

WEAVE ROOM

Boott Cotton Mills Museum
Lowell National Historical Park
National Park Service



Trace the footsteps of mill workers as you enter the Boott Cotton Mills Museum and encounter a partially recreated weave room. Our weave room exhibit is intended to give a dynamic impression of a typical mill workplace during the first part of the twentieth century. In reality, however, the noise would have been louder, and the heat and humidity higher than the levels you will experience. Also, there would have been more looms packed onto the floor, and the air would have been filled with cotton dust.

The 88 looms in this weave room are Model E's, built by the Draper Corporation of Hopedale, Massachusetts. They were part of two separate orders delivered in 1913 and 1921 to the Borden Mills of Fall River, Massachusetts.

In 1925, Borden Mills joined the migration of mills from the North and moved to Kingsport, Tennessee. In 1959, Borden became part of the J.P. Stevens Co. These looms were in continuous use until 1986 when they were acquired for this exhibit.

In addition to the 88 looms in this room, one loom will be restored for use at the Suffolk Mill Turbine Exhibit and another for use as a mobile exhibit in schools, fairs, and parades. The remaining 30 looms will be used as parts for the operating looms in this exhibit.

The overhead line shafting and the electric motors powering the looms were acquired from the Appleton Mills in Lowell and were last used for textile purposes in 1927. As you leave the Weave Room, visit our second floor exhibitry, which will better help you understand Lowell's place in America's industrialization.

For more information on the Weave Room, or additional park offerings, please write to Lowell National Historical Park, 246 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852, or call (508) 459-1000 (V/TDD).