

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE BRADBOURNE MILL TIMBERS

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Since the dendrochronological dating of three mill timbers from Spring's Bridge, Bradbourne, was reported in the *Journal* two years ago (Morgan *et al.*, 1980), a medieval date for two of the timbers — hitherto uncertainly matched — has now been confirmed.

After a radiocarbon result of 1850 ± 70 b.p., the massive timber 3 was dated A.D. 1650-1836, but correlation of the growth patterns from timbers 1 and 2 (both probably from the same tree) was uncertain. Since the original study was undertaken in 1976, many new reference chronologies for dating oak timbers have been formed and already existing chronologies have been dated in the Dendrochronology Laboratory at Sheffield University. Unconfirmed results are therefore constantly being checked visually and by computer, and compared to new data. Recent re-examination of the curve for Bradbourne timbers 1/2 enabled the growth rings to be dated to A.D. 1424-1570. This was achieved by comparison with reference curves for Yorkshire ($t=4.65$), the Welsh borders (3.53) and various local buildings. Remnants of sapwood on timber 1 enable a felling date of around A.D. 1580 to be estimated.

REFERENCE

Morgan, R., Wildgoose, M., and Collis, J. (1980) Some post-medieval timbers from Bradbourne, Derbyshire. *D.A.J.* 100: 43-48.