

# Swannington Heritage Trust Museum



Hough Mill, its ancillary buildings and five heritage sites house the Trust's museum with five themes:

## Farm to Food

We may have a 200 year old mill but it did not operate in isolation. Farmers grew the wheat, barley, oats and beans that were brought to the mill to be ground into flour or animal feed. During Hands On Family Heritage events the refurbished winnower can be used to separate the wheat from the chaff.



## Milling

New for 2014 is the Miller at Work exhibition whereby information boards and leaflets will guide you along the path of the grain from its entry into the mill to its exit as graded flour. There will also be new hands on activities for the 2014 season.

## Mining

Explore the development of mining over 800 years, from bell pits and horse powered gin pits through to the deeper mines of the 19th century. Indoor exhibits complement those outdoors, such as the replica horse gin in Gorse Field, The Newcommen Boiler in Califat Spinney and Snibston No. 3 Mine near Swannington Incline.



## Railways

Robert Stephenson's 1832 Leicester and Swannington Railway was the first public steam railway in the English Midlands. It led to the development of local mines and the creation of Coalville which did not exist 200 years ago.



During 2014 a model of the Incline will be added to the indoor collection.

## Social History

Schools, churches, chapels, trades, historic buildings, a smallpox isolation hospital, families and the whole social fabric of Swannington and its surrounding area.

A lot of the social history collection is located within the village archive and is available for research. A second website ([www.swannington-history.co.uk](http://www.swannington-history.co.uk)) was set up to provide information on the **Swannington Before The War** project based upon the 1911 census.

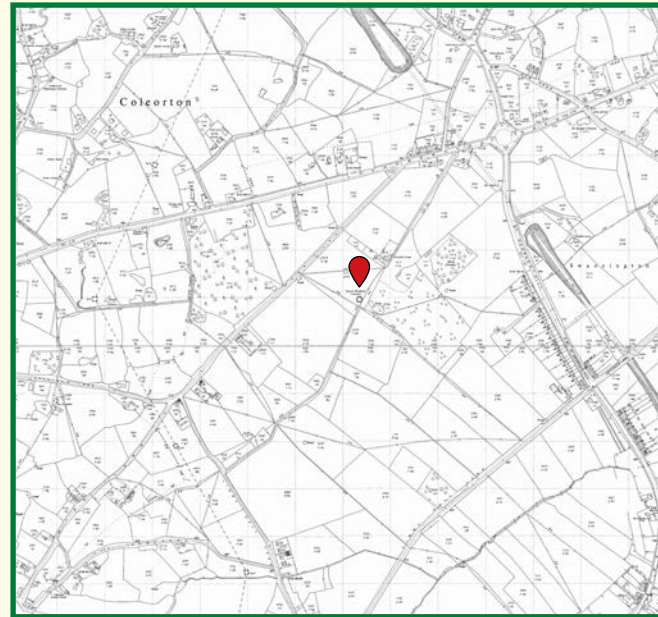


# How to find us

Hough Mill is situated four miles east of Ashby and two miles north of Coalville.

At the Peggs Green/Swannington roundabout on the A512 Ashby to Loughborough Road, head south down St. George's Hill into Swannington. Two hundred yards on the right is the gated entrance to Hough Mill, Gorse Field and Califat Spinney. Look for the heritage sign.

This 1962 Ordnance Survey map shows that there has been very little change in more than fifty years.



**Swannington Heritage Trust Museum, Hough Mill, Off St. George's Hill, Swannington. LE67 8QW**

**Open from 2-5pm on Sundays and Bank Holidays, April to September; as well as by arrangement for walkers, community groups and schools.**

**Why not join us as a mill steward or DIY volunteer?**

# EXPLORE HOUGH MILL



[www.swannington-heritage.co.uk](http://www.swannington-heritage.co.uk)  
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[www.swannington-heritage.co.uk](http://www.swannington-heritage.co.uk)  
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T: 01530 222 833

**One of Swannington's hidden treasures.**



# Things to see and do at Hough Mill

# Hough Mill Restoration

## Hand-grind wheat into flour

Using the hand quern to grind flour must be one of the most popular activities for young and old. After a few turns your straining muscles tell you why windmills were built to do the hard work.



## Test the long-arm sack scales

Using the long arm sack scales, made in Burton on Trent, is much more fun than the digital scales at home. Check the 28 and 56 pound weights and see if the scales balance at two and four stones.



## Experiment with the grain measures

Estimate the relative size of the grain measures, then check if you were right by seeing how many small measures fit the larger ones. Some just enjoy pouring grain from one measure to another.



## Dress up as Mr & Mrs Miller

Ask the mill steward if you can dress up as a Victorian miller or his wife. A great chance to learn about the many changes in clothes worn over the centuries.



## Family Events

### Easter Egg Hunt

On Easter Monday follow the clues on our heritage trail to secure an Easter egg.



### Take Teddy To The Mill

In 2012 hoards of Teddy Bears had a great time exploring Hough Mill. The following year the Teddy Bears enjoyed rides up the outside of the mill to the very top. Will it be parachuting, bungee jumping, pulpit leaps or a zip wire this year? Find out Spring Bank Holiday Monday.



### Insect Hotels

Grain production is dependent upon a healthy countryside with a well-balanced environment.



## Left To Decay

Last used commercially to make animal feed during the First World War, the mill was in a sad state in the 1930's and worse in the 1990's.



## External Restoration

Swannington Heritage Trust bought the mill in 1994 and have restored the mill with loving care. Major grants were received from the Heritage Lottery Fund for the structure and Grantscape for the fantail and rotating cap.



## Internal Restoration

All of the milling machinery had been removed so the Trust had to start from scratch. New and refurbished equipment, such as the shoots and flour dresser casing, were made or restored by Swannington Trust volunteers.



One of the biggest projects was the 3 metre (10 foot) diameter brakewheel weighing 1.77 tons. Our volunteers took 11 months to make it in the workshop. It was dismantled and taken to the top of the mill.



Just in case you are wondering about the pronunciation, "Hough" rhymes with "rough".

For the very latest news on events find us on facebook or visit the diary page on our website [www.swannington-heritage.co.uk](http://www.swannington-heritage.co.uk)

										
<b>1877</b>	<b>1920's</b>	<b>1930's</b>	<b>1960's</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>Present</b>			
Windmill bought by John Hough	Decline after the First World War	Cap and sails disintegrated	A hollow shell with very little left inside	Windmill bought by the Trust	Structural repairs for 2000 opening	Cap removed for the addition of the fantail				