

SPBM16/01

## STOTT PARK BOBBIN MILL

*Historic Building Recording of lade prior to repair  
for English Heritage*

*July 2016*

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HA Job no.: SPBM16/01

NGR: SD 37217 88214

Parish: Colton

Council: Colton Parish Council

OASIS ref.: headland1-258829

Scheduled Ancient Monument No.: 10104936

Archive will be deposited with: English Heritage/NRHE

Project Manager: Candy Hatherly

Author: Josh Gaunt

Fieldwork: Josh Gaunt

Graphics: Beata Wieczorek-Oleksy

Approved by: Candy Hatherley – Project Manager

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# STOTT PARK BOBBIN MILL

## Historic Building Recording of lade prior to repair

*Headland Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by English Heritage to undertake a programme of historic building recording of a section of lade and weir prior to stabilisation and consolidation. A photographic survey was undertaken.*

### 1 INTRODUCTION

Headland Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by English Heritage to undertake a programme of historic building recording of a section of lade and weir prior to stabilisation and consolidation. A photographic pre-consolidation survey was undertaken.

This report provides the descriptive and photographic record of this work.

### 2 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

The site is located at (NGR: SD 37217 88214; Illus 1) and is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (No. 1014936). It is underlain by Bannisdale Formation – interbedded siltstone and mudstone (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

Stott Park Bobbin Mill was purpose built in 1835 to support the rapid growth in the textile industry, continuing commercial production until 1971. A lade with associated ponds and dams provided power to the mill's water wheel (White 2015).

Illus. 2 and 3 show the mill on the Ordnance Survey Maps of 1851 and 1919 publications of OS maps, Lancashire VIII. The 1851 map was published only 16 years after the mill's construction and shows the mill buildings and mill pond to the west. The sluice gate identified on site (see below) is labelled here.

The 1919 map shows construction between the mid-19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This includes the construction of several more barns, the filling in of the original pond and the construction of a new mill pond and pipe route.

### 3 AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this work was to produce a record of the water course of the mill prior to its repair.

### 4 METHODOLOGY

#### 4.1 Site works

The work was undertaken by the author on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

#### 4.2 Recording

All aspects of the recording were undertaken in accordance with the current relevant Standards and Guidance for HBR of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

#### 4.3 Reporting and Archives

The results of the works are presented below. A summary report has been prepared for submission to the OASIS database (headland1-258829).

The complete project archive will be deposited with the National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) within six months of the completion of the project. The records (paper and digital) will be archived according to best practice guidelines set out by the Archaeological Archiving Forum.

### 5 RESULTS

#### 5.1 Damage to lade

Due to heavy rains during November 2015 significant damage has occurred to the main lade located to the north of the mill complex. The lade is an artificially cut channel lined on either side with a dry-stone wall. A weir is located within this section of the lade (Illus. 4).

At several locations along the length of the lade significant undercutting and loss of the lower stones of these walls is apparent (Illus. 4E, 4I, 4J). This is particularly significant at the section of the lade located immediately to the east of the weir. This increase in damage here is probably due to the increase water flow in this area. Rubble from the damaged areas of the lade has also made its way

further east along the channel, pushed along by the fast flowing water (Illus. 4E, 4F). This rubble has potentially caused further damage on its way. An area to the east of this appears to have previously undergone consolidation works (Illus. 4H).

The lower eastern section of the lade investigated, adjacent to the road bridge at the eastern extent of site, appears to be in much better condition. A roughly 10 m stretch here seems in good condition, including the current outflow lade from the mill (Illus. 4G).

National Library of Scotland <http://maps.nls.uk/> - accessed 29/07/16

Ordnance Survey Six-inch England and Wales map, Lancashire VIII, published 1851.

Ordnance Survey Six-inch England and Wales map, Lancashire VIII, published 1919.

## 5.2 Damage to weir

The weir has undergone serious damage. The length of the weir (from west to east) has been truncated due to the damage, and the walls themselves have been severely eroded due to excessive water flow (Illus. 4C, 4D). A large quantity of rubble can be seen in the lade, most heavily concentrated downstream from the weir, suggesting it is at least partially comprised of damaged segments of weir structure.

## 5.3 Newly exposed branch of lade

A sluice gate was once positioned on the west side of the length of lade investigated. This would have originally been a wooden gate set into a stone wall to control water flow along the lade (Illus. 4A) as indicated from the map regression (Illus. 2). On the stone element of the structure survives which has partially collapsed (Illus. 4A). The collapsed elements of the structure has forced excess water to erode and collapse a large segment of the southern bank nearby (Illus. 4B).

Illus. 4B shows a newly uncovered branch of the lade which can be seen to diverge from the course of the main lade (Illus. 4A). It has collapsed and the surrounding bank is unstable. Its course is unknown.

## 6 REFERENCES

### 6.1 Bibliographic sources

White, P. *Stott Park Bobbin Mill* English Heritage Guidebooks (2015)

### 6.2 Other sources

British Geological survey <http://www.bgs.ac.uk> – accessed 27/07/16

## 7 APPENDIX

*Photographic register*

Photo No.	Direction	Description
1001	S	Shot of Pond
1002	SW	Shot of Pond
1003	N	Stream to lade
1004	E	General shot of mill buildings
1005	E	General shot of mill buildings
1006	S	Barn foundations
1007	S	Barn foundations
1008	W	Stream to lade
1009	NW	Stream to lade
1010	N	Stream to lade
1011	NE	Stream to lade
1012	N	Possible sluice gate
1013	NE	Possible sluice gate
1014	NE	Possible sluice gate
1015	N	Possible sluice gate
1016	E	Collapsed bank with uncovered collapsed lade route (right)
1017	W	Start of lade
1018	E	sluice gate and revealed lade route
1019	E	sluice gate and revealed lade route
1020	NE	Sluice gate
1021	S	Debris in lade
1022	S	Debris in lade
1023	SE	Revealed lade route
1024	SE	Revealed lade route
1025	S	Revealed lade route
1026	E	Continuation of lade
1027	E	Revealed lade route
1028	E	Revealed lade route

1029	SE	Revealed lade route
1030	E	Sluice gate/ revealed lade route
1031	N	Continuation of lade
1032	NW	Continuation of lade
1033	N	Continuation of lade
1034	N	Continuation of lade
1035	N	Continuation of lade
1036	N	Continuation of lade
1037	N	Possible remains of bridge over lade
1038	N	Possible remains of bridge over lade
1039	N	Possible remains of bridge over lade
1040	N	Continuation of lade
1041	N	Continuation of lade
1042	NW	Weir
1043	NW	Weir
1044	N	Rubble at base of weir
1045	NE	Continuation of lade after weir
1046	NE	Continuation of lade after weir
1047	E	Continuation of lade after weir
1048	W	Weir top
1049	W	Weir top
1050	W	Weir
1051	W	Weir
1052	W	Weir damage on north side
1053	SW	Weir damage on south side
1054	SW	Weir damage on south side
1055	SW	Weir damage on south side
1056	S	Rubble at base of weir
1057	S	Rubble at base of weir
1058	SE	Continuation of lade after weir
1059	SE	Continuation of lade after weir
1060	SW	Damage to weir

1061	E	Continuation of lade after weir
1062	W	Weir and rubble at base
1063	N	Continuation of lade after weir
1064	NE	Continuation of lade after weir
1065	NE	Continuation of lade after weir
1066	NE	Continuation of lade after weir
1067	W	Continuation of lade after weir
1068	W	Continuation of lade after weir
1069	NW	Continuation of lade after weir
1070	NW	Continuation of lade after weir
1071	N	Continuation of lade after weir including loss of stones
1072	N	Continuation of lade after weir
1073	NE	Continuation of lade after weir
1074	E	Continuation of lade after weir
1075	NE	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1076	NE	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1077	N	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1078	NW	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1079	W	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1080	W	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1081	W	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1082	W	Rubble and damage to lower lade
1083	NW	Rubble in lade
1084	N	Rubble in lade
1085	N	End of lade - in better condition
1086	NE	End of lade - in better condition
1087	NW	Rubble in lade
1088	NW	Rubble in lade
1089	NW	Rubble in lade
1090	N	Undercut lade wall
1091	NE	Undercut lade wall
1092	NE	Rubble in lade

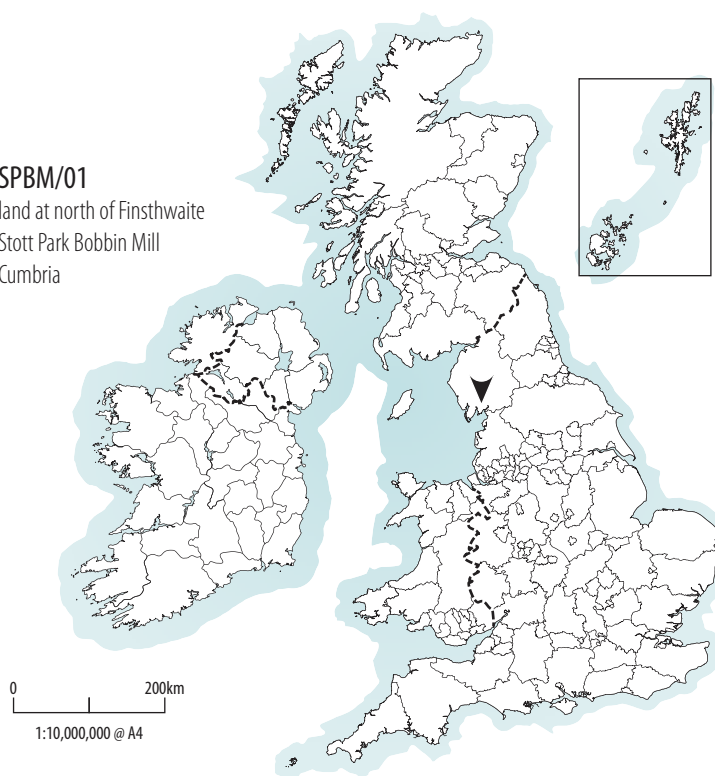


1093	NE	Rubble in lade
1094	W	Outflow lade route from mill
1095	W	Outflow lade route from mill
1096	S	End of lade
1097	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1098	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1099	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1100	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1101	S	End of lade
1102	SE	End of lade
1103	SE	End of lade
1104	S	End of lade
1105	SW	End of lade
1106	SW	End of lade
1107	SW	End of lade
1108	E	End of lade
1109	S	Previous consolidation works
1110	S	Previous consolidation works
1111	S	Previous consolidation works
1112	S	Previous consolidation works
1113	SW	Undercut lade wall
1114	SW	Undercut lade wall
1115	SW	Undercut lade wall with rubble from weir
1116	SE	Undercut lade wall
1117	S	Undercut lade wall
1118	SW	Undercut lade wall
1119	S	Undercut lade wall
1120	S	Undercut lade wall
1121	SW	Rubble in lade
1122	E	General shot of lade
1123	S	General shot of lade
1124	SE	Outflow lade route from mill

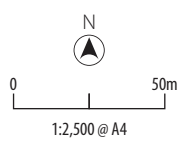
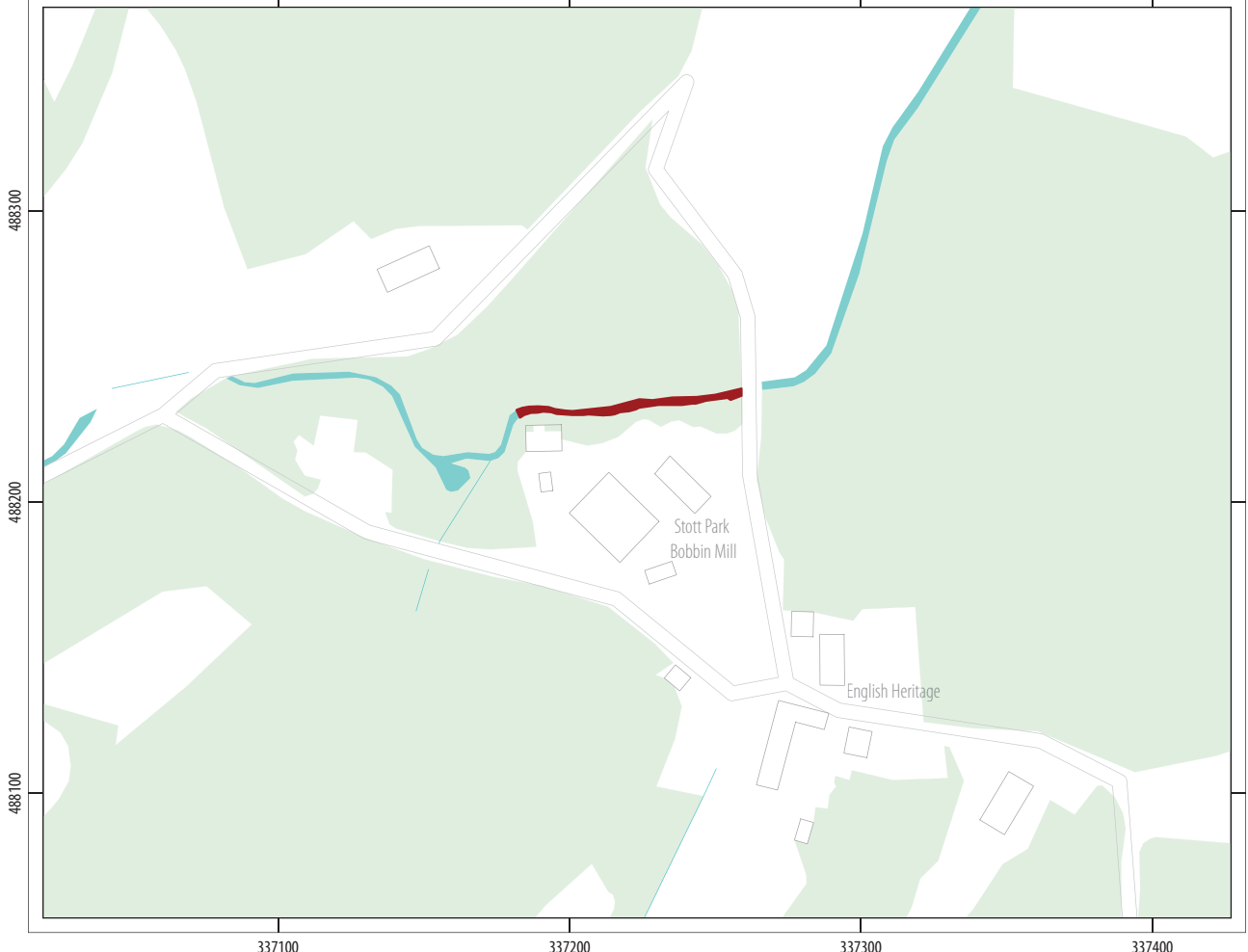
1125	SE	Outflow lade route from mill
1126	S	Outflow lade route from mill
1127	S	Outflow lade route from mill
1128	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1129	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1130	SW	Outflow lade route from mill
1131	W	Sluice gate at top of lade
1132	W	Lower lade with rubble
1133	S	mill and visitor centre
1134	SW	arch over original lade route
1135	SE	arch over original lade route
1136	E	Original mill building
1137	E	Original mill building
1138	N	Current pipe inflow and site of original mill wheel
1139	N	Original mill exterior
1140	E	Current pipe inflow and site of original mill wheel
1141	N	Current pipe inflow and site of original mill wheel
1142	E	General shot of site
1143	-	Water route information board
1144	-	Water route map
1145	N	Pond from above

**SPBM/01**

land at north of Finsthwaite  
Stott Park Bobbin Mill  
Cumbria



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KEY  
[Red box] area of lade investigated

**HEADLAND**  
**ARCHAEOLOGY**

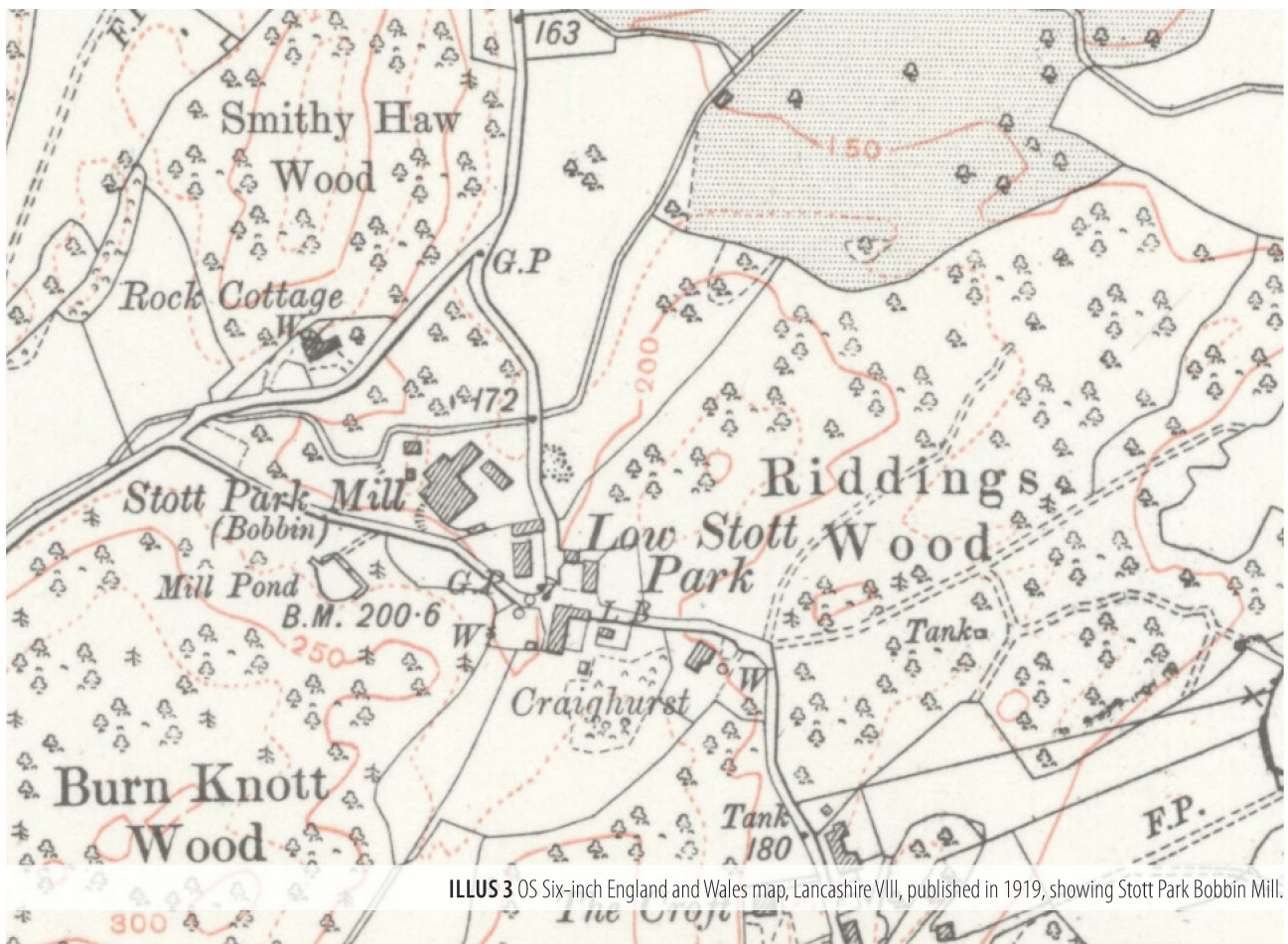
SCOTLAND

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**ILLUS 1** Site location



ILLUS 2 OS Six-inch England and Wales map, Lancashire VIII, published in 1851, showing Stott Park Bobbin Mill.

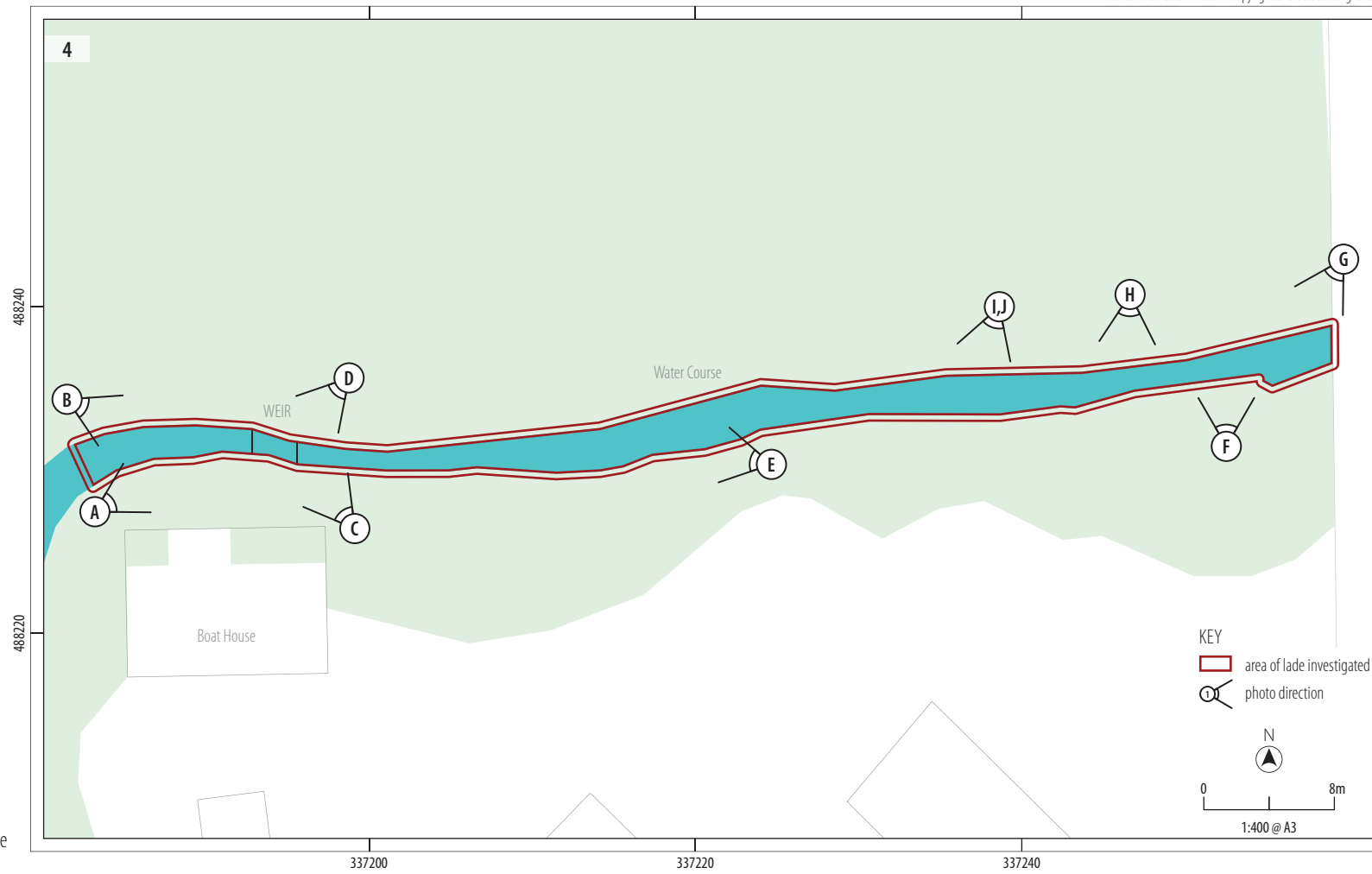


ILLUS 3 OS Six-inch England and Wales map, Lancashire VIII, published in 1919, showing Stott Park Bobbin Mill.





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ILLUS 4 Site plan  
 ILLUS 4A E facing view of sluice gate  
 ILLUS 4B E facing view of newly exposed lade branch  
 ILLUS 4C NW facing view of damage to northern side of weir  
 ILLUS 4D SW facing view of damage to southern side of weir  
 ILLUS 4E W facing view of rubble downstream from weir  
 ILLUS 4F NW facing view of rubble in lade  
 ILLUS 4G SW facing view of outflow lade from mill  
 ILLUS 4H S facing view of previous consolidation works  
 ILLUS 4I SW facing view of significant undercutting of lade walls  
 ILLUS 4I SW view of undercutting of lade walls and related rubble

