



## Buck Mill Stoke Trister, Somerset

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



Ref: 74152  
April 2011



**BUCK MILL, STOKE TRISTER, SOMERSET**

**Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results**

Prepared for:  
**Videotext Communications Ltd**  
49 Goldhawk Road  
LONDON  
SW1 8QP

by  
**Wessex Archaeology**  
Portway House  
Old Sarum Park  
SALISBURY  
Wiltshire  
SP4 6EB

Report reference: 74152.01  
Path: \\Projectserver\WESSEX\PROJECTS\74152\Post Ex\Report\74152\_Buck Mill  
Report(edLNM)

**April 2011**

### DISCLAIMER

THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT WAS DESIGNED AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF A REPORT TO AN INDIVIDUAL CLIENT AND WAS PREPARED SOLELY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THAT CLIENT. THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT DOES NOT NECESSARILY STAND ON ITS OWN AND IS NOT INTENDED TO NOR SHOULD IT BE RELIED UPON BY ANY THIRD PARTY. TO THE FULLEST EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY WILL NOT BE LIABLE BY REASON OF BREACH OF CONTRACT NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE (WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OCCASIONED TO ANY PERSON ACTING OR OMITTING TO ACT OR REFRAINING FROM ACTING IN RELIANCE UPON THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT ARISING FROM OR CONNECTED WITH ANY ERROR OR OMISSION IN THE MATERIAL CONTAINED IN THE REPORT. LOSS OR DAMAGE AS REFERRED TO ABOVE SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, ANY LOSS OF PROFITS OR ANTICIPATED PROFITS DAMAGE TO REPUTATION OR GOODWILL LOSS OF BUSINESS OR ANTICIPATED BUSINESS DAMAGES COSTS EXPENSES INCURRED OR PAYABLE TO ANY THIRD PARTY (IN ALL CASES WHETHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL) OR ANY OTHER DIRECT INDIRECT OR CONSEQUENTIAL LOSS OR DAMAGE

### QUALITY ASSURANCE

SITE CODE	<b>74152</b>	ACCESSION CODE	<b>TTNCM 39/2010</b>	CLIENT CODE	
PLANNING APPLICATION REF.		NGR	<b>374590 128228</b>		

VERSION	STATUS*	PREPARED BY	APPROVED BY	APPROVER'S SIGNATURE	DATE	FILE
1	I	SDT	PJB		25/03/11	\\PROJECTSERVER\WESSEX\PROJECTS\74152\POST EX\74152_BUCK MILL REPORT (ED LNM)

\* I= Internal Draft E= External Draft F= Final

## BUCK MILL, STOKE TRISTER, SOMERSET

### Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

#### Contents

	Summary .....	v
	Acknowledgements.....	vi
<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
	1.1 Project Background .....	1
	1.2 The Site, Location and Geology .....	1
	1.3 Historical Background.....	1
	1.4 Previous Archaeological Work.....	3
<b>2</b>	<b>AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY .....</b>	<b>4</b>
	3.1 Geophysical Survey.....	4
	3.2 <i>Domesday Book</i> .....	4
	3.3 Landscape and Earthwork Survey.....	4
	3.4 Evaluation Trenches.....	4
	3.5 Copyright .....	5
<b>4</b>	<b>RESULTS .....</b>	<b>5</b>
	4.1 Introduction.....	5
	4.2 Geophysical Results.....	6
	4.3 Magnetic Survey.....	6
	4.4 Resistance Survey (Figure 5).....	6
	4.5 <i>Domesday Book</i> Evidence and Landscape and Earthwork Survey .....	7
	4.6 Evaluation Trenches.....	8
	4.7 Trench 1 (Figures 2-4).....	8
	4.8 The Mill Building .....	8
	4.9 The Domestic Area.....	9
	4.10 The Mill Working Area .....	9
	4.11 Area 2 - Trenches 2, 3 and 4 (Figures 5 & 6).....	11
<b>5</b>	<b>FINDS .....</b>	<b>11</b>
	5.1 Introduction.....	11
	5.2 Pottery .....	11
	5.3 Ceramic Building Material.....	12
	5.4 Wall Plaster .....	13
	5.5 Clay Pipe .....	13
	5.6 Stone and Flint .....	13
	5.7 Glass .....	13
	5.8 Synthetics .....	13
	5.9 Wood .....	14
	5.10 Metalwork .....	14
	5.11 Animal Bone .....	15
	5.12 Potential and further recommendations.....	15
	5.13 Discard policy .....	15
<b>6</b>	<b>DISCUSSION.....</b>	<b>15</b>
	6.1 Introduction.....	15

6.2	Medieval .....	16
6.3	Post-medieval.....	16
<b>7</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>ARCHIVE.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>17</b>
9.1	Bibliography.....	17
9.2	Historic Environment Records .....	17
9.3	Cartographic Sources.....	17
9.4	Aerial Photographs.....	17
9.5	Online resources .....	18
<b>10</b>	<b>GLOSSARY.....</b>	<b>19</b>
	<b>APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES.....</b>	<b>22</b>

**Figures**

<b>Figure 1</b>	Site and trench location
<b>Figure 2</b>	Trench 1: plan and photograph Plate 1: Trench 1, view from south
<b>Figure 3</b>	Trench 1: profiles
<b>Figure 4</b>	Photographs Plate 2: Domestic area of the mill, view from south Plate 3: Meal floor, cog pit and wheel pit, view from south Plate 4: Cog Pit (Group 188), view from south-west
<b>Figure 5</b>	Trenches 2, 3 and 4: plan and resistivity survey interpretation
<b>Figure 6</b>	Trenches 2, 3 and 4: photographs Plate 5: Trench 2, south-facing section of Leat C Plate 6: Trench 3, view from south-west Plate 7: Trench 4, view from west Plate 8: Trench 4, north-facing section
<b>Front Cover</b>	Trench 1 under excavation
<b>Back Cover</b>	Recording the mill building

**Tables**

<b>Table 1</b>	Finds totals by material type and by trench
<b>Table 2</b>	Pottery totals by ware type
<b>Table 3</b>	Discard policy for finds

---

## BUCK MILL, STOKE TRISTER, SOMERSET

### Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

#### Summary

In April 2010 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at Buck Mill, Stoke Trister, near Wincanton, Somerset (NGR 374590 128228) to investigate the site of a watermill recorded in *Domesday Book* (1086). The programme of works also investigated the standing remains of a post-medieval mill building and earthworks indicative of water management.

Examination of the *Domesday* reference, other documentary evidence and watercourse earthworks identified two possible locations for mills pre-dating the post-medieval mill remains. Excavation, however, proved unsuccessful in identifying any structural remains relating to these putative early mills, although this could be due to the insubstantial nature of wooden mill buildings in the early medieval period.

Evaluation trenches located within the area of the putative early mills did, however, identify a water course (leat) apparently unrelated to the post-medieval mill, and a single sherd of medieval pottery.

The evaluation trenches within the standing remains of the post-medieval mill identified particular zones of activity, both domestic and industrial. The probable kitchen and living quarters of the mill were revealed, as was the meal floor, the cog pit and the wheel pit, with remains of the iron water wheel still *in situ*. Documentary references suggest that this mill was built in the mid-16th century, and the finds evidence supports this date, although most closely datable finds are 17th century or later in date.

The post-medieval mill appears to have been sufficiently successful and profitable to implement new technology when available. The mill had changed from using a wide, breast-shot wheel to a more efficient overshot iron wheel - this was evident from the narrowing of the original wheel pit, the infilling of the original launder opening and the elevation of the launder to create an overshot water feed.

The results of the evaluation do not warrant detailed publication, but a summary will be submitted to the *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society*, for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in the county.

---

## BUCK MILL, STOKE TRISTER, SOMERSET

### Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

#### Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Jane Hammond (Production Manager), Jim Mower (Development Producer), Ben Knappett (Assistant Producer), Alex Rowson (Researcher), Kerry Ely (Locations Manager) and Ainsley Allen (Production Coordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock, Emma Wood and Graeme Attwood (of GSB Prospection) and landscape survey and map regression was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The excavation strategy was devised by Mick Aston (Bristol University). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson, with on-site finds processing was carried out by Simon Flaherty, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavations were undertaken by *Time Team's* retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Tracey Smith, Matt Williams, Ian Powlesland, Raksha Dave and Faye Simpson, assisted by James Brigers, Richard Broomhead, Faith Cairns, Nick Corcos, Alan Graham and Matt Law. On site pottery identification was by Paul Blinkhorn with small finds identification by Helen Geake (Cambridge University). Structural elements of the mill were identified by Martin Watts.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson with initial historical research by Jim Mower, Ben Knappett and Alex Rowson of Videotext Communications, and documentary research by Teresa Hall. Specialist reports were prepared by GSB Prospection (Geophysics) and Lorraine Mephram (finds), and the illustrations were prepared by Kenneth Lymer.

The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mephram.

This report has benefited from discussion on site with Mick Aston, Phil Harding, Martin Watts, Teresa Hall and Stewart Ainsworth.

Finally thanks are extended to Steven and Stephanie Fry, the owners of Buck Mill, for allowing access to the Site for geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation and to their neighbour Terry Rawlings for allowing access for geophysical survey.

## BUCK MILL, STOKE TRISTER, SOMERSET

### Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

*I loved the brimming wave that swam, Thro' quiet meadows round the mill,  
The sleepy pool above the dam, The pool beneath it never still,  
The meal-sacks on the whiten'd floor, The dark round of the dripping wheel,  
The very air about the door, Made misty with the floating meal.*

(Alfred, Lord Tennyson, *The Millers Daughter* 1842)

## 1 INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's *Time Team* at the site of Buck Mill, Stoke Trister, Wincanton, Somerset. (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by *Time Team*, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

### 1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 The Site is located at NGR 374590 128228 at a height of approximately 70m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), within the parish of Stoke Trister and close to the boundary with the parish of Cucklington. The Site is 800m south-east of the village of Stoke Trister and 1km north-west of the village of Cucklington, and 3.6km east of Wincanton. The underlying geology consists of Oxford Clay Formation (BGS sheet 297)

1.2.2 The Site was divided into three areas for investigation. Area 1, at the northern end of the Site, comprises an irregular parcel of land 2.73 hectares in size and centred on NGR 374592.47, 128229.66, which contains the substantial stone remains of Buck Mill. The mill remains are currently covered in well established trees and bushes. Area 2, at the southern end of the Site, covers an area of 3.67 hectares and is centred on NGR 374595.25, 128058.35. There were a series of linear earthworks indicative of water management. Area 3 is a small area of land due west of Area 1 and centred on NGR 374570.07, 128225.95.

### 1.3 Historical Background

1.3.1 The earliest reference to a mill at Stoke Trister is found in the *Domesday Book* and refers to a mill rendering 10d:

*Bretel holds of the count Stoke Trister. 2 Thegns held it TRE and it paid geld for 3 hides. There is land for 5 ploughs. In demesne is 1 plough and 7 slaves; and 3 villans and 8 bordars and 5 cotset with 2 plough. There is a mill rendering 10d, and 15 acres of meadow, [and] woodland 1 league long 1 furlong broad. It was and is worth 60s (Williams 1992).*



1.3.2 Five hundred years later, in the Calendar of Patent Rolls for 1555, the manor of Stoke Trister is described in more detail, but there is no mention of a watermill (while watermills are mentioned as part of other manorial holdings within the same text). This suggests either that a mill did not exist at this point, or that it was part of the neighbouring Cucklington Manor which is not mentioned in this particular source.

1.3.3 Eleven years later (1566), a survey of the Earl of Pembroke's land states:

*Freeholders in Cucklington:*

*John Cross(e) freely holds one property in Cucklington in which he lives, one garden, one paddock of one acre and one other property and garden of ½ a verge in which John Criseday lives and one enclosure pastures and one meadow of 20 acres, one property there too with paddock containing one acre and also 18 acres of arable land in the North field of which part is down grass and another 18 acres in the South field and he has an equivalent amount of common land, also the mill called Buckmill and he will appear before court and pay 8a and 8d (SRO PAM 2664).*

1.3.4 In 1703 John Benjafield, Miller, was in possession of Buckmill according to his will:

*I John Benjafield the elder of Buckmill in the parish of Stoke Trister in the county of Somerset, Miller being sick in body but of perfect and sound memory thanks unto God do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following that is to say first I will that all the debts I truly owe shall be justly paid Item I give devise and bequeath unto my son Samuel Benjafield and his heirs for ever all that meadow ground called park which I lately purchased (SRO DD\X\SLT/1).*

1.3.5 In deeds dated to 1776, 1778, and 1789 the mill and surrounding fields are described as the property of Mary Benjafield, daughter of John:

*(1776) Also that water mill and mill house known by the name Buck mill with all and singular ... there unto belonging with the mill, ponds and floods ... to the ... belonging and also one meadow ground to the said mill and mill house adjoining Buck Mill containing by estimation 4 acres lying between the ground called Stoke Park and a brook called Todd Brook, an orchard containing 1 acre bounded on the southeast by the said brook... mentioned called Hiscocks and on the north west by the lane leading to Buck Mill with said Mill and possession of Mary Benjafield lying in the parish of Stoke Trister (SRO DD\X\SLT/1).*

1.3.6 On Edward Phelip's 1782 Map of the Manor of Cucklington (SRO DD\PH\158), the mill is shown as a substantial L-shaped structure composed of a main north-west – south-east aligned, two-storey building. The water wheel is located at the south-east end of the main range. At the north-west end of the main range is a north-east – south-west aligned, two-storey building extending to the south from the southern elevation. The map also shows the line of the leat extending to the north and the tail race leading away from the mill to the south.

- 1.3.7 In 1791, a property sale in neighbouring Bayford describes the working mill:

*Lot 3 – A freehold estate contiguous to the preceding comprising Buckwater Corn Mill which works 2 pairs of stone. And 21 acres of land (SRO DD\SAS\SW6).*

- 1.3.8 A year later, in 1792, the mill is depicted on the Stoke Manor Map (SRO STO\PH\WW\1) as an L-shaped structure. However the north-east – south-west aligned range extending to the south from the north-west corner of the main range as depicted on the 1782 map is now gone and replaced by a structure extending to the south from the south-east end. The 1792 estate map is less detailed than the 1782 map, but the layout on the 1792 estate map is repeated on the Cucklington and Stoke Trister Tithe Map of 1838 (SRO D\DR\t\M\73).

- 1.3.9 In the census of 1841, the owner of Buckmill is described as William Biggin and in Biggin's will of 1850 he relates that the mill is to be sold and the money shared between his descendants:

*I give unto my son William Biggin my share in the Wincanton Water Company, the share ticket for which I have already given him – and it is my will and desire after my disease [sic] that my dwelling house corn mills and premises called Buck Mills and the lands and grounds thereunto belonging containing by estimation twenty acres or thereabouts – situate and being in the parishes of Stoke Trister and Cucklington in the county of Somerset shall be sold and disposed of and my testamentary experiences paid therefrom and the rent and residue of the money arising from the sale thereof I give unto my four sons the said John William George and Robert Biggin share and share alike (SRO DD\SAS\C795\SW/21).*

- 1.3.10 By the end of the 19th century it is clear the mill had been decommissioned and the land and houses utilised for farming. The mill building is annotated on the 1886-1887 1:2,500 Ordnance Survey map as Buck Mill Farm and comprises the same 'L' shaped structure shown on the 1838 estate map, with the western end possibly shown as a separate rectangular structure. This may just be the result of more accurate mapping. In 1889 the resident was William Bantor, Farmer of Buck Mill (M. Siraut, pers comm.).

- 1.3.11 On two aerial photographs dating to 1946 (NMR/RAF/CPE/UK1821) and 1947 (NMR RAF/CPE/UK/1924) the remains of the mill buildings can be clearly seen, as can the line of the leat leading into the mill, although the tail race is less obvious. To the south and east of the mill buildings are the remains of what appears to be a water channel of some kind, and the surrounding fields show extensive ridge and furrow.

## **1.4 Previous Archaeological Work**

- 1.4.1 No previous archaeological work has taken place at Buck Mill.

## **2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled (Videotext Communications 2010), providing full details of the research aims and methods. A brief summary is provided here.

2.1.2 The project aimed to carry out a limited programme of non-intrusive investigations and intrusive excavation. The results of this work will also form an important resource for the future management of the site.

2.1.3 The following general research aims will be addressed:

- What is the nature and significance of surviving archaeological remains?
- What are the levels of natural deposits?
- What is the earliest evidence of medieval occupation of the area?

2.1.4 The project design identified specific research aims outlined below:

#### **Research Aim 1**

2.1.5 To characterise the nature of sub-surface archaeological remains with the specific aim of refining a chronology for the construction of and defining a plan for the standing stone remains in the Area 1.

#### **Research Aim 2**

2.1.6 To characterise the nature of sub-surface archaeological remains with the specific aim of refining a chronology for the construction of and defining a plan for earthwork remains observed in Area 2.

### **3 METHODOLOGY**

#### **3.1 Geophysical Survey**

3.1.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out in Areas 2 and 3 using a combination of resistance, magnetic and ground penetrating radar (GPR). The survey grid was tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.

#### **3.2 Domesday Book**

3.2.1 The *Domesday Book* entry for the manor of Stoke Trister was reassessed by Teresa Hall and the information gathered combined with the results of the landscape and earthwork survey in an attempt to locate the site of the mill mentioned in 1086.

#### **3.3 Landscape and Earthwork Survey**

3.3.1 A landscape survey and analysis of the cartographic evidence was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth, Senior Investigator of the Archaeological Survey and Investigation Team, English Heritage. A summary of the findings has been incorporated in this report.

#### **3.4 Evaluation Trenches**

3.4.1 Investigation of the extant remains of the mill building in Area 1 was undertaken by the excavation of a number of individual trenches and test pits, which have been grouped and recorded as Trench 1. Three further trenches of varying sizes were excavated in Area 2, their locations determined in order to investigate and to clarify geophysical anomalies and

address specific research objectives (**Figure 1**). No trenches were excavated in Area 3.

- 3.4.2 The trenches were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. All machine trenches were excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains, or at natural geology if this was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.
- 3.4.3 At various stages during excavation the deposits were scanned by a metal detector and signals marked in order to facilitate investigation. The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.
- 3.4.4 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system and Trimble Total Station. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.
- 3.4.5 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.
- 3.4.6 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated material.
- 3.4.7 The work was carried out on the 13th-16th April 2010. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

### **3.5 Copyright**

- 3.5.1 This report may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g. Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown Copyright), or the intellectual property of third parties, which we are able to provide for limited reproduction under the terms of our own copyright licences, but for which copyright itself is non-transferrable by Wessex Archaeology. You are reminded that you remain bound by the conditions of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with regard to multiple copying and electronic dissemination of the report.

## **4 RESULTS**

### **4.1 Introduction**

- 4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, the full geophysical report (GSB 2010), the summary of the landscape and earthwork survey and details of artefactual and environmental assessments, are retained in the archive. Detailed descriptions of the excavated sequences and structures can be found in **Appendix 1**.

## 4.2 Geophysical Results

### *Introduction and Summary*

- 4.2.1 Geophysical survey was carried out over two areas (Areas 2 and 3) totalling 0.366 hectares using a magnetic, resistance and ground penetrating radar (**Figures 1 and 5**).
- 4.2.2 Conditions for survey in the open areas were ideal as the ground was under pasture and the extant earthworks were slight. Area 3 was topographically flat and was under a young crop. It was not possible to collect data around the post-medieval mill (Area 1) due to the upstanding structures and overgrowth. GPR survey was attempted, but the clay-rich soils reduced penetration to 0.5m, and therefore resulting images simply show natural topsoil variation. As such the results are not included within the report.
- 4.2.3 The resistance data show a band of low readings which relates to a potential leat, thought to be associated with the earlier mill recorded in *Domesday*. Both the magnetic and resistance data also indicate a former stream course, though there is no geophysical evidence for any mill structures *per se*.

## 4.3 Magnetic Survey

### *Area 2*

- 4.3.1 This area was surveyed in an attempt to locate the earlier, *Domesday* mill; however, the results show no indications of anomalies that might be associated with such a structure. This is not surprising given the fact that any structures would probably have been wooden and, unless burnt down, they are unlikely to have a magnetic signature.
- 4.3.2 Anomalies which are typical of a natural origin have been located and these are associated with a former stream, which has been diverted in the past during management of the water courses. Stronger anomalies within the natural responses coincide with a clay-pipe drain.

## 4.4 Resistance Survey (Figure 5)

### *Area 2*

- 4.4.1 A linear band of low resistance represents the line of a former leat, which is clearly visible in the earthworks, especially to the north of the survey area. High resistance anomalies to the west of the leat represent a gravel bed of the former stream - as identified in the magnetic data.

## **Conclusions**

- 4.4.2 Both resistance and magnetic techniques located a former stream bed, running adjacent to a possible former leat (which was only visible in the resistance data, and as an earthwork). Unsurprisingly, no evidence was found for any structures related to the *Domesday* mill.

## 4.5 Domesday Book Evidence and Landscape and Earthwork Survey

### *The Domesday evidence*

- 4.5.1 At *Domesday*, the manor known as Stoke Trister comprised 3 hides (which in all probability was to become the later parish of Stoke Trister), held by Bretel de St Clair from the Count of Mortain. Before 1066 it was jointly held by two thegns who both had 1½ hides each (Thorn and Thorn 1980, 19:63). It is possible that these two holdings before *Domesday* were Stoke Trister and Bayford respectively, both of which settlements had separate field systems by 1547 (VCHS, 202). *Domesday Book* records a single mill on the Manor in 1086.
- 4.5.2 At this time Bretel de St Clair also held the manor of Cucklington from the Count of Mortain (Thorn and Thorn 1980, 19:64) which covers the southern two-thirds of present day Cucklington parish, with the northern third a separate manor called Clapton (Thorn and Thorn 1980, 19:68). Cucklington, comprising 7 hides, was held prior to 1066 by two thegns, named Leofing and Swein, each holding 3½ hides. No mill is recorded for the manor of Cucklington.
- 4.5.3 The parish of Stoke Trister as it exists today was altered in 1886 when a large detached part of the Horsington parish (an area known as Horwood) was added to it. Prior to this a smaller area from the parish of Penselwood (Sunny Hill) was added in 1885 (VCHS, 201).

### *Interpretation*

- 4.5.4 It is impossible to know from *Domesday Book* alone where the Stoke Trister mill was situated, other than somewhere in the Stoke Trister/Bayford holding. However, analysis of the existing earthworks in Area 2, which comprise a series of leats and watercourses, present a possible position for the *Domesday* mill, and also for a second possible precursor or contemporary mill which was abandoned at *Domesday*.
- 4.5.5 It was evident that the stream separating Stoke Trister from Cucklington had been canalised along a section below Buck Mill (recorded as Leat A) (**Figure 1**), the original course of the stream running to the east (recorded as Old Stream B). The parish boundary between Stoke Trister and Cucklington follows the course of the canalised stream (A). This canalised section is unconnected with the operations of Buck Mill to the north (the area of canal is downstream) and must therefore belong to some (presumably earlier) water management system. Thus the mill recorded in *Domesday* (Mill 1) possibly lay somewhere along this length of leat.
- 4.5.6 A second stretch of disused leat (recorded as Leat C) was revealed as an earthwork to the east of the original course of the stream (B), and located within the parish of Cucklington. This infilled leat was fed from an entirely different stream to that which fed Buck Mill and the possible *Domesday* mill to the south. Leat (C) appears to discharge into stream (B) downstream of leat (A). This might therefore suggest that the putative mill (Mill 2) fed by leat (C) pre-dated the mill associated with leat (A), as (A) superseded (B).

- 4.5.7 As leat (C) lies entirely within Cucklington parish, putative mill (2) was either disused by the time of the *Domesday* survey (which mentions no mill in Cucklington), or was built after 1086. In view of the fact that the manors of Stoke Trister and Cucklington were combined between 1066 and 1086, it seems probable that putative mill (2) ceased to function when the two manors were combined, and the fact that there are no later records for a mill in Cucklington may support this interpretation.

## 4.6 Evaluation Trenches

### *Introduction*

- 4.6.1 The Site was further investigated through the excavation of four trenches. Trench 1 was located in Area 1 and comprised several interventions (trenches, test pits and sondages) in and around the upstanding mill remains. Trenches 2, 3 and 4 were located in Area 2. No trenches were positioned in Area 3. Any substantial archaeological remains revealed were left *in situ*.
- 4.6.2 Section 10 (below) presents a short Glossary of technical terms used in this report, associated with the workings of the mill.

### 4.7 Trench 1 (Figures 2-4)

- 4.7.1 The demolished/collapsed remains of the mill building were sealed beneath a very loose humic leaf litter deposit. Layers of demolition/collapse material were recorded as **104 - 108, 110, 127, 138, 166, 169, 170 - 172, 175, 178, and 180**, and were banked up against the upstanding walls and sealed the floors. These deposits were separated for finds retrieval from within the domestic and working areas of the mill building.
- 4.7.2 There were two (possibly three) distinct phases of construction within the working area, which corresponded changes in technology and design of water wheels. It was, however, difficult to identify any distinct phases of construction associated with the domestic area and the main structure of the building itself, except for clearly modern additions. Where clear stratigraphic alterations and additions were visible, these have been noted, but only the working area will be discussed with reference to phases.

### 4.8 The Mill Building

- 4.8.1 The roughly east-west aligned building was constructed from walls **181, 113, 114, 115, 119, 177, 151 and 150**. An extension at the north-west corner consisted of walls **182 and 183**. At the junction of walls **113 and 114** a buttress **165** had been added, indicating that wall **113** had been free standing, and the area to the north had been open; however, this area was subsequently infilled with deposit **166** which was banked up against the wall. This infilling was potentially contemporaneous with the second phase of mill construction (see below). At the junction of wall **114 and 115** there was a buttress (**152**).
- 4.8.2 A culvert was traced around the western and southern sides of the mill and recorded as cut **136**, with stone lining **155**, and capping stones **137**. It had partially collapsed in front of the entrance into the domestic area of the mill

where it was recorded as **160**, and could be traced in plan towards the tail race leading away from the wheel pit (**Group 189**) of the mill towards the east.

#### **4.9 The Domestic Area**

- 4.9.1 The domestic area was confined to the western end of the mill building (**Figure 4, Plate 2**) and had internal dividing walls creating individual rooms. The floor was made of machine-cut flagstones of probable blue lias (**109**).
- 4.9.2 The main doorway into the domestic end lay between walls **150** and **151** over threshold stone **149**, and led into a corridor formed by walls **147** and **148**. This corridor led in turn to the possible kitchen of the mill. One room lay on either side of the corridor, bounded by walls **145**, **147** and **150** to the west and **146/168**, **148**, **151** and **116** to the east. These were interpreted as possible reception rooms, though one could gain access through a door in **116** into the meal room of the mill.
- 4.9.3 The room at the back of the building, bounded by walls **181**, **113**, **114**, **146/168** and **145**, is thought to have been the kitchen. A brick structure **167** against the back wall was interpreted as part of an oven, range or fireplace.

#### **4.10 The Mill Working Area**

- 4.10.1 The working area of the mill (**Figure 4, Plate 3**) was defined by walls **116**, **115**, **119** and **177** with access through a doorway from the domestic area to the west through wall **116** and a second possible door way through wall **177** to the south, both leading on to a stone flagged floor (**112**).
- 4.10.2 Analysis of the structural elements of the mill indicated that the first phase utilised a breast-shot wheel measuring some 2.3m in width, which was later replaced by a more efficient, narrower, overshot wheel measuring c. 0.90m wide.

#### **Phase 1**

- 4.10.3 The two main structures of the mill were the cog/gear pit (**Group 188**) and the wheel pit (**Group 189**). The wheel pit housed the water wheel which turned the pit wheel. This was held in the cog/gear pit, and was linked into the wallower to drive the machinery to turn the millstones.
- 4.10.4 The cog/gear pit (**Group 188**) (**Figure 3, bottom; Figure 4, Plate 4**) was formed of walls **131**, **115**, **177** and **117**, with **131** and **115** butted by reworked natural layer **126**, which was interpreted as the result of trampling during the construction of the pit. This was sealed by rammed stone surface **125**. Pottery from **125** was dated as late 17th/early 18th century, while a metal dress fastener from **126** has a probable date range of 16th to 17th century.
- 4.10.5 The wheel pit **Group 189** (**Figure 3, top**) was formed of walls **119**, **115**, **117** and with **119** also forming the outer wall of the mill building. Wall **117** separated the cog/gear pit from the wheel pit and it was through this wall that the wheel shaft or axle linking the pit wheel to the water wheel would have run.



- 4.10.6 No traces of how the first phase breast-shot water wheel (probably wooden) was fed were identified – these had perhaps been masked by later structures associated with the feeding of the second phase overshot wheel.

### **Phase 2**

- 4.10.7 The second phase possibly belongs to the 18th century, and began with the narrowing of the wheel pit by the addition of wall **118**. The void between **118** and **119** was in filled with **144** and covered with flagged surface **143**. At the northern end of the wheel pit, blocking wall **130** was inserted into the site of the original pentrough/laundry to block the mouth of the sluice which fed the breast-shot wheel.
- 4.10.8 At this time the northern area behind the mill was infilled and the ground surface raised, with the probable insertion of a large water storage pool, which partly survives to the north of concrete wall **162** (marked as 'Leat' on **Figure 2**). At some later stage, wall **163** was constructed, which led from the water pool to a newly constructed curving buttress (**129**), which would have held the new pentrough/laundry to control the flow of water over the overshot wheel. Remains of the laundry were identified *in situ* (**190**). This stone slab trough was held in place with large cast iron brackets.
- 4.10.9 At the south end of the wheel pit a new entrance to the tail race was constructed (**173**) and, as the old water wheel was replaced, wall **117** was repaired (**133** and **134**) as a new wheel shaft was inserted. Alterations to the cog/gear pit also took place with the construction of supporting structures for a wooden Hurst frame to support the millstones. A sale account of 1791 states that the mill ran two pairs of stones at this time and these would have required a substantial supporting wooden frame.
- 4.10.10 Wall **132** was inserted at the northern end of the cog/gear pit and constructed upon floor surface **125**; this acted as a buttress to take the weight of structure **111** which reused millstones to create a raised platform on which the wooden Hurst frame would have sat. One of the millstones, of Old Red Sandstone conglomerate from the Wye Valley, is a runner stone with a socket by which the stone was held to the spindle; it is possibly of 17th century date (M. Watts pers. comm.).
- 4.10.11 A horizontal beam slot (**191**) for a timber sill beam was revealed against **111** and on top of **131** to take the base timber for the Hurst frame; this was contemporary with a second beam slot **192** revealed in the southern elevation of the wall **115**.
- 4.10.12 Beam slot **192** possibly housed the upper beam which would have held the millstones located on a mezzanine floor with no designated stone floor. Alternatively, it might have held an intermediary, horizontal timber of the Hurst frame, and there may have been a first floor stone floor, but no traces of the first floor joists survive. In support of the second interpretation, the 1782 Map of the Manor of Cucklington shows the mill as a two-storey building.
- 4.10.13 At the eastern end of the building, the addition of walls **128** and **193** (the latter now below an earthwork of collapsed material) created an extension to

the mill. This was not investigated, but it probably corresponds to the north-south aligned building shown on the 1838 Tithe map.

#### **4.11 Area 2 - Trenches 2, 3 and 4 (Figures 5 & 6)**

- 4.11.1 Three trenches were positioned in Area 2 to investigate the possible site of the *Domesday* mill and Leat C.
- 4.11.2 Trenches 3 and 4 revealed c. 0.25m of overlying topsoil sealing between 0.10m and 0.16m of subsoil. Trench 2 was considerably deeper with 0.41m of topsoil overlying 0.54m of subsoil. One sherd of medieval pottery (12th to early 14th century) was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 3, and provided the only archaeological evidence for medieval activity in this part of the Site.
- 4.11.3 A ditch (**204**) cut the natural in Trench 2 (**Figure 6, Plate 5**) and was interpreted as the line of Leat C, and possibly related to the putative early medieval mill on the Site. No archaeological remains were revealed in Trenches 3 and 4 (**Figure 6, Plates 6-8**).

## **5 FINDS**

### **5.1 Introduction**

- 5.1.1 Finds were recovered from four trenches, mostly from Trench 1. The assemblage is almost entirely of post-medieval date, with a few residual medieval items, and one prehistoric find.
- 5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench are presented in **Table 1**. Following quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned, in order to ascertain their nature, probable date range, and condition. Spot dates have been recorded for datable material (pottery, vessel glass). This information provides the basis for an assessment of the potential of the finds assemblage to contribute to an understanding of the Site, with particular reference to the construction and use of the post-medieval mill complex, and to any surviving medieval predecessor.
- 5.1.3 Given the largely modern date range of the finds, a rigorous discard policy has been applied following quantification and assessment, with the agreement of the recipient museum (see below, **5.13**)

### **5.2 Pottery**

- 5.2.1 With the exception of two medieval sherds, the assemblage is entirely of post-medieval or modern date. The condition ranges from fair to good, with moderate levels of surface and edge abrasion, although a group of pieces from Trench 1 topsoil had a heavy concretion over all surfaces and breaks.
- 5.2.2 The assemblage has been quantified by ware type within each context; totals are given in **Table 2**. Following this quantification, most of the pottery was discarded; items retained comprise the medieval sherds, and sherds of early post-medieval Staffordshire-type slipware.

### **Medieval**

- 5.2.3 The earlier of the two medieval sherds recovered is in a coarse sandy fabric that can be identified as of south-east Wiltshire/East Dorset type; comparable wares were produced at the late 13th/early 14th century kilns at Laverstock, near Salisbury, but were almost certainly also made at other locations in east Dorset. The overall date range for this ware type is from at least the 12th through to the 14th century; this small undiagnostic sherd cannot be dated more closely within that range. It was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 3, and was the only datable artefact from that layer.
- 5.2.4 A second sherd came from reworked natural (**159**), together with a post-medieval sherd. This is in a fine sandy fabric, and is of later medieval date (14th/15th century).

### **Post-medieval/modern**

- 5.2.5 The rest of the assemblage comprises a range of wares, which fall into three broad categories:
- 5.2.6 *Coarse earthenwares*: two types are represented here, both supplying utilitarian wares to the Site – pale-firing Verwood-type earthenwares from east Dorset; and redwares, almost certainly representing the products of more than one source. Three possible sources are located at roughly equal distances (15-20km) from the site: Crockerton to the north-east, Wanstrow to the north, and Holnest to the south-west.
- 5.2.7 *Early post-medieval finewares*: these are limited to eleven sherds of Staffordshire-type slipwares (17th/early 18th century), possibly all from a single cup or mug (layer **124** and stone surface **125**); and one very small sherd of white-dipped stoneware with moulded decoration, with a similar date range (redeposited natural **154**).
- 5.2.8 *Later post-medieval factory-produced wares*: these include a range of refined earthenwares (creamware, whiteware, yellow ware), bone china, porcelain and stoneware. Most of these supplied tea wares, other tablewares, and decorative wares, many of them transfer-printed. There are also two decorative (transfer-printed) wall tiles in a refined whiteware. The porcelain comprises a doll's head and leg. The yellow ware and stoneware were used more for utilitarian forms, the former including one kitchen dish and a jug with Mocha decoration, while the stoneware occurred in jar and bottle forms (containers for foodstuffs and other household goods), and was also used for kitchen bowls. The date range for this group of wares is late 18th to 20th century.

### **5.3 Ceramic Building Material**

- 5.3.1 This category includes fragments of brick and roof tile. One complete brick was recovered from topsoil in Trench 1, an unfrosted type measuring 230 x 110 x 60mm; the size is consistent with a post-medieval date within the range of 16th to 18th century.
- 5.3.2 Amongst the roof tile, two fragments of medieval tile were identified, both from Trench 1 topsoil. These are not reliable indicators of a medieval building on the Site, as ceramic tiles were frequently re-used.

5.3.3 One land drain was recovered, and one modern decorated wall tile.

#### **5.4 Wall Plaster**

5.4.1 Further building material was recovered in the form of small fragments of painted wall plaster. Most of this is monochrome, but occurred in several colours: white, red, blue, green and yellow (some with red smudges), but some was polychrome (blue on white, red and blue on white). This is all of modern date.

#### **5.5 Clay Pipe**

5.5.1 Most of the clay pipe comprised plain stems; there is one datable bowl (c. 1640-60), from demolition deposit (**127**).

#### **5.6 Stone and Flint**

5.6.1 All of the stone recovered comprised building materials, including one limestone flooring slab, and four fragments of roofing slate.

5.6.2 A single worked flint constitutes the only find of prehistoric date from the Site; this is a broken waste flake, which cannot be dated more closely.

#### **5.7 Glass**

5.7.1 The glass included fragments of window glass, but largely consisted of vessel glass, including a large number of complete or near complete bottles and jars, many of them embossed with makers' names and products. Most of these came from a deliberate dump of refuse within layer **121**, with other groups from Trench 1 topsoil and post-demolition deposit **104**. A small selection of the less common varieties amongst the complete bottles has been retained; all other glass was discarded.

5.7.2 Proprietary marks illustrate just some of the foodstuffs and other products used on the Site, and include well-known brands of the late 19th and 20th centuries such as Paterson's Camp Coffee (Glasgow), Owbridge's Lung Tonic (Hull), Eiffel Tower Lemonade (from Foster Clark of Maidstone), Yorkshire Relish (from Goodall, Backhouse & Co, Leeds), Chivers' Cambridge Lemonade (Histon, Cambridgeshire), Veno's Lightning Cough Cure, and Daddies Favourite Sauce. There are also unnamed products from Osmond & Son of Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and Holbrooks Ltd (probably Worcester sauce); a medicine bottle labelled with teaspoon quantities, and a blue ribbed (poison) bottle labelled 'Not to be taken'.

5.7.3 Other vessels include a tiny complete (?perfume) bottle, an octagonal tumbler, the ubiquitous green wine bottles, an octagonal inkwell, a barrel-shaped mustard jar, and a stopper with the mark of the Aire & Calder Bottle Company of Castleford. There was also half of an ashtray, and several fragments of decorative bowls.

#### **5.8 Synthetics**

5.8.1 A plastic comb was recovered from the topsoil in Trench 1. It warrants comment as it is an imitation of a well-known Saxon comb form: a triangular-backed composite comb with incised and stamped decoration on the tooth-plates.

## 5.9 Wood

- 5.9.1 The single piece of wood came from layer **121**, which contained deliberately dumped refuse. The piece is heavily worn, but appears to represent a plank, and retains a sub-oval deliberately made hole, probably a mortice hole, and one *in situ* nail. This object is of uncertain date and structural function.

## 5.10 Metalwork

### **Copper Alloy**

- 5.10.1 Three objects amongst the copper alloy can be dated as early post-medieval; all are items of dress or dress accessories.
- 5.10.2 A small decorative object from reworked natural (**126**) is a dress fastener from a paired hook-and-eye clasp; this would have been the hooked element, although the hook has broken off. It is cast, with elaborate moulded and openwork decoration; two small apertures near the top (opposite the hook), and two more, one on each side, would have been used to sew the fastener to the clothing. Hook fasteners, which are known from the Saxon period, reappeared in the 15th century and were particularly popular in the 16th and 17th centuries (Bailey 2004, 92). Two very similar fasteners to the example from Buck Mill are known from Norfolk (Portable Antiquity Scheme database, refs. NMS-E747C1; NMS-539A87), both dated to the 17th century on the grounds of decorative style.
- 5.10.3 One object, from post-demolition deposit **105**, has been identified as a purse bar; it comprises a horizontal bar with moulded terminals (one is missing), and a swivelling, oval loop; a comparable example is known from a 15th/16th century context in Norwich (Margeson 1993, no. 291). This object would have formed the support for a cloth or leather purse, suspended from the belt; such purses were popular from the 15th century onwards.
- 5.10.4 A shoe buckle from Trench 1 topsoil is of late 17th or early 18th century form; it is rectangular with moulded decoration and a separate spindle. A comparable example is dated to the period c. 1690-1720 (Whitehead 1997, no. 652).
- 5.10.5 Other identifiable copper alloy objects comprise two further buckles (not of closely datable form), two possible dress fasteners made from twisted wire; a small, perforated strip fitting or mount; four buttons; a spoon/fork handle; a pot lid; a bundle of wire; two small riveted fittings (to secure narrow pipes or cables); a short section of pipe with a junction fitting. All these are either demonstrably modern, or cannot be dated closely.

### **Lead**

- 5.10.6 Apart from a model lead soldier from post-demolition deposit **105**, the lead comprises miscellaneous fragments of sheet, with one or two window came fragments, i.e. probably all structural material, or the waste therefrom.

### **Iron**

- 5.10.7 The ironwork is mainly structural, and includes at least 30 nails. There are also various screws, spikes, rods, and miscellaneous fragments. Other identifiable objects include a hammerhead, a decorative grille, a grate fragment, and part of a decorative fireplace screen.

5.10.8 From the mill machinery, two surviving fragments of the iron waterwheel were recovered, as well as a cog or tooth from the waterwheel or sluiceway, and part of the launder or pentrough (cast iron structural brackets), all from topsoil contexts.

5.10.9 With the exception of a nail and an unidentified object from Trench 4, all of the ironwork came from Trench 1.

### **5.11 Animal Bone**

5.11.1 The small amount of animal bone recovered represents domestic refuse, presumably from on-site consumption. Interestingly, more than half of the bones (27) belong to rabbits, suggesting the trapping of wild species. Other species represented include sheep (3), chicken (1) and pig (1); other bones can only be assigned to 'large mammal', 'medium mammal' or 'small mammal' categories.

### **5.12 Potential and further recommendations**

5.12.1 This finds assemblage relates largely to the structure and occupation of the post-medieval mill. Elements of the mill structure (e.g. parts of the water wheel) have been identified, and aid the understanding of the mill workings. Domestic refuse, which includes the more closely datable artefacts, is almost entirely of modern date. While this includes some interesting examples of glass bottles stamped with manufacturers' marks, it has limited archaeological potential. A few artefacts of medieval and early post-medieval date (pottery sherds; metal dress accessories) are of interest.

5.12.2 No further work on the finds is recommended. Sufficient detail has been recorded at the assessment stage to provide a full archive record (including digital photographs of selected artefacts).

### **5.13 Discard policy**

5.13.1 Given the largely modern date range of the finds, a rigorous discard policy has been applied following quantification and assessment, with the agreement of the recipient museum. **Table 3** summarises the discard policy adopted for each material types, and gives the quantities retained. Further discard may take place before final archive deposition, in consultation with the museum.

5.13.2 Selected elements of the mill structure will be retained, as potentially of interest to future researchers, together with a very few artefacts from the assemblage of domestic refuse. All other finds have been, or will be discarded.

## **6 DISCUSSION**

### **6.1 Introduction**

6.1.1 The programme of works at Buck Mill was only partially successful in its stated aims of identifying the earliest evidence of medieval occupation on Site and defining the chronology of the standing remains of the post-medieval mill building.

## 6.2 Medieval

- 6.2.1 No *in situ* archaeological evidence for a *Domesday* mill was observed on Site though possible locations for such a building were identified through the landscape survey and the re-examination of the *Domesday* reference.
- 6.2.2 The lack of medieval mill remains may be due to the type of mill recorded at *Domesday*. If it was a simple horizontal 'click'-mill, it may not have survived in the archaeological record; such structures were insubstantial.
- 6.2.3 Two sherds of medieval pottery and two fragments of medieval ceramic roof tile do show evidence of medieval activity on the Site but are not particularly informative.

## 6.3 Post-medieval

- 6.3.1 The Calendar of Patent Rolls for 1555 mentions the manor of Stoke Trister but there is no reference to a watermill, despite watermills being included as part of other manors within the same text. However by 1566 a '*mill called Buckmill*' is recorded in Cucklington. It can be assumed, therefore, that the mill in Area 1 was constructed sometime in the middle of the 16th century. The earliest datable finds would support this date (15th/16th century purse bar; 16th/17th century dress fastener).
- 6.3.2 The post-medieval mill was clearly successful enough to change with the times and to upgrade to more efficient and productive methods of milling. This is evident from the change from the original wide breast-shot wheel to the narrow overshot wheel, probably some time in the 18th century, although the date cannot be fixed. Such a change would have been expensive, not only because of the cost of new machinery, a new wheel, and the cost of the extensive construction and associated landscaping, but also through the loss of revenue during the period of remodelling.

## 7 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1.1 The results of the evaluation do not warrant detailed publication, but a summary will be submitted to the *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society*, for inclusion in the annual round-up of archaeology in the county.

## 8 ARCHIVE

- 8.1.1 The project archive, which includes drawn plans and sections, photographs, written records, artefacts and digital data is currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 74152. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with Somerset County Council Museums Service, under the Accession Number TTNCM 39/2010.

---

## 9 REFERENCES

### 9.1 Bibliography

**Bailey, G., 2004**, *Buttons and Fasteners 500BC-AD1840*, Witham: Greenlight

**GSB Prospection, 2010**, Buck Mill, Somerset, Geophysical Survey Report 2010/31. Unpublished client report for Time Team

**Margeson, S., 1993**, *Norwich Households: medieval and ost-medieval finds from Norwich Survey excavations 1971-78*, East Anglian Archaeol. 58

**Thorn, C. and Thorn, F. (eds), 1980**, *Domesday Book: Somerset*

**VCHS 1999**, *Victoria County History of the Counties of England: Somerset, Vol 7* (ed. R.W. Dunning)

**Videotext Communications, 2010**, Proposed Archaeological Evaluation Buck Mill, Somerset, NGR ST 7466 2817, unpublished project design

**Whitehead, R., 1996**, *Buckles 1250-1800*, Chelmsford: Greenlight

**Williams, A. and Martin, P. (eds), 1992**, *Domesday Book: A Complete Translation* Penguin Books

### 9.2 Historic Environment Records

Somerset Records Office (SRO):

1566 1st Earl of Pembroke Survey SRO PAM 2664

1703 Will of John Benjafield SRO DD\X\SLT/1

1776 Deeds of Mary Benjafield SRO DD\X\SLT/1

1778 Deeds of Mary Benjafield SRO DD\X\SLT/1

1790 Deeds of Mary Benjafield SRO DD/DNL 45

1791 Bayford Property Sale SRO DD/SAS/SW6

1850 Will of William Biggin DD\SAS/C795/SW/21

### 9.3 Cartographic Sources

1782 Edward Phelips Estate Map of Cucklington (SRO DD\PH/158)

1792 Stoke Manor Estate Map (SRO STO/T\PH\WW/1)

1838 Tithe Map (SRO D\D\Rt\M/73)

### 9.4 Aerial Photographs

Aerial photograph dated 4th November 1946 (NMR/RAF/CPE/UK1821)

Aerial photograph dated 16th January 1947 (NMR RAF/CPE/UK/1924).



## 9.5 Online resources

Portable Antiquities Scheme database: <http://finds.org.uk/database>,  
accessed March 2011

---

## 10 GLOSSARY

This section provides a brief glossary for some of the terms associated with watermill technology which are used in this report.

**breast-shot wheel:** water wheel in which the incoming water hits the wheel halfway up.

**cog/gear pit:** houses the pit wheel, which is linked to the water wheel by an axle. The pit wheel is linked to the *wallower*.

**Hurst frame:** an internal framework supporting the gears and millstones.

**launder:** alternative term for *pentrough*.

**leat:** watercourse supplying a mill with running water.

**overshot wheel:** water wheel in which the incoming water hits the wheel at the top. Overshot wheels are more efficient than breast-shot wheels as they are driven by weight of water.

**pentrough:** reservoir of water which would have sat at the head of the leat, immediately before the wheel pit. Flow of water from the pentrough (or chute) on to the water wheel would have been controlled by the penstock, or sluice, which can be raised and lowered.

**runner stone:** millstones work in pairs. The lower stone, or bedstone is stationary, while the upper stone, or runner stone, turns and performs the grinding. The runner stone is held to the spindle by a metal rynd or bracket.

**wallower:** a small gear at the base of the upright shaft; meshes with the cogs of the pit wheel, and turns the spur wheel, which is mounted on the same shaft. The spur wheel drives the millstones.

**wheel pit:** pit in which the water wheel is mounted.

**Table 1: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)**

Material	Tr. 1	Tr. 2	Tr. 3	Tr. 4	Total
Animal Bone	49/186				49/186
Ceramic Building Material	28/9714	2/227	3/15	4/92	37/10,048
Clay Pipe	7/34			2/2	9/36
Copper Alloy	20/620	1/1			21/621
Flint		1/2			1/2
Glass	83/10,493				83/10493
Iron	140/44,236			2/15	142/44,251
Lead	18/442	3/122			21/564
Pottery	244/10,254	3/261	4/54	4/25	255/10,594
Stone	5/2000				5/200
Synthetics	1/44				1/44
Wall Plaster	61/1789				61/1789
Wood	1/1907				1/1907

**Table 2: Pottery totals by ware type**

Date Range	Ware Type	No. sherds	Weight (g)
MEDIEVAL	SE Wilts/E Dorset coarseware	1	20
	Late medieval sandy ware	1	4
	<i>sub-total medieval</i>	2	24
POST-MEDIEVAL	Bone china	15	211
	Creamware	3	71
	Stoneware	22	1519
	Porcelain	2	17
	Redware	8	448
	Refined redware	6	202
	Refined whiteware	97	2373
	Staffordshire-type slipware	11	39
	Verwood-type earthenware	94	5471
	Yellow ware	10	182
	<i>sub-total post-medieval</i>	268	10,533
	<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>10,557</b>

**Table 3: Discard policy for finds**

<b>Material Type</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Total no. recovered</b>	<b>Total no. retained</b>
Animal Bone	All discarded	49	0
Ceramic Building Material	All discarded	37	0
Clay Pipe	Datable bowl retained; plain stems discarded	9	1
Copper Alloy	Datable early post-medieval objects retained (e.g. purse bar, dress fastener, shoe buckle); remainder discarded	21	7
Worked Flint	All retained	1	1
Glass	Some good examples of complete bottles with manufacturers' or other marks, and single piece of early post-medieval window glass retained; remainder discarded	83	11
Iron	Samples of structural ironwork retained, as well as some identifiable objects (not nails); remainder discarded	142	100
Lead	Lead soldier retained; remainder discarded	21	1
Pottery	Early post-medieval finewares, and two medieval sherds retained; remainder discarded	255	12
Stone	All discarded	5	0
Synthetics	Retained	1	1
Wall Plaster	A few representative samples retained; remainder discarded	61	7
Wood	Retained	1	1

**APPENDIX 1: TRENCH SUMMARIES**

bgl = below ground level

Area 1		Centred on co-ordinate	374592.48, 128228.60
Dimensions: 24m by 20m		Max Depth: 2m	Ground Surface
			75.85m aOD
Context	Description		Depth bgl
101	Topsoil	Modern loose humic mid-brown silty loam with common small limestone inclusions and modern roots. Concentrated in the western half of Area 1 in the domestic half of the mill building. Equivalent to 102 and 103.	0.10m thick
102	Topsoil	Modern loose humic mid-brown silty loam with common small limestone inclusions and modern roots. Concentrated above the meal floor area of the mill which housed the pit wheel, the wallower and the Hurst frame which supported the mill machinery. Equivalent to 101 and 103.	0.15m thick
103	Topsoil	Modern loose humic mid-brown silty loam with common small limestone inclusions and modern roots. Concentrated in the eastern area of the mill building over the external wheel pit. Equivalent to 101 and 102.	0.14m thick
104	Layer	Dark grey-brown silty loam with common small limestone inclusions. Post-demolition accumulation material, deposited following the partially demolition and robbing of stonework from the mill building. Concentrated above the meal floor and gear/cog pit of the mill. Sealed by 102 and overlies 105.	0.20m thick
105	Layer	Light yellow silty loam with sandy content, mortar-rich layer derived from the cleaning of stonework for recycling following the collapse/demolition of the mill building. Deposit concentrated over the area of the meal floor. Sealed by 104 and overlies 120.	0.30m thick
106	Layer	Mixed deposit of mid-brown silty loam with high humic content and large limestone blocks. Deliberate backfill event within the second phase of wheel pit (Group 189) following the abandonment of the Site. Sealed by 103; overlies decayed iron water wheel 174.	1.10m thick
107	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown silty loam with common dumps of loose mid brown silty loam. Mixed deposit of post-demolition accumulation and demolition/collapse material, sealed by 101 and overlies 108 within the domestic western end of the mill building.	0.20m thick
108	Layer	Mid- to light yellow silty clay mortar rich layer containing painted wall plaster and broken CBM. Material derived from the cleaning off of useable stonework and bricks for reuse. Sealed by 107 and overlies flagged floor 109. Equivalent to 169.	0.10m thick
109	Floor	Stone flagged surface of possible blue lias limestone. A number of flags show evidence of having been machine cut, possibly with a steam powered saw. Flags roughly 1m square and 0.03m thick. Flags laid on reworked natural bedding layer 158/159; post-date construction of walls 145, 146, 147 and 148.	0.03m thick
110	Layer	Friable mid-yellow-brown with green hue silty loam, material derived from cleaning off mortar from reused stonework. Sealed by 105 and seals Hurst frame base 111.	0.09m thick
111	Structure	Raised stone platform formed of pitched limestone blocks and reused broken millstone (Old Red Sandstone conglomerate from the Wye valley). Millstone up-ended to reveal rynd hole (carved socket to hold the rynd, the bracket holding runner stone to spindle and the rest of gearing mechanism). It is a 4 straight-armed rynd, possibly 17th century in date, but probably reused in the 18th/19th	0.20m thick

		century (M. Watts pers. comm.). 111 constructed upon walls 117, 131 and 132 which forms Group 188: the cog/gear pit. 111 would have held the Hurst frame which supported the gear mechanism, and was associated with slot 191 and 192 which would have held timber beams of the Hurst frame.	
112	Surface	Stone flagged surface of possible blue lias limestone, forming surface of meal floor. At ground level, housed machinery and gearing to drive millstones; would have been where ground floor was delivered. Flags similar to 109, those in the domestic area of the mill. Surface 112 appears to butt wall 116 which separates the domestic and working areas of the mill.	-
113	Wall	E-W aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall; 9.20m long, 0.48m wide and 1.15-2.10m in height. Six horizontal courses of rough limestone blocks in light yellow lime mortar. Wall forms the northern wall of the domestic end of the mill building and is bonded to and contemporary with 114 and 181 at its eastern and western ends respectively. Eastern end at junction with 114 is heavily disturbed and slumping to the south. Northern side butted by added buttress 165 at junction with 114, and corner of 113 and 181 butted by the addition of later wall 182.	1.15-2.10m high
114	Wall	N-S aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall; 3.3m long by 0.70m wide and maximum of 1.63m high. 22 horizontal courses of roughly hewn stones 0.40m by 0.12m in limestone mortar. Not exposed to full height. Wall contemporary with and bonded to walls 113 and 115, and forms eastern elevation of domestic area of the mill; forms a dog leg with 116. At junction with 115, wall 114 is butted by supporting structure 152.	1.63m high
115	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall; at least 6.5m long by at least 0.4m wide and ranging in height from 2.30-2.50m. This wall not fully exposed in plan or elevation due to addition of later structures. Recorded as 20 courses of stonework measuring 0.66m by 0.22m in light yellow limestone mortar, flush jointing. This forms main northern wall of the milling area of the building, including the meal floor, cog/gear pit, and wheel pit. Wall 115 contemporary with wall 114 and potentially with walls 131, 132, 117 and 119 to form the main mill building. Wall butted by supporting buttress 129 and blocking structure 130, following conversion from breast-shot to overshot wheel technology. In south facing elevation is beam slot 192 to receive horizontal timber beam - part of the Hurst frame.	2.30-2.50m high
116	Wall	N-S aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall; 4.2m long by 0.51m wide and ranging in height from 0.70-1.60m. 20 courses of rough limestone blocks, mid yellow mortar which differs from wall 115. Wall 116 clearly butts 115 and is therefore later. Junction with 115 supported by addition of 152. This addition separates the domestic area from the meal floor. Not fully exposed in plan, but doorway visible in east-facing elevation, with threshold/step of bricks. Wall 116 butted by 112, and may have been added during conversion to overshot water wheel.	0.70-1.60m high
117	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned limestone block wall; 5m long by 0.80m wide and a maximum of 3m high. Roughly 30 courses in height of mixed sized blocks. Wall 117 contemporary with 115 and bonded to it, to form eastern wall of cog/gear pit (Group 188) and western wall of the wheel pit (Group 189). At point where wheel shaft passed through wall 177 there were a number of repairs: 133 and 134, probably during the replacing of the wheel shaft when the wheel pit was narrowed. Wall 117 sits on rammed stone surface 125: the base of the cog/gear pit.	3m maximum high

118	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall; 4.6m long by 0.66m wide and 1.40m+ high. Constructed of 9 visible horizontal courses, stones 0.60m x 0.28m x 0.30m in size in a mid yellow limestone mortar. Wall 118 clearly a later wall as it butts wall 115, and was inserted into original wheel pit (formed by 117 and 119) to narrow it. Wall 118 contemporary with blocking wall 130 and supporting buttress 129. Butted by backfill material 144 and sealed by flagged surface 143 creating working platform adjacent to wheel pit.	1.40m high +
119	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned; 1.7m long by 0.56m wide and ranging in height from 0.90-1.40m. Wall 119 contemporary with walls 115, 117 and 131 and would have formed eastern wall of original wheel pit; replaced by addition of 118 to narrow wheel pit. Wall 119 butted by deliberate backfill material 144 with 143 sat upon it.	0.90-1.40m high
120	Layer	Mid-grey-brown silty clay; deliberate backfill deposit which seals the cog/gear pit (Group 188), and overlies 121.	0.25m thick
121	Layer	Dark grey-brown silty sandy deposit; deliberate dump of material comprising predominantly glass and pottery - Victorian bottle and pottery dump. Overlies 124 and sealed by 120.	0.16m thick
122	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty clay with common fragments of coal and coke infilling voids between the flags 109 in the domestic area of the mill building. Demolition/abandonment deposition. Same as 123. Sealed by 108.	0.11m thick.
123	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty clay with common fragments of coal and coke infilling voids between the flags 109 in the domestic area. Demolition/abandonment deposition. Same as 122. Sealed by 108.	0.13m thick
124	Layer	Mid-yellow-brown sandy silty clay containing rare CBM fragments. Material at the base of the cog/gear pit, which overlies floor of the pit 125. Material appears to be derived from the mortar cleaned off the reused stonework. Sealed by 121.	0.36m thick
125	Surface	Rammed stone surface at the base of cog/gear pit (Group 188), 125 overlies 126. Overlain by walls 132 and 117.	0.10m thick
126	Layer	Redeposited or at least re-worked natural blue-grey clay revealed below surface 125 in cog/gear pit (Group 159).	0.20m +
127	Layer	Mid-brown silty loam with common fragments of yellow limestone mortar. Demolition/collapse deposit which seals the junction of blocking structure 130 and supporting buttress 129 with walls 115, 118 and 119. Deposit contained clay pipe bowl dating 1660-80 with mortar adhering, indicating it had come from fabric of a wall (though unclear which wall).	0.10m thick
128	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned wall; 3.9m long and 1.50m high. Not revealed in plan. Wall 128 butts the junction of walls 115 and 119. Associated with earthwork 193 to form a separate building at the eastern end of the mill. Probably the building shown on the 1838 Tithe map.	1.50m high
129	Buttress	Curving buttress constructed of limestone blocks c.0.60m by 0.30m in size; 1.8m wide and 2.90m high. Much of this structure is obscured by limescale. Wall 129 added to southern elevation of wall 115 between the junctions of walls 117 and 118 with 115. Associated with blocking structure 130 and wall 118. Walls 129, 118 and 130 were constructed to convert the mill from a breast-shot wheel to an overshot wheel – 129 was supporting structure for new launder pentrough 190 for the overshot wheel. The buttress and blocking raised the height at which the water drove the wheel by over 1.50m.	2.30m high
130	Blocking structure	Limestone stone blocking structure formed of unworked stones and roughly squared off blocks; 1.20m long by 0.75m wide and	1.70m high

		1.70m high. Structure only partially revealed in plan and elevation due to tree cover and limescale coverage. 130 added when wheel pit was narrowed by addition of 118.	
131	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned limestone block wall; 4.4m long by 0.78m wide and 1.38m high; constructed of 11 rough courses in mid-yellow-brown sandy lime mortar. Wall 131 bonded to 115 and forms the western side of the cog/gear pit (Group 188). Probably first phase of the mill, though adapted and altered in later periods. Wall appears butted by reworked natural 126 and surface 125.	1.38m high
132	Wall	E-W aligned wall; 1m long and 1.10m high. Only revealed in elevation. Forms northern wall of the cog/gear pit (Group 188). Probably later addition as sits directly upon surface 125 and is overlain by Hurst frame base 111.	1.10m high
133	Wall repair	Mix of brick and stone repair work to wall 117 at point where the wheel shaft passes through, from cog/gear pit to wheel pit.	-
134	Wall repair	Second stone and brick repair to 117 and possibly associated with the addition of 132 and 111.	-
135	Natural	Trampled natural blue-grey clay geology, equivalent to 142 and 161; revealed at south western corner of mill building. Cut by 136 culvert and construction cut for walls 139 and 140.	-
136	Cut	Cut of culvert which encompasses the south-western corner of mill building. Aligned E-W but visible turning to north around junction of walls 139 and 140. Culvert 2.1m long by 0.50m wide and 0.65m wide; lined with stone blocks 155 and capped with capping stones 137. Infilled with material 156 and 157 following the abandonment of the mill. Culvert diverted water away from mill building; traced across front of southern side of mill towards tail race leading away from wheel pit.	0.65m deep
137	Structure	Large limestone capping stones over stone-lined culvert 136. Sits directly upon stone lining 155 and sealed by 138.	-
138	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty clay with common small limestone inclusions; post-demolition accumulation, mix of trampled disturbed natural and demolition material. Seals demolished walls 139 and 140 and culvert capping 137.	0.09m thick
139	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned limestone block wall only revealed in plan; 0.87m long by 0.80m wide, associated with 140 to south-western corner of mill building. Continuation of wall 150. Constructed within cut 186. Extension to domestic area of mill.	-
140	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned limestone block wall only revealed in plan; 1.20m long by 0.80m wide, associated with 139 to the south-western corner of the mill building. Continuation of wall 185. Constructed within cut 186. Second phase of building works, extension to domestic area of mill.	-
141	layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty clay with common small limestone inclusions; post-demolition accumulation, mix of trampled disturbed natural and demolition material. Seals demolished walls 139 and 140. Equivalent to 138.	-
142	Natural	Mid-blue-grey natural clay, that has been trampled and reworked to a degree. Cut by 186, construction cut for walls 139 and 140. Equivalent to 135 and 161.	-
143	Surface	Roughly shaped limestone flags creating surface over the backfilled part of the original wheel pit, associated with wall 118 which narrowed the pit and infilling 144.	0.07m thick
144	Layer	Mixed and mottled light yellow sandy silt and mid-brown silty clay, common small limestone inclusions and mortar dumps. Deliberate infilling deposit between wall 118 and original wheel pit wall 119, to provide base for overlying flags 143.	0.40m+ thick



145	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall in limestone mortar. 0.45m long by 0.55m wide and 0.20m high, with 2 recorded rough horizontal courses. This stub of wall associated with 146 formed entrance into (probable) kitchen area, leading from the central corridor walls 147 and 148 and external entrance threshold 149. Continuation of wall 184. Wall 145 in alignment with wall 115, possibly therefore original southern outside wall of mill, contemporary with walls 113, 114, 115 and 181 (this hypothesis is supported by the addition of buttress 152).	0.20m high
146	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned roughly hewn limestone block wall in limestone mortar. 0.72m long by 0.69m wide and 0.27m high, with 2 recorded rough horizontal courses. This stub of wall associated with 145 formed the entrance into (probable) kitchen area. Continuation of wall 168. Wall 146 is in alignment with wall 115, possibly therefore the original southern outside wall of the mill (see also 145).	0.27m high
147	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned brick wall; 4.5m long by 0.12m wide and 0.16m high. Wall recorded as 2 courses in stretcher bond in a light yellow limestone mortar and a single brick width wide. Associated with 148 to form corridor leading from doorway into domestic area of mill across threshold 149, to probable kitchen area. Fairly insubstantial wall, therefore possibly held lath and plaster non-load bearing partition wall.	0.16m high
148	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned brick wall; 4.3m long by 0.12m wide and 0.16m high. 2 courses in stretcher bond in a light yellow limestone mortar and a single brick width wide, over a stepped header footing. Associated with 147 to form corridor. Fairly insubstantial wall and therefore possibly held lath and plaster non-load bearing partition wall.	0.16m high
149	Threshold stone	Single large limestone slab; 1.02m long by 0.56m wide and 0.10m thick, located between walls 150 and 151 to form the threshold into domestic area of mill.	0.10m thick
150	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned limestone block wall only revealed in plan; 0.55m long by 0.59m wide. Associated with 151 to form walls either side of entrance into domestic area of mill across threshold stone 149. Continuation of wall 139. Extension to domestic area of mill.	-
151	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned limestone block wall only revealed in plan; 0.58m long by 0.49m wide. Sondage excavated against 151 revealed a foundation 0.66m deep; constructed of 6 courses of roughly hewn limestone blocks in a light yellow limestone mortar. Associated with 150 to form walls either side of entrance into domestic area. Continuation of wall 177. Extension to domestic area of mill.	0.66m deep footing
152	Buttress	Roughly rectangular buttress; 1.02m long by 0.38m wide and 1.64m in height; constructed of 7 courses of limestone blocks in light yellow mortar over 5 courses of highly vitrified bricks. Buttress located at the junction of walls 114 and 115 where 115 is butted by 116. Associated with the addition of 116, 139/150 and 151/177.	1.64m high
153	Topsoil	Modern loose humic mid-brown silty loam with common small limestone inclusions and modern roots; overlies wall 163.	0.10m thick
154	Natural	Mid blue-grey clay, probably redeposited natural located to the north of wheel pit (Group 189), and cut by wall 163, the approach to the launder from the leat.	-
155	Stone lining	Roughly hewn small limestone blocks to stone lining of culvert 136, 7 courses. Overlain by 137.	0.65m high
156	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown and mid-yellow silty clay lower fill of culvert 136. Material accumulated during the lifetime and following	0.35m thick

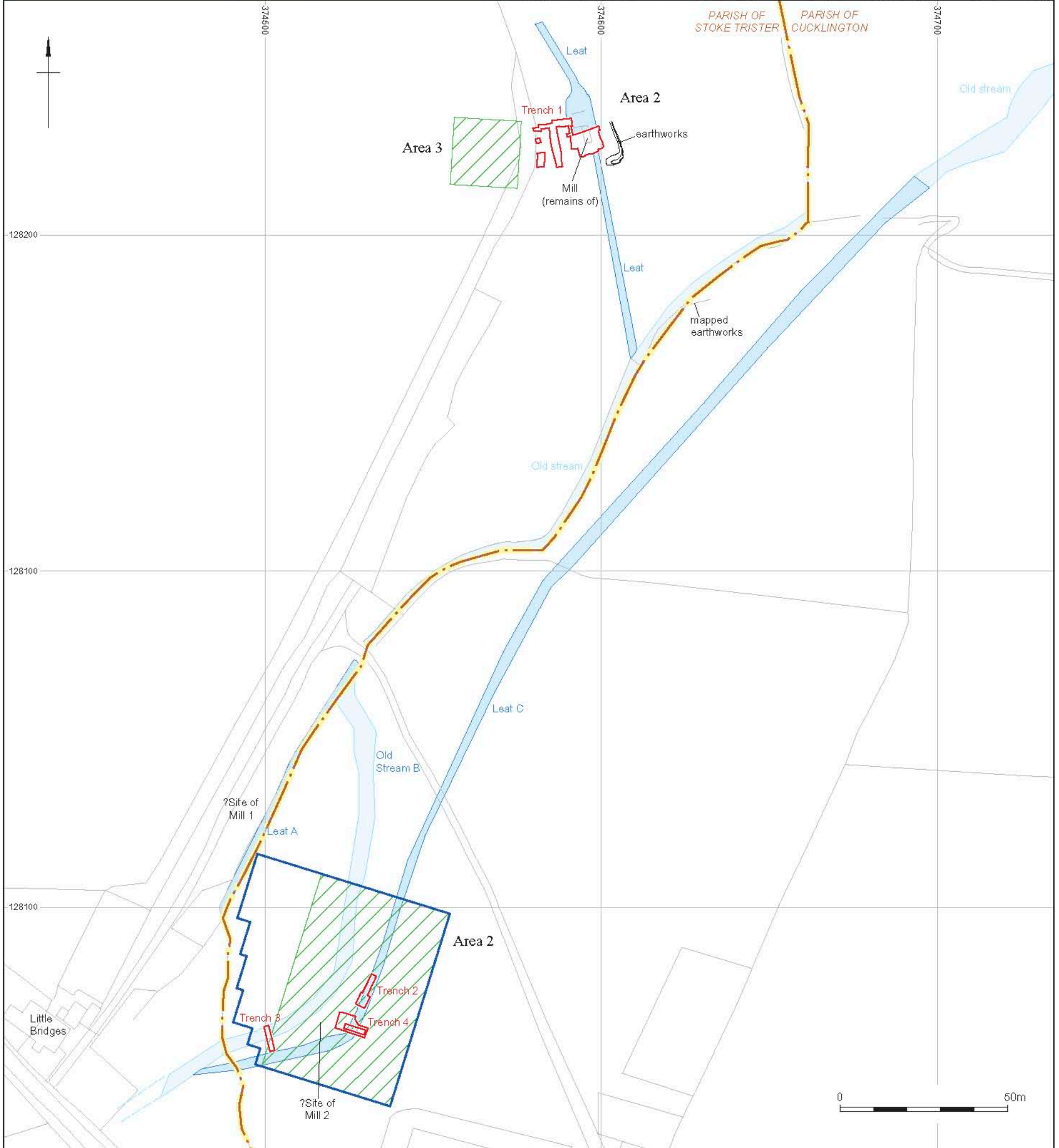
		the abandonment of the mill, and so stratigraphically later than 137. Sealed by layer 157.	
157	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay infilling of culvert 136, overlies 156.	0.25m thick
158	Natural	Mid-blue-grey clay, reworked and trampled natural clay acting as bedding layer for floor 109, and revealed in sondage below later material 123. Equivalent to 159; overlies natural clay.	0.20m thick
159	Natural	Mid-blue-grey clay, reworked and trampled natural clay acting as bedding layer for floor 109, revealed in sondage below later material 122. Equivalent to 158; overlies natural clay.	0.20m thick
160	Cut	Cut of culvert. Continuation of 136, the stone lining has collapsed at this point resulting in deposit 172.	0.50m+ deep
161	Natural	Mid-blue-grey clay natural revealed in sondage to south of entrance threshold 149 into domestic area of mill. Cut by construction cut for wall 151 and culvert cut 160. Equivalent to 135 and 142.	0.49m thick +
162	Wall	Concrete wall which now forms a dam to the north of wheel pit area, and cuts off leat from mill. This was utilised as sheep dipping area. Wall cuts through 136.	-
163	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned limestone block wall; 3.55m long by 0.67m wide and 0.30m high. 3 courses of squared stone work. Forms eastern wall of leat and approach to launder / pentrough.	0.30m high
164	Cut	Eastern slope of leat which leads to launder / pentrough 190, visible as an earthwork. Western side of leat has been heavily affected by later activity.	-
165	Buttress	External buttress constructed of roughly hewn blue lias slabs with grey mortar, 4 random courses, 0.76m long by 0.54m wide and 0.31-0.47m in height. 165 is a simple set-back buttress.	0.31-0.47m high
166	Layer	Mixed and mottled, mid-grey-brown silty clay with common limestone and blue lias fragments, revealed in small sondage against buttress 165, unclear if deliberate packing or demolition/post-demolition accumulation.	-
167	Structure	Brick structure built against south-facing elevation of wall 1130 within domestic area of mill. Interpreted as a possible oven or fire place structure. 4 courses of bricks in limestone mortar.	0.35m high
168	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned wall constructed of 6 courses of brick over 2 courses of limestone. The bricks butt wall 114; possible that lower stone work is continuation of 164, and originally keyed into 114. Relationship of lower stone work of walls 168 and 114 is unclear.	0.43m high
169	Layer	Mid-yellow, limestone-rich mortar material around wall 168. Demolition material.	-
170	Layer	Light yellow-brown silty sand, mortar-rich layer, derived from cleaning off of mortar from stone work to be recycled. Sealed by 101 and overlies 171.	0.12m thick
171	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with common small fragments of CBM and limestone, possible make up layer for robbed surface to south of southern wall of mill building. Sealed by 170 and overlies footing of 151.	0.20m thick
172	Layer	Mottled mid-grey-brown silty clay mix of collapse and accumulation material within collapsed culvert 160.	-
173	Wall/Arch	Roughly E-W entrance archway with overlying wall, leading from wheel pit to tail race. 1.30m long by 0.54m wide and 1.20m high and 6 courses of limestone blocks.	1.20m high
174	Iron water wheel	6-horse power mill wheel (M. Watts pers. comm.); by angle of the buckets it an overshot wheel.	-
175	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown silty clay, demolition or post-demolition accumulation which overlies 143.	-
176	Structure	Partially exposed brick structure, possible pier base but unclear,	0.24m high

		0.56m long by 0.50m wide by 0.24m high, 2 courses of bricks in mid yellow mortar.	
177	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned wall only revealed in plan; 3.8m long by 0.50m wide. Forms southern wall of meal floor.	-
178	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with common small fragments of CBM and limestone, possible make-up layer for robbed surface to south of wall 177.	-
179	Layer	Mixed and mottled brown black silty clay with yellow sandy silt patches, fill of culvert 187 and overlies stone lining 194. Only partially revealed.	-
180	Layer	Similar sort of material to layer 178.	-
181	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned wall; 1.14m long by 0.44m wide and 0.10m+ in height. Only partial revealed; bonded to and thus contemporary with wall 113. Potentially formed original western wall of mill.	-
182	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned limestone block wall only revealed in plan; 1.74m long by 0.48m wide, addition on western end of mill; forms corner with 183, butts junction of 113 and 181.	-
183	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned wall revealed only in plan; 0.71m long by 0.48m wide, addition to western end of mill; forms corner with 182.	-
184	Wall	Roughly E-W aligned limestone block wall only revealed in plan; 1.30m long by 0.48m wide, heavily disturbed, aligned with 145. Associated with 185.	-
185	Wall	Roughly N-S aligned wall revealed only in plan; 0.94m long by 0.48m wide, associated with 184 and aligned with 140.	-
186	Cut	Construction cut for walls 140 and 139, cuts 142.	-
187	Cut	Cut of partially exposed culvert only observed in plan, continuation of 136 and 160. Infilled with 179.	-
188	Group	Group number for cog/gear pit, comprised of walls 131, 132, 117, 177, and 125.	-
189	Group	Group number for second phase wheel pit, comprised of walls 117, 173, 118 and 129.	-
190	Structure	<i>In situ</i> remains of launder or pentrough which stored the water before delivering it to overshot wheel. A number of squared off stone slabs and cast iron structural brackets were recovered, and these would have formed a stone trough, held by the iron brackets.	-
191	Beam slot	Remains of beam slot formed against 111 and sitting on 131; revealed as the location of horizontal sill beam for the base of the Hurst frame, this was contemporary with the beam slot hole 192 in elevation of wall 115. Associated with 111.	-
192	Beam slot	Beam slot revealed in south-facing elevation of wall 115 to take upper horizontal timber of the Hurst frame. Two possibilities for function of this timber - either (a) upper beam which would have held the millstones located on a mezzanine floor with no designated stone floor, or (b) intermediary horizontal timber and there was a 1st floor stone floor, but no traces of 1st floor joists survive. The 1782 map of the Manor of Cucklington shows the mill as a 2-storey building, therefore it would appear the latter interpretation is correct however this is unproven.	-
193	Earthwork	Earthworks formed from a collapsed N-S aligned wall and a E-W aligned wall. A number of stone faces are visible in the earthwork. Associated with wall 128 and part of the N-S aligned building shown on the 1838 Tithe map.	-
194	Structure	Partially revealed stone lining of culvert 187. Only revealed in plan, and sealed by backfill material 179.	-

<b>Trench 2</b>			<b>Co ordinates</b>	374524.71, 127965.87
<b>Dimensions:</b> 8.6m by 5.3m		<b>Max Depth:</b> 1.64m	<b>Ground Surface</b>	<b>74.30m aOD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth bgl</b>
201	Topsoil	Mid-brown-black silt with common bioturbation, current topsoil and turf of area of pasture.		0-0.41
202	Sub soil	Dark yellow-brown silty clay subsoil, no inclusions.		0.41-0.95
203	Fill	Dark grey-brown silty clay with manganese throughout. Secondary fill of leat. Upper secondary, naturally derived deposit, result of water flowing through channel and depositing material over time, low energy deposition. Fill of 205 and overlain by 203.		0.15m thick
204	Fill	Mid-yellow-brown silty clay lower secondary naturally derived fill of leat 205, overlain by 203.		0.40m thick
205	Cut	Cut of possible water course interpreted as an earlier leat associated with a probable medieval mill. Cuts 206 and filled with 204 and 203.		0.55m deep
206	Natural	Mid-yellow and mottled blue-grey clay natural geology, cut by 205.		

<b>Trench 3</b>			<b>Co ordinates</b>	374501.21, 127961.28
<b>Dimensions:</b> 8.6m by 1.6m		<b>Max Depth:</b> 1.15m	<b>Ground Surface</b>	<b>73.33m aOD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth bgl</b>
301	Topsoil	Mid-brown-black silt with no inclusions, current topsoil and turf of pasture field.		0-0.26m
302	Subsoil	Mid-brown-grey silty clay with rare manganese inclusions.		0.26-0.42m
303	Layer	Mid-orange-grey silty clay with rare manganese inclusions.		0.42-0.70m
304	Natural	Light yellow-grey mottled clay.		0.70m +

<b>Trench 4</b>			<b>Co ordinates</b>	374530.06, 127973.98
<b>Dimensions:</b> 10m by 3.1m		<b>Max Depth:</b> 0.35	<b>Ground Surface</b>	<b>73.75m aOD</b>
<b>Context</b>	<b>Description</b>			<b>Depth bgl</b>
401	Topsoil	Mid-brown-black silt with no inclusions, current topsoil and turf of pasture field.		0-0.23m
402	Subsoil	Dark yellow-brown silty clay.		0.25-0.35m
403	Layer	Possible alluvial layer, but not the same natural geology as observed in Trenches 2 and 3. No archaeological deposits observed and trench was not excavated deeper.		



- Present day parish boundary
- Domesday Book Manors
- Evaluation trench
- Gradiometer survey area
- Resistance survey area

Ordnance Survey digital mapping supplied by Time Team with the permission of the controller of HMSO © Crown Copyright (AL 100018666).  
 Additional digital map data © 2005 XYZ Digital Map Company.  
 Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospections Ltd.  
 This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.

Date:	01/04/11	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:80,000 & 1:1250	Illustrator:	KL
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\74152TT\Drawing Office\Report Figs\eval11_03\74152_eval_f1.dwg		

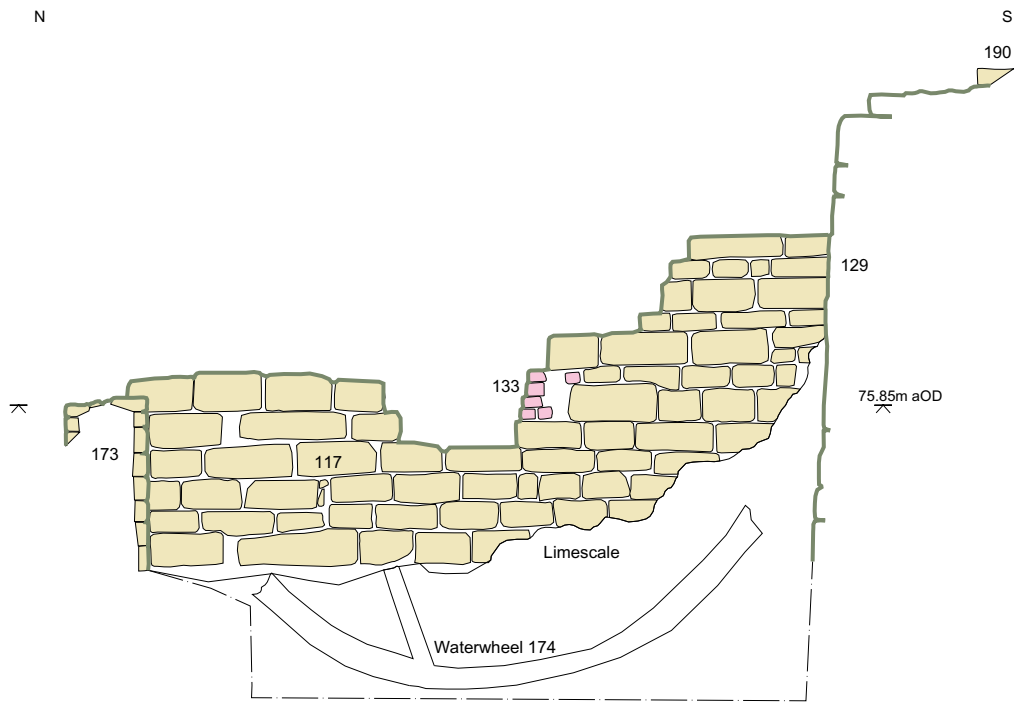


Site and trench location

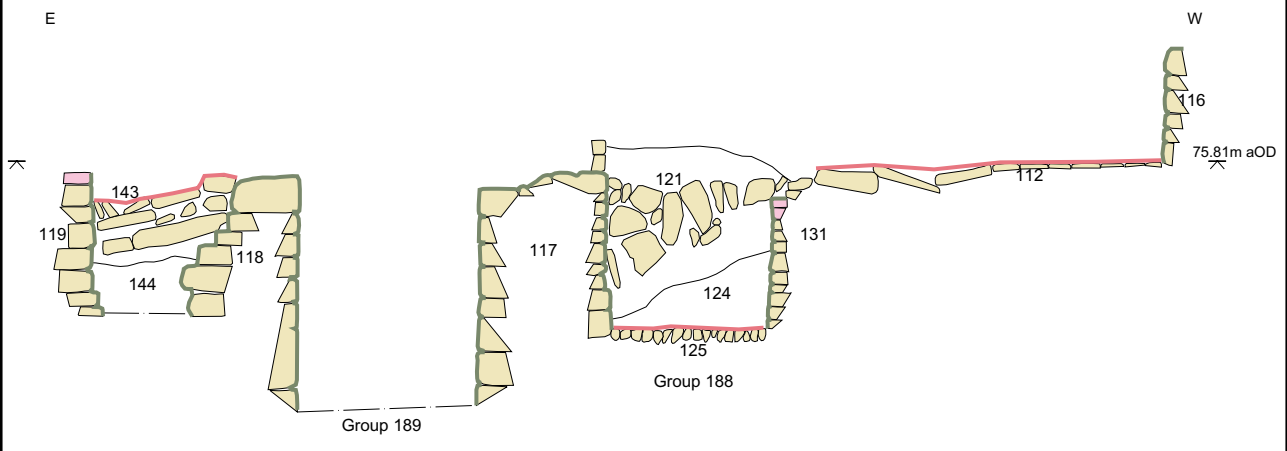
Figure 1



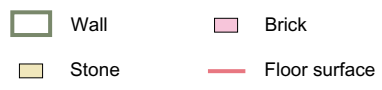
Plate 1: Trench 1, view from south



Profile 114 West-facing elevation of wheel pit Group 189



Profile 118/119 North-facing elevation through cog pit Group 188 and wheel pit Group 189



This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.



Date:	01/04/11	Revision Number:	0
Scale:	1:50 @ A4	Illustrator:	ST/KL
Path:	Y:\PROJECTS\74152TT\Drawing Office\Report Figs\level\11_03\74152_eval_f2.dwg		



Plate 2: Domestic area of the mill, view from south

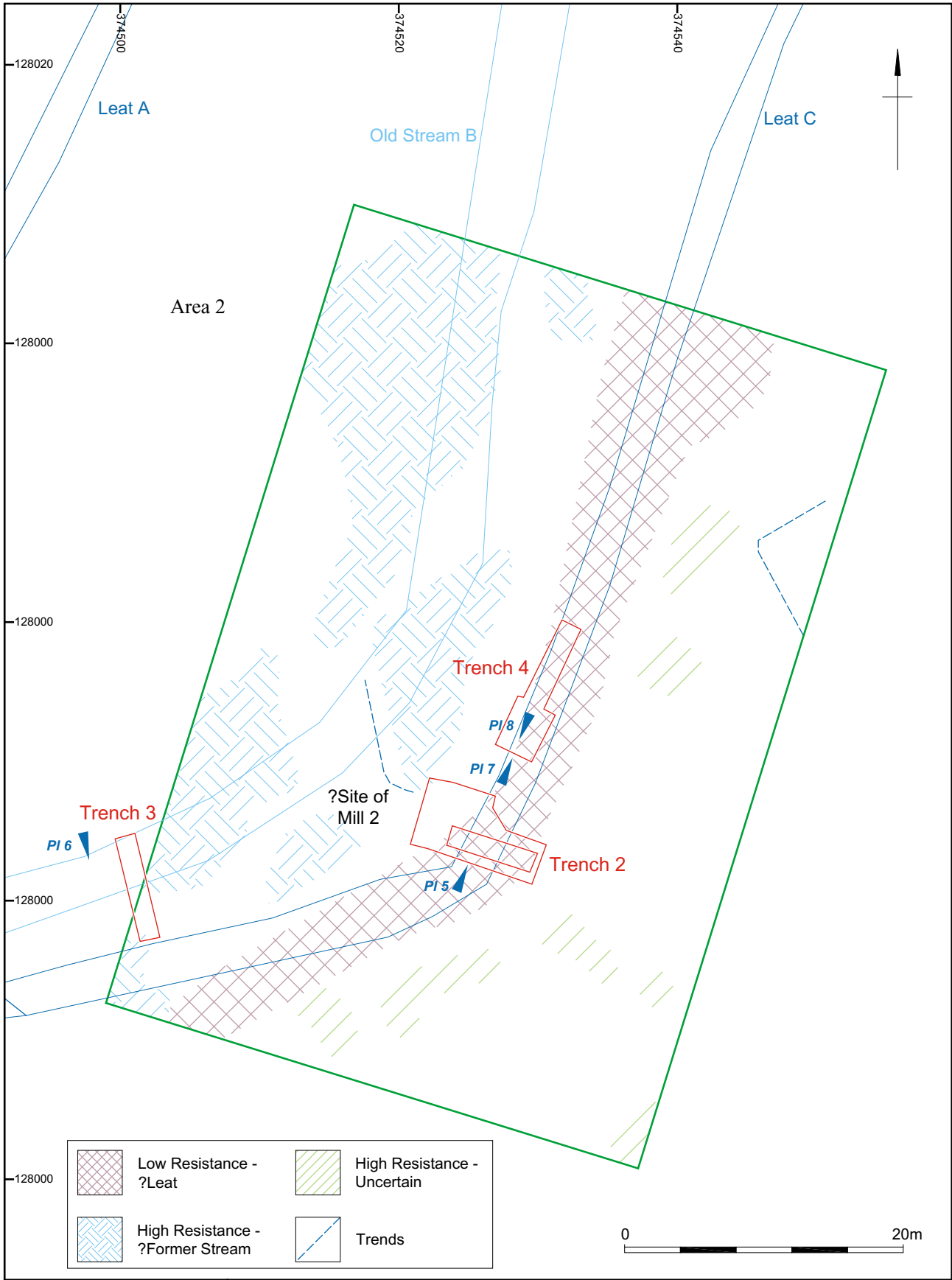


Plate 3: Meal floor, cog pit and wheel pit, view from south



Plate 4: Cog pit group 188, view from south-west





<p> <span style="border: 1px solid red; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Evaluation trench  <span style="border: 1px solid green; display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Resistance survey area  <span style="color: blue; font-size: 1.2em;">▶</span> Photograph direction of view  <b>Wessex</b>  <i>Archaeology</i> </p>	<p>Geophysical data courtesy of GSB Prospections Ltd.          This material is for client report only © Wessex Archaeology. No unauthorised reproduction.</p>	
	Date: 01/04/11	Revision Number: 0
	Scale: 1:400 @ A4	Illustrator: ST/KL
	Path: Y:\PROJECTS\74152TT\Drawing Office\Report Figs\level\11_03\74152_eval_f2.dwg	

Trenches 2, 3 and 4: plan and resistance survey interpretation

Figure 5



Plate 5: Trench 2, south-facing section of Leat C



Plate 6: Trench 3, view from south-west

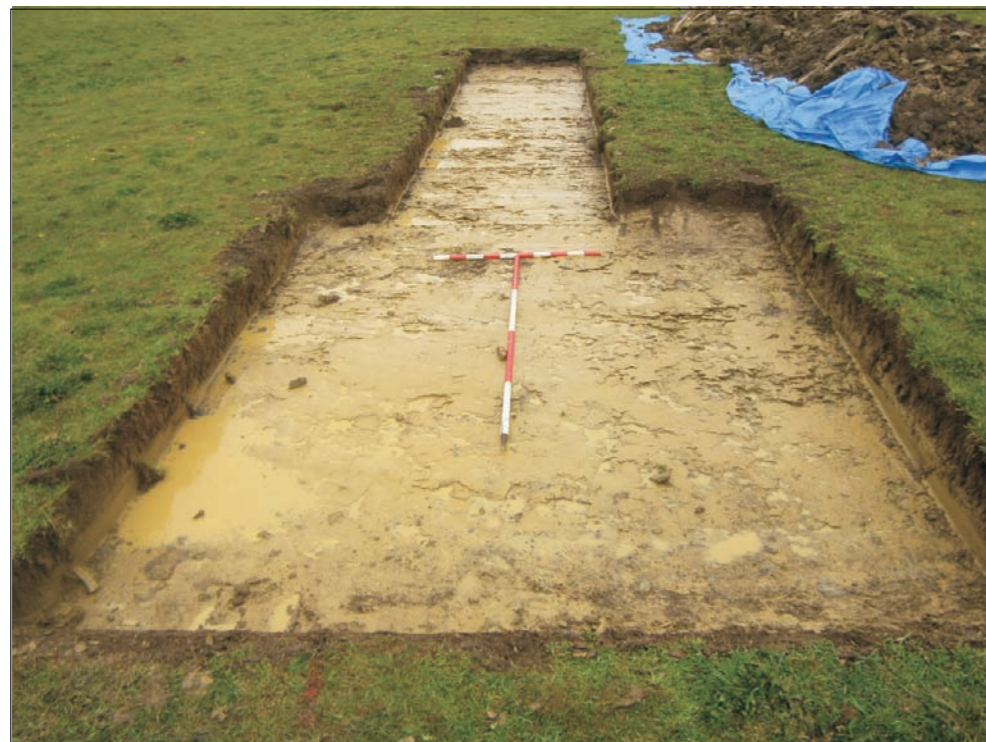


Plate 7: Trench 4, view from west



Plate 8: Trench 4, north-facing section



**WESSEX ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED.**

Registered Head Office: Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.

Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk

Regional offices in Edinburgh, Rochester and Sheffield

For more information visit [www.wessexarch.co.uk](http://www.wessexarch.co.uk)

