

Notes On The Mills Shown On The Map



The cover picture is a drawing of Hough Mill in 1934 taken from a photograph in Nigel Moon's - The Windmills of Leicestershire and Rutland.

With this edition, the production of Now and Then moves out of the age of the steam computer and into the present day. This has been made possible because the editorial team has been joined by Martin Bird. Martin, who lives in Piano Row, is a graphic designer specialising in museums and exhibitions, he has managed to produce a print of diversity and quality and to combine words and pictures with a skill that will be obvious to readers. The next step would be to include photographs of an acceptable standard; to do this we need to increase our circulation by a very large margin. Don't hold your breath.

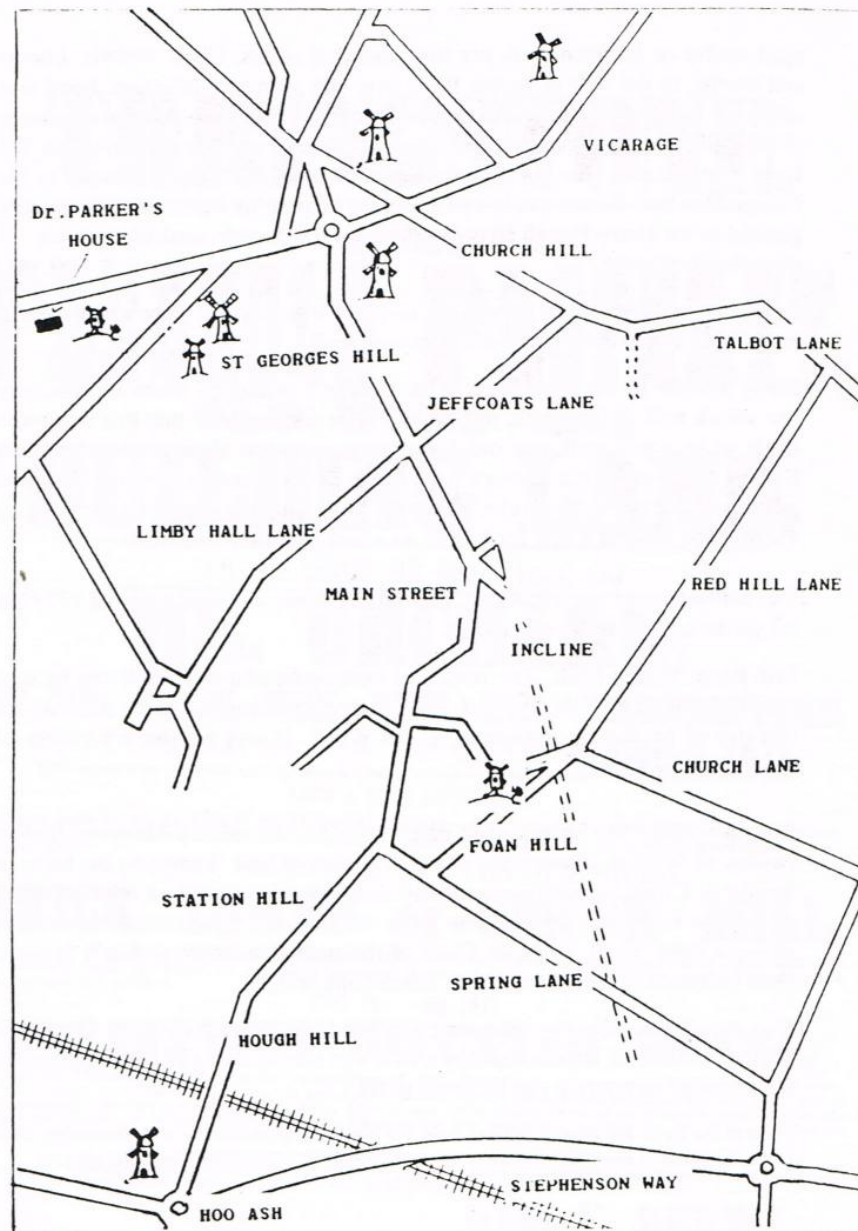
The informal monthly meeting of members of the Trust at the New Inn, Pegg's Green is to revert to the third Thursday of the month at 8.00p.m., any member of the Trust is of course welcome.

Another year has gone by, annual subscriptions fall due on 1st April, no increase this year. On the form is an optional additional section for you to let us know of any help that you might be willing to provide that may be useful to the Trust. Please fill it in if you can.

NOTES ON THE MILLS SHOWN ON THE MAP

The mill near Dr Parker's House: Nigel Moon records a Mill Field here - no other details.

Hough Mill and the adjacent mill: A mill first appeared here on a map dated 1790, W King's map of 1806 shows two mills alongside each other on the site and we have another map dated 1875 on which the two mills are still shown. There is a tradition that post mills preceded the present tower mill which was probably built in the late 1820s. A newly erected mill on Swannington Common, in the occupation of Mr W Bonnett, was offered for sale by auction at the Talbot Arms Inn, Swannington on 7th May 1833. The mill was worked by Mr Griffin and then by Mr Chester and apparently for a time by the ubiquitous Kirbys. Tony Bayliss tells of a family story that when there was a virulent epidemic in the Thringstone area in the early 1870s, his grandmother Elizabeth Kirby, then



The Old Mills of Swannington and District



aged twelve or fourteen, took her four youngest sisters, Clara, Mahala, Louisa and Bertha, to the mill to isolate them from the source of infection. Food was delivered by leaving it for collection in the hedge bottom, so that the occupants of the mill would not come into contact with possible carriers of the disease. We know that the mill was bought at auction by Mr John Hough, steward to Sir George Howland Beaumont, in 1877 with the help of his wife Jane. We are very grateful to Mr Harry Hough (John's grandson) for the sale particulars which are reproduced opposite.

Peggs Green Mill: Aerial survey has revealed what appears to be a mill mound here. There are no remains visible at ground level.

Kirby's Mill: To the south west of St. George's. Although Moon records only one smock mill in the whole of Leicestershire and suggests that this was more likely to be a post mill, one old Swannington resident clearly remembers that Kirby's Mill was indeed a smock mill, that is to say a wooden tower mill. It was owned and occupied by John Kirby in 1844 and subsequently worked by Thomas and Mahala Kirby until 1891, in which year they both died.

The Mill opposite the Vicarage: This mill is shown on Prior's map of 1777 but not on the ordnance survey of 1835.

Mill Farm Water Mill: The ruins and earthworks of a water mill can be seen near Mill Farm, just this side of The George and Dragon. These remains are threatened by the re-alignment of the A512. It was run for a number of generations by Kirbys.

Bishop's Mill: We have a deed dated 1696 for the sale by Margaret Bishop (widow of William Bishop) and others of a piece of land "known by the name of Windmill Close, whereon a windmill did formerly stand and containing by estimation one acre, be the same more or less,.....". The tithe map of 1844 shows a field called Windmill Close of the right size "more or less", between Foan Hill and the Incline, close to Church Lane bridge.

Hoo Ash Mill: On the tithe map are Windmill Slang, Windmill Close and Windmill Field. It is believed that a mill was still standing at the beginning of this century but no trace can be found today.

Much of the above information is taken from *The Windmills of Leicestershire & Rutland* by Nigel Moon, Sycamore Press, 1981 - profusely illustrated, a mine of information, a beautiful book.

THRINGSTONE.

VALUABLE
FREEHOLD PROPERTY,
OLD TURF and
BUILDING LAND.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, BY

MR. ORCHARD,

AT MR. COX'S, THE NEW INN, THRINGSTONE,

On TUESDAY, the 13th day of NOVEMBER, 1877,

At FIVE o'clock in the Evening: so the foregoing or such other Lots as may be determined upon at the time of Sale, and subject to such Conditions of Sale as will then be produced.

LOTS 1 TO 2 INCLUSIVE.

Twelve Lots of **ELIGIBLE BUILDING LAND**, as now staked out, situate at Thringstone, fronting the Road leading from Coleorton Moor to Loughborough, averaging from 396 to 619 yards each Lot. 1s. 0r. 10¹/₂p.

LOT 13. A SUBSTANTIALLY BUILT FIVE STOREY

BRICK TOWER or SMOCK MILL,

Containing 2 pairs of French and one of Goy Stones, Dressing Machine, and other suitable Machinery, with the Piggeries and Shed belonging thereto, in the occupation of Mr. JAMES KEENE, and containing 28¹/₂ perches.

LOT 14. ALL THAT

PLEASANTLY SITUATED HOUSE,

Situate at Thringstone, late in the occupation of Mrs. GRIFFIN, (deceased), containing Parlour, House-place, Kitchen, Cellar, Scullery and 3 Bed Rooms, Stable, Garden, and Orchard, well stocked; also a COTTAGE adjoining containing House-place, Kitchen, and 3 Bed Rooms, in the occupation of Frederick Hudson, and the CLOSE of valuable OLD TURF LAND adjoining and containing together 5a. 0r. 31¹/₂p., and late in the occupation of the said Mrs. Griffin, (deceased).

To view the Property apply to Mr. E. GRIFFIN, on the premises; and any further information may be obtained from Mr. T. GRIFFIN, Castle Donington; the AUCTIONEER; where a Plan of the Lots may be seen; and

GEO. F. BROWN,
Solicitor, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.