

## Milford

### Milford to the East of the River

The Strutts started purchasing land in Milford in March 1781 and immediately began to construct the first structure in what was to become a complex of cotton mills and bleach works. At this point along its course the river had long been put to use to provide the power for industrial processes and Strutt's first acquisitions were two of these sites, the New Mills and the Makeney Forges and the Hopping Mill Meadow which included a **fulling mill**. Some cottages came with these properties and there would have been some local labour available but it cannot have been long before there was a demand for more accommodation to house an expanding workforce. In Milford, in addition to the houses the Strutts built, further mill workers' housing was built by local people responding to the economic opportunities the Strutts created.

On the east side of the river the land rises steeply, and the Strutts had little alternative but to construct their cottages in terraces which follow the natural contour and run parallel to the road and the river. On the west side, a less severe slope enabled the community to develop along more flexible lines although the housing here also followed the existing road pattern.

The actual layout is likely to have been determined more by the availability of building plots than by the convenience of the location or by planned development. In 1791, the Enclosure Award brought to the market much land in Milford and the Strutts were well placed to seize this opportunity.

The houses and farms which formed the Milford factory settlement have survived substantially intact with little demolition, though some of the houses have been altered unsympathetically. By contrast, the industrial sites which were for so long the economic hub of the community have been reduced by the clearance of c.1960 to a handful of later buildings and a range of archaeological features. On the former cotton mill site, two wheelpits remain, together with the base plates of William Strutt's suspension bridge of 1826 which was removed in 1946. Only the foundry the Strutts established c.1825, on Hopping Mill Meadow, has continued in use in the ownership of Hepworth Heating. To the south of the former cotton mill site, the Strutts' flour mill built on the Makeney Forge site to replace the Duke's corn mill which they had demolished, remains.

The list which follows is a selection rather than a comprehensive inventory of the places of worship, public houses, farms and cottages constructed in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

### **Foundry Lane, Derby Road, nos. 2 and 3 c.1818 in present form - Listed Grade II**

A pair of semi-detached houses constructed from, or on the site of, an earlier farm which was purchased by the Strutts in 1818. They are of coursed stone with a tiled roof with off-centre chimneys and of two



storeys. The ground floor windows are of iron set in wooden frames with some opening casements, with smaller iron windows above.

### **Duke's Buildings 1822-23 - Listed Grade II**

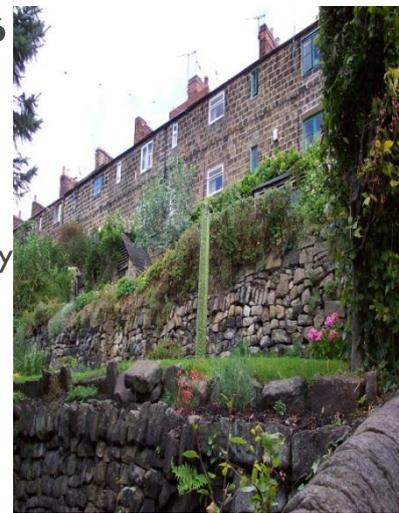
Numbers 2 to 8 Duke's Buildings, Derby Road were built on land the Strutts purchased in 1818 from the Duke of Devonshire, hence the name. They were built between 1822 and 1823 at a cost of £466 and are of three storeys in coursed stone with brick chimneys, but most of the roofs have been replaced. Number 2 forms part of an interlocking house plan with number 65 Hopping Hill (West Side). It also has a fire-proof 'pot' floor in the third storey.



### **Hopping Hill, (East and West) Terrace, nos. 1-26 1818-20 - Listed Grade II**

This back-to-back terrace was built by the Strutts between 1818 and 1820. The terrace is built into a steep hill side. The east side (nine double-fronted houses) is of two storeys. On the west side (14 houses) the houses are of three storeys. They are built of coursed stone with slate roofs and brick chimneys.

In an ingenious interlocking plan the cellars of every other house on each side are dug into the hill side. Some iron casements and sash windows survive. The approach to this terrace can be made by a substantial stone staircase flanked by enormous coursed stone walls and iron posts. Each house also had a garden plot divided again by substantial stone walls and steps. Some small stone-built sheds survive in the gardens: probably, originally, earth closet lavatories. At the north end of the terrace a wide stone paved embanked chute from the road enabled carts to tip their loads into the yard.



### **Hopping Hill (North East side), nos. 1-30 and 31-52 1792-97 - Listed Grade II**

This early industrial housing was built between 1792 and 1797 on land Jedediah Strutt received from the Enclosure of the common land and by purchase from Tristram Revell. There are two separate terraces of 28 and 29 houses. Both are



built of coursed stone with a stepped roofline. They have slate roofs and brick chimneys. All are of three storeys, although numbers 2-7 have small gabled attic dormers. Each has one window on each floor at the front and casements at the rear. The first floor windows vary between casements and smaller sashes at the front and rear.



There are casements on the second floor. These are said to be Strutt designed and are nine-paned iron windows, four panes of which form each casement. It is clear that though they are of an early date they are not original. The first floor windows have voussoirs. Some modern alteration has taken place to the windows. On the rear elevation evidence survives of an original exit to the garden at half-landing level by means of a bridge.



Number 28 is double-fronted and shaped to accommodate the road which ran between it and number 29 which once housed the Milford Provision Company, the Strutts' Co-operative. The manager lived on the premises and his assistant ext door at number 30. On the present garage site was a warehouse, stable and slaughterhouse.



## **Hopping Hill (South West side), nos. 57-65 (consecutive) Early nineteenth century - Listed Grade II**

These houses were built in the early 19th century by the Strutts on land purchased in 1791. They are built in coursed stone with brick chimneys and are two storeys high, though number 58 has three storeys with the same roofline. Numbers 61 to 64 (consecutive) have dormers. A **stockinger's** shop survives at the rear of number 64.



## **Houses around the east side of the bridge 1792-1859 - Listed Grade II**

This cluster of buildings, some of which have been restored recently, were built between 1792 and 1859 by speculators building on an enclosure allotment taking advantage of the economic opportunity created by the Strutts' investment in Milford.



## Housing at Makeney

### Forge Cottage, Makeney Road c.1830 - Listed Grade II

It was built c.1830 on the site of an earlier building, near the site of Makeney Forge. A coursed stone house, it has modern stone eaves and a slate roof, cast iron adjustable gutter brackets and cast iron casement windows set in wooden frames. It was purchased by the Strutts in 1855.



### Forge Hill, Makeney Road 1791 - Unlisted

Originally a double-fronted house which was built by Samuel Crofts on an enclosure allotment. A shop was subsequently added. The building was purchased by Anthony Radford Strutt in 1819 and converted to three houses.



### Forge Hill Place, Makeney 1791 - Unlisted

A double-fronted house originally with a **stockinger's** shop on the north side built by Zephaniah Brown and subsequently converted to three houses. Two further small houses were added on the south side in 1823 by Z Brown junior. These houses were purchased by Anthony Radford Strutt in 1836 for £280. A pump stands nearby.



### Forge Steps, nos. 1-5 (consecutive), Makeney Road c.1750 - Unlisted

Built of small bricks as a terrace c.1750 by the ironmaster Walter Mather for his workers. The doorways are shallow arched and the windows have sashes of a later date.



### Makeney Yard, nos. 1-4 (consecutive), Makeney Road, formerly Johnson's Buildings Eighteenth century - Listed Grade II

This block was originally a farm of considerable antiquity (possibly 15th century) and stabling. It is built of sandstone ashlar with an old tiled roof. It was partially rebuilt in 1732 after a fire. The Strutts purchased it in 1806 and converted it into three or four houses.



**Makeney Terrace, nos. 1-8 (consecutive),  
Makeney Road  
c.1820 - Listed Grade II**

This was built by the Strutts as a terrace of back-to-back stone houses. It has a hipped slate roof with moulded stone eaves and is two storeys in height.



**Derby Road, Mount Pleasant, nos. 1 and 2  
1672 with later additions - Listed Grade II**

Dated 1672 double-fronted, of coursed stone with mullioned windows most of which have been replaced by 19th century mullions.



**Derby Road, Milford House  
c.1792 - Listed Grade II**

A large ashlar stone house standing on embanked grounds built for Jedediah Strutt, who lived here briefly before moving to Derby. The main elevation facing east is of a symmetrical design. The building is two storeys high and has a slate roof and sash windows. The central round-arched doorway has an entablature with pilasters.



**Derby Road, Moscow Cottages  
By 1829 - Listed Grade II**

These were built as one building in the early nineteenth century, but in a 17th century style, to house farm workers.



**Sunny Hill no. 4  
c.1813 - Listed Grade II**

The former 'Royal Oak' public house was built in the early 19th century of three storeys in coursed stone with brick chimneys and with later tiled roof and a symmetrical facade. Anthony Radford Strutt purchased it in 1847. It has 'Strutt' adjustable iron gutter brackets and cast iron windows within timber frames.



**Sunny Hill, nos. 7 and 9  
c.1792 - Listed Grade II**

These two-storey houses were built by Henry Reeder c.1792 and sold to the Strutts in 1808.



### **Sunny Hill, nos 13-37, formerly Sunny Hill Place c.1791, 1807-22, 1823-24 - Unlisted**

Tradition has it that this building served as a barracks - a residence for unmarried workers living away from home. It is of brick construction on the west side but stone on the east. The lower side is of three storeys and the upper of two. It was begun in 1791 when a single house was built by Thomas Sims. A further 11 houses were added between 1807 and 1822 by John Farnsworth and four more in 1823-24. Anthony Radford Strutt purchased this property in 1831 to accommodate small families.



### **Sunny Hill, no. 45 1807 - Unlisted**

Built by John Bates for Edward Marson and purchased by the Strutts in 1856.

### **Sunny Hill, no. 47 1808 - Listed Grade II**

A two-storey double-pile stone house, gable end onto the road, built as a house and shop by John Bates for William Cash, a joiner. It was purchased by the Strutts in 1856.



### **Chevin Alley, nos. 1-5 (consecutive) c.1792 - Listed Grade II**

Strutt's terrace built c.1792 is an early example of sloping roof construction of three storeys in coursed stone, with slate roof and brick chimneys. Each house has a single room on each floor lit by a single window. Number 1 adjoins the mill buildings and the extension to the front was added in the 20th century for the village post office.



### **Chevin Road, nos 7-17, and 2 Sunny Hill (formerly Hazelwood Place) 1791-1816 - Listed Grade II**

12 dwellings built by William Marriott in 1791 which included butcher's, baker's and **stockinger's** shops and a public house. Purchased by Anthony Radford Strutt in 1833 for £1,320, the Strutts later converted the public house into a reading room for the use of Milford residents.



**Well Lane, nos. 8-14 (consecutive)**  
**1792-96 - Listed Grade II**

A two-storey terrace in coursed stone built by the Strutts between 1792 and 1796. It has a hipped slate roof in diminishing courses, brick chimneys and sash windows. The stone wall on the eastern side of the street contains a recess for a pump. Cast iron **launders** were fitted to these houses in 1820.



**Chevin Road, nos. 4 and 6, once known as 'The Bleach Houses'**  
**1792-1796 - Listed Grade II**

Originally a row of eight built for the bleach mill management by the Strutts. They are of two and a half storeys in height with brick chimneys. They are seen at their best from across the valley. This elevation reveals their superior status.



**Chevin Road, Banks Buildings, nos. 1-16 (formerly called Bank Buildings)**  
**1792-96 and 1911 - Unlisted**

A terrace of two-storey houses in coursed stone built by the Strutts between 1792 and 1796. The terrace was demolished three houses at a time and rebuilt as double-fronted houses with entries in 1911.



**Chevin Road, Banks Buildings, formerly Bank Buildings, nos. 18-21 (consecutive)**  
**c.1820 - Unlisted**

A stone built terrace, c.1820, built by the Strutts.



**Derby Road, Moscow Farm**  
**1812-15 - Listed Grade II\***

The farm was built by the Strutt family to supply produce to their workforce. The large, planned steading, largely constructed in gritstone with Welsh slate or Staffordshire plain tiled roofs, is enclosed by perimeter walls.

The principal original building consists of a T-shaped two-storey block that included a stable, cart sheds, feed preparation area and first floor storage. Two attached cow-houses form single-storey wings. On the south side of the cow-house was a large fold yard; a second large yard is enclosed to the north of the T-shaped block, which incorporates two forms of fire-proof construction. The first floor is carried on brick jack-arches springing from



iron skewback beams - a form of floor construction paralleled in contemporary mills and warehouses built by the Strutts, and the first floor ceiling consisting of groined brick vaults without structural iron. Shortly after constructing the steading an L-shaped extension to the east cow-house and a linear extension to the west cow-house were added in the same style.



About 1830 the west cow-house was further extended so that it too formed an L-shape. An open-fronted range, possibly intended as calving pens, was constructed within the fold yard at about the same time. In the last quarter of the 19th century, the domestic accommodation was extended by converting part of the fire-proof block and adding a single-bay east extension.



An open-fronted hay barn was constructed at the same time to replace storage space lost in the conversion. A number of minor buildings and additions date from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



## **Makeney Road, Redhill Farm**

**1833 - Listed Grade II**

The farm is an interesting example of the multi-functional Strutt building. The range of farm buildings is constructed of coursed stone. Two segmental arches in the north elevation probably served cart-sheds. There are stables and cow-sheds with rectangular vents and a loft above. The adjoining building, Redhill Cottage, the earliest part of which is probably 17th century, has been altered probably in the late 18th or early 19th century. It appears to have been in separate occupation from the farm since it was purchased in 1833.



## **Derby Road, The William IV Public House, The Bridge, now The William**

**c.1830 - Listed Grade II**

Built on land purchased by Hutton, the local surveyor and architect and probably built by him, it has three storeys and five bays. All the window openings are intact but some of the glazing is modern.



## **Derby Road, Milford Ebenezer Methodist Church** **Listed Grade II - 1846 and 1859**

Built as a beerhouse and grocery by George Brassington and known as the Durham Ox, it was later sold to a religious group. It is dated 1846 (front) and 1859 (back and porch) and is built of coursed stone with moulded stone eaves.

## **Chevin Road, Milford County Junior Mixed and Infant School** **c.1819-23 - Listed Grade II**

It is believed that this is the structure on which the Strutts spent nearly £3000 between c.1819 and 1823. There is some architectural evidence that it was built in two parts to serve two different functions.

It was constructed on a sloping site with the upper floor at street level (on the west side) and with an arched ground floor at the rear lower level (on the east side).

It is said that the ground floor was used for the Strutts' wagons and carts in the dye yard and the upper floor as a school. When the 'half-time' system was operating a gate in the mill yard allowed the children to move freely between the mill and the school. It is all now a school though the water tanks for the dyehouse are still under the school yard.

Built of coursed stone it has a slate roof with large cowl ventilators and multi-pane cast iron windows. The interior has very light iron roof trusses dated 1875.



## **Chevin Road, former Wesleyan Chapel** **1842 - Listed Grade II**

It was built in 1842 of coursed stone of two storeys on a high plinth with a hipped slate roof and with sash windows with glazing bars. The entrance has been altered. The main facade is symmetrical.



## **Chevin Road, Milford Baptist Chapel** **1849 - Listed Grade II**

It is dated 1849 on the facade. It is built of coursed stone with a high rusticated stone plinth and has a hipped slate roof. The design is symmetrical about a central entrance.



## **Shaw Lane, Milford Methodist Chapel** 1823-25 - Unlisted

The plan for this building is dated 1823. It is built of brick with a symmetrical front. In recent years the chapel closed and was converted to a dwelling, but with few changes to the front exterior.



## **Derby Road, Holy Trinity Church** 1846-48 - Listed Grade II

It was built between 1846 and 1848 and designed by H Moffat on a site given by the Strutts. It is designed in the early English style and is built of coursed stone rubble with a tiled roof.



## **Transport Features at Milford**

### **Derby Road, Milford Bridge** 1793 - Listed Grade II

The river bridge was built in 1793 by Jedediah Strutt. It is ashlar with two segmental arches and with rusticated outwaters. A parapet cantilevered out was added in 1906.



## **Chevin Road, the Northern and Southern Entrance Arches to the Milford Railway Tunnel** 1840 - Listed Grade II

The tunnel was constructed in 1840 for the North Midland Railway Company, the first large tunnel on the line to be built. The engineers were George and Robert Stephenson. The entrances have a series of decreasing semi-circular concentric stone arches. The tunnel is still in use.



## **The Tower, Sunny Hill, Milford** 1839 - Listed Grade II

The Tower, square in plan, is sited over the railway tunnel. It is four storeys in height and has openings on each floor. It was built by the North Midland Railway Company when the section of the line between Derby and Belper, which opened in 1840, was being constructed. For many years it was believed that the tower had served as a siting tower to survey the line, however, recent research suggests that it was in fact a semaphore tower and was used to display signals to indicate to engine drivers using the tunnel whether the line was clear.

