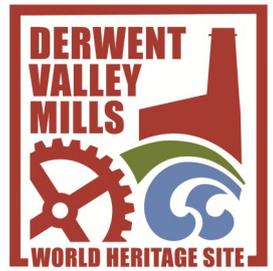


Belper East Mill

1912

Listed Grade II

The East Mill completely overshadows the North Mill. A fortress-like, seven-storey building with four corner turrets, Italianate tower and rows of windows, it was constructed by the English Sewing Cotton Company in 1912 in the distinctive Accrington red-brick, which had by this time become the preferred building material for textile mills - whether built in Lancashire or elsewhere. It is built around a steel frame, which by 1912 had long been entirely free-standing; unlike William Strutt's structures, which relied on the walls of the building to support them. Nevertheless, its debt to the earlier innovations of Strutt and Bage is palpable.



Arched Footbridge

c 1795

Listed Grade II*



A sandstone bridge linking the two separate areas of the former Strutt Mills complex on either side of the Ashbourne Road. The archway also served a defensive role. Along its length are gun embrasures which protected the West Mill counting house.

The Horseshoe Weir

1797

Listed Grade II*

The two first mills in Belper, the South Mill and the North Mill, were served by the water retained by Jedediah Strutt's first weir, a simple structure which spanned the river near the present day railway bridge.

To power the West Mill, Strutt needed a new and very much larger weir. An outline of this structure appears on a plan of 1796, and building began soon after. As the name suggests, the weir is of distinctive shape. It was modified and increased in height in 1819 and 1843 yet remains largely unaltered.

The weir and its associated watercourses altered the river significantly. By 1820, some 5.8 hectares of water had been added to the Derwent immediately above Bridge Foot. Rees's Cyclopaedia, which was published serially between 1802 and 1820, described the mills at Belper as being "on a scale and most complete we have ever seen, in their dams and their water works". It is one of the outstanding engineering structures of the late 18th century.

