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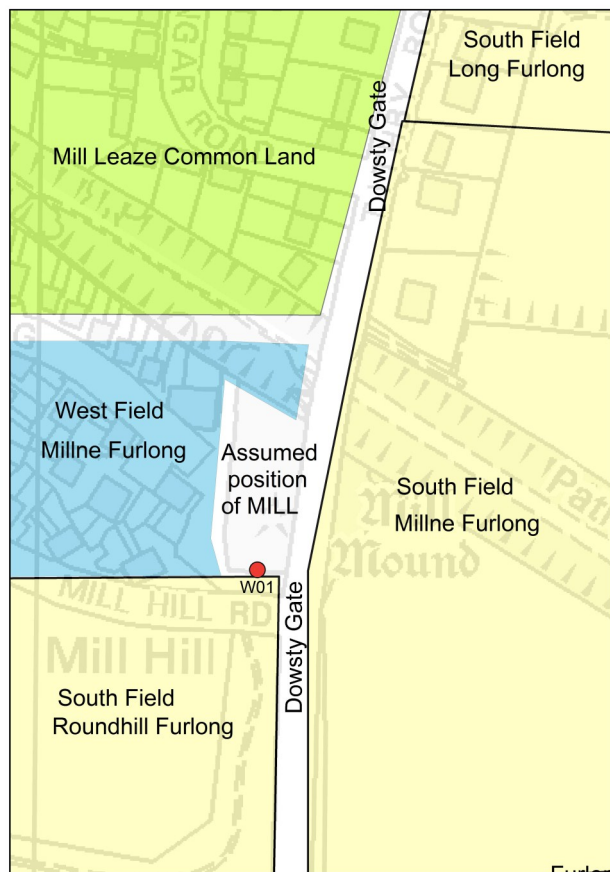
**ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORT ON
THE OLD MILL SITE, TITHBY ROAD**

CONTENTS

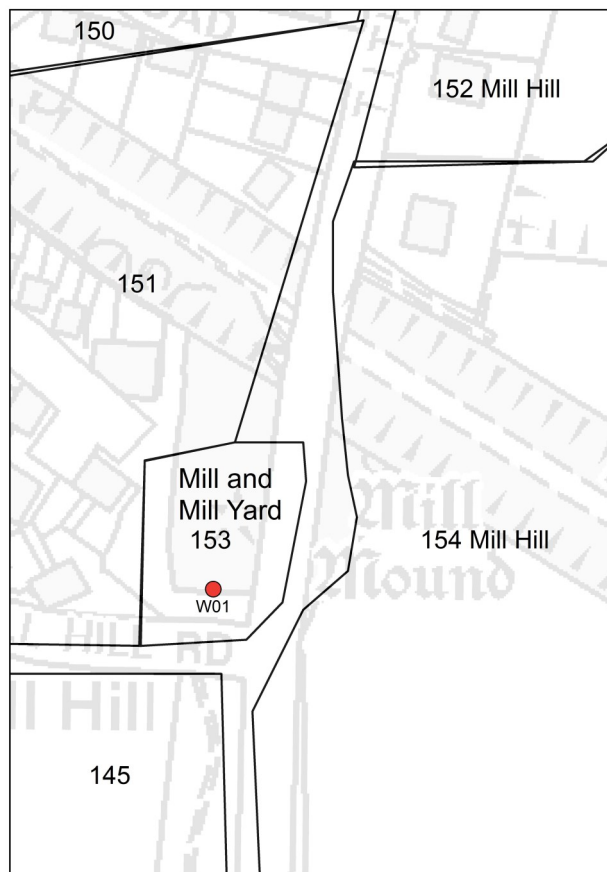
SITE HISTORY
LOCATION AND PROTOCOL
ANALYSIS OF RESULTS
 Description of pit
 Finds
 Interpretation

W01
THE WINDMILL SITE, TITHBY ROAD

SITE HISTORY



Conjectural map for 1586. Background modern topography on this and the other maps is from the OS licence No 0100031673.



Map for 1776 made from the estate survey documents.

1586

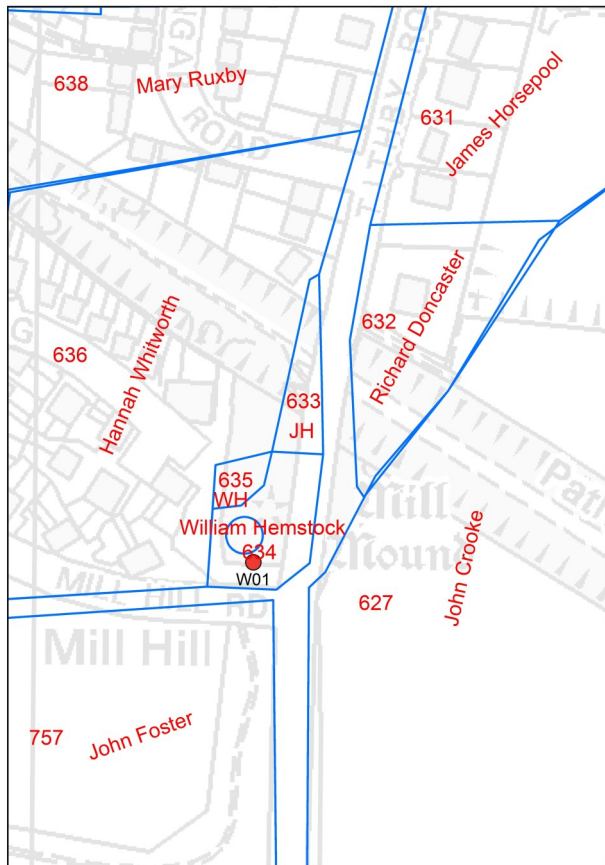
The 1586 text estate survey of 1596 refers to various pieces of land around what we know was the site of a windmill in 1841. These are shown on our conjectural map as Millne Furlongs in both South and West Fields and Mill Leaze. In the survey Thomas Wragby is shown as holding “a windmill from ancient times situated in the South Field”. He was described as a cottager and had no other property so must have lived at the mill. Whether it was operational is not clear. We can only assume this was a forerunner of the one documented in 1776 and 1841. Two or three Wragbys are recorded in the Parish Registers, but no Thomas, and with no occupations given. There was a second mill in Moor Lane held by John Allane who lived elsewhere in the village.

1776

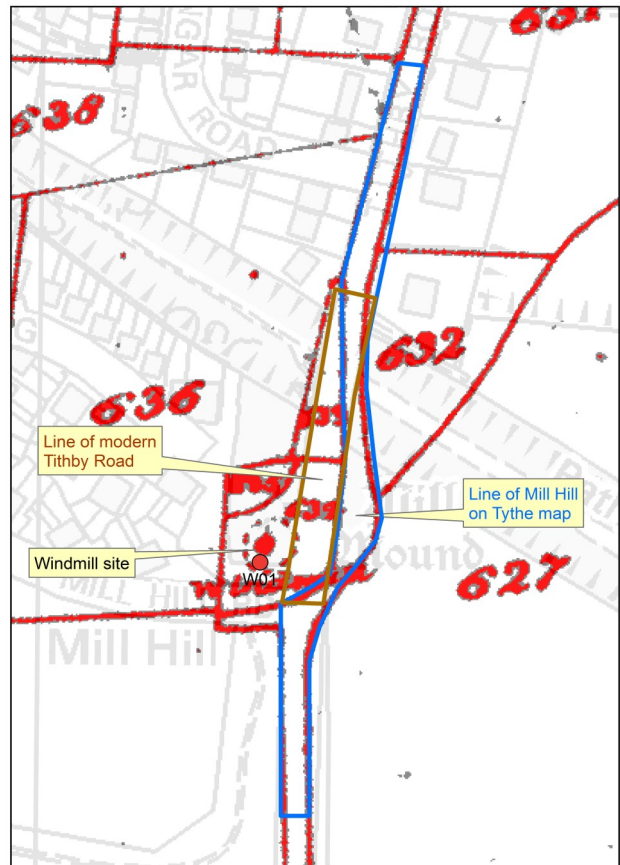
By 1776 the mill site had become a “mill and yard” held by John Lee. He lived at what is now 21 Church Street and also rented an acre of grazing on the moorland.

1841

Plot 634 was described in the tithe apportionment as a mill and a yard. It was held by William Hemstock who lived at what is now 21 Church Street, as had John Lee before him. It seems likely



Redrawn tithe map showing the original bend in the road



The tithe map of 1841



Modern O.S. map



Hemstock's Mill, T C Moore (1877).

that the house came with the job as miller.

Plot 635 was described as a house and garden and seems, from the census, to have been occupied in 1841 by the Cowdall family of chimney sweeps. It was the enumerator's last entry after Brackendale farm. Samuel and Elizabeth had 5 children. They also had two lodgers, brothers William and James Flower who were stocking makers.

Interestingly, plot 632 was occupied by Richard Doncaster, of the family of builders, and named Brickyard Plot.

W01

LOCATION AND PROTOCOL

NGR	470093.339277
Height OD (mid point rim of N face)	52.774 m [error 0.05m]
Address	Parish-owned land on the corner of Tithby Rd and Mill Hill. Near the old mill mound.
Dig dates	13-14 th Sept 2012
Pit site	Rough grass next to woodland growing on the mill mound. Public footpath used by dog walkers over it. A tree root caused an obstruction in the NW corner of the pit. Excavations in the road nearby, made for laying pipes into the new housing estate shows that the bedrock is red Mercia Mudstone Group clay with grey mottles and patches. Some skerry fragments on the top.
Pit protocol	1-metre pit, 10 cm spits, all sieved. The first pit was abandoned because of stone, possibly from an old road near the surface. A new site was located a few metres to the north and was dug successfully. Pit orientated N-S. North face sections only described and measured unless otherwise stated. Photographs taken facing north unless otherwise stated.
Note	<i>An inexplicable error was found in the database. Several finds were recorded as being from spits 5,6 and 7. These depths were not attained in this pit. The finds records have been left in the database, but they have not been taken into account in the description of this pit.</i>



IMG_1854, the general site

W01

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS

Description of pit

A straight-forward succession:

Topsoil to c15cm

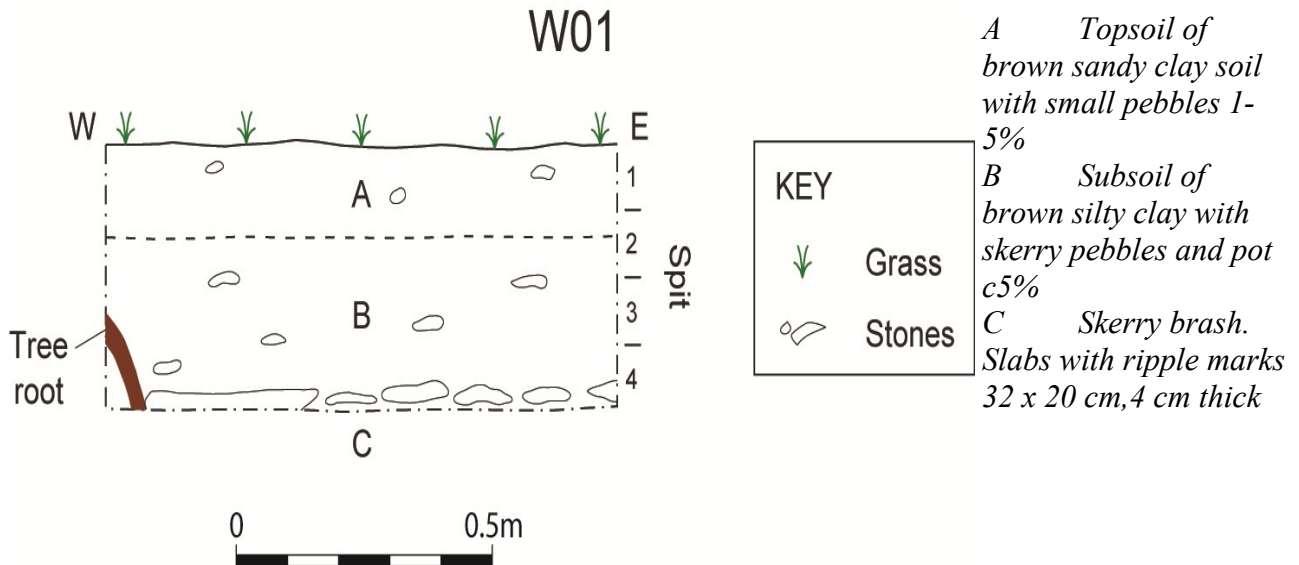
Subsoil to 35 cm depth

Sandstone

The topsoil is brown sandy clay loam with <5% pebbles. Very hard and dry.

The topsoil passes gradually into the subsoil of brown silty clay with skerry pebbles c 5%.

Bedrock is brash of Triassic skerry slabs roughly fitting together. Largest piece is 32 x 20 cm and 4 cm thick. Ripple marks are the right way up.



Finds

Little pottery was recovered from this pit. Whether counted by number of pieces or weight building materials and glass make up the bulk of the finds collection. Most of the finds were spread



IMG_1853 10 cm depth



IMG_1856 completed pit at 40 cm showing the random Skerry brash that would be seen at surface in an area where the Skerry out-cropped.



IMG_1859 showing north face in complete pit with skerry at the base. A large flagstone showing ripple marks is in the foreground,

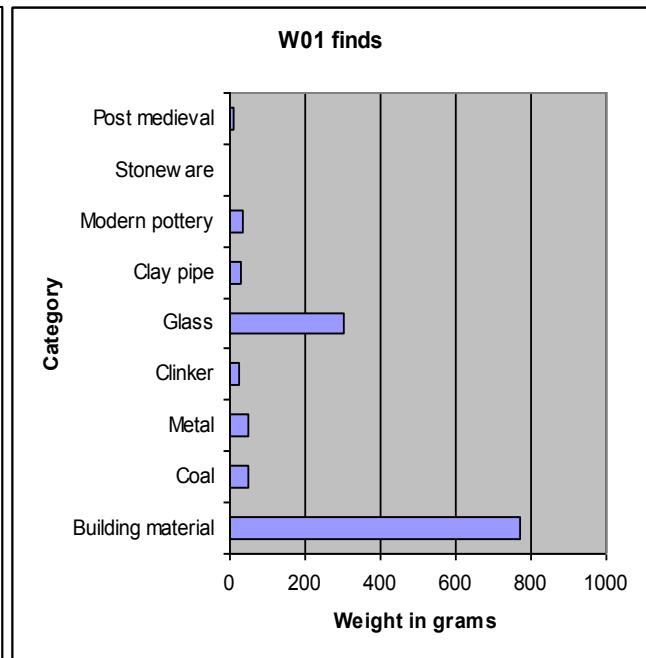
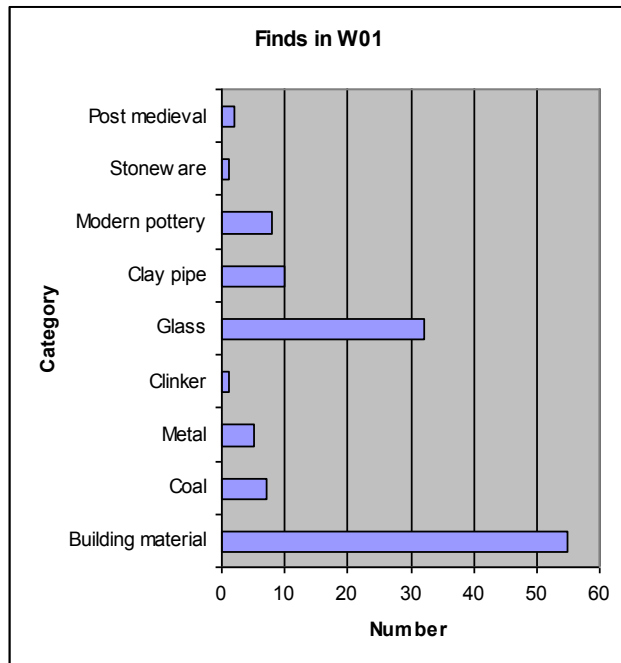
over the whole depth.

The building material was found at all levels in the pit. It is either brick or plaster; one piece of brick having mortar attached to it.

The glass is varied, but generally modern. Included are fragments of modern clear bottle, brown bottle, dark green bottle, flat green and clear and some are patinated.

Other objects include coal, several iron nails, clinker and clay pipe stems. One of these was a rather good mouthpiece that could be dated 1850-1920. A very distinctive red clay stem is also 19th C, while the rest are stems fragments attributed to the late 18th to 19th C.

The small amount of pottery was mainly modern earthenware. Included among the 13 sherds are blue and white Transfer printed ware types, both pale blue and Willow pattern. The date range is 1800-1950. There was also some White Ware, common after 1830, Cream Ware, which ranges from 1740-1850, though it is not certain that this is not a cream coloured later fabric. There were also some sherds of Mocha Ware, both the cane-coloured type and a colour banded type on a white glaze base. These are 19th C. All in all the finds are probably mid to late 19th C.



There were two sherds of stoneware; one dated 1840-1950, the other 1760-1840.

Two sherds of Cistercian Ware are the only old pottery found. They were being made in Ticknall from the mid 15th to mid 16th C.

Interpretation

The first pit encountered hard, packed, angular road stone beneath the topsoil. The site was a few metres north of the present road and was thought to mark the original road, though there is no record of it having been moved. Another explanation is that it could be part of the apron to the mill.

This is less likely because the second pit lies nearer to the mill mound and it was not seen in it..

The second pit was sited away from the mill mound with the expectation that some evidence would be recovered from the mill yard to put the earliest date to the mill. Such evidence was not forthcoming. Apart from a stoneware sherds with a date range 1760-1840 there is nothing among the finds to suggest a date for them prior to the mid 19th C. The two Cistercian Ware finds would have been in the soil as in most other parts of Bingham and could tell nothing about the history of the site.

It is concluded that the finds indicate that the mill was operational period in the mid to late 19th C. The evidence for earlier operation is not strong.