinning at Broadley Mill. Harridge Mill, established in the 1850s, appears to have comprised a purpose-built multi-storey spinning mill with a large adjoining weaving shed (**site A43**).

#### 4.18.2 *The Cotton Industry*

The earliest known cotton factory in the study area was the calico-printing works set up on the Healey Hall Estate in 1804. Like many other early calico-printing businesses in the region, this was a short-lived venture which failed after only a few years.

After this abortive beginning, the cotton industry was first firmly established in the study area in the 1820s. This was a decade of considerable expansion in the industry, helped by a combination of conditions. The first half of the 1820s was a period of boom, while the decade also saw the introduction of the first widely adopted powerlooms and advances in the spinning branch with the invention of the fully automatic self-acting mule.

The first of the cotton mills in the study area was at Broadley Wood Mill (**site A11**) which appears to have been established in 1824, seemingly on the site of an earlier woollen mill which operated in conjunction with Broadley Mill. From the outset the occupants of this cotton mill were listed as spinners and manufacturers, and it is possible that from the beginning their weaving was carried out on powerlooms.

Other local cotton mills soon followed. In the late 1820s or early 1830s Brotherod Mill switched from wool carding to cotton spinning, a move which appears to have involved the construction of a substantial new factory. In the mid-1830s a cotton-spinning mill on a somewhat more modest scale was set up at Broadley Mill alongside the existing woollen mill. This new mill marked a diversification into the cotton industry by John Leach of Leach Tweedale & Co, but even before then this firm was adopting cotton within its own products. In 1828 Jacob Tweedale, giving evidence to a Parliamentary committee, reported that,

‘Cotton goods have come very much into competition with woollens in my neighbourhood and we have latterly introduced a great deal of cotton with the woollens making an article called ‘Dometts and another article called domett baize; a great deal of it is exported, the greatest bulk goes to S. America, also to the United States and a great proportion to the continent’ (Tisdall nd, 14).

#### 4.18.3 *The Demise of the Textile Industry*

The first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century can be seen as the heyday of the textile industry in the study in so far that it was during this period that the number of mills in operation reached its maximum. Cotton spinning at Broadley Mill finished in the 1860s and woollen manufacture in the following decade. With the demise of Jacob Tweedale & Sons in 1882, their woollen mills at Healey Bottoms, Healey Dene and Tonacliffe, all closed. Harridge Mill, the last of the woollen mills to open, closed in the 1900s. This local demise of the woollen industry appears to reflect the picture in the wider Rochdale area. Here directories recorded a total of 108 manufacturers, fulling millers and carders in 1858, but only 65 in 1894, while the number had further fallen to 35 in 1922 and 26 in 1933 (Wadsworth 1935-7, 1555).

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century two of the former woollen mills in the study area received a new lease of life as centres of more specialised forms of production, Healey Bottoms Mill as a

branch of the finishing firm of Samuel Heap & Co, and Harridge Mill as part of Turner Brothers Asbestos Company.

Cotton spinning and manufacture in the study area continued into the early decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with Broadley Wood Mill closing in the 1920s and Brotherod Mill in the 1930s.



## 5. Gazetteer of Sites

The following gazetteer lists those sites within the study area identified by the present assessment. It principally discusses the cartographic evidence for the sites and the surviving visible remains. For the historical background to the sites and detailed discussion of their development see section 4 above.

### Within the Main Study Area

A1) Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**Ills. 45, 48-49**) (see also 4.16)  
SD 8802 1683

Shown on the 1890 OS map as rectangular range aligned alongside a siding on the railway. Named as 'stone works' on the 1908 map, which shows the range as consisting of three main components, one comprising the northern half of the building, the second being a narrow central bay which broke forward on the east and contained a chimney on the west, and the third comprising the slightly narrower southern part of the building, divided into two roughly equal bays. On the 1928 map the building is shown as a shell. Buildings demolished by 1960, but significant remains are still extant, though partly overgrown. These include two circular pits c 6m wide, lined with drystone walling, and surrounded by flagstones. Between the pits, which originally contained the grinding stones, is a central sunken engine house c 4m wide x c 6m long, linked to each pit via a drystone passage. The south passage has an in-situ capstone, while a displaced capstone is located on the south-east side of the north pit. The pits and engine house were located in the northern half of the building as shown on the OS mapping. To the south of these features is a heavily overgrown flat-bottomed linear depression, c 20m long x c 8m wide, which appears to mark the southernmost element on that mapping. The rubbing mill is fronted by a stone platform c 1m high, running alongside the site of Broadley Sidings.

A2) Bagden Quarry Tramroad  
SD 8800 1686

Tramroad shown on the 1890 OS map running roughly from west to east, from a quarry on Whimsey Hill to the Rochdale to Facit railway. Dismantled by 1908 when only the embankment is shown. Embankment still extant. Now grassed over.

A3) Leat and Reservoir (Tonacliffe Mill)  
SD 8810 1680

Leat shown on the 1844-8 OS map leading from weir on the Spodden (**site C29**), widening at its southern end to form a tear-shaped reservoir. This reservoir is shown as disused on the 1890 map. On the 1908 and 1928 maps the site was occupied by filter beds. Site now infilled and grassed over, with no visible trace of the reservoir.

A4) Tonacliffe Mill (see also 4.5)  
SD 8811 1673  
LSMR 8441

Water-powered mill shown on Greenwood's map of 1818. Named as Tonacliffe Mill (woollen) on the 1844-8 OS map, which shows the site as comprising two irregular blocks at the southern end of the mill reservoir (**site A3**), with a narrow elongated north-south range to their north-east. On the 1890

map these two irregular blocks have been replaced by a single L-shaped range, named simply as 'mill'. On the 1908 and 1928 map this is shown as a shell. The 1964 map still shows the partial outline of the main mill building, but the site was now wooded and crossed by a watercourse which flowed into the river to the west of the mill. The walls which were still standing in 1964 have since been demolished and there are scant visible remains. The main mill site lies in light woodland defined on the north by a stone boundary wall. In the north of this area, on a slope below the wall, a series of capstones c 2m x 1.5m, cover a watercourse, with running water audible below the lowest capstone. This stream, shown as an open channel on the 1964 map, runs from the higher ground to the east where it formerly served as the boundary between Healey and Whitworth; it is now carried across the Spodden in a pipe adjacent to the mill site and crosses the river again, at **site A6d**, to feed the former reservoir of Broadley Mill (**site A8**). Just to the north of the boundary wall at the site of Tonacliffe Mill, stone footings may relate to the elongated north-south range.

#### A5) Weir (Broadley Mill) (Ill. 51)

SD 8810 1670

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map, and presumably associated with a short length of watercourse running alongside the east bank of the river, but the precise arrangement at this date is unclear. The 1890 map and more particularly the maps of 1908 and 1928 show a weir in approximately the same position, evidently feeding the leat to Broadley Mill (**site A6**). Weir now much reduced in height, being effectively limited to a low stone step, highest on the west, with stone paving below.

#### A6) Leat (Broadley Mill) (Ills. 52-54)

SD 8811 1670 - SD 8803 1654

Shown on the 1890 OS map as fed from weir **site A5**, with the first part of the leat running along the east bank of the Spodden and then twice crossing the river to feed into the reservoir for Broadley Mill (**site A8**). The 1844-8 OS map shows only a channel along the eastern bank of the river, below weir **site A5**. Remains of the leat are still extant. On the east bank of the river, the feature survives as an earthwork (**site 6a**), c 4m wide at its north end where it is water-filled and heavily overgrown, but perhaps narrowing to the south, where it is visible from the opposite bank of the river. On the western bank, its line resumes as a stone arched culvert, evident on mapping of 1890 and later, and carrying the leat below a path (**site A6b**). Beyond this it runs on a roughly east-west line, as a silted waterlogged grassy depression, c 2m wide and c 0.5-1.0m deep (**site A6c**), which now terminates at a modern path. To the south of this is the site of the second crossing over the river. Here stone abutments, c 2.5m high and c 2m wide, carry a modern footbridge but originally may have carried the leat within a launder (**site A6d**). There is still an iron launder here, set underneath the bridge, which feeds water into the mill reservoir to the south but is now supplied from a stream at Tonnacliffe Mill (see **site A4** above). The final section of the leat comprises a short stone-lined channel, which conveys this water into the reservoir.

#### A7) Weir

SD 8810 1662

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Not indicated on the 1890 map or later mapping. Possibly the original weir for Broadley Mill. No in-situ visible remains of the weir, and although there are a number of large stone blocks downstream it is uncertain if they are derived from this site. The western river bank in this area is revetted with a stone wall c 0.5-1.0m high.

#### A8) Mill Reservoir and Leat (Broadley Mill) (Ill. 56)

SD 8803 1647

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map as a triangular reservoir, continuing on south as a broad leat leading to Broadley Mill. Indicated as disused on the 1890 map. On the 1908 map the site is explicitly named as 'old reservoir', and on the 1928 and 1964 maps is shown as silted. Reservoir and leat are now water-filled, the leat being c 2m wide and c 0.5-1m deep to water level. On the west both the reservoir and the leat are retained by a substantial embankment, shown on mapping of 1844-8 and later and now carrying a footpath.

A9) Tenterfield (Broadley Mill)  
SD 8880 1645

Three rows of tenterposts shown on the 1844-8 OS map aligned alongside the west bank of the river. On the 1890 map and later mapping the site is shown covered by earthworks, presumably associated with the construction of the railway. On the east, towards the river, this area still contains an embankment shown on the 1890 map, with a lower more fragmentary embankment on the west, towards the former railway.

A10) Broadley Mill (Ills. 58-59, 121-122) (see also 4.6)  
SD 8803 1635  
LSMR 8448

Water-powered mill shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Named as Broadley Mill (woollen and cotton) on the 1844-8 OS map, which shows the site as including an irregular elongated block (**sites A10a, A10b & A10h**) aligned north-west to south-east and straddling both the river, on the west, and a leat from the mill reservoir, on the east; other buildings ran to the south of this on each side of the river, with a circular gasometer (**site A10e**) being shown at the southern end of these, on the west bank. This same arrangement is indicated on the 1890 map, which names the site as Broadley Mill. On the 1908 map, however, the buildings are shown as shells, apart from a house in the south-east of the site, itself shown as a shell on the map of 1928 (**site A10c**). By 1964 the buildings had been mostly or entirely demolished; some small structures are shown on the western side of the site and others on the eastern, but these appear to be recent additions. All the buildings have now been demolished and the site is mostly now covered with light woodland and is heavily overgrown. No in-situ walling is visible of the main north-west/south-east range. The site of the central part of this range (**site A10b**), adjacent to the leat, is now covered with a vegetation-covered mound c 4m high, which carries a sewer pipe across the river. Immediately to the north of this is a pond, recently re-established on the site of a small mill reservoir shown on the maps of 1844-8 and 1890. The site of the eastern end of the range (**site A10h**) is marked by a mound of demolition material and an overgrown depression, itself perhaps partly filled with such material. The principal visible remains lie to the south, on either side of the river. On the western side of the river, a linear range shown on the mapping running adjacent to the bank is represented by demolition material and overgrown wall footings (**site A10d**). To the south, the base of the gasometer is visible as a silted circular stone-lined depression (**site A10e**); roughly three courses of its walling are visible, with the lowest course being inset. On the eastern side of the river, an angled section of ashlar walling in the river bank appears to represent the north-west corner of a squarish building shown on the 1890 map and, in an earlier form, on the map of 1844-8 (**site A10f**). To the south of these are stone footings associated with a riverside range (**site A10g**). At the northern end these comprise remains of a twin-cell building, of which the walls of the southern cell measure c 6m x c 3.5m around a central depression (**Ill. 59**); to the south, a low stone terrace defines a further area measuring c 30m x 9m. To the east of this range, below the pathway, are a series of concrete footings and, set against the slope, a remnant of stone walling c 2-3m high; the latter may be part of the house (**site A10c**) known to have existed in this area.

A11) Broadley Wood Mill (**Ills. 39, 62-64**) (see also 4.7)  
SD 8790 1644

Water-powered mill shown on Greenwood's map of 1818. Named as Broadley Wood Mill (cotton) on the 1844-8 OS map, which shows the site as comprising a large irregular T-shaped block, with two smaller blocks on the south-east. This same general arrangement is shown, with some additions, on the 1890 map, and again on the maps of 1908 and 1928. On the 1908 map the site is still named as Broadley Wood Mill (cotton); on the 1928 map it is identified as disused. On the 1964 map the site is shown as lightly wooded and the only building indicated is a range against the south-eastern boundary, shown as roofed on the north but as a shell on the south. Only a few standing remains are now extant. Of the main mill block, fragments of stone walling survive against the embankment of the mill reservoir. A south-eastern extension to the main block, added by 1890, is represented by a mound of brick demolition and some slight brick walling. The site of the northern half of the main block is now marked by an east-west alignment of two massive brick-built supports capped by stone mounting blocks, each c 3m high and c 6m x c 1.5m (**site A11a**). Their form suggests that they were for a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century beam engine (M Nevell, pers comm). Other stone mounting blocks lie on the slope immediately to the west. Immediately north of the two brick supports, the ground slopes up steeply c 3m, suggesting that the northernmost range of the mill was sited on a raised level. The south-eastern building, still shown on the 1964 map, also partly survives as a ruin, with walls standing up to c 3m high (**site A11b**). On the mapping evidence, the main east-west range of this building was built by 1844-8, with an extension on the south-east being added by 1890. Blackshaw (2001, 19) identifies the building as stables.

A12) Mill Reservoir and Byewash (Broadley Wood Mill) (**Ills. 60-61**)  
SD 8782 1642

Shown on the 1844-8 and 1890 OS maps as a triangular reservoir. On the 1908 and 1928 maps the western end is shown as silted up. The mapping of 1844-8 onwards shows a channel running eastwards from the south-east corner of the reservoir towards the southern end of the mill complex, presumably serving as a byewash. On the 1908 and 1928 maps this is shown crossed by a weir. Reservoir is still water-filled and is retained on the east by a substantial embankment. The byewash is still extant, and now carries the overflow from the reservoir. It comprises on the west a vertical fall, c 1m high, and below this two stepped falls, each c 3m high. To the north-east the byewash continues as a culverted watercourse visible through an arch in the base of the stone revetment for Station Road.

A13) Broadley Station (**Ills. 65, 123**)  
SD 8797 1631

Station shown on the 1890 OS map as a platform with a signal post at south end. Station building added to centre of platform by 1908, when a new smaller signal box had also been built to the south. By 1928 the signal box had moved towards the northern end of the platform. This is the only building still shown on the 1964 map. Now demolished. Remains on the site principally comprise the platform, c 0.5-1.0m high, faced with stone towards the former railway line. A break in the platform towards its northern end, with returns of brick supporting stonework, marks the final position of the signal box. To the south, concrete footings defining an area c 12m x 5m mark the site of the main station building.

A14) Shelter  
SD 8808 1617

Shown unnamed on the OS 1928 map. Removed by 1964. Site marked by recess in valley side, with stone revetment rising to c 3m.

A15) Weir (**III. 67**)  
SD 8815 1607

Shown on the 1890, 1908, 1928 and 1964 OS maps. Still extant. Comprises vertical drystone fall c 3-4m high, located at natural falls. An opening, associated with a sluice, is visible towards the base of the fall close to the east bank. The site is also known as the 'waterfall' (Blackshaw 2001, 43).

A16) Shelter (**III. 124**)  
SD 8817 1600

Shown unnamed on the 1928 OS map. Removed by 1964. No visible evidence for the site, other than a collapsed drystone wall against the slope by the path.

A17) Weir (Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch) (**III. 68, 132**)  
SD 8814 1600

'Weir & Sluice' shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Not indicated on the 1890 map, but a weir is shown in approximately this same location on the 1908, 1928 and 1964 maps. This is the site of a natural falls, with no visible signs of a man-made weir, but photographic evidence shows that in its final phase, at least, this was of a wooden construction.

A18) Leat (Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch)  
SD 8813 1600

Short leat set within a tunnel or culvert, which enters the mill's wheelpit (**site A19b**) through a rock-cut opening. The entrance to this tunnel presumably lies above the weir site (**site A17**) where, viewed from the mill, there is a possible rectangular opening in the east bank. The map accompanying a 1846 mining lease puzzlingly shows the leat as an open channel, while the 1844-8 OS map is unclear in its depiction of the leat. Between the weir site and the mill is a ledge in the rocks along the east bank of the river (**III. 69**). It is possible that this ledge originally carried the leat in a timber launder, with the tunnel perhaps being dug when the mill was rebuilt in 1813.

A19) Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch / Healey Dene Mill (**III. 69-82, 125-131**) (see also 4.8)  
SD 8810 1600  
GMSMR 2665.1.0

Water-powered mill shown on Greenwood's map of 1818. Shown, unnamed, on the 1844-8 OS map as comprising three buildings: an L-shaped block on the north-east, partly straddling the river; a rectangular block on the north-west, aligned alongside the river; and, to the south of these, a smaller rectangular range adjacent to a trackway. On the 1890 map and later mapping the partial remains of these buildings are shown, as a shell. Buildings now largely demolished but some standing stone-built remains. The main mill site is approached by a roadway laid with setts, which zigzags down the slope and which has partly fallen away. The standing remains include two stone arches spanning the river and linked on the north bank by a section of walling, these being remains of the north-east wing built over the river (**site A19a**). To the south of these, at the eastern end of the main mill block, are the remains of the wheelpit (**site A19b**). Except at the headrace end, this is lined with rough coursing and measures c 9m long by c 1.5m wide, implying a waterwheel of up to c 30ft diameter and c 5ft width. On the south side of the wheelpit a recess c 1.5m wide marks the position of the central bearing. The

wheelpit has been cleared to a depth of c 1.5m exposing the top of the tailrace arch on the west, and the top of the headrace arch on the east. This headrace arch is cut through the bedrock and above are curved ashlar courses, reflecting the curve of the wheel. At the north-east corner of the wheelpit is a section of surviving superstructure, rising c 4m from the infill of the wheelpit. The southern wall of the main mill block, or an extension to that building, may be represented by a surviving section of stone walling against the valley side. On the northern side are the remains of four rectangular vats c 2m long x c 1.5m wide x c 1-1.5m deep, with sides made of vertical stone slabs (**site A19c**), possibly blue vats. In the north-west of the site are the remains of a two-bay sulphur stove building added after 1884-8, now partly infilled, of which the southern wall, built against the slope, survives to c 3m; the lower parts of the walls are of ashlar, with rougher coursing above, and the dividing wall between the two bays has evidence for a vaulted roof (**site A19d**). External stone walling of the mill terrace survives on the west side of this structure and along the river's edge. In the south-west of the site is a polygonal depression, presumably originally a reservoir, formed by the construction of a wall c 1.5m high and c 1m wide along the river side (**site A19f**); on the south water flows into this feature through an arched culvert in the slope. Further remains lie in the upper part of the site. Here on the south side of the zigzagging roadway are stone courses belonging to the north wall of a rectangular warehouse shown on the 1890 map, the extent of which is also indicated by a mound of stone demolition material (**site A19g**). In addition, within the angle on the south side of the roadway which runs past the site are stone footings cut into the slope which correspond with a polygonal building shown on the 1890 map (**site A19h**); the remains here include a vertical stone slab, suggesting the position of a further stone vat. To the south of the site stone steps rise up the steep hill slope to Dell Road (Blackshaw 2001, 39).

A20) Healey Hall and Associated Buildings (**III. 82**) (see also 4.3, 4.4 & 4.10)

Healey Hall (**site A20a**)

SD 8815 1580

GMSMR 2385.1.0

LSMR 1118

Listed Grade II

*Listed Building Description:*

'House. 1774 on keystone. Ashlar. Large central door and hall with one room to either side. Two rooms deep with single-storey side entrance wing and added wing to rear. 7-bay, 2-storey facade with triangular pediment over central 3. Doorway has Roman Doric attached columns, entablature and pediment with carved inscriptions to the tympanum and frieze, enclosing a semi-circular headed opening with keystone and fanlight. First floor sill band, cornice and parapet, carved armorial tympanum to pediment and central window with lugged and heeled architrave and fluted keystone. All the windows are original. Hipped roof. Rear: Palladian window to stair hall. Dormer windows to side as well as rear elevation. At rear of house is a stone recording the building of a stable in 1775 and also the datestone of the previous house, inscribed "CCDOC:T.RC.IC.AC.RB: ANO.DOMI.1618. non Aquilo impotens possit. diruere (the north wind does not have the power to destroy) IC.CC.MC.MDCCLXXIV. (1774)." The interior has good plasterwork of mid C19.'

Healey Hall Coachhouse (**site A20b**)

SD 8817 1582

GMSMR 2385.2.0

Listed Grade II

*Listed Building Description:*

‘Coachhouse and coachman's cottage. C.18 and C19. Coursed watershot rubble with ashlar dressings in stone slate and slate roofs. The building consists of two parallel ranges roofed in parallel and built at various times. The front (south) range consists of coachman's cottage, two-storey accommodation probably used for storage, and a full height carriage compartment. The rear range backs on to the stables and is not quite as long, having the carriage compartment which goes right through the double depth and a single depth carriage compartment with heated accommodation above. The south elevation has a circular window and a blocked door to the left, three lattice glazed windows on each floor to the centre, a semi-circular voussoired carriage entry to the right, stone quoins and a stone slate roof and a carved stone inscribed “IOHN.DE.HELEY.1250.CREDEI.MEIHI+I.C.1483.+I.C.1800”. The north elevation has a flat headed carriage opening corresponding to that on the south elevation and 4-bay section with central stone-linteled carriage opening, corniced door, sash windows, first floor sill band, stone cornices, and slate roof.’

The OS map of 1844-8 shows the surviving building as part of a T-shaped range, with wings to both the north and south adjacent to the road. These had been removed by 1890.

#### Healey Hall Farm and Outbuildings (**site 20c**)

SD 8816 1587

Situated to north of Healey Hall and its coachhouse. Shown on the OS map of 1884-8 as comprising two buildings flanking a central yard: a narrow elongated range on the west, aligned north-south, its eastern elevation having a central projection and another at the south end; and on the north a broader range, aligned east-west. On the 1890 map the western range has lost its two projections and the northern range has been extended on the west, so that the two buildings now formed a contiguous L-shaped block. The resulting plan is still found on modern mapping. Northern range comprises Healey Hall Farm. This is a substantial stone-built block. Eastern bay of two storeys with attic; main central part of range of three storeys on south, but with a catslide roof reducing this to two storeys on the north; western bay, added by 1890, is aligned north-south. Converted to housing and original division for accommodation and agricultural usage is unclear, but the north elevation includes an arched cart door, suggesting a barn in this part of the building. Western range is stone-built of two storeys with central cupola; eastern elevation has central gablet with another towards each end. Now divided into housing and the original arrangement and use are unclear, but possibly built as warehousing.

#### A21) Healey Dell Viaduct (**Ill. 133**)

SD 8804 1594

LSMR 11156

Listed Grade II

#### *Listed Building Description:*

‘Viaduct carrying Lancashire and Yorkshire extension Railway over River Spodden, 1869-70, Engineer A. Joy, now redundant. Snecked rock-faced sandstone, with iron span over road. Very high structure spanning deep gorge, with 8 semi-circular arches of 30ft span, the middle 3 skewed with winding masonry; piers battered but differing: those rising from banks are of massive square section with stepped pilastered faces, those carrying the skew arches are narrow rhomboidal, built obliquely to the deck but parallel to the line of the river; all piers have corbel table at the springing of the arch.’

#### A22) Weir (Healey Bottoms Mill) (**Ills. 86, 133**)

SD 8805 1597

‘Weir & Sluice’ shown on the 1844-8 OS map. The weir is also shown on the 1890, 1908, 1928 and 1960 maps. Weir now comprises a vertical fall of c 0.5m onto sloping concrete apron. On the southern side, towards the entrance to the leat (**site A23**) is a sluice. It is associated with a channel which passes through that apron and evidently served to lower the head of water to allow maintenance and repair.

A23) Leat (Healey Bottoms Mill) (**Ills. 86-7, 134**)  
SD 8806 1596 – SD 8798 1587  
LSMR 8459

Northern section of leat shown on the 1844-8 OS map as open channel. Southern section to reservoir (**site A31**) shown as dotted line, named as ‘drain’, representing an underground channel. The open section is also shown on the 1908 map, as ‘mill stream’, and on the 1928 and 1960 maps as ‘mill race’. This open channel, running between the NGRs given above, still carries water, is c 1.5-2.5m wide and is retained on the west by a low embankment alongside the river. At its eastern entrance, next to weir **site A22**, is a stone-capped sluice, shown on a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century watercolour but now missing the sluice mechanism. At its western end, this open section of leat enters a tunnel cut through an outcrop of rock, with the entrance to that tunnel at a height of c 0.5m above the water in the leat. Adjacent to that entrance a stone wall, of regular coursing, rises c 4m from the river level to the path. It was formerly topped with stone coping carrying railings, but this stonework has been displaced. The leat re-emerged from the tunnel at the northern end of the reservoir, where the opening is still visible but now leads into a smaller pond created within this corner of the reservoir.

A24) Quarry  
SD 8793 1584

Quarry indicated on the mapping accompanying a 1846 mining lease. Not shown on the 1844-8 OS map, or later maps. Site may be indicated by a terrace fronted by a low embankment, on the slope above the river, now covered with vegetation.

A25) Footbridge  
SD 8783 1574

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Not indicated on the 1890 map or later mapping.

A26) Boundary Stone (**Ill. 85**)  
SD 8790 1577

Shown on the 1890 OS map and later maps, situated on Rochdale County Borough boundary. Still standing. Round-headed stone c 0.45m wide x c 0.75m high above ground. Fittings for plaque, now removed. See also **site A29**.

A27) Coal Shaft  
SD 8794 1578

‘Old air shaft’ shown on the 1908 and 1928 OS maps. Site now on private land.

A28) Bee House (**Ill. 84**) (see also 4.10.4)  
SD 8805 1583

Shown as small rectangular structure on the 1844-8 OS map and identified as two adjoining cottages on the plan and schedule accompanying a 1846 mining lease. Shown as considerably larger building on the 1890 map and later maps. Core of the building is stone-built, and comprises two adjoining 2-storey gabled blocks, offset in a dog-leg arrangement visible on the 1890 map. It is uncertain if one or both of these, represents the two cottages known in the 1840s. On the north-east is a brick-built extension added, on the mapping evidence, by 1908. On the south side of the building is a single-storey extension of ashlar walling with mock timber framing above, which the mapping evidence suggests was added by 1928. On the eastern elevation is a bay window in a similar style.

A29) Boundary Stone  
SD 8806 1580

Shown on the 1890 OS map and later maps, situated on Rochdale County Borough boundary. Set by the side of the former railway. Round-headed stone c 0.45m wide x c 1m high above ground. Fittings for plaque, now removed. See also **site A26**.

A30) Cottages (Healey Bottoms Mill) (**III. 136**)  
SD 8790 1569

Elongated range shown on the 1844-8 OS map with a well to the west. Same building seems to be shown on the 1890 map. On the 1908 and 1928 maps it was reduced in size, the eastern end seemingly having been removed; these maps also show a spring on the west. By 1908 a new row of cottages, named as Healey Dell Cottages, had been built to the north-west. The site of the early cottages was subsequently built over with buildings of the WWII munitions factory at Healey Hall Mill (**site A33**). Healey Dell Cottages are still extant.

A31) Mill Reservoir and Leat (Healey Bottoms Mill) (**III. 138**)  
SD 8797 1567

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map as elongated reservoir which at its southern end narrowed and curved westward to form a broad section of leat leading to Healey Bottoms Mill. The 1890 map shows the reservoir as disused leaving only the curving leat still water-filled. On the 1908 and 1928 maps, however, the reservoir itself is shown again as water-filled. Reservoir and broad section of leat are still extant. They are retained on the west, towards the foot of the valley slope, by a massive embankment which projects to carry the leat towards the mill. This final section of the leat is lined with concrete, but on the west the terminus of the embankment of the leat is faced with stone, now obscured by vegetation. A narrow pathway laid with stone setts runs from this terminus along the west side of the leat to a bridge (**site A54**) which crosses the leat at its junction with the reservoir. On the north-west the embankment of the reservoir is faced with a wall of machine-made bricks rising c 6m high. From the mapping evidence this was built between 1928 and 1968, and may well therefore date from the mill's use as a munitions factory in WWII. The original entrance of the leat into the northern end of the reservoir now runs into a small modern pond. Water flows out of the reservoir via an overflow at its north-west corner, comprising a vertical fall set in a channel with fittings for a sluice, below which the water flows in a culvert below the road. This channel first appears on the map of 1908, when its original purpose must have been as a byewash. On the map accompanying the 1846 mining lease an earlier byewash is shown just south of this point, running south-westwards to the river past the northern end of cottages **site A30**.

A32) Healey Hall Colliery (see also 4.14)  
SD 8790 1563

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map as comprising a shaft with three small square buildings to the north-west. The map also shows a circular pond to the south-west. This pond is also shown on the maps of 1890, 1908 and 1928 and 1968. The colliery itself is not indicated on the 1890 map, while on the 1908 and 1928 map colliery waste is shown on the site, at the foot of the pond's embankment. The pond is still extant, now concrete-lined, and occupies an irregular terrace rising above the valley bottom. Site of pithead buildings now occupied by footings of buildings associated with WWII munitions factory (**site A33ii**).

A33) Healey Bottoms Mill / Healey Hall Mill (see also 4.9 & **III.46**)

SD 8797 1555

GMSMR 5003.1.0

Water-powered mill shown on Hennet's map of 1828-9. Named as Healey Hall Mill on the 1844-8 OS map which wrongly identifies it as a cotton mill. The map shows the site as comprising one large rectangular range (**sites A33a & A33b**), straddling the leat, with other buildings to the north (**sites A33g & A33h**), south and west. A gasometer (**site A33e**) and coke kiln (**site A33qq**) are also shown at the southern end of the site. On the 1890 map these last buildings are no longer shown but the other buildings appear largely unchanged except for alterations at the southern end of the main mill block; these included extensions to that block (**sites A33c & A33d**), the addition of a detached range to the south (**site A33q**) and a new building close to the site of the coke kiln (**site A33i**). This map also shows a detached chimney on the south-east of the site (**site A33f**). The 1908 map names the site as Healey Hall Mills (Dyeing and Finishing). The main block is shown with further modifications at its southern end. New ancillary buildings had been built on the west (**sites A33t-v**) and south (**site A33k**), but those on the north had largely been removed, and filter tanks are shown on the north-east. The 1928 map also names the site as a dyeing and finishing works, and shows that the main block had undergone considerable expansion, with additions on the south-east (**sites A33n-p**) and particularly on the north and north-east (**sites A33x & A33y**), where the new build covered the site of one of the filter tanks. In addition the western buildings had been enlarged and now straddled the river (**sites A33t-w**). In 1941-3 the site became a Royal Ordnance Factory. A sketch plan and aerial plan of this time show that the existing mill buildings were used for the processes of production and that new ancillary buildings were added at the northern end of the site. In addition the site now extended across the river when magazines and over thirty Nissen huts, shown more fully on the map of 1969, were erected. The 19<sup>th</sup>-century mills were still standing at the time of the 1969 survey but have since been largely demolished. Of the early mills in the main range, the walls have been retained where these were later utilised for other buildings still standing. Thus the north wall of the northernmost mill (**site A33a**), which served as the end of early 20<sup>th</sup>-century building **site A33x**, stands to just over ground-floor height and includes blocked doorways with joist holes above. Likewise the south wall of the southern mill (**site A33d**) survives to a height of two storeys, as part of infill building **site A33r**, while the east wall of the same mill also appears to survive as part of boiler house **site A33p**. Other standing remains are as follows. **Site A33i**: Two-storey stone-built cottages, shown on the 1890 map. Shown on WWII plan as police quarters. **Site A33j**: Single-storey brick-built building. First shown on WWII plan, where it is identified as a police station. **Site A33k**: Two-storey stone-built mill office building, shown on the 1890 map. Identified on WWII plan as admin offices. **Site A33l**: Single-storey brick-built building. First shown on WWII plan where it is identified as female lavatories. **Site A33m**: Single-storey brick-built building, raised above possible basement. First shown on WWII plan where it is identified as a canteen. **Site A33n**: Brick-built chimney. First shown on the 1928 map, replacing earlier chimney (**site A33f**). Now reduced to lower courses. **Site A33o**: Two- and three-storey brick-built building. First shown on the 1928 map. Identified on WWII plan as canteen stores. **Site A33p**: Boiler house. Brick-built, with twin-gabled roof. This is supported by iron columns on the eastern elevation where the boiler house must have been open-sided. The southern bay of this building is now roofless. First shown on the 1928 map. It replaced an earlier smaller boiler house

occupying the western half of the same site shown on the 1890 map, which may itself have replaced or remodelled at least one earlier boiler house. **Site A33q:** Stone-built mill, originally of three storeys. Largely destroyed by fire in recent years, leaving only the ground-floor façade on the west, and a two-storey wall on the north, against building **site A33r**. First shown on the 1890 map. Towards its north end is a single-storey brick-built projection, first shown on WWII plan. **Site A33r:** Stone- and brick-built gabled two-storey, or tall single-storey, building constructed as infill between mill **site A33q** and the main mill range (**sites A33a-d**). First shown on the 1908 map. **Site A33s:** Single-bay single-storey stone-built building, with monopitch roof and chimney. A building is shown on this site on the 1844-8 map and later mapping. **Site A33t:** Abutting the north of **site A33s**, wider and taller single-storey brick and stone range, increasing further in height towards the north end. This building shows at least two phases of development. The southern end, distinguishable on the eastern elevation by an infilling of brick, first appears on the 1928 map. The remainder, to the north, appears on the 1908 map, and appears to have been a replacement or remodelling of an earlier wider building shown on the maps of 1844-8 and 1890. **Site A33u:** A two-storey three-bay stone-built warehouse building, with a central taking-in door at first-floor level. First shown on the 1908 map. By 1928 a brick extension had been added to the rear of this building, over the river. **Site A33v:** Butting on **site A33u**, a second two-storey stone-built warehouse building, also with a central taking-in door. A straight joint visible between the southern and central bays suggests two phases of construction. The whole building is shown on the 1908 map. Like **site A33u**, by 1928 the building had been extended to the rear across the river. **Site A33w:** A single-storey brick-built building, now partly rendered. First shown on the 1928 map. Named on WWII plan as a garage. **Site A33x:** Tall single-storey brick-built range. First shown on the 1928 map. Now a shell. **Site A33y:** Tall single storey brick-built range, set on high ground above the main mill site. First shown on the 1928 map. A lift tower projects from the western elevation, and on the south abuts against the gabled end wall of a demolished brick bay. **Site A33z:** Brick and concrete air raid shelters, shown on the WWII plan. Built on the site of an earlier filter bed, shown on the 1908 and 1928 maps. Each is of a rectangular plan surrounded by a sunken passageway. The passageway for the northern shelter is largely infilled, covering the access into the shelter. The southern shelter has two doorways still partly exposed. Interior not inspected. **Site A33aa:** Two single-storey brick and concrete buildings, set against higher ground to east. First shown on WWII plan which identifies them as Magazine No 2, then under construction. **Site A33bb:** Two single-storey brick and concrete buildings. First shown on WWII plan which identifies them as Magazine No 1. **Site A33cc:** Two small single-storey brick and concrete buildings, partly surrounded by brick blast walls. First shown on WWII plan which identifies them as Magazine No 3. **Site A33dd:** Brick-built septic tanks and circular filter bed with central iron sprinkler, shown on WWII plan. A group of four tanks on the south side of the filter bed must be a slightly later addition, shown on WW aerial plan. **Site A33ee:** Single-storey brick and concrete building. Shown on WWII plan as electrical engineers stores. **Site A33ff:** Small brick and concrete air raid shelter covered by earth. Shown on WWII plan. Interior partly filled with rubbish. **Site A33gg:** Small brick and concrete air raid shelter covered by earth. Shown on WWII plan. **Site A33hh:** Single-storey brick and concrete pump house, shown on WWII plan. Contains remains of generator or motor. Railings on south side of the building enclose pipes. **Site A33ii:** Concrete wall footings for Nissen huts, ranging from c 0.5m to c 1.5m in height. Concentrated mainly on the north side of the circular reservoir but with some also to the south. **Site A33jj:** Nissen huts with corrugated roofing intact. The more northerly of the pair also appears to retain the original infilling to its façade. **Site A33kk:** Pillbox on high ground to west of mill. Brick and concrete, square plan, central entrance with blast wall; embrasures on all sides. **Site A33ll:** Pillbox on high ground to east of mill. Same plan as **site A33kk**. **Site A33mm:** Pillbox at eastern end of bridge over mill leat (**site A54**). Same plan as **site A33kk** but with widened embrasures. **Site A33nn:** Brick and concrete structure, square plan, with central door; other sides have narrow embrasures widening to circular openings on exterior. Presumably of WWII date. **Site A33pp:** Single-storey building named on WWII plan as First Aid Post. Now converted to

accommodation. In addition to the above, concrete fence posts c 3m high survive along much of the munitions factory perimeter.

A34) Weir (Harridge Mill)  
SD 8795 1541

Shown on the 1890, 1908, 1928 and 1968 OS maps. Weir site now principally marked by three concrete blocks across the river, presumably associated with the fence for the WWII munitions factory at Healey Bottoms Mill. Weir appears to have been washed away on the west side of the river, but some stonework is still visible on the east.

A35) Leat (Harridge Mill)  
SD 8792 1546 - SD 8798 1529

Shown on the 1890 map leading from weir **site A34** to the reservoir for Harridge Mill (**site A37**). The leat ran immediately alongside the river, from which it is shown as separated by only a narrow bank, and terminated at a 'weir', beyond which it diverged from the river and broadened out to form the mill reservoir. On the 1908 map the leat is named as 'mill race' and on the 1928 map as 'mill stream', but on both these maps its line is broken north of the weir, now no longer named, for a distance of c 50m. In the remaining northern section a 'mill stream' is still named on the 1960 map but the channel itself is no longer shown. The 'weir' itself may be marked by perhaps three rows of stones now largely obscured by vegetation. Further to the north the section of leat still shown in 1928 may be represented by a narrow terrace running immediately alongside the river to the south of Healey Bottoms Mill, not directly accessible but visible from the road above.

A36) Weir (Meanley's Mill? / Harridge Mill)  
c SD 8798 1529

'Weir & Sluice' shown on the 1844-8 OS map, across the river although its precise position is unclear. Above this must have been the entrance to the leat serving the reservoir of Meanley's Mill (**site A37**). The 1890 map shows only the weir across the new leat serving Harridge Mill (see **site A36**), but the position of that new weir may well have been close to that of its predecessor.

A37) Mill Reservoir (Meanley's Mill / Harridge Mill) (**Ill. 115**)  
SD 8801 1516

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map as a roughly triangular reservoir. Remodelled and lengthened by 1890, by which date it served Harridge Mill, and now comprised a more elongated reservoir, narrowing on the north where it effectively comprised a broad leat below weir **site A36**. On the 1908, 1928 and 1960 maps the reservoir is shown as disused. Reservoir is now partly silted and overgrown with trees, but still contains water, particularly in the south-west corner. On the western side, towards the river, the reservoir is retained by an embankment c 2-3m high, and 3m wide on top. This embankment continues across the southern end of the reservoir, where it is c 2m in height, and then continues as the embankment of the southern section of the mill leat for Harridge Mill (**site A41**).

A38) Meanley's Mill and Cottage (**Ill. 117**) (see also 4.11)  
SD 8802 1512

Water-powered mill shown on Hennet's map of 1828-9. Named as Meanley's Mill (woollen) on the 1844-8 OS map which shows it as an L-shaped building (**site A38a**). Site vacant on the 1890 map, by which date a smaller range had been built to the south-east, shown as comprising two units, and

named as Meanley Mill Cottages (**site A39b**). On the 1908 and 1928 maps this same range is identified as Meanley Mill Cottage. Demolished by 1960. Site now overgrown. Meanley Mill Cottages visible as mound of stone demolition material, with some in-situ wall footings. No visible in-situ remains of Meanley's Mill.

A39) Leat (Meanley's Mill)  
SD 8803 1512 - 8814 1505

Tailrace from Meanley's Mill on 1844-8 OS map. No longer shown by 1890. No remains identified on the ground. Northern end of site overgrown. Southern end now covered by 20<sup>th</sup>-century dumping (see **site A41**).

A40) Well  
SD 8810 1512

Well shown on the 1844-8 OS map. On a plan of 1828 showing the proposed Dell Road this area is named Well Brow. Site may now be represented by a hollow in the slope adjacent to the road.

A41) Leat (Harridge Mill) (**III. 116**)  
SD 8803 1514 - SD 8818 1498

Shown on the 1890 OS map leading from south-east corner of former reservoir of Meanley's Mill (**site A37**) to Harridge Mill. On the 1908 and 1928 maps the leat is shown as disused. On the 1960 map only the northern end of the leat is shown, for a length of c 70m. This section of the leat is still extant as an earthwork, much silted but still partly waterlogged. It is retained on the west, towards the river, by an embankment, c 3m wide, revetted with stone. To the south the course of the leat has been lost by an extensive area of dumping, several metres deep and including concrete, which had evidently occurred by 1960 when it is shown defined by earthworks on OS mapping. This dumping also covers most of the site of a small auxiliary reservoir system on the north side of the leat, shown on the map of 1890 and, like the leat, disused by 1908.

A42) Tenterfield (Harridge Mill)  
SD 8818 1510

Shown on the 1890 OS map to north of Harridge Mill. Site vacant on the 1908 map, and shown as covered by spoil on the map of 1928. Site now comprises gently sloping area, crossed by Woodland Road, with some tree coverage.

A43) Harridge Mill (see also 4.12)  
SD 8821 1496

Named as Harridge Mill on the 1890 OS map which shows the site as comprising a large dog-legged building, with a narrow T-shaped range on its south. The mill is shown as disused on the 1908 map. The 1928 map shows that the yard between the two blocks had been largely built over, creating a single complex. Shown as 'works' on the 1960 map. Since demolished. Site covered by landscaped grass-covered mounds.

A44) Weir  
SD 8824 1479

Weir immediately downstream of Harridge Mill, shown on the 1890 OS map and later maps. Comprises two low steps, with a flat apron above. Stone slabs set in the west bank above the weir possibly mark the entrance to an early leat to Brotherod Mill (see **site A46**).

A45) Weir (Brotherod Mill)  
SD 8819 1491

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map, and also indicated on the maps of 1890, 1908, 1928 and 1960. The maps show it as a substantial structure, above which a channel leads north-westwards to the northern end of the reservoir for Brotherod Mill (**site A46**). The 1844-8 map shows that channel with a continuation to the north which was possibly the original leat to the reservoir, perhaps linked with a weir at **site A44**. The weir itself is a substantial structure, comprising a large sloping fall c 3m high, with a slight step at either end. The north-western channel to the mill reservoir is stone-lined, with a sluice. On the east bank, adjacent to the weir, is a narrower stone-lined channel. This is evident on mapping of 1890 and later and probably served to reduce the head of water to enable maintenance and repair.

A46) Mill Reservoir (Brotherod Mill)  
SD 8821 1470

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map, as irregular elongated reservoir, with a sluice controlling the inflow of water at its northern end, and a byewash towards its southern end, discharging excess water into the river. The reservoir is also shown on the 1890 map, by which date the southern byewash appears to have been rebuilt. The 1908 and 1928 maps show the reservoir as disused; these maps still indicate the sluice at the north end and name the southern byewash as a 'weir'. On the 1960 map the reservoir is again shown as water-filled. The reservoir is still extant, and is retained on the eastern side, alongside the river, by a massive embankment c 3-4m high. At its southern end, the byewash is also extant as a flight of steps and now serves as an overflow.

A47) Brotherod Mill (see also 4.13)  
SD 8818 1453

Water-powered mill shown on Greenwood's map of 1818 and Hennem's map of 1828-9. Named as Brotherod Mill (cotton) on the 1844-8 OS map, which shows it as an L-shaped building. A larger dog-legged block is shown on the 1890 map, with a smaller build attached on the north-west. The plan appears unchanged on the 1908 and 1928 maps which still name the site as a cotton mill. Site vacant on the 1960 map except for a structure at its north end. This is still standing and is of a single storey. The remainder of the site is tarmaced with some grassy areas, and shows the same arrangement as indicated in 1960.

A48) Footbridge, west of Tonacliffe Mill (**III. 50**)  
SD 8808 1675

Footbridge shown on the 1890 OS map and later maps. The 1844-8 map shows an east-west trackway ending as this point but no bridge. The present 20<sup>th</sup>-century bridge is carried on the west by a stone abutment which probably dates from the original 19<sup>th</sup>-century structure, and carries a narrow sloping short pathway laid with setts.

A49) Weir, north of Broadley Mill (**III. 55**)  
SD 8802 1646

Stone-built weir, washed away on the west but still largely extant on the east. In the east bank adjoining this weir is an arched overflow, now blocked, from the reservoir of Broadley Mill (**site A8**).

A50) Bridge, Broadley Mill (**Ill. 57**)

SD 8802 1637

Stone-built bridge with low single arch and plain stone parapet. Possibly contemporary with expansion of Broadley Mill in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup>-century.

A51) Bridge, Station Road (**Ill. 66**)

SD 8805 1623

Tall three-arched bridge carrying Station Road over the river. Stone-built, with rusticated capping to parapet and rusticated stringcourse to parapet base. First shown on the 1890 OS map. Provided access to Broadley Station (site A13), with which it must be contemporary.

A52) Railway Sidings (Healey Bottoms Mill)

SD 8804 1600

Site identified by Blackshaw (2001, 37) as sidings for the WWII munitions factory at Healey Bottoms Mill. Site comprises earthwork platform overgrown with young trees.

A53) Aqueduct (Healey Bottoms Mill) (**Ills. 88, 135**)

SD 8788 1583

Tapering stone pier on the west bank of the river, c 10m high, set on square base c 1m high, originally carrying an aqueduct. This brought water from a spring on the west bank of the river to a well on the east (Richard Whittle, personal communication). The aqueduct is shown on a late 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustration but may have gone out of use by 1890, being not shown on OS mapping of that year and later. An aqueduct is shown on the 1844-8 OS map, fed by a channel running along the western valley slope, but the location at which it is indicated on the map seems to lie c 30m north of the present pier.

A54) Bridge over Leat, Healey Bottoms Mill (**Ill. 102**)

SD 8800 1558

Footbridge over the leat at its junction with the reservoir, shown on the 1844-8 OS map and later mapping. It carried a footpath leading from Shawclough Road by Healey Cottage (**site C59**), to Healey Bottoms Mill, still shown on the 1960 map. Bridge still extant. Stone-built with a low arch; narrow coursing, with larger coursing to the parapet.

A55) Twin Railway Bridges (**Ill. 112**)

SD 8808 1557

Twin railway bridges spanning a footpath leading from Shawclough Road by Healey Cottage (**site C59**), to Healey Bottoms Mill, still shown on the 1960 map. The more easterly bridge carried the Rochdale to Facit and Bacup railway. The more westerly, shown on mapping of 1890, is built in a similar style suggesting that both date from the construction of the railway in the 1860s. According to tradition the eastern bridge was built after the western bridge, the original of the two, was affected by a landslip (Blackshaw 2001, 20).

A56) Road to Meanley's Mill (**Ills. 113-114**)

SD 8806 1522 (centre)

Routeway shown on the 1844-8 OS map running north-south down hillslope to serve Meanley's Mill (**site A38**). At the northern end, the routeway zigzagged to join with the later Harridge Street. This routeway is also shown on an 1828 plan where it was crossed by the proposed Dell Road. The 1890 map shows that with the construction of the railway in the 1860s the section north of Dell Road fell out of use but the southern section remained in use providing access of Meanley Mill Cottages. Section of roadway north of Dell Road now survives as a hollow way revetted on the western side by a stone wall, now ruinous. South of Dell Road the road continues as a terraced trackway, cut into the valley slope.

A57) Stone Blocks  
SD 8813 1515

Row of several stones blocks repositioned alongside Dell Road, some with holding-down bolts or boltholes, suggesting an original use as machinery or engine mounting blocks. Originally location uncertain, but possibly from Harridge Mill.

A58) Bloomery  
c SD 8808 1640

Site described by J L Maxim (1917-19). Discovered in January 1918 by William Grindrod 'on his land while gardening'. Precise location uncertain but, according to Maxim, 'on the left bank of the River Spodden, immediately behind "Birch Villa" and overlooking the ruins of Broadley Mill, there is a slight hollow on the hill-side, in which was found evidence of a bloomery'. Excavation by Maxim in what he considered to be the centre of the bloomery site produced slag and charcoal.

### **Within the Southern Extension to the Main Study Area**

B1) Cottages  
SD 8863 1429

Range shown on the 1844-7 OS map. Identified on the 1890 map and later maps as cottages. Demolished between 1928 and 1960. Sites now lies within area of allotments.

B2) Stables/Cottages? (**Ills. 120 & 141**)  
SD 8859 1409

Range shown on the 1831 town map and 1844-7 OS map. Shown on the 1890 map as divided into four units. Central units removed by 1908 and southern unit by 1928. Northern units demolished between 1928 and 1960. Outline of building still evident. On the south comprises a depression with a bank on the east, while on the north are a low stone arch and a further smaller depression, the whole arrangement suggesting vaulted cellarage, now infilled. On the west, against the hill slope, are surviving courses of stone walling. To the east are remains of kerbing. An early 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustration of Meanwood Mill shows the building as three storeys, the southern end having a large doorway on the ground floor with windows on each of the floors above; much of the remainder is shown with what seems to have been a row of ventilation holes on both the first and second floors, suggestive of agricultural usage, while the northernmost part of the building is shown with windows on two floors and was possibly domestic accommodation.

B3) Weir, Meanwood Mill (**Ill. 118**)  
SD 8861 1407

Showing on the 1890 OS map and later mapping. Weir still present. Comprises a sloping fall c2m high.

B4) Meanwood Mill (**Ills. 118-119, 141**) (see also 4.17)  
SD 8859 1403

Water-powered site shown on Yates's map of the 1770s. Possibly two water-powered sites alongside river shown on Greenwood's map of 1818. Two buildings shown here on the 1844-7 OS map, both L-shaped, the northern smaller building being named as a fulling mill, the southern larger building as a dye works. A gasometer is indicated at the southern end of the site (outside the study area). The 1831 town plan also shows the southern L-shaped range, but indicates the northern range as two adjoining buildings. This last depiction may be erroneous since on an early 19<sup>th</sup>-century illustration the fulling mill is shown as a single L-shaped block. This illustration does not show the dye works, suggesting that they were a secondary addition to the site. By 1890 the gap between the two main ranges had been infilled and the site is named as Meanwood Dye Works (disused). By 1908 the site was a shell, apart from a building still intact at the south-west corner. Some limited demolition or collapse had occurred by this date, with more extensive loss by 1928. By 1960 the site was vacant apart from the building still remaining on the south-west. All buildings have now been demolished but evidence for the site is still extant. On the north, the fulling mill site (**site B4a**) is now evident as a hollow against the hill slope, defined on the south and north by fragments of stone walling. There is also a section of walling c 3m high on the north of the site, which is set against a rock outcrop and includes a relieving arch. At the north-east corner of the site of the fulling mill, a narrower wing is defined by surviving evidence of walling on the west and north sides and is presumed to be the position of the wheelpit. Later gateposts now mark the south-east corner of the fulling mill site. The dye works site (**site B4b**) mostly comprises a terraced area, overgrown with trees, and with some demolition material. The western side of this terrace is defined by some surviving sections of walling c 2m high against the slope. The south-western building of the dye works, still standing in 1960, was raised above this terrace; its site is now defined by stone walling of narrow coursing, visible to a height of c 0.5m. At the northern end of the dye works site, running parallel to the river is a largely infilled stone-lined depression, c 5m long x c 3.5m wide. The eastern side of both the fulling mill and dye works is defined by stone revetting along the river bank. In the case of the dye works this provides evidence for separate phases of construction. The southernmost c 16m of this wall is of a narrow coursing which continues along the southern retaining wall of the terrace and is also evident in the adjoining south-west building (see above). The next c 14m is clearly separated by a straight break and is of a larger coursing; this section roughly corresponds with a wider section of the building visible on the 1890 map. The northernmost c 9m of the dye works revetment is again of a narrow coursing and is distinguishable from the larger coursing of the revetment wall alongside the fulling mill site.

B5) Well  
SD 8863 1401

Shown on the 1844-7 OS map to the east of Meanwood Mill. No visible remains.

B6) Tunnel  
SD 8864 1428

Line of tunnel indicated on the 1844-7 OS map, cutting across river bend. Its function has not been identified.

B7) Stairs  
SD 8862 1301

Flight of stone stairs c 3m wide with parapet, climbing valley slope. The lower section is now ruinous. On mapping evidence the stairs were built between 1890 and 1908, during which period housing and a bowling green were established on the high ground to the east.

B8) Bridge  
SD 8865 1431

Stone-built bridge over the Spodden, with a two-centred arched. First shown on the 1890 OS map.

### **Within a 500m Corridor of the Healey Dell Study Area**

C1) Spring Mill  
SD 8758 1689  
SMR 8437

Site named as Spring Mill (Fulling) on the 1844-8 OS map. Located on Prickshaw Brook. Building shown in this approximate location on Greenwood's map of 1818. On the 1890 map the mill appears to have been removed by earthworks associated with the dam of Spring Mill Reservoir (Rochdale Corporation Water Works), and a smaller building now stood in roughly the same area. This is named on modern mapping as Spring Mill Cottages. The 1844-8 OS map shows tenterfields to the north (see **site C3**).

C2) Spring Mill  
SD 8777 1698

Large rectangular structure shown on the 1890 OS map, evidently replacing the original Spring Mill destroyed by the construction of Spring Mill Reservoir (**site C1**). Still shown on 1981 map.

C3) Tenterfield  
SD 8763 1700

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map. By 1890 site occupied by earthworks associated with dam of Spring Wood Reservoir.

C4) Prickshaw Cottages  
SD 8757 1657  
GMSMR 11603.1.0  
Listed Grade II

#### *Listed Building Description:*

'Row of 4 cottages, early C19 (datestone in the 1820s in centre of upper storey to right). Hammer-dressed stone with stone slate roof. Three storeys and basement to left hand cottage, two storeys to the remainder. Windows and doors dressed with slabs of unmoulded stone, windows being of 3 lights but mostly altered, or of 2 large lights. Several windows now stoned in.'

Prickshaw shown as nucleated settlement, unnamed, on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Fishwick reports that in 1623 John Wolfenden was the owner of Prickshaw and lived there (Fishwick 1889, 509). Buildings of hamlet have been restored. Included public house with own brewhouse (Blackshaw 2001, 25).

C5) Broadley Fold  
SD 8763 1655

Building named as Broadley Fold on the 1844-8 OS map. Same range shown on the 1890 map but on mapping of 1981 has been extended to the north. Probably shown, unnamed, on Yates's map of the 1770s. Site comprises stone-built cottages and barns, restored. One, Broadley Fold Cottage, has a datestone of 1771 (Blackshaw 2001, 24).

C6) Croft Head  
SD 8752 1652

Building named as Croft Head on the 1844-8 OS map, and still shown on 1981 map. Probably shown, unnamed, on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. A building is still shown here on the 1981 map.

C7) Prickshaw Dams  
SD 873 166

Two reservoirs on 1844-8 OS map. Still shown on the 1981 map.

C8) Waste Mill  
SD 8741 1649

Water-powered site shown on Greenwood's map of 1818. Named as Waste Mill on 1844-8 OS map and 1890 map. Building named 'The Waste' shown on the 1981 map.

C9) Higher Dunisbooth  
SD 8745 1625

Farm named as Dunisbooth on the 1844-8 OS map, and Higher Dunisbooth on the map of 1890. Probably shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Still shown on the 1981 map.

C10) Hollin Hill  
SD 8777 1628

Shown as rectangular range on the 1844-8 OS map and 1890 map. Site vacant on the 1981 map.

C11) Lower Dunisbooth  
SD 8767 1609

Farm named as Dunisbooth on the 1844-8 OS map, and Lower Dunisbooth on the map of 1890. Probably shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Still shown on the 1981 map.

C12) Smallshaw Mill  
SD 8739 1590

Named on the 1844-8 OS map as Smallshaw Mill (cotton). Located on Smallshaw Brook. Mill also shown on 1890 map. Site vacant on 1981 map. The 1844-8 map also shows a group of buildings to the north of the mill, still shown on the 1981 map which identifies these as Smallshaw Farm.

C13) Well  
SD 8754 1586

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map.

C14) Hollands  
SD 8744 1565

Rectangular range shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Probably shown on Yates's map of the 1770s. A building is still shown on the 1981 map.

C15) Fair View  
SD 8731 1562

L-shaped building shown on the 1844-8 OS map. A building is still shown on the 1981 map.

C16) Harper Road  
SD 8745 1553

Building shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Probably shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. A building is still shown on the 1981 map.

C17) Kitbooth  
SD 8735 1547

Building shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Possibly shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Fishwick reports that in 1590 James Ashton Esq sold Kitbooth, with the tenement called Smallshaw, to James Crossley. The buildings at Kitbooth carried the datestones 'A.C. 1738' and 'J.J.C. 1737', both referring to the Crossleys (Fishwick 1889, 508). A building is still shown on the 1981 map.

C18) Catley Lane  
SD 8775 1532

Small building shown on the 1844-8 OS map and 1890 map. Site vacant on 1981 map.

C19) Daniel Fold  
SD 8770 1510  
GMSMR 2389.1.0

Two buildings in L-shaped arrangement, shown on the 1844-8 OS map and 1890 map. Site is shown, unnamed, as two buildings on Yates's map of the 1770s and is also indicated on Greenwood's map of 1818. The 1981 map shows the site built over with housing.

C20) Brotherod  
SD 8802 1485  
GMSMR 2646.1.0

Shown as two buildings on the 1844-8 OS map and the 1890 map. Named as Brotherhood on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Brotherod was recorded in the Rochdale survey of 1626 as a tenement of 21 acres owned by Theophilus Holt. Francis Clough of Brotherod died in or before 1626, and James Clough of Brotherod in 1628. The place was later bought by James Royds of Deeplish and descended to his younger son William Royds, merchant, who lived there for many years and died in 1766; in 1889 it was owned by A H Royds. The house, which by the late 19<sup>th</sup> century was known as Brotherod Hall, was two-gabled, and possibly built in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century, as suggested by a datestone reused in a later barn and inscribed '1659 IC' (John or James Clough). The porch was a later addition, with the datestone '1761, W.A.R.' (William and Ann Royds) (Fishwick 1889, 497-8). The 1977 map shows the site built over with housing.

C21) White Field  
SD 8772 1473

Group of small buildings shown on the 1844-8 OS map and the 1890 map. Probably shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Whitefield Farm is still shown on the 1977 map.

C22) Brook Side  
SD 8780 1469

Small rectangular range shown on the 1844-8 OS map and the 1890 map. Site vacant on the 1977 map.

C23) Brook Side Mill  
SD 8780 1465

Named on the 1844-8 OS map as Brook Side Mill (cotton). Also named on the 1890 map. Building shown in this approximate location on Yates's map of the 1770s. Site is shown as vacant on the 1977 map.

C24) Beat Row  
SD 8779 1460

Two buildings shown on opposite sides of Coal Pit Road (now Caldershaw Road) on the 1844-8 OS map, the more easterly being named as Beat Row, also indicated on the 1890 map. Building is possibly shown here on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. On the 1977 map the site is occupied by a substantial mill complex.

C25) Caldershaw Woollen Mill  
SD 8782 1449  
GMSMR 5008.1.0

Named as woollen mill on the 1844-8 OS map. Situated on the Caldershaw Brook. Shown on the 1908 map, with site **C26**, as Caldershaw Mills (dyeing & finishing). By 1928 a much larger block occupied the woollen mill site. The 1977 map still show a substantial mill complex here.

C26) Caldershaw Cotton Mill  
SD 8792 1446  
GMSMR 5008.1.0

Named as cotton mill on the 1844-8 OS map. Situated on the Caldershaw Brook. Shown on the 1908 and 1928 maps, with **site C25**, as Caldershaw Mills (dyeing & finishing). The 1977 map still shows a group of mill buildings here.

*SMR entry:*

‘Originally an early C19 spinning mill. 2 main buildings survive. No. 1: 3 storeys, 19x3 bays (L-plan), early C20 and red brick construction. Tall, brick arched windows and flat roof. No. 2: 3 storeys, brick-built, late C19/early C20 (thus earlier than No. 1). Very highly modified. A third building stands to the E side of the site. 2 storeys plus basement and a hipped slate roof. Red brick construction. Early C20. Possible offices. No power features survive. There is also no trace of the other original mid C19 buildings.’

C27) Spotland Fold Settlement  
SD 881 144  
GMSMR 5207.1.0

Linear settlement shown on Yates’s map of the 1770s.

C28) Spotland Fold Stone Head  
SD 88 14  
GMSMR 9062.1.0

Stone head, with long hair and beard, bared teeth and simple features found at Spotland Fold. Precise findspot unknown.

C29) Weir, Tonacliffe Mill  
SD 8819 1712

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map and 1890 map.

C30) Tonacliffe  
SD 8827 1687

Nucleated settlement shown, unnamed, on Yates’s map of the 1770s and Greenwood’s map of 1818. The 1844-8 OS map shows tenterposts to the north, to either side of the road, and names a building in the south-west of the settlement as Tonacliffe House. Similar arrangement shown on 1890 map, except that the tenterposts had now been removed. The 1981 map shows a large U-shaped building occupying the north-east of the settlement site, but some other buildings on the map correspond with those shown in 1844-8.

C31) Coal Pits  
SD 8835 1665  
LSMR 8443

Two shafts shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Not indicated on the 1890 map.

C32) Old Coal Pit

SD 8853 1668  
LSMR 8444

Shaft shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Not indicated on the 1890 map.

C33) Horsefield  
SD 8864 1665

Farm shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Still shown on the 1981 map.

C34) Birches Settlement  
SD 8818 1646  
LSMR 8447

Group of buildings shown on the 1844-8 OS map, comprising square building named Birches on east side of the Rochdale and Burnley turnpike (now Market Street) (**site C35**), a larger L-shaped complex named Birch House on the west side of road, with a smaller building, Birch Grove, to its north-west; building on the east side of the old road (Tonacliffe Road), named Old Birches, presumably the original settlement; and to the north of these, the Holts Arms public house (LSMR 8447). A well is also indicated within the group. On the 1:2500 1890 map the inn, now named Birches Hotel, is shown as a larger range with a bowling green to the west, and a new dwelling, named Birch View and later Birch Cliffe, is shown between Market Street and Tonacliffe Road. Modern mapping suggests that several of the buildings shown on the 19<sup>th</sup>-century maps still survive.

C35) 118 Market Street  
SD 8816 1645  
Listed Grade II  
LSMR 11158

Named on the 1844-8 OS map as Birches.

*Listed Building Description:*

‘Pair of cottages, probably late C18, now one dwelling. Rock-faced sandstone with punched rusticated quoins, slate roof with gable chimneys and a ridge chimney. Double-depth 2-bay plan. Two storeys; each part has doorway to right with plain surround (2nd altered as window), and the whole has 2 stepped triple-light windows on each floor. Rear has two 2-light windows with square mullions.’

C36) Birches Colliery  
SD 8817 1632  
LSMR 8449

Named on 1844-8 OS map. Not indicated on the 1890 mapping, although the 1:2500 map of that year shows an ‘old shaft’ to the east of Birches settlement (**site C34**).

C37) Highgate  
SD 8835 1643

Building named Highgate shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Probably shown, unnamed, on Yates’s map of the 1770s. The 1981 map still shows Highgate Farm here.

C38) Quarries  
SD 8836 1656  
LSMR 8446

Line of three 'old quarries' shown on the 1890 OS map. Still shown on the 1981 map.

C39) Hindle Pasture  
SD 8847 1640

Building named Hindle Pasture shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Possibly shown on Yates's map of the 1770s. The 1981 map still shows Hindle Pastures here.

C40) Bellisle  
SD 8844 1634

Buildings named as Bellisle shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Possibly shown on Yates's map of the 1770s. A building is still shown here on the 1981 map.

C41) Colliery  
SD 8846 1628  
LSMR 8451

Shown on 1844-8 OS map.

C42) Well  
SD8830 1636  
LSMR 8450

Shown on 1844-8 OS map.

C43) Quarries  
SD 8831 1632  
LSMR 8452

Two sandstone quarries shown on the 1844-8 OS map. That on the north had been enlarged to the east by 1890, and is still shown on modern OS mapping.

C44) Ending  
SD 8820 1619

Rectangular range, with detached buildings to north, shown on the 1844-8 OS map, which names the site as Ending. The 1890 1:2500 map names northernmost building as Fern Lea and shows the remainder of the buildings as cottages, some of which had been added since 1844-8. Cottages still shown on the 1981 map.

C45) Ending  
SD 8829 1596

Rectangular range shown on the 1844-8 OS map which names the site as Ending. The 1890 OS map shows that the range had been extended to the south and identifies it as comprising cottages and the Fullers Arms public house. These buildings are still extant.

C46) Well  
SD 8830 1617  
LSMR 8453

Shown on the 1844-8 OS map.

C47) Sandstone Quarries  
SD 8857 1618  
LSMR 8454

Five sandstone quarries shown on the 1844-8 OS map, of which one is shown on modern mapping.

C48) Mount Healey  
SD 8857 1600

Building named on the 1844-8 OS map as Mount Healey. A second building had been added, to the north, by 1890. Site still shown on the 1981 map which indicates further additions.

C49) Spring Side  
SD 8860 1593

Buildings named on the 1844-8 OS map as Spring Side and on the 1890 map as Springside Cottages. Building still shown here on the 1981 map.

C50) Tenterfield  
SD 8832 1575

Multiple rows of tenterposts shown on the 1844-8 OS map which also indicates a building to their north-west. On the 1890 map the tenterposts are no longer shown but the building appears to have been enlarged and is itself annotated as 'tenters'. The 1981 map shows the site largely built over with housing.

C51) Middle Healey  
SD 8853 1575

Possibly shown on Yates's map of the 1770s and Greenwood's map of 1818. Two large buildings shown on the 1844-8 OS map which names the site as Middle Healey, and are also shown on the 1890 map. On the 1981 map a building is still shown on the site of the more easterly of the two, but the site of the more westerly is vacant.

C52) Crossfield Farm and Cottage, Gandy Lane  
SD 8862 1583  
GMSMR 11600.1.0  
Listed Grade II

Unnamed buildings shown on the 1844-8 OS map which also indicates a well to the south.

*Listed Building Description:*

'Farmhouse, now 2 houses. "1724 TJSH" (Scott and Hill) on farm buildings. Watershot stone with stone slate roof and brick chimney stack. House-part has a projecting cross-wing to the right (now the

cottage) a porch and through passage, now blocked by a slightly later wing to the rear of the house-part. A separate outbuilding to the left has been incorporated into the house by a single storey linking passage, otherwise it is all of two storeys. The house-part has one 5-light chamfered mullion window (one mullion removed) and later windows above. The crosswing has a 2-light (C20), a 4-light (without mullions) and a 3-light (without mullions) window with chamfered recesses. The former outbuilding has been largely altered but retains a 3-light flat-faced mullion window on the ground floor. The rear has various 2 and 3-light windows. The farm buildings on which the datestone appears are not of particular interest.'

C53) Church of Christ  
SD 8858 1571  
GMSMR 11567.1.0  
Listed Grade II

Site vacant on 1844-8 OS map. Church shown on 1890 map.

*Listed Building Description:*

'Church. 1849-50. G Shaw. Random roughly dressed stone with ashlar dressings and slate roofs. Nave with clerestory has aisles, south west tower and north porch. Chancel with south chapel and north organ chamber/vestry. 6-bay nave with low aisles, 2-light geometrical tracery windows of varying design to both. Aisle has low weathered buttresses with gablets. 3-stage tower has southern door, traceried single-light openings to the bell stage and a broach spire. The chancel, chapel and vestry are roofed separately resulting in a triple east gable. All the roofs have coped gables and cross finials. Interior: double chamfered pointed nave arcades with octagonal piers, moulded capitals and waterholding bases to south. Double chamfered pointed chancel arch. Wooden roof structure with scissor braces is supported on stone corbels. Elaborate wooden screens to south chapel. The church was built with the aid of a Commissioners' Grant.'

C54) Vicarage of Church of Christ  
SD 8853 1573  
GMSMR 11326.1.0  
Listed Grade II

Site vacant on 1844-8 OS map. Vicarage shown on 1890 map.

*Listed Building Description:*

'Vicarage, now unoccupied (1984). c.1850. Coursed rubble with stone dressings and stone slate roof. Two storey L-shaped plan with single-storey porch to the front elevation. 3-bay front with stone plinth, banding, diagonal and angled buttresses, and a porch to bay 2 with arched opening, hood mould, and coped gable. Bay 1 has a traceried, 3-light pointed opening to the first floor and cusped mullion window to the ground. Other windows are mainly mullioned with flush stone relieving arches except for one 4-light mullion and transom window, one ornate oriel to the right gable a 3-light mullion and transom window, and a 3-light cusped ogee opening to the rear. Chimney stacks are weathered and gables are coped.'

C55) Mount Cottage  
SD 8825 1555  
GMSMR 5347.1.0  
Listed Grade II

Building named on the 1844-8 OS map as Mount Cottage.

*Listed Building Description:*

‘House. Late C18 and mid C19. Watershot stone and ashlar with stone slate roof. 2 storeys, 3 bays; double-depth central-staircase plan with 3-bay addition to right including a carriage entry and bay window. Central door has moulded architraves surround, 4 16-pane sashes and 1 C20 replacement each with stone heads, sills and jambs. Eaves frieze and cornice; gable stacks. The later addition is to the right, the first bay projecting considerably with a rusticated canted bay window with parapet and a tripartite window above. The other 2 additional bays have an arched carriage entry on the ground floor and 2 sash-windows on the first, otherwise detailing is similar to that of the original house. The rear has an arched stair window and a total of 7 original sash windows with glazing bars.’

C56) Nos 394,396,398 & 400 Shawclough Road  
SD 8823 1546  
GMSMR 11321.1.0  
Listed Grade II

Shown unnamed on 1844-8 OS map.

*Listed Building Description:*

‘4 houses. c.1810. Watershot stone with stone slate roof. Each house is 3 storeys high, double-depth and 1 bay wide with the door to the right and chimney stack to the left. Each house has a square-cut monolithic door surround, a square-shaped window opening to the ground floor, a 6-light window to the first floor (except for No. 394 which has a square opening) Nos. 398 and 400 having had 2 mullions removed and 2 lights blocked, and a 3-light opening to the attic floor, the sill of which abuts the base of the first floor window. All mullions are flat-faced and all windows have C20 casements Nos. 394 and 396 are raised above the basement and are approached by steps. The eaves have moulded stone brackets.’

C57) Lower Fold  
SD 8825 1541

Settlement on Shawclough Road, shown, unnamed, on Yates’s map of the 1770s, and as Lower Gate on Greenwood’s map of 1818. The 1844-8 OS map names the place as Lower Fold and shows it extending from Harridge Street (**site C58**) in the south to Mount Cottage in the north (**site C55**). This map also shows the settlement including the Blue Bell public house on the west side of the road and a Methodist Chapel on the east. It also contained the present Nos 394-400 Shawclough Road (**site C56**). Similar arrangement shown on 1890 map. The 1981 map shows the settlement as being of roughly the same extent.

C58) Nos 6, 8 and 10 Harridge Street  
SD 8824 1535  
GMSMR 5332.1.0  
Listed Grade II

*Listed Building Description:*

‘House, now three cottages. Door lintel dated "CAS 1678". Coursed rubble with ashlar dressings and stone slate roof. 3-unit plan with projecting crosswings to either side of the house-part. The entrance is to the left of the house-part, (No. 8), although there is another entrance to the left of No. 6 and a later entrance to No. 10. The wings do not project at the rear but there is an outshut to the centre which appears to be of a later date. Projecting plinth, stone quoins, chamfered porch with carved lintel projects as far as crosswings, left hand door has chamfered jambs and a flattened triangular

head with heavy lintel. Left wing has largely replaced windows, but house-part has 5-light double-chamfered mullion window with hoodmould, as did the right wing (now only 4-light because of inserted door). First floor above house-part had 4-light double-chamfered mullioned window (one mullion has been removed) and right crosswing first floor has 3-light chamfered mullion window. The rear elevation had various 1, 2 and 3-light windows.'

C59) Healey Cottage  
SD 8838 1546

Possibly shown on Yates's map of the 1770s. Named as Healey Cottage on the 1844-8 OS map which also shows a well at the site. On the 1890 map named as Heald Farm. A building is still shown here on the 1981 map but this lies within an area of modern housing and it is unclear from the mapping if the early building is still extant.

C60) Quarry  
SD 8812 1531

Sandstone quarry shown on the 1844-8 OS map. Appears to have been enlarged by 1890. Modern mapping shows the site occupied by houses and gardens.

C61) Harridge  
SD 8824 1520  
GMSMR 2666.1.0

The SMR records datestones of 1678 and 1712. Building shown on the 1844-8 OS map which names the site as Harridge. Plan appears to have been altered by 1890 mapping which names the site as The Harridge. The 1981 map shows the site as vacant.

C62) Duffins Cottage  
SD 8843 1515  
GMSMR 5367.1.0  
Listed Grade II

Single building named on the 1844-8 OS map as Beightons and on the 1890 map as Beightons Farm.

*Listed Building Description:*

'House. 1717 on tablet above former door. Coursed watershot stonework with stone slate roof and brick chimney stacks. 2-unit 2-storey plan with door openings to each unit (one blocked up) and a small C20 lean-to extension to the rear. Stone plinth and dripmould; 2 windows to each floor: 5-light recessed flush-faced mullion window to housepart, otherwise the mullions have been removed and a C20 porch added to the right unit.'

C63) Swinerootings  
SD 8850 1502

Single building shown on 1844-8 OS map, which also indicates a toll bar here on Shawclough Road (then the Rochdale to Burnley turnpike). Building also shown here on 1890 map. The 1981 map also shows a building or adjacent to this site.

C64) Shawclough and Healey Station  
SD 8838 1501

Shown on the 1890 OS map. Site vacant on the 1981 map.

C65) Coal Shafts  
SD 8832 1487

Two adjacent shafts shown on the 1890 1:2500 OS map, which names these as 'old shafts'.

C66) Hollows  
SD 8860 1460  
GMSMR 3656.1.0

Group of three buildings shown on the 1844-8 and 1890 OS maps. The SMR records a cruck building on this site. The 1977 map shows the site as vacant.

C67) Clod Mill/Turner Brothers Asbestos Mill  
SD 8833 1455  
GMSMR 5007.1.0

Site vacant on the 1844-8 OS map. Two large buildings named on the 1890 1:2500 map as 'Clod Mill (velvet)'. Site expanded by 1908 when named as 'Cotton & Woollen Mills'. Similarly named on 1928 which shows further expansions. Other additions by 1960s. Western part of the site has been recently demolished.

*SMR entry:*

'Cotton weaving mill started 1855 by Samuel Turner. In 1879 started spinning and weaving asbestos imported from Canada which proved to be a better material for packing purposes. By 1900 making asbestos yarns and cloth, hair belting as well as packing. Rapid expansion of the company in the early C20, firm of Turner & Newall formed in 1920 with Washington Chemical Co. in County Durham, Newall's Insulation Co. and J.W. Roberts of Leeds. Part of the original mill survives by the River Spodden with late C19 and early C20 2 storey stone buildings and single storey brick built weaving sheds. Equipped with modern asbestos carding, spinning and doubling machines, looms and plaiting machines.'

C68) Spotland Mill  
SD 8841 1442

Water-powered site shown on Yates's map of the 1770s. Named as Spotland Mill (cotton) on the 1844-8 OS map which shows a rectangular reservoir immediately to the west, fed from above a weir on the Spodden. Listed in 1847 as a cotton mill owned by Clement Royds Esq and occupied by Messrs Tweedale, and powered by a 16hp steam engine and 7hp waterwheel (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). Mill enlarged by 1890. The 1977 map shows that the site was now contained within the Turner Brothers Asbestos Mill complex (**site C67**).

C69) Foot Mill  
SD 8866 1434

Water-powered site shown on Yates's map of the 1770s, Greenwood's map of 1818 and Hennet's map of 1828-9. Named as Foot Mill (cotton) on the 1844-8 OS map, which shows it served by a leat leading eastwards from a weir on the Spodden. Listed in 1847 as a cotton mill owned by Clement Royds Esq and occupied by Messrs Turner and Leach, and powered by a 16hp steam engine and 7hp

waterwheel (Wadsworth 1935-7, 156). Mill also shown on the 1890 map. The 1977 shows the site as vacant.

## 6. Significance of the Remains

### 6.1 The Criteria

6.1.1 Although there are a wide number of methodologies for assessing archaeological significance, that with the greatest legal standing is the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments, outlined in Annex 4 of PPG16 (*Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning*, DoE 1990). In the following the known or possible remains in the study area, excluding Listed Buildings, are assessed using these criteria.

### 6.1.2 Period

The main study area contains the sites of several textile mills, dating principally from the 17<sup>th</sup> century to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The earliest of these, established in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, were Broadley Mill (**site A10**) and Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**), of which the latter may have been built on the site of a medieval corn mill. Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**) was founded in the 1780s and Meanley's Mill (**site A38**) in the following decade. Broadley Wood Mill (**site A11**) was built by c 1820, and seems initially to have been worked with Broadley Mill. Healey Bottoms Mill, also known as Healey Hall Mill (**site A33**), was founded as a woollen mill in 1813, although a short-lived calico-printing works operated on Healey Hall Estate earlier in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Harridge Mill (**site A43**) was the last to be established and dated from the 1850s. Broadley Mill, Tonacliffe Mill and Healey Bottoms Mill all underwent several phases of expansion. At Healey Bottoms Mill, these included a substantial enlargement of the site in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when it was converted to textile finishing, while in the Second World War further additions were made when the site was used as a Royal Ordnance Factory. Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch by contrast was rebuilt in 1813 and, although there were some later additions, its confined setting meant that this remained a relatively small-scale site until its demise in the 1880s. Meanley's Mill ceased to operate with the construction of Harridge Mill and likewise was a fairly small concern with probably little expansion of the original building. In the southern extension of the main study area, Meanwood Mill (**site B4**) was in existence by the 1770s and was expanded in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century when a dye works was added to the site.

The dismantled railway which runs through the study area dates from 1865-70. It included the Grade II Listed viaduct (**site A21**) and a station at Broadley (**site A13**), although the visible remains associated with buildings at the station are of a later date. Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**site A1**), which was served by private sidings off that railway, was built by 1890, probably after 1884, and appears to have gone out of use in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The study area is believed to include the site of a possible medieval iron bloomery (**site A58**).

### 6.1.3 Rarity

Any medieval or post-medieval (ie pre- late 18<sup>th</sup>-century remains) remains within the study area might be of regional rarity. These include any remains associated with iron smelting and of early mills.

As examples of a 19<sup>th</sup>-century fulling mill which retains evidence of a number of its key features, Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**) can be considered to be of regional rarity.

Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**site A1**) also retains evidence of key features and belongs to a type of site of which there were relatively few in the region. As such it too must be considered to be of regional rarity.

The remains associated with the WWII Royal Ordnance Factory at Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**) can also be considered to be of regional rarity. Surviving evidence for sites of this period has recently been gathered by the Defence of Britain Project under the direction of the Council for British Archaeology. This recorded only a total of ten WWII sites in Greater Manchester, although this figure is almost certainly an underestimate, with none being listed in Rochdale Metropolitan Borough itself. With the recent loss of the site of ROF Chorley, the surviving evidence for munitions factories within the region has been greatly diminished, raising the rarity of sites such as Healey Dell where remains are still extant.

#### 6.1.4 *Documentation*

The historical development of the study area can be traced in the documentary sources from the 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards, with the quantity and quality of information increasing from the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The later documentary sources are complemented firstly by mapping evidence, particularly from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century onwards, and subsequently by illustrative and photographic sources. The overall level of available material is high, although one area which is at present relatively poorly represented in the known documentary sources is the WWII Royal Ordnance Factory (**site A33**).

Additional details could undoubtedly be gleaned from further documentary research. For example only partial consultation was made of an extensive body of rating documents held at Lancashire Record Office and details on the Royal Ordnance Factory might be provided by official material held by the National Archive. However, it is not anticipated that this would significantly alter the outline given in the present report.

#### 6.1.5 *Group Value*

The mill sites within the study area have a twofold group value. Firstly, these sites comprise not only the mill buildings themselves but also the associated water management features, ie the weirs, leats and reservoirs, which were crucial to the supply of water power.

Secondly, these groups of sites, considered together, present an important example of the intensity with which water power could be exploited along the river valleys of the Lancashire textile district. Not only were the mills placed within a short distance of each other but also in in number of cases the weir and the entrance to the headrace of one mill was sited almost directly below the exit of the tailrace of its neighbour upstream, thereby maximising the head of water. Thus the weir for Broadley Mill (**site A5**) lay adjacent to Tonacliffe Mill, the weir for Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A22**) lay just below Th'Owd Mill I't Thutch, the weir for Harridge Mill (**site A34**) lay adjacent to Healey Bottoms Mill.

#### 6.1.6 *Survival/condition*

##### *Above-ground Remains*

The mill sites show a varying degree of survival of above-ground remains. This is greatest in the case of Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**). The site contains an extensive assemblage of buildings, most of which date from the early 20<sup>th</sup>-century use of the site as a finishing works

and which include an office building, warehousing, a boiler house and large brick-built ranges. The survival of the buildings dating from its 19<sup>th</sup>-century use as a woollen mill is of a considerably lower order. The main loss here has been of the main mill range, which was demolished leaving only remains of its end walls where these have been utilised as structural parts of later buildings. A mill to the south of that range has been recently destroyed by fire, leaving only its ground-floor front elevation and the lower part of one end wall, again utilised by a later building. Apart from these fragments, the known standing remains from this period are principally limited to one and possibly two ancillary buildings, a pair of cottages and a stone bridge (**site A54**). In addition, however, the site includes remains of many of the structures added during its use as a Royal Ordnance Factory in the Second World War. The condition of the structural remains from the various periods of usage itself varies. Many of the buildings are still roofed and occupied, but part of the large early 20<sup>th</sup>-century brick-built finishing complex is now a shell, and the boiler house has also partly lost its roof. Of over thirty WWII Nissen huts, two retain their superstructures but the remainder survive only as concrete lower walls.

At three other sites in the main study area, Broadley Mill, Broadley Wood Mill and Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch, the buildings have been largely demolished but there are still visible remains. At Broadley Wood Mill (**site A11**) these principally comprise the ruins of the stables and two engine beds, all of which stand to c 3m in height. At Broadley Mill (**site A10**) the visible remains include the stone-lined base of the gasometer, partly infilled and of uncertain depth, but otherwise mostly comprise low wall footings, now overgrown. The site also includes a stone bridge over the Spodden (**site A50**). Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**) has the most diverse of the above-ground remains of these three sites. Here they include the wheelpit, the two arches over the river, the remains of stone vats and of sulphur stoves, a small spring-fed reservoir, along with footings of two ancillary buildings which included a warehouse. This site also includes a zigzagging access route laid with setts, part of which has fallen away.

The other mill sites within the main study area have left no or only scant visible remains. Of these the site of Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**) now lies largely within light woodland, that of Meanley's Mill (**site A38**) is heavily overgrown, while the site of Harridge Mill (**site A43**) is covered by landscaped mounds, now grass-covered.

In the southern extension to the main study area, Meanwood Mill (**site B4**) has also been demolished. The fulling mill which occupied the northern end of this site is now discernible as a hollow defined by fragments of stone walling. The site of dye works to the south is now largely evident as an overgrown stone-revetted terrace but also includes what seems to have been a sunken chamber, now largely infilled. To the north of the mill are the stone footings of a cellared building (**site B2**), also overgrown, which seems to have been associated with the mill site.

Of the water-power features associated with the various mills, those of Healey Bottoms Mill and Broadley Mill have the most extensive remains. In both cases these include a reservoir, still waterfilled and formed by building an embankment along the base of the valley slope (**sites A8 & A31**). In both cases there are also the remains of a lengthy leat. That for Healey Bottoms Mill, which is partly carried through a rock-cut tunnel, is also still water-filled (**site A23**). The reservoir of Broadley Mill is now fed from another source but its disused leat (**site A6**) is evident as a silted and overgrown earthwork. The reservoir for Broadley Wood Mill, formed by throwing a dam across the narrow valley of a tributary stream of the Spodden, is also still water-filled (**site A12**); a stepped byewash also survives on the dam and now serves

as an overflow. The reservoir for Harridge Mill (**site A37**), which adopted and probably remodelled an earlier reservoir for Meanley's Mill, is now mostly silted and overgrown but its retaining embankment alongside the river is still extant. To the south this embankment, now partly overgrown with trees, continues as one side of the leat. This earthwork (**site A41**), which is also silted, terminates abruptly, with the southern section of its course being buried below an extensive area of 20<sup>th</sup>-century tipping which continues to the site of Harridge Mill. Of the weirs which fed the various mills in the study area, several have either been much reduced or have left no visible remains. The weir for Meanwood Mill appears to have survived to its original height (**site B3**). That for Healey Bottom's Mill still spans the width of the river but the visible structure is largely of concrete (**site A22**).

Among the other buildings within the study area, Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**site A1**) has been demolished but has left a group of sunken remains comprising two circular grinding pits between a central engine house. The buildings of Broadley Station (**site A13**) have also been demolished but the footings of the main station building and setting of a signal box are still evident. The railway itself, though now dismantled, has left substantial remains which include the twin bridges to the east of Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A55**) and the Station Road bridge (**site A51**), in addition to the Grade II Listed Healey Viaduct (**site A23**).

#### *Below-ground Remains*

The full extent, survival and condition of below-ground remains within the study area is unknown.

In the case of the mill sites, surviving below-ground remains can be assumed to include the infilled remains of wheelpits. Other anticipated surviving below-ground remains at these sites include wall footings and floor surfaces. However, the extent of below-ground remains may vary from site to site. At Broadley Mill (**site A10**), Broadley Wood Mill (**site A11**), Th'Owd Mill I't Thutch (**site A19**) and Meanwood Mill (**site B4**) the above-ground survival of remains favours the preservation of others buried below demolition material and other overburden, although in the case of Broadley Mill it is possible that some damage has been caused to the wheelpit area by the construction of the present mound and sewer pipe which now cross the site. Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**) and Meanley's Mill (**site A38**) have left no or only scant visible remains and at those sites the likely survival of below-ground remains is more uncertain. This is particularly the case at Meanley's Mill, where fabric may have been robbed to build both the adjacent cottages and the reservoir and leat for Harridge Mill. The site of Harridge Mill itself is now occupied by landscaped mounds which possibly include demolition material from the mill; the extent of surviving below-ground remains here is unknown and, for Health and Safety reasons, any such remains may in practice be inaccessible.

#### 6.1.7 *Fragility/vulnerability*

Under present conditions, three immediate and long-term threats to the remains within the study area can be identified. The first of these relates to the potential for flood damage and is particularly associated with the weir sites, several of which are in a much reduced and ruinous state. The second arises from tree growth, which has the long-term potential to affect a number of sites. At Th'Owd Mill I't Thutch tree growth has badly damaged one of the stone vats (**site A19c**). Other damage may have been caused to the stone-revetted embankment of the leat for Harridge Mill (**site A41**). The third source is of collapse and erosion, a recent instance being the partial collapse of the roadway, laid with stone setts,

leading down to Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch. Damage to earthworks through trial biking does not appear to be an issue, and there is little evidence of physical vandalism, although the most readily accessible of the pillboxes around Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33II**) and a building also possibly of WWII date situated at the end of the leat at that site (**site A33nn**) have both been covered with spraypaint.

#### 6.1.8 *Diversity*

The diversity of site types within the study area is considered to be moderate. Of individual sites, Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**) shows the greatest diversity, as a textile site which was adopted and expanded as a WWII munitions factory.

#### 6.1.9 *Potential*

Some of the sites within the study area would lend themselves relatively easily to on-site interpretation. There is also the potential for enhancing understanding and appreciation of these sites by further field investigation, including measured survey, clearance and excavation, and consolidation. Such further work might also direct involve the local community and schools.

Sites which are considered to be particularly suitable sites both for on-site interpretation and further investigation are Broadley Mill and Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (see below, 7.2-3).

### 6.2 **Significance**

#### 6.2.1 On the criteria above there are no remains of national importance within the study area.

However, the study area contains known and potential remains which can be considered to be of regional significance. These relate to Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**site A1**), Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**), and the assemblage of WWII buildings at Healey Bottoms Mill (**site A33**). This assessment is based largely on the criteria of rarity and survival/condition, together with documentation in the case of Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch.

Any bloomery remains within the study area would also be considered to be of regional significance, based principally on the criterion of rarity.

#### 6.2.2 Other sites within the study area are at present considered to be of more local significance. However, it should be noted that the importance of such sites might be raised by the results of further field investigation. This is particularly applicable to mill sites which might be found to include especially rare, well-preserved or otherwise significant remains.

## *7. Recommendations for Future Treatment of Remains*

7.1 PPG 16 draws a distinction between remains of national importance and other remains. In the case of the former, the presumption should be in favour of preservation in situ; in the case of the latter, where this is warranted by their significance, remains may undergo preservation by record, that is the making of an appropriate record by the use of survey, photography, excavation or other methods.

### **7.2 Trail Guides and On-Site Interpretation**

7.2.1 Two current guides to Healey Dell are known. One is the recent booklet by Philip Blackshaw (2001), the other is a trail leaflet freely available at the Healey Dell Nature Reserve Visitor Centre at Healey Bottoms Mill. Both contain much useful information, which in the case of Philip Blackshaw's work encompasses not only the present main study area but also neighbouring hamlets.

The present assessment, however, has involved much more detailed research into the history of the valley than has been undertaken previously. As a consequence a number of details continued within the current guides can now be expanded upon, while some others require amendment. Hopefully, any future revisions of the current guides or any new future guides will draw on the present study.

7.2.2 In addition to the two current guides, a display in the upstairs room of the Healey Dell Nature Reserve Visitor Centre includes illustrations and historical details on a number of sites.

At present, however, there are no on-site interpretation boards at any of the historical sites within the valley. Such boards, if insensitively designed or located, can be intrusive. They can also be a target for vandalism. On the other hand, they can have the potential for considerably improving understanding and appreciation of a site by combining informative illustrations with succinct facts and interpretation.

Of the various sites within the study area, two readily suggest themselves for interpretation in this fashion. One is Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**). At present this site is fenced, with no public access, but a number of its key features are visible from above from the footpath which runs past the site. As a result, a board could be usefully placed by the fence which crosses the site entrance. This could incorporate some of the early artist's views and photographs of the site, together with a site plan with key features indicated and explained. This site plan could itself be based on measured survey of the site (see below, 7.3.2).

The second site suggested for on-site interpretation is Broadley Mill (**site A10**). The main range of this mill, aligned roughly north-west to south-east and straddling the Spodden, has left little visible evidence but buildings which ran to the south of this can still be traced as overgrown wall footings. In the south-west of the site these include the lower part of a circular gasometer which is clearly seen from above, to the west, where the footpath along the dismantled railway runs past the site. Two late 19<sup>th</sup>-century photographs show the site from roughly the same position, one of which includes the superstructure of the gasometer. An obvious location for an interpretation board would be alongside the path above the

gasometer, with the board incorporating this early photographic evidence along with a plan indicating other key features of the mill, both lost and still visible on the ground.

Another possible site which might be considered for on-site interpretation is Broadley Stone Rubbing Mill (**site A1**). This is a significant site with key features, the grinding pits and engine house, open to view. On-site interpretation here might present a number of difficulties. While the general principal of the mill's operation is fairly clear, precise details of the building are not available, with no known photographs or other illustrations of the mill and no detailed documentary record of its components. In addition, the issue of Health and Safety would need to be carefully considered here, in that the site can only be viewed from close-up but contains slippery and uneven surfaces set around deep open pits.

### 7.3 Further On-site Archaeological Investigation

7.3.1 Understanding and appreciation of key sites within the study area could also be enhanced by further on-site investigation.

7.3.2 In the case of Th'Owd Mill I't Thrutch (**site A19**) there would be much benefit in undertaking a measured survey of the site which recorded the visible walls and stonework, areas of demolition material and infilling, and the position of trees. Such a survey could inform future treatment of the site in a number of ways.

One immediate result would be to improve understanding of the layout of the site by allowing a more precise comparison between the visible physical remains and the early maps, photographs and illustrations. Such information could be used in on-site interpretation, as suggested above (see 7.2.2).

7.3.3 In addition it might serve as a preliminary measure to proposals which would have a more direct impact on the site. Such proposals could include:

- the identification and implementation of any remedial works which might be required for its long-term preservation.
- works which would make the site safe for visitors and allow direct access to the remains.
- the removal, where feasible, of demolition material and infilling to expose further elements which might enhance understanding and appreciation of the site. The wheelpit and sulphur stoves provide obvious examples but it may be that the site also contains buried walling whose exposure would help to clarify the site.

7.3.4 A further possibility for consideration within the study area is that of community archaeology. In recent years several programmes of community archaeology have been established within Greater Manchester, allowing members of the public and schoolchildren to directly take part in excavation under the guidance of professional archaeologists.

Within the study area, three mill sites in particular suggest themselves for such activity, with perhaps varying degrees of potential. The first is Meanley's Mill (**site A38**). This is a relatively small site on a flattish but at present overgrown area. It is uncertain to what extent below-ground remains survive on this site. Its walls may have been robbed to build the

nearby cottages and the new reservoir and leat system for Harridge Mill but remains of the wheelpit seem likely. One disadvantage of this site may be the low potential for its long-term enhancement through excavation, since any remains might not be suitable for display because of difficulty of access.

A second site is Tonacliffe Mill (**site A4**). This was a reasonably sized mill which is now a fairly flattish site covered by young relatively open woodland with little surface vegetation. The extent of below-ground remains is again uncertain but might include floor surfaces and wall footings at relatively shallow depth. This site has no public access at present but lies adjacent to a main footpath.

The third site, and perhaps that with the best potential, is Broadley Mill (**site A10**). The earliest part of this site, including its wheelpit, now lies below a high mound carrying a pipe across the Spodden, but wall footings are visible to the south of this where mill buildings lay on either side of the river. These remains are overgrown with both trees and surface vegetation but lie close to public footpaths and are fairly accessible. Demolition rubble partly covers the site, but its extent is difficult to ascertain from a visual inspection alone. As a preliminary stage, a measured survey might be carried out to plot wall footings, demolition spreads and the location of trees, enabling the remains to be related to the mapping evidence and allowing the identification of suitable areas for clearance and excavation. One area in particular which might be targeted is the range which ran along the west side of the river and which is believed to have comprised a cotton mill with its own engine house (**site A10d**). The site of this range lies adjacent to the gasometer whose outline is still visible (**site A10e**). It also lies below the footpath, suggested above as a suitable location for an interpretative board (see above, 7.2.2). Because of their position, any remains revealed within this area might be kept uncovered as a key element in the site display.

- 7.4 Implementation of any further archaeological works within the study area should be carried out in consultation with the appropriate county archaeological curator.

## *Sources*

HD - Healey Dell Nature Reserve Visitor Centre  
JRULM - John Rylands University Library of Manchester  
LRO - Lancashire Record Office  
MCL - Manchester Central Library Local Studies Unit and Archives  
RLSL - Rochdale Local Studies Library  
mf - microfilm

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LRO WCW Will of Robert Leach of Healey Hall, manufacturer, 1816.

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