

## Tower Works



Tower Works, Globe Road, Holbeck, Leeds, LS11

### **Why is it important?**

Tower works is a grade II listed building built in 1864-66 by Thomas Shaw for Colonel T W Harding, one time Lord Mayor and the inspiration behind the creation of City Square. The factory produced pins for wool, flax, cotton and silk combing and for carding cloth. The firm's founder was succeeded by his son, Colonel TR Harding, one of the foremost Leeds philanthropists of his day, and the business continued until 1978.

### **Building Description**

The single building with basement is constructed of Ashlar and brick with a slate roof, some of which has been replaced. The carriage entrance is flanked by round-headed windows with moulded surrounds and red & blue brick arches with keyblocks. The entrance passage contains fine original gates: 2 leaves, each of 3 x 3 panels, the top panel centre with metal decorative openwork motif representing steel pins with star and monogram. It has a fine 6-pane bow window to the rear with a corbel table to eaves which contains what is probably the original panelling and corner safe.

### **Current State**

The building was very difficult to inspect as it is entirely covered in scaffolding and fabric. Demolition is currently taking place of the surrounding buildings on site. There a lot of plants sprouting from the building. The scaffolding appears to have been very clumsily punched through the listed fabric with little thought for minimising damage, for example one of the original main doors has panels smashed. The original doors and windows are rotting badly. The building was undergoing extensive alteration at time of review.

### **Current Owner**

The building is currently owned by Yorkshire Forward.

<http://www.flickr.com/groups/1444801@N25/pool/tags/towerworks/>