

Bricks from Blackburn mill used in Cheshire mansion

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By Chris Gee

THOUSANDS of bricks from a newly demolished Blackburn mill are to be used to build a £5million mansion in leafy Cheshire.

Work to knock down the landmark Albion Mill in Ewood began on Tuesday.

But the original bricks are to be reclaimed and many used to construct a 22-acre residence, said to be one of the most luxurious homes under construction in the North West.

Chidlow Hall, near the village of Malpas will be a 7,300 sq ft, new build Georgian-style manor house.

Existing barns will provide garaging for six vehicles; there will be 1,200 feet of office space and extensive guest accommodation.

Nathan Richardson, director of NRI Contracts, who are developing the site along with Eastco Developments, said: "The bricks from Albion Mill are hand made and are superior quality.

"Because of their imperial-size they are good deal bigger than standard sized bricks which is ideal for what we needed.

"The mill stood for around 160 years so they've proved they can stand the test of time and after they are used for the manor house they will be standing strong again for decades to come."

The country estate is being custom built for a mystery client and is due for completion in the summer of 2012 after work began in June.

It will be complemented by a leisure building with a 15-metre swimming pool and gym.

The estate will also include full equestrian facilities, a hard court sports area, raised terracing, sun deck and two ponds.

The brickwork, which towered above the Ewood landscape for generations, will be complemented by red sandstone trim under a Welsh slate roof.

Albion Mill, Albion Street, dates back to the 1850s but has fallen into disrepair in recent years.

A six-strong demolition team have started work with a high reach machine, which will dismantle the building.

The process is expected to take around three weeks and clearing the site and recycling the bricks will take a further seven to eight months.

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