

New Lanark Mill World Heritage Site

History

Working in cotton mills in the 1800s was dangerous and unhealthy work but life at New Lanark was different. Robert Owen was New Lanark's most famous owner. He looked after his workers very well.

Things Robert Owen did for his workers:

- built houses for them;
- organised fun events like dances and concerts;
- made them work fewer hours than other mills;
- opened a shop for them to buy food;
- opened a nursery and school so children could get an education.

People came from all over the world to see how the mills were run and how the workers were treated. The mill was closed in 1968.

Today

Since it closed, the mill buildings have been cared for by the New Lanark Trust.

There are people still living in some of the houses and one of the mills is now a hotel! Many people visit every year to learn more about the mills.

In 2001, the site was added to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites' List, which is a very special honour. It is one of only six sites in Scotland on the list.

Location

New Lanark, along the River Clyde.

Built

The first cotton mill was built in 1786.

