



Mill Memories

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Mills Archive

Issue 16

Spring 2015

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DOLM407642

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We're Stronger Together

Liz Bartram

Support for the Archive continues to grow, not just from generous individuals looking to support a good cause but also other organisations, in particular mills.

We would like to welcome these Heritage Partners, who have joined us since the last issue of Mill Memories. Why not explore the featured mills section on our website to read more about these and our other mill supporters?

www.millsarchive.org/explore/mills

Thank you to all of our Heritage Partners and Corporate Friends for their interest and support.



To find out more about the attractive benefits packages we can offer other organisations, please email friends@millsarchive.org and we can send you a brochure about our Heritage Partner and Corporate Friend packages. We can also create bespoke packages to best suit your organisation.

We're Stronger Together (continued)

New Corporate Friend

Thank you to the Oldland Mill Trust, who have raised their support from Heritage Partner to Corporate Friend. Oldland Mill, a restored and working smock mill in Sussex, recently won the English Heritage Angels Award. We look forward to working more closely with them. You can follow their news and events on their blog at www.oldlandwindmill.co.uk or why not follow them on facebook and twitter?



Archive Patrons



This year we have spent time catching up with our two Archive Patrons: the SPAB Mills Section and Perendale Publishers.

Our Patrons support us both financially and intellectually by getting involved in what we do at a strategic level.

Mills Section Chairman Jonathan Cook came to visit earlier in the year to hear about our latest developments and we discussed how our two organisations could work more closely together. Jon also showed his support by signing his own mill up as a Heritage Partner!

We met with the team from Perendale – our newest Patron – at their offices in Cheltenham. Along with their generous hospitality and fitting décor (see the painting?) they were very supportive and enthusiastic about our activities and we enjoyed presenting our current preparations for an innovative project.



Watch this space...

Some of the Archive team with the Perendale staff.

Caring for your Collection Workshop

Liz Bartram

Here at the Mills Archive, we are passionate about promoting the recording and safeguarding of the world's vulnerable milling records.

Such valuable photographs and documents can require considerable care, and at the Archive we strive to meet national standards.

However, a little awareness can make a world of difference in preserving such material – you don't need to be a professional archivist to take steps to care for your own collection.

This was the message at our first training workshop, held in our Founders' Room for Heritage Partners to learn about how to care for their own material.



Participants exploring real-life examples of documents requiring care in mills.



The workshop was attended by 9 people representing 5 mills with varying needs and circumstances.

During the day-long event, we discussed the importance of keeping records in the first place and how to organise what you have. After lunch we explored how to preserve images and documents and how to digitise and potentially make them available to the public.

Participants took away a high-quality reference guide for the mill and also some freebies to help store items safely.

Left: The front page of the reference guide presented to participating organisations.

Caring for your Collection Workshop (continued)

The event was a big success and we will run future workshops on this and similar topics. Don't just take our word for it; read the comments from some of our participants:



“For those of us getting a mill back to life and then maintaining it, the opportunity to share the experience is vital to speed things up. Being able to exchange ‘tips and traps’ is a prime requirement too. I am sure that the Mills Archive will be a great ‘hub’ to get us all talking to each other.”

- Upminster Windmill

“Thank you so much for such a stimulating, inspiring and extremely informative workshop... I can't express how many elements I took for each area of topic... the workshop has really given me the confidence as I felt a little nervous to be taking on such a massive project alone. I now feel focused and confident with how I will set about this project.”



- Brixton Windmill



The Founders' Room in our central location in Reading, provides the perfect venue for training.

Party (Mill) People

Liz Bartram

We are excited to announce the date for this year's summer garden party.

Please keep your diary free on Saturday 13th June, when we hope you can come to spend time with like-minded people, see the Archive behind the scenes and even learn a thing or two about mills while you're here.

A buffet lunch will be served, which you will be able to enjoy in the tranquil surroundings of the 17th-century grade II*-listed building and its newly landscaped gardens – weather permitting!

We will announce this year's theme nearer the time, and our Friends will receive their exclusive invitation soon.



The venue – the grade II-listed Watlington House and its surrounding gardens restored to an earlier design.*

New Collections

Nathanael Hodge



The last year has seen several significant additions to the archive. In April we received 36 boxes of material from the family of Roy Gregory, well known for his research into industrial windmills. Then in September we received 14 boxes from Donald Muggeridge, photographer. Another large collection is on its way - the working files of millwright Derek Ogden, covering both UK and US mills.

As well as brand new additions to the archive, numerous newly catalogued collections are available to view on our new archive catalogue (see p. 12). These include the E M Gardner collection currently being worked on by volunteer Andrew Munro (see p. 17), the Simmons maps discussed by Talbot Green (p. 18) as well as the Holman Collection and Karl Wood drawings featured in previous issues of *Mill Memories*.

Left: The Muggeridge Collection on arrival

Millwrights Past and Present

Mildred Cookson



Chris Wallis setting the sails cloths at Lacey Green, 1978. Photo by Mildred Cookson

Famous names like, Smeaton, Rennie, Fairbairn and Cubitt were all engineer millwrights who were at the forefront of advancing technology to improve the working of mills. Smeaton's reports are very detailed and well-illustrated with drawings. Today we have many original drawings from the past as well as from present day covering many counties,

Without the professional or volunteer millwright, we would not be able to enjoy the sight today of these wonderful structures, and through the Archive we are able to bring these people to life with their stories and photographs taken of them at work. The Archive also holds photographs of individual millwrights, their workshops and documents that refer to reports on individual mills.

Amos Clarke adzing a weatherbeam at Pakenham Windmill, 1950. Photo by Stanley Freese



DOI:10.1082

Millwrights Past and Present (continued)

created by the millwrights on individual mills, such as Herne Mill in Kent, many of which can now be useful for present day work on mills. The Archive also holds the drawings of Christopher Wallis, Peter Dolman and the Bodley collection, to name a few.

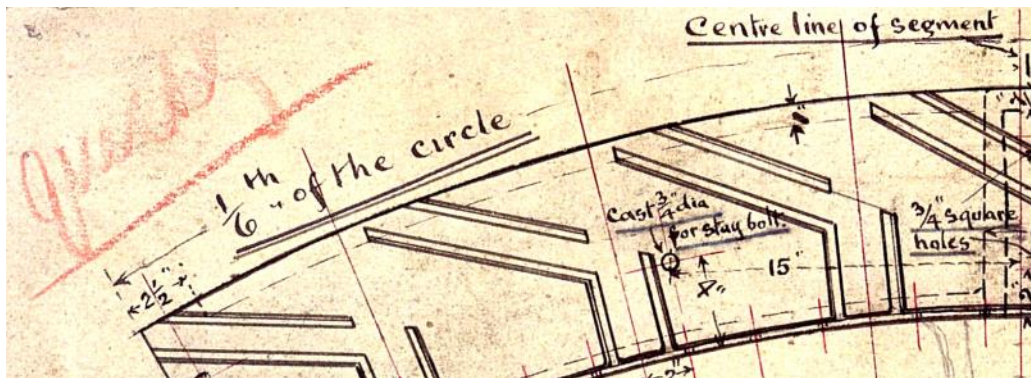


JKMC-01415

R Goodman dressing the millstone at Flitwick Watermill, 1967

Each mill surviving today has the “thumbprint” of the millwright and/or miller in some form. On this photo (right) you can see the name of the millwright cast on the waterwheel at Rowlands Mill Somerset. The millwright was a true craftsman, and learn the many skills needed in keeping the mill in a good working condition. This would include cogging and pitching a

Dressing the millstones appropriate to the type of grain being used was also a task done by both millwright and miller, this could take up to 3 days to do both bed and runner stone. The millwright would always give his apprentice the bed stone to dress as this was the one which required kneeling down, whereas dressing the runner you could sit on it comfortably on a bag of bran!



BHWD-05600

Millwrights Past and Present (continued)

wheel, as seen in this photograph of David Nicholls recogging the brake wheel of Windmill Hill Mill in Kent (immediately right).

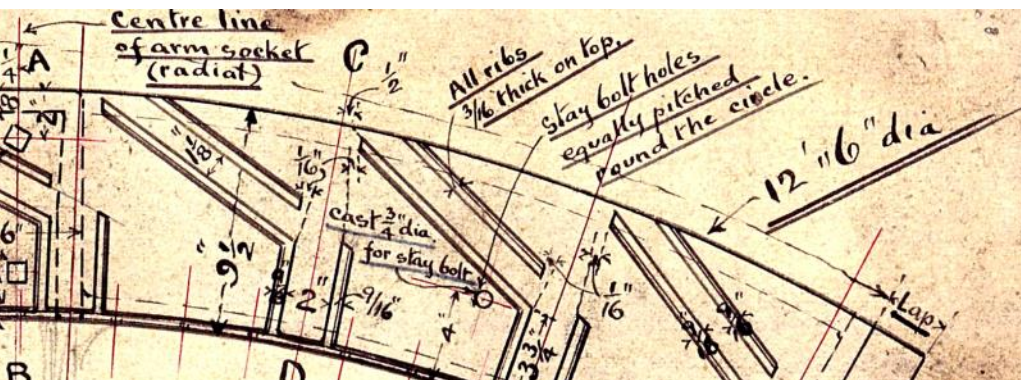
We find from old mill ledgers and day books that millwrights of the past tended to work in their own area, but not so today. When mills started to shut down through lack of work the millwrights' work also declined. In the 1930s the SPAB Windmill Section was brought into being and a survey, the results of which we hold at the Archive, showed the urgent need for repairs of our mills if we were once again to see the sails of windmills and waterwheels turning. Again in the 1950s there was a surge to save what mills were left and the few millwrights there were now had to travel the length and breadth of the country in order to secure work.

We are very lucky at the Archive to have such a wealth of records to give us insight into the day-to-day working lives of these hard working craftsmen who have kept many of our mills alive for us today. Even though the millwright appears to be a masculine occupation, there were ladies who took on mills and did a lot of maintenance themselves!



Above right : Millwright Jesse Wightman looking at the old brake wheel from Saxstead Green post mill, 1958

Below: Waterwheel drawing from the Bodley Foundry, 1910



Guide to the New Website

Overview

Images & Documents (43,531) >

Mills (10,089)

People (64,095)

Library (2,405)

Features & Articles (9)

Online Resources (40)

Glossary (2,522)

Our new archive
catalogue - **see p. 12**

Includes the Family History
Database, biographies of impor-
tant mill people and links to other
sources of people information
the archive

Catalogue of the books and
journals in our library

Articles on various historical,
social and technical aspects of
mills and milling

Links to archives, databases and other
sources of mill info elsewhere on the web

Online version of the SPAB's Consolidated
glossary of British mill terms by Tony Yoward

www.millsarchive.org

If you haven't yet visited our new website, you should! The new site has a simple structure. Drop-down menus along the top allow you to access the various sections. The most important of these is the **Explore** menu - the way in to our key online resources, including images and documents in the archive, books in our library, our database of over 10,000 mills and more.

Other sections give you information **about** the organisation, **services** we offer and how you can **support** us, as well as our **news** section (previously 'Mill writing'). Finally, another important development is our new **shop**, now fully integrated into our main site.

These pages give you an overview of the **Explore** section and more details on the Mills Database. The following pages describe our new **Images and Documents Catalogue**.

Images and Documents

catalogue.millsarchive.org

Overview

Images & Documents (43,531) >

Mills (10,089)

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Glossary (2,522)

Clicking 'Images and Documents' from the 'Explore' menu will take you to one of our major resources - the catalogue of archival material.

Previously known as the 'Archive Catalogue', we've renamed it to make it clear how the sorts of things listed here differ from the other items and sources of information held by the archive. 'Images and documents' includes:



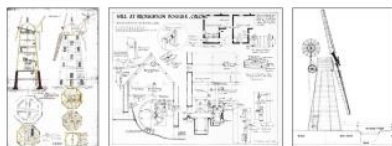
Photos



Correspondence



Digital files



Architectural drawings



Ledgers and wage books

Deeds



You can **search** the catalogue from the search bar at the top (or go to **Advanced Search**). You can also browse by **Collection**, **Place/Mill** (pages for individual mills are linked to our **Mills Database** - see p. 11), **Person/Organisation** or **Subject**

Each image or document in the catalogue has an entry which looks like this:

Digital image/document

'Download image' button

Holdings: Quick search

- Collection DOLM - Peter Dolman Collect...
- Series DOLM-01251 - Suffolk Windmills
- Series DOLM-06694 - Suffolk windmills p...
- Item DOLM-07369 - View from field, tow...
- Item DOLM-07370 - Tower mill, Debenh...
- Item DOLM-07371 - Tower mill, Debenh...
- Item DOLM-07372 - Roundhouse, tower...
- Item DOLM-07373 - Brakewheel Top, po...
- Item DOLM-07374 - Sail tip, post mill, Dr...
- Item DOLM-07375 - Front with buildings
- Item DOLM-07376 - Sketch of stone layo...
- Item DOLM-07377 - Post mill, Darsham, ...

Item DOLM-07373 - Brakewheel Top, post mill, Drinkstone

Peter Dolman Collection > Suffolk Windmills > Suffolk windmills photographs > Brakewheel Top, post mill, Drinkstone

Download image

Reports

Export

- Dublin Core 1.1 XML
- EAD 2002 XML

Related subjects

- Brake wheels
- Post mills

Related people and organizations

- Dolman, Peter C J (1955-2002), miller (Creator)

Related places

- United Kingdom > England > Suffolk > Post mill, Drinkstone

Physical storage

- Box: Dolman Suffolk Windmills Album D No. 2

Reference code: DOLM-07373

Title: Brakewheel Top, post mill, Drinkstone

Date(s): No date (Creation)

Level of description: Item

Extent and medium: 1 photograph

Name of creator: Dolman, Peter C J (1955-2002), miller (1955-2002)

Scope and content: Photograph of the top of the brake wheel of Drinkstone windmill. This image is copyright the Mills Archive Trust.

Conditions governing access: This image is copyright the Mills Archive Trust.

Subject access points: Brake wheels; Post mills

Catalogue details

Digital image/document: Many entries in the catalogue have a digital image or PDF document attached, either because the item being catalogued is itself digital (e.g. modern digital photos) or because we have created a digital copy of the original (e.g. by scanning old photos, slides and negatives).

'Download image' button: If there is a digital image, you can click here to purchase a high-resolution copy in our shop (although a few images are not for sale for copyright reasons).

Linked subjects/people/places: Click on these to see a list of everything else in the catalogue linked to the same subjects, people or places (places includes mills).

Hierarchy browser: Shows where this item belongs in the collection it is part of.

Catalogue details: Information about the item such as date, name of creator etc.

One of the features made possible by our new catalogue is the ability for us to assist our Heritage Partners with publicising their own archival collections by giving them a space on our site. The first to take advantage of this was Upminster Windmill - here Dennis Coombs discusses how this has fitted in well with their exciting development project.

Winds of Change: The Restoration of Upminster Windmill

After sleeping for eighty years, Upminster windmill is to be restored to working order - and partnership with the Mills Archive is a key element.



FUWA-02837

The derelict mill in the 1940s

as a result of the Greater London boundary changes.

During the following years some holding repairs were undertaken and the Mill was opened to the public by volunteers. However, the fabric of the Mill continued to deteriorate and it was clear that a more permanent solution was required. A feasibility study in 2000 resulted in the formation of two organisations: Upminster Windmill Preservation Trust would lease the Mill from the Council, develop the restoration plans and raise the necessary funds; the Friends of Upminster Windmill would open the Mill to the public and generally act as the operational arm of the Trust.

Initially, there was little progress on restoration. However, in 2010, following a change of trustees, detailed plans were

Upminster Windmill is a tall, octagonal smock mill dating from 1803, standing in its original landscape setting despite the surrounding urban development. In private ownership during its working life (1803 to 1934), it was acquired a few years after its closure by Essex County Council who intended to demolish the Mill and the associated buildings and sell the land for development. This was prevented by a public outcry, though for the following twenty-five years the buildings were left to decay and became derelict.

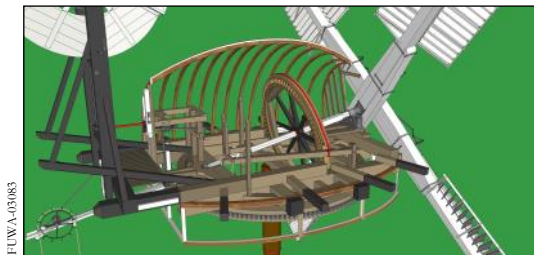
The significance of the Mill was recognised by its relatively early listing at Grade 2* in January 1955. Around 1960 Essex County Council undertook some restoration work, effectively making safe the structure of the Mill and improving its appearance, whilst the surrounding buildings were demolished. In 1965, ownership passed to the London Borough of Havering



FUWA-03011

Aerial view from SW, 2010

Winds of Change (continued)



FUWA-03083



FUWA-02999

Computer-generated images - details inside the cap (top) and the site as it once looked from the west (bottom)

developed for the first time. At this stage the Council decided to enter a partnership with the Trust to make a bid to Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF). The bid was successful, securing a development grant and subsequently a full grant to deliver the restoration project. Match funding was obtained from Veolia North Thames Trust and Architectural Heritage Fund, supported by a significant element of volunteer labour.

As well as working on the mill itself, volunteers had over the years assembled a large volume of photographs and other documents, all held by individuals. As part of the restoration project, these have now been pulled together and duplicates and obvious rubbish removed. An archiving policy has been introduced

defining the scope of the archive and the standards to be applied. Hard-copy photos have been digitised with a high-resolution scanner and all the photos are now catalogued. Many of the key digital images have been restored though our policy is to preserve hard copy photos in their current condition and to maintain the original digital images of those we have enhanced.

The internal machinery of the Mill is largely complete and will be returned to full working order. An Education and Training Centre will be built, enabling displays of the Mill's rich history and facilitating the restoration work and the development of a skilled volunteer force to assist with the restoration and maintain the Mill in its restored condition.

We were fortunate to find the Mills Archive introducing its new catalogue around the same time that we were developing our archive and we readily joined the project as a Heritage Partner. An initial selection of 100 of our images are now in the Upminster Windmill section of the catalogue, including both historic pictures and modern computer graphical images. Two of our members have editorial rights so we can readily add photos and other information. One of our aims, of bringing the Mill's story to a wider audience, is being achieved.

The Mills Archive Research Competition 2016 Ron Cookson



The Mills Archive's successful Research Competition will be held, for the third time, in 2016 – with proposed titles required by the first of December this year. Completed entries must be submitted by 31st May 2016 and the winning submissions will be announced by 31st July 2016.

The research must be on a topic connected with a traditional use of wind, water or muscle power. Subjects such as steam power or roller mills are admissible,

although the judges must be convinced that they are sufficiently molinological!

Use of the Archive and its holdings is recommended, although it is not a condition of entry. As before, two competitions will be run simultaneously:

- The **Research Prize of £500** is for a major piece of previously unpublished research (c25,000 words) which will be printed as an A4-size standalone publication.
- The **Research Award of £50** is for shorter original research communications of about 5,000 words; the winning entry will be published as a special edition of Mill Memories.

For the full rules of the competition, please go to www.millsarchive.org and follow the link on the home page. Good luck to all entrants!

Traditional Milling Technology in the English Cement Industry 1796-1899

Last year's winning entry by Edwin Trout will be available shortly and will be offered free of charge to all Friends of the Mills Archive. It highlights an unexpected and even picturesque – if only occasional – use of the traditional windmill and waterpower in a production process usually characterised as heavy, fuel-intensive industry. It establishes close parallels with flour milling, both in purpose and in process. It reflects an underlying trend from traditional to roller milling and the adoption of steam power, tracing the industry's mechanisation and electrification, and concluding with the replacement of traditional millstones with modern ball- and tube-mills in the 1890s.



Arundel Cement Mill c 1900. Mildred Cookson Collection

Why I'm a Volunteer

Andrew Munro

Having graduated with a degree in History from Royal Holloway, University of London, in the summer of last year, I decided that a career in archives was definitely for me. My ambition was to gain a place on the MA in Archives and Records Management at University College London (UCL), for which a seven month period of work experience in the archives sector was required. Since July 2014, I have been volunteering at the Mills Archive as well as working at the National Archives, the archives of Westminster Abbey and the Inner Temple. As a result of this diverse range of experience I have been successful in gaining the place on the course at UCL which will commence in September of this year.



The reason why I was drawn to the Mills Archive in particular owed much to my interest in medieval and early modern history. The watermill and later the windmill acted as the central pivot around which rural communities revolved. The miller was a man of immense power whose daily craft acted as an essential lifeline for the survival of the community. For far too long, the role of the miller in history has been underestimated and underappreciated. The staff and volunteers of the Mills Archive are determined that this grave wrong should be righted and this sentiment came across very clearly when I first met the team. This inspired me to join and become a volunteer at the Mills Archive.

As a volunteer my main responsibility is the cataloguing of the collection of E M Gardner, an influential member of the SPAB Mills Section. The collection is of significant value to millwrights and milling experts as it contains Gardner's intensive research on the watermills of the British Isles as well as her many photographs and extensive correspondence. I am using the new archive catalogue to record each individual entry. I have also been studying and researching the nineteenth century covenant deeds of the New Mill at Lydd.



I have found that the collaborative team dynamic the Mill Archive espouses and encourages has been of tremendous benefit to me. It is a great pleasure to be able to work within such a welcoming and friendly environment.

*Left: Cleveley Mill, Enstone, Oxfordshire.
Individual thought to be E M Gardner.*

Syd Simmons' Methods of Research

Talbot Green

Over the past five years or so, whilst acting as a volunteer at the Mills Archive, quite a bit of my time has been devoted to getting on file various documents which were produced by Syd Simmons.

To begin with I scanned our large collection of wind and watermill postcards. The next phase came when I was asked to list all the press-cuttings he and his friends had gathered from the local newspapers sold in South Coast towns in the 18th and 19th centuries. Gory details like people getting trapped in the machinery or children hit by the sweeps made good copy for the editors. But from this one gets a good idea of the sheer numbers of mills which were needed to keep the population fed: mills which then rapidly fell into disrepair when steam arrived to both drive the stones and rollers, and take the trains on their way distributing flour over great distances.

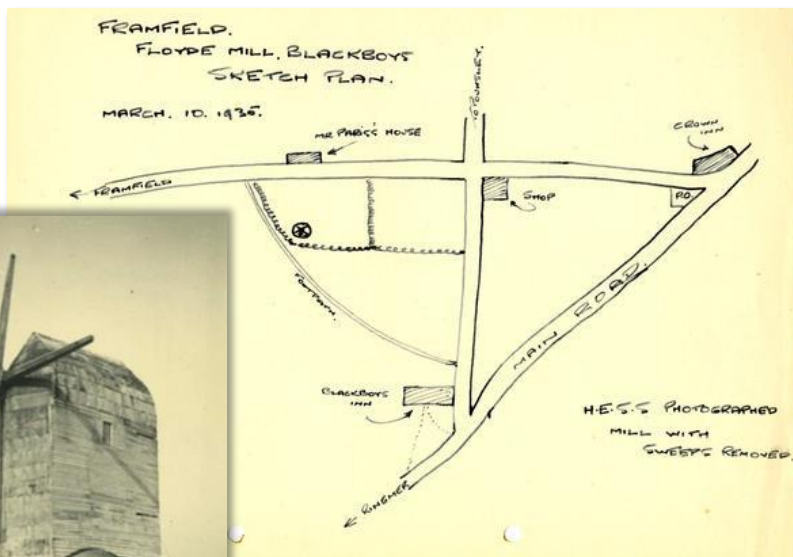
In the course of this we became aware of a series of large-scale sketch maps he had drawn in 1934-35, showing what have often turned out to be the sites of mills which by then, although still within living memory, had almost completely vanished from the scene.

Simmons pushing his bike up hill beside Winding Bottom in the Adur Valley (TQ 185 085), 1935. Shoreham Cement Works is visible on the left. Photo by Donald Muggeridge



Syd Simmons' Methods of Research (continued)

HES-39



HES-1032

On 10 March 1935, Simmons visited Blackboys Mill, Framfield. On this occasion he drew the above sketch map and took the photo shown here. In the distance we can see the house called 'Mr Paris's House' on the map.

In some cases he quotes his source as eg. "O.S. 1810", so here he must have ridden on his famous bicycle, with its dropped handlebars and white mud-guards, over to the site; his guide having come from somewhere like Hove Central Library.

What also struck me is that, very commonly, he marks the position of the mill in relation to any nearby pubs. It doesn't seem too disrespectful to suggest that, when he got there, he would lean the faithful bike out the front and, once inside with a pint of refreshment in his fist, ask the locals whether they remembered there having been any old windmills about. After their thirsts had been quenched he might well be taken to where they claimed a mill had once stood and he'd get regaled with tales of the 'good ole days' when the miller plied his trade.

These sketch maps have been scanned and uploaded onto the new Mills Archive catalogue, so interested parties will be able to get a glimpse of what that little part of Sussex looked like in the mid-1930s - even to the names of the people living in the nearby cottages at that time.

Bookshelf: Appeal for Library Books, Journals and Trade Literature

Spring is here and now is the time to fulfil that New Year resolution to have a good clear out and tidy up. Are your bookshelves overflowing with books, pamphlets and journals on mills and milling? Are you awash with milling trade literature? Do you have local history or industrial history books that you bought because they mention mills, millers or millwrights in passing but are no longer needed? Perhaps you have duplicates or your interests have changed? Maybe you want to make room to buy new books?

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, then contact Elizabeth Trout, our Librarian who will be happy to provide a second home for your unwanted milling literature in our Library elizabeth.trout@millsarchive.org.



Our Library of mills and milling literature is the biggest in the UK if not the world with a current stock of about 4000 items dating from the 18th century to 2015. Elizabeth would eventually like to claim that the Library contains everything that has been published about mills and milling, at least in the UK, including different editions. She hopes that you can help her achieve this.

The scope is broad: the history, archaeology, and development of mills and milling worldwide; mill construction and technology; the industries and manufacturing processes that were powered by traditional power sources plus steam power and roller mills. Local, industrial and social history books that mention mills, millers and millwrights.

Elizabeth will even sort them out for you. Any items that she already has in the Library will be sold through our online shop to other mill enthusiasts and raise funds for the Archive. This is better than sending them to a standard charity shop where they are likely to be pulped after languishing unsold.

Visiting the Mills Archive

Friends and members of the general public are welcome to visit us in Reading. The address is on the back page and our website includes an interactive map.

Our **Library and Research Centre** are on the ground floor of Watlington House, and we are convenient for the town centre with free car parking.



As we are open only when volunteers are working, it is important that you make an appointment before travelling. We can arrange to be open **most working days** between 10 and 4. **Saturday mornings** are sometimes possible as well.

We strongly encourage you to let us know beforehand of any specific research you are undertaking, so that we can retrieve the files from our store **before you arrive**.

Email enquiries@millsarchive.org 1–2 weeks before your planned trip and offer us alternative dates if possible. We will do our best to be there when you need us.



*The Mills Archive Library
and Research Centre
Ground floor access
Free car park
Appointment necessary*

Please join the Friends of the Mills Archive

*“Our Friends
are our future!”*



Our Friends are the lifeblood of the Archive. Their support helps to preserve vulnerable collections that would otherwise be at risk of being lost forever. We safeguard the memories for generations to come and provide all these services free to the general public. Without regular public support, we could not do this. Such support is a major influence on grant-giving bodies such as The Heritage Lottery Fund which likes its grants to echo public interest. Regular donations by many people are the best way of signalling that interest and guaranteeing the long-term success of the Mills Archive.

As an individual, the best way to support us as a Friend is to set up a standing order for £5 per month or more, and we would ask you to complete and return the standing order form opposite. You may donate annually if you prefer, and single donations are always very welcome. You can also donate by cheque or join online at www.millsarchive.org/friend/register

Key Benefits for Individual Friends

Mill Memories every six months

Invitations to exclusive Friends' events.

Discounts on purchases from our online bookshop

Free high-resolution images

Waiving of copyright fees

Much-reduced research fees

Read more on these benefits in the “Friends’ Services” section of our website. New and additional benefits will be announced in Mill Memories, so watch this space!

Visit our Website

www.millsarchive.org

Images and documents

People pages

Library catalogue

Features and articles

Mills database

Shop



I wish to join the Friends of The Mills Archive and I have completed the standing order form for at least £5 per month

Or I wish to be put on the *Mill Memories* mailing list (small donation appreciated)

And I am a UK taxpayer so you may reclaim Gift Aid on my contribution (*please delete if not appropriate*)

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Tel _____

Email _____

Note we will not divulge your information to any other organisation or individual.

Standing Order Form	To	Bank	Branch
Address		Postcode	
Please Pay CAF BANK Ltd, West Malling 40-52-40 Account No 00025146			
Credit THE MILLS ARCHIVE TRUST			
The Sum of £_____ (amount in words: _____)			
Commencing_____ and then every _____ (due date & frequency)			
Until further notice or until _____ and debit my/our account accordingly			
Name of account _____		Account No _____	
This replaces my/our previous standing order for the transfer of £_____ to the same account			
Name _____		Signature _____	
Name _____		Signature _____ (if second required)	
Address _____			
_____		Postcode _____	



The Friends of the Mills Archive

Part of the Mills Archive Trust

Registered Charity no 1155828

Watlington House
44 Watlington Street
Reading, RG1 4RJ
United Kingdom

The Friends of the Mills Archive are dedicated to aiding the work of the Mills Archive Trust and we value new members. We extend a warm welcome to family, local and national historians as well as to those who simply want to find out more about our milling heritage.

As a Friend you are supporting the care and public access to one of the world's great mill collections. It is an Aladdin's cave filled with memories, free to users and run by volunteers. The collections show the rich and diverse crafts, people, buildings, machinery and equipment involved with mills in the UK and around the world.

Friends enjoy a number of benefits (see page 22) as well as knowing they are helping to protect an unrivalled world-class resource.



Please help us to save the memories!

For more information write to the address above or email us

friends@millsarchive.org

Next time: International Issue

Several of our volunteers have expressed surprise that we do not talk enough about our international holdings. We are therefore looking at content for the next Mill Memories designed to reflect the global reach of the Mills Archive. Many of our collections are from people with strong international links and this gives us the chance to pay credit to the breadth of their interests. A wide variety of topics are being considered including rice mills, American windmills (aka wind engines) and UK millwrights abroad.



Twin-wheel wind engine, Kansas