

Tameside Local Studies and Archives

This catalogue was digitised by The National Archives as part of the National Register of Archives digitisation project

NRA 44662



The National Archives

DDRB

**Robert Byrom (Stalybridge),
Clarence Mill, Cotton Spinners**

1878-1960

Clarence Mill was erected between 1862 and 1864 and was the only mill built in Stalybridge during the Cotton Famine. The firm initially involved in the project to build the mill was William Bayley and Brothers and the partners in this firm suffered considerable financial loss during the construction. The mill was originally a large five storey brick-built spinning block with other buildings fronting Clarence Street. Its most prominent feature was its circular chimney by the Huddersfield Canal, which was one of the tallest in the district.

It is unlikely that the mill was ever worked by the Bayleys, as it was not supplied with machinery until 1871, when Robert and Joseph Byrom took over. By 1884, there were 70,000 spindles in the mill, increasing to 75,000 by 1888 and 90,000 by 1896. The premises were also extended during this period. By the early twentieth century, almost half the spindles were on ring-frames and Egyptian and American cotton was being used to produce coarse to medium counts of twist and weft yarns.

The firm of Robert Byrom became a limited company in the 1920s and continued to use the same machinery until the 1930s. Some diversification took place after this time and in the post-war years, Robert Byrom (Stalybridge) was spinning cotton and rayon on 49,600 mules and 42,600 ring spindles. Clarence Mill closed in 1960.

For a detailed administrative history, see *Cotton Mills of Stalybridge* by Ian Haynes, pp35-6.

This collection includes a stock book and a series of wages books.

9 volumes

TAMESIDE LOCAL STUDIES AND ARCHIVES

DDRB/1	Stock Book 1 volume	1878-1960
DDRB/1/1	Stock Book 1 volume	30 Mar 1878-9 Jan 1960
DDRB/2	Wages Books 8 items	6 Feb 1925-1 May 1958
	Some of these items are on restricted access for 75 years after the latest date in the volume because they contain sensitive personal information. Individuals seeking information about themselves in these volumes may gain access to their own personal information only. For all other access, please consult the archivist.	
DDRB/2/1	Wages Book 1 volume	6 Feb 1925-24 Dec 1931
DDRB/2/2	Wages Book 1 volume Restricted access until 2018	8 Jul 1932-17 Dec 1943
DDRB/2/3	Wages Book 1 volume Restricted access until 2022	1 Apr 1944-1 May 1947
DDRB/2/4	Wages Book Inserts from volume removed. File contains volume and bundle of inserts. 2 items Restricted access until 2025	4 Sep 1947-22 Jun 1950
DDRB/2/5	Wages Book Inserts from volume removed. File contains volume and bundle of inserts. 2 items Restricted access until 2027	13 Jul 1950-20 Nov 1952
DDRB/2/6	Wages Book Inserts from volume removed. File contains volume and bundle of inserts. 2 items Restricted access until 2030	11 Dec 1952-21 Apr 1955

TAMESIDE LOCAL STUDIES AND ARCHIVES

- | | | |
|----------|--|-------------------------|
| DDRB/2/7 | Wages Book
Inserts from volume removed. File
contains volume and bundle of inserts.
2 items
Restricted access until 2031 | 12 May 1955-28 Dec 1956 |
| DDRB/2/8 | Wages Book
Inserts from volume removed. File
contains volume and bundle of inserts.
2 items
Restricted access until 2033 | 3 Jan 1956-1 May 1958 |