

THE DOCUMENTARY RECORD

The earliest documentary record of a mill in Eardisland is in Domesday Book (1086) when two mills are briefly recorded: *2 mills at 25s.*¹ To say that these were on the same sites as the mills referred to in recent times as 'Upper Mill'² and 'Lower Mill'³, may well not be correct.

'Herefordshire Domesday'⁴ of circa 1160-1170 has no additional information about watermills here. The two 1086 mills are again detailed there in the same wording as in Domesday Book (1086) itself.

Two mills are again detailed in the Inquisition Post Mortem Edmund Mortimer: *9 ED III 1336...Item there are there two water mills that are worth per annum 60s.*⁵

All three of these early references detail only the existence of two mills and their financial worth to the lord of the manor. There is nothing to suggest where they were located or by what names they might have been known. It is, however, reasonable to suppose that they were powered by the river Arrow.

The next specific reference is within the Inquisition Post Mortem Philippa Mortimer, dated 1382:

*She held...manors...Ereslane...including watermills called 'Ereslanemull' and 'Schorlemull',...*⁶

Two mills as before, but now they are named. Do their names help to establish their location?

Ereslanemull.

From the wording, whilst there is no specific positional information, it can be taken that 'Ereslanemull' was the demesne mill of the lord of the manor and that by then it may well have been established for some considerable time. It is safe to assume that in those troubled times it would have been positioned where it could be best defended if the need arose. In the case of Eardisland this would have been on, or very close to the river, adjacent to the motte. Can the exact position be established from documentary evidence?

The full extent of neither the demesne lands, nor indeed of the manor of Eardisland itself, is to be found documented, I would not expect it to be. If such detail was ever written down in the first place, which I very much doubt, it has not survived.

The earliest references to field names and their relative positions which have any chance of assisting with the exact location of *Ereslanemull* occur in the deeds and documents relating

¹ Domesday Book, folio 179d. Phillimore & Co. Ltd's edition. Volume 17. Chichester.1983.

² "...the miller in the Upper Mill" [Portrait of a Village. 2006, page 171].

³ "GlanArrow mill there is Lower Mill" [Reeves Notebook No.10, page 15. Circa 1975].

⁴ Balliol Ms 350 Ed. V.H. Galbraith and James Tait. London 1950.

⁵ This detail from Rebecca Roseff in July 2007: it is from PRO/TNA C135/45/22.

⁶ HAS AL2/12.

to what much later became known as the Court House Estate.⁷

Within the first item, which dates to 1576, there is a recitation of what may be the majority of the demesne lands; some others being mentioned as already having been sold. Here there is mention of : *one field of pasture ground lying below the mill commonly called the great ground between Midley and Arrow containing 60 acres* Whilst the approximate position of *Midley* is known to me, in isolation it is still not enough to position accurately the mill in question.

A little later, in 1647, in a different source but covering much the same area of land, there is again mention of *Ground below ye Mill*.⁸ This is echoed in 1653 in the deeds of the Court House Estate⁹ from which the property now known as GlanArrow was carved out in the first part of the nineteenth century. The wording which includes this phrase is the same in both instances.

Also, between the same two source references, there are seven mentions of *Mill Meadow* ranging in date from 1725 to 1845.

A detailed analysis of all the various surrounding field names indicates that the mill referred to by these *mill meadow* and *Ground below ye Mill* references was the one now to be found converted into a dwelling house known as GlanArrow Mill. It lies east of GlanArrow on the south side of the river. By no stretch of the imagination can this be described as adjacent to the motte, and therefore was probably not Ereslanemull.

However, also in the deeds of The Court House Estate are to be found three references which firmly place a mill adjoining the *capital messuage* in Eardisland:

12th May, 1614, 12 James I.....The Capital messuage and tenement called the Court of Eardisland at Earesland in which William Whittington lately lived in Erdisland...with all houses etc. used with it, and all that water corn mill near adjoining the capital messuage, with all "weares" etc. ¹⁰

7th August, 14 James I [1616]and all that water corn mill in Eardisland al. Earesland adjoining the capital messuage, with all weares etc. ¹¹

*10th December, 1616, 14 James I.....all that water corn mill in Erdisland (Earesland) near adjoining the capital messuage with all weares, mounds etc. belonging*¹²

Where then was the *capital mesuage*? Does it still exist?

It is first mentioned in the initial document of the Court House Deeds, which is dated 23rd November 1576.¹³ This records a transaction dated 23rd November 1576 when Thomas Hanford and Kenard Delaber, neither of them local men, sold to William Whittington, of the Herefordshire branch of that family:

All that capital house of the manor of Eardisland at Earsland with appurtenants, the site of the manor and all demesne lands, profits...etc

The legal wording continues making it clear that absolutely everything was included, subject to the rights of a sitting tenant, John Wever, who had a current lease which had been

⁷ HAS B16/1 et seq.

⁸ GlanArrow deeds: my notes, page 3.

⁹ HAS B16/14-15.

¹⁰ HAS B16/2.

¹¹ HAS B16/5.

¹² HAS B16/6.

¹³ HAS B16/1.

Throughout this Paper I have used the wording in the HAS Accessions Catalogue, not the documents themselves, unless otherwise stated.

in effect since the time of Queen Mary [1553-1558].

But it then stipulates:

Reserved to the grantor - free access to one parcel of the premises called the Olde Hill Howse in Eardisland for keeping the Courts of the Leet and Courts Baron there twice a year at their will and pleasure. Also the issues, fines, perquisites and profits of the Courts.

After this mention the *Olde Hill Howse* disappears from the Court House Deeds. As already detailed, the *capital house* continues in many subsequent documents in HAS B16/- .

If, as I believe to have been the case, the *Olde Hill Howse* was a building on the Motte itself, then the *capital house of the manor* was elsewhere. It could be suggested that it had been built nearby when the building on the Motte was no longer considered fit for occupation, nor, as had long been the custom, for the holding of manorial courts.

Not far¹⁴ to the north-north-west of the Motte is the dwelling house of present day Court House Farm. The Royal Commission on Historic Monuments said of it in 1934:

built probably late in the 16th century, but has been extensively altered in the 18th and 19th centuries and extended towards the S.W.

The age of the NE part of the present building therefore fits in remarkably well with a possible renovation/rebuild of an earlier *capital house of the manor*, itself first built when the need to defend oneself by living actually on the motte, or more likely in a Great Hall within its bailey, ceased to exist.

I consider that there is little doubt that the capital message was on or very close to the site of the present dwelling at Court House Farm.

That being so, where exactly was the adjacent mill?



In this illustration¹⁵:

Field number 207 is *Homestead* ; shown as *Court House* [Court House Farm].

206 *Ancient Fortress* [The Motte].

202 *Road, River*.

202a *Plantation*.

204 *Building & Yard* [Now GlanArrow House].

Confusingly, also included is:

213 *Court house & Orchard* [Farm buildings before development].

GlanArrow Mill is far top right in the illustration.

¹⁴ A little over 100 yards.

¹⁵ Tithe Map. HAS HD/287.

The site of the capital messuage being established as being Court House, what was the position of the adjacent mill?

A little before the Tithe Map, in 1840, the first transaction (19th February 1840) in the modern part of the GlanArrow deeds is a Transfer of Mortgage and Interest. It recites, after much else, the details of the property concerned:

All those two Water Mills and Dwellinghouse formerly consisting of three Water Mills and a dwelling house and which were afterwards pulled down and destroyed¹⁶ and the said two Water Mills and dwelling house erected and built instead thereofwith the barns stables buildings yard fold yards gardens and appurtenances thereunto belonging AND ALSO all that piece or parcel of meadow ground now or lately called or known by the name of the Langett with the barn thereon erected adjoining to the said Mills and dwelling house which said barn was sometime since erected and built in lieu of another barn formerly erected and built on the said piece or parcel of land and which was afterwards taken down and destroyed AND ALSO all that parcel or plock of pasture ground also now or lately called or known by the name of the Langett between the said Mill Stream and the river Arrow and planted with fruit trees for an orchard.....

The description continues, a little over 42 acres in all is mentioned, but there is no more detail relevant to the possible position of Ereslanemul.

The source document being GlanArrow deeds it can safely be taken that one of the two mills *erected and built instead* was GlanArrow Mill. For the other one to have been adjacent to the Court House it must have been between GlanArrow Mill and the Court House.

It will be noticed that two pieces of land named Langett are mentioned in the description, and a mill stream. The Oxford English Dictionary gives under the heading Langet: *A 'tongue' or narrow projecting piece of land.*¹⁷

The part of Tithe Map 202a nearest Court House is undeniably tongue shaped and has an inlet of water running along the non-river side of it. I suggest that this is the second mentioned Langett *between the said Mill Stream and the river Arrow and planted with fruit trees* and that what I have just described as an inlet of water was the Mill Stream. On the Tithe Map, only two years later than this source document, 202a is scheduled as *Plantation*. This may not be conclusive proof but it is very suggestive.

I consider that the mill adjacent to the capital messuage [Court House], which I have reasoned to be the *Ereslanemul* of the 1382 reference, was situated between the *O* of Tithe Map 202 and the first 2 of Tithe Map 202a. See the illustration on page 3.

This leaves the part of the Tithe Map 202 nearest to GlanArrow Mill as the first mentioned Langett *adjoining to the said Mills*.

The identity of the third mill depends upon the word *formerly* near the start of the 1840 document; how long, or short, a time before 1840 does this word signify? This will be dealt with at 1840 in this chronological sequence.

¹⁶ In 1793 there was a court case brought against the lessors of GlanArrow Mill concerning non-payment of rent and allowing the property to fall into a ruinous condition. [Trinity Term, 33.Geo 3. Eves, Gent. against Burlton and another].

¹⁷ LANGET. See LANGUET. 7 Langate, langot [a. F. 'languette', dim. of 'langue' tongue] Anything shaped like a little tongue. 7. "A 'tongue' or narrow projecting piece of land." [OED. 2nd Edition, page 632].

Still from the Inquisition Post Mortem Philippa Mortimer,
1382

*She held...manors...Ereslane...including watermills
called Ereslanemull and Schorlemull*

The first mill mentioned in this source¹⁸ has already been dealt with at pages 1-4.

This is the only reference to *Schorlemull* which I have come across, but there is one instance when the separate words *Schorle* and *Mill* are found together, which produces a possible identification of the location of *Schorlemull*. But the premise which follows depends entirely on it being accepted that *Schorle*, being a recent transcript from the document itself, is the same as the often, and relatively recently,¹⁹ to be found *Shurl* or *Shirl*.

The instance where both the words *Schorle* and *Mill* are found together arises in a Glebe Terrier of circa 1730:

*one acre of arable land in Shurlefield...and shooting down into a parcel of land
or meadow ground called the Mill Moores*²⁰

First *Mill Moores*. The schedule to the Tithe Map, which includes field names, has none in the area between Shurlefield and the river which have any hint of a connection with a mill or a 'moore'.²¹ However, at the western extremity of the parish, at Twyford, there are Tithe Map field names which firmly connect 'Moors' with a mill.²² There is, just east of Twyford Farm: 835 Mill Meadow, to the east of that is: 836 Near Moors. South of those two is: 838 Upper Moors, which is south of Mill Meadow. There is also: 837 Lower Moors, which is south of Near Moors.

A little more recent than the Tithe Map, dated 1866, is to be found, in 'The Times' newspaper²³ a Notice of Registration from the Office of Land Registry:

*Bearwood Estate in the Parishes of Pembridge and Eardisland.....include, as parts
thereof, several outlying pieces of land.....Long Meadow and Mill Moore*

Long Meadow itself is mostly in Pembridge parish with a small part at the north east of it in Eardisland. The Eardisland part is Tithe Map number 840. It runs along the south bank of the river and, but for one other not very large field and then the river, it abuts 'Upper Moors' to the south-west.

As I see it this all supports the contention that *Mill Moores* in the Glebe Terrier of circa 1730, does evidence the former presence of a mill close by.

¹⁸ Inquisition Post Mortem Philippa Mortimer, 1382. HAS AL2/12.

¹⁹ For example on the Tithe Map, 1842-1844 and in several extracts from the Court Rolls of the manor of Eardisland in the eighteenth century.

²⁰ HAS HD2/3/13.

²¹ One of the definitions of 'Moor' in the OED [2nd Edition. OUP 1989] is: 'A marsh (obs);...' and an example quoted dated 1591 gives the plural as 'Moores', as in the Glebe Terrier which I have cited.

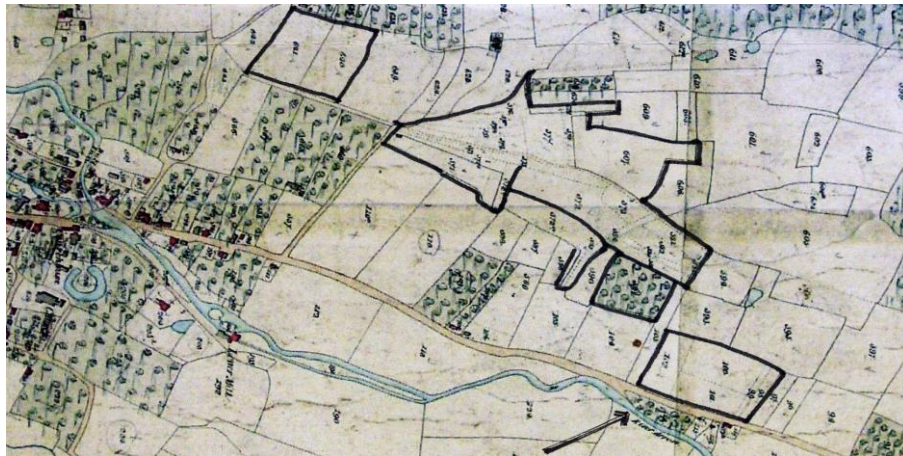
²² These are close to where evidence of water management suggests was the position of Twyford Mill.

²³ The Times April 7, 1866, via their website.

And so to *Shurlefield*.

Numerous references²⁴ make it clear that *Shurlefield* refers to a former strip cultivation field, remnants of which can clearly be seen. However the bulk of the Shirl/Shurl land still [in 1842-1844] in strips does not *shoot down* towards the river. There is, therefore, no benefit to be gained from attempting to identify that *one acre* within the strip field system, even if that were to prove possible, which I consider improbable.

But there is another area of land, Tithe Map references 98,99,100,101 & 102 where all the fields so numbered are named *Lower Shirlfield* [or (101) *in Lower Shirl Field*], which are very close to the present course of the river. Between them and the river nowadays, as then, is the road and then only a very narrow strip of land where there are now two dwellings. Three buildings are to be seen there on the 1832 Ordnance Survey Map. Was this, even in the absence in 1842-1844 of *Mill Moores*, the position of *Schorlemull*?²⁵ My attempt to illustrate this from the Tithe Map follows; "Shurle" fields I have edged in black ink and I have arrowed the potential mill site.



This annotation of the Tithe Map does not make it clear that I considered that this mill, *Schorlemull*, was on the north bank of the river; a view that at that time I was rather hesitant to put forward.

However, since writing that page I have come across a document²⁶ which makes it clear that there was indeed a mill on the north bank of the river.²⁷

This document is a Feoffment of 6th June 4 JAMES I (1606), both parties to it being resident in this parish.²⁸ The position of the land which is the subject of the transaction is described in considerable detail, in part by reference to the surrounding land holdings and, as part of the description, to the owners of surroundings, for example: *yard or orchard of the said James Bullock*

The four names mentioned in this way are William Whittington, Francis Parlour Henry Niccoles and James Bullock. I researched these four families, and also some others which were mentioned in the course of the research, but found nothing detailed enough to assist

²⁴ Several via the Tithe Map 1842-1844 and others within a spread of Court Rolls entries.

²⁵ The wording of the document at HAS reference D4/20, which is dated 6th June 1606, strongly suggests, but does not quite prove, the existence of a mill on the north bank of the river, between the present site of the bridge and where I have indicated the possible position of *Schorlemull*.

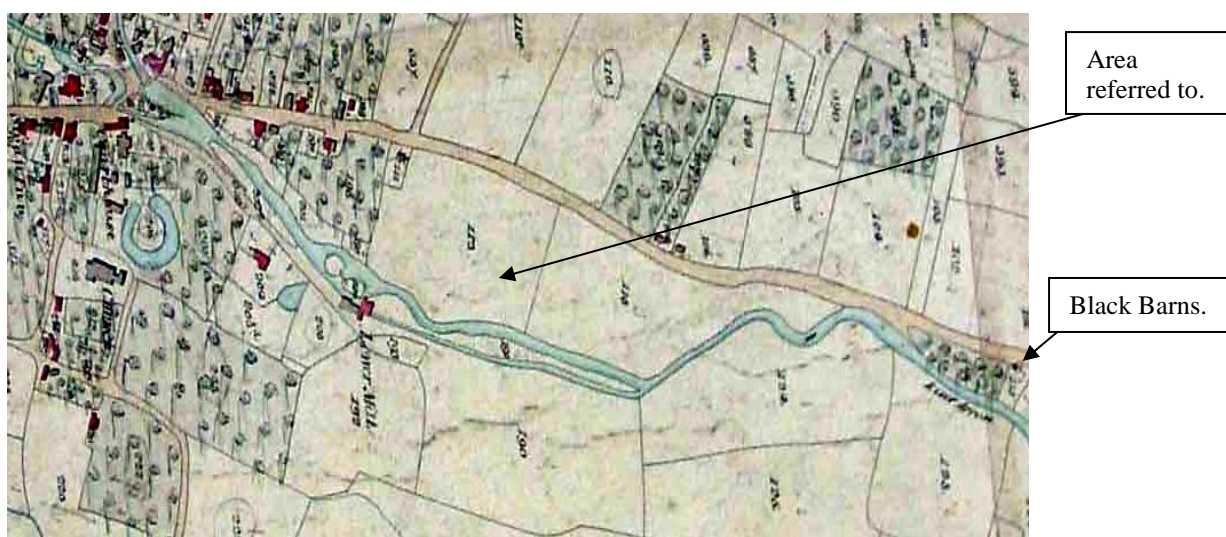
²⁶ HAS D4/20.

²⁷ The document dates to 1606. My thanks to Sue Hubbard, retired County Archivist, who transcribed for me what I was finding very difficult to read.

²⁸ William Whittington and Francis Parlour.

with the exact location of the land which is the subject of D4/20.

The text of that document is, however, very clear about its general locality, which because of the course of the road from the centre of the village northward over the bridge and then sharply east towards Leominster, isolates the area of land to which reference is being made to a much greater degree than would have been the case without the river and surrounding layout: *Which said yard or backside doth stretch itself from the king's highway that leadeth to Leominster on the north part to the river of Arrow on the south part* It then goes into detail of the land East and West of it²⁹ and the ownership thereof, but from that it is not possible to be precise as to the exact location. However, the description does restrict the land in question to being in the area which nowadays can be described as being north of the river, east of the bridge (i.e. towards Leominster) and between the river and the road. The (almost) conjunction of the river and the road just the village side of the property nowadays known as *Black Barns* limits the area in that, easterly, direction. Further use of the Tithe Map illustrates the area referred to:



The document then goes into the very specific detail which I touched on above when explaining that I had, before attempting this summary, researched several family names in the hope that it might reveal more detail. It did not. However, that specific detail is important in that it does confirm the existence at that date (6th June 1606) of a mill in the general area I have just illustrated. What it does not do is enable the identification of exactly where, in the general area defined, this mill was situated.

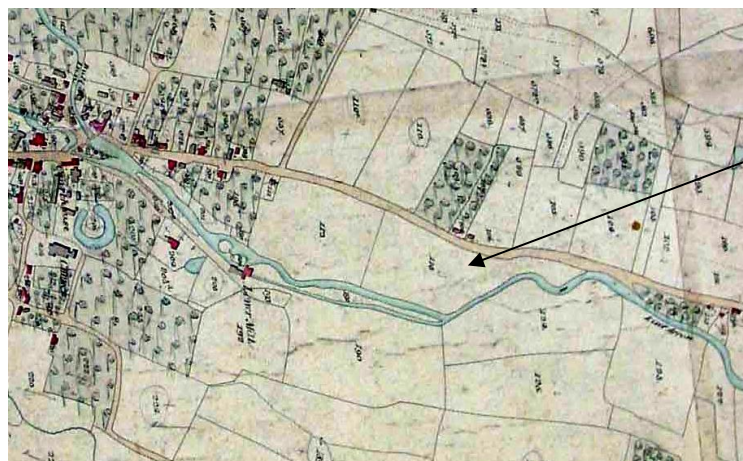
The mention of the mill itself comes at the very end of the document: *for the use of his mill and water course of the said mill*

A little earlier there is also reference to a weir: *from the king's highway aforesaid to the weir and banks of the said river of Arrow*

From all this it can be concluded that there was indeed a watermill on the north bank of the river in the approximate location discussed, but that it is not possible to identify its exact position. There can be little if any doubt that it was downstream of the weir (if this is still where it was in 1606) and no doubt that it was upstream of the present property *Black Barns* where river and road come very close to each other. The likely position I believe to have been where marked on the following further copy of the Tithe Map. It is possible, but not firmly

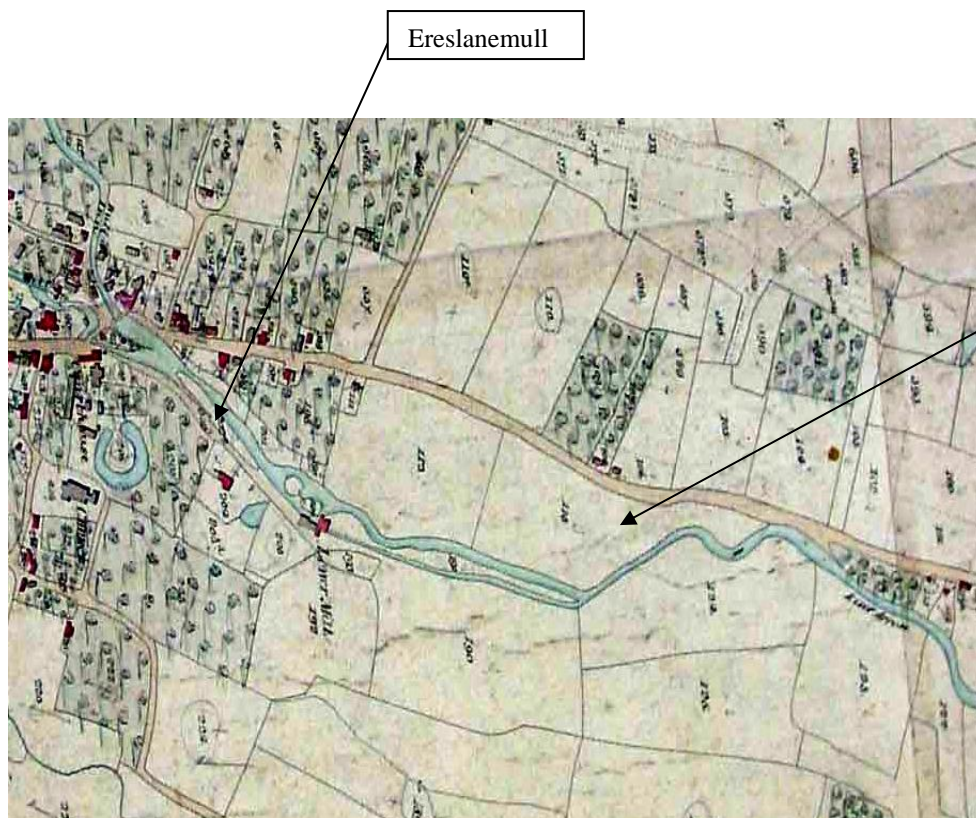
²⁹ That is if an error, West for East, is accepted.

established, that this is the same mill that was referred to as *Schorlemull* in 1382 and which was perhaps one of the two mills mentioned in Domesday Book (1086):



Mill in D4/20?
earlier
Schorlemull?

Two mills mentioned within the same 1382 document have been discussed. Showing their possible positions, as before using the Tithe Map, produces:



Ereslanemull

Schorlemull

.....

1426

"Herefordiana 4th pamphlet
Grant of Water mill in Ereslan 1426 4 Edward IV, ... 30
"Descent of Eardisland from 1066:..... Sub-tenants. Eardisland ...
... 1426. Grant of another mill. 31

In the second instance the late Wendy Corke did not quote her source, nor from this sparse detail can anything be inferred as to the position of this mill. Only of interest is the one word *another*, evidence that there was at least one other mill here before the grant.

This grant may perhaps be linked to the grant of the manor of Eardisland, which was made by Edmund, late earl of March, and which is recorded at TNA, Patent Rolls, 5 March 1426.

.....

1429

"a mill, worth 6s 8d yearly"

This is from Inquisition. Ledbury. 27 September 1429 at TNA E149/133/3 m.4.
In more detail, the entry records:

Eardisland, in Herefordshire, the manor, in which there are the site, worth nothing yearly because all the houses in it are derelict;.....; a mill, worth 6s 8d yearly and no more because exceedingly derelict;.....

As in the 1382 reference there is mention of the manor of Eardisland. Now, in 1429, however, there is only one mill mentioned; there were two in 1382.

Does this 1429 reference relate to *Ereslanemull* or to *Schorlemull* from the 1382 record?

In the absence of any positional or other information, except mention of its derelict condition, there is no way of being certain. However I consider that this is more likely to be *Ereslanemull*; if only because the only reference I have to *Schorlemull* is the 1382 one, and if the mill that is now (1429) mentioned is derelict, it is not unreasonable to conclude that the other one has completely ceased to exist, or at very least was no longer operational.

In summary, in 1429:

Ereslanemull....."exceedingly derelict"
Schorlemull.....no longer existed.

Is it possible to suggest why the circumstances of the watermills here deteriorated so much between 1382 and 1429?

Ignoring any national or county historical circumstances, which may always have influenced matters, what was going on in this immediate locality during that period of time?

By 1382 all the manors³² through which the river Arrow flows in this parish were held in chief by the Mortimer family of Wigmore.

³⁰ Wendy Corke. Notes; 2007, document 7. LH33.

³¹ Wendy Corke. Notes; December 2000, page 1. LH33.

³² Eardisland, Hinton, Twyford; and upstream of Twyford, in the parish of Pembridge, Pembridge itself.

The tenure of the manor of Eardisland itself is not straightforward, there being both *Eyreslond* and *Eyreslane* recorded. Both were *Possessions of Edmund Mortimer: Fifth Earl of March 1391-1425*.³³ They need to be taken into consideration when examining this period. Until their geographical extent and position is established, if indeed that ever proves to be possible, it is not viable or realistic to bring them into this discussion of watermills here on the river Arrow at such dates.

This tenure of Eardisland by the Mortimer family leads us to circumstances which could easily have resulted in an “exceedingly derelict” watermill here in 1429. I refer to the uprising of Owen Glendower, self-styled “Prince of Wales”.³⁴

Glendower was active in our area between 1399 and 1404; of particular note being 1402, the year of the Battle of Pilleth (22nd June 1402).

At Pilleth Glendower’s forces were overwhelmingly successful.

Several historians, both eminent and less so, have written about Pilleth and its aftermath. For the purposes of this discussion suffice it to use:

*In the conflict between Owen Glendower and Sir Edmund Mortimer, a great battle was fought at Pilleth, about five miles from Presteign, in 1402.....The personal combat between the two chieftains, as related by Shakespeare, took place either at Pilleth or at Eardisland. I am inclined to think it more likely to have been at Eardisland, as the Marchmen were defeated at Pilleth and pursued by the Welsh towards Leominster.*³⁵

In this context the destruction of such infrastructure as a watermill is easy to envisage.

The lasting effect of this is impossible to quantify. However, recent comment suggests that it may have been much more than a watermill which met with destruction. At page 187 of the Woolhope Club Centenary Publication³⁶ it is recorded:

In 1403 and 1404 the ravaged lands of Herefordshire were specially exempted from taxation.

Such devastation of a rural economy would not have been recovered from ‘overnight’. Any surviving watermill(s), if indeed there was survival, might in any case have been redundant as to use.

.....

1469

By the date of the next record of mills here on the river Arrow, 1469³⁷, the Mortimers of Wigmore had been replaced as lords of the manor of Eardisland, first by marriage and then by inheritance, by Richard Duke of York.

In November 1459 *Richard Duke of York was formally stripped of all his possessions in the March, and the public records are full of documentation setting up a new administration in the great Mortimer empire.*³⁸ This is also recorded by Johnson when he discusses 1459:

*The Act of Attainder brought all York’s property into the King’s hands.*³⁹

That Eardisland, *Earlslane*, was one of the two hundred and seventy manors held by Richard Duke of York is not in doubt. They are listed by Rosenthal.⁴⁰

³³ Dictionary of National Biography OUP 1917.

³⁴ George R.H. *Glimpses of the Past History of the Neighbourhood* page 14 (1903).

³⁵ WFC 1912, page 17.

³⁶ *Herefordshire its natural history, archaeology and history* Woolhope Naturalists Field Club. Publ. Gloucester 1954

³⁷ See page 11, preceding.

³⁸ WFC 1971, page 248.

³⁹ Johnson P.A. *Duke Richard of York 1411-1460* Oxford. Clarendon Press. 1988, page 192.

⁴⁰ Rosenthal J. *The Estates and Finances of Richard Duke of York (1411-1460)* 1965, pages 194-196.

And so by the time of the execution of Richard Duke of York immediately after the Battle of Wakefield (30th December 1460), his lands were already under direct royal⁴¹ administration.

Wakefield was followed by Mortimer's Cross (2nd February 1461) and Towton (29th March 1461) at both of which battles Richard's son Edward was victorious. King Henry VI was deposed and Edward became King Edward IV.

Of the sites of these battles only Mortimer's Cross is local to Eardisland⁴², but I have never seen any suggestion that the conflict spread this far south, nor even that any minor military disturbance directly affected the village or wider parish.

In no respect then can any of these circumstances, whether concerning the tenure of Eardisland or the wider (military) circumstances outlined, be evidenced to have had any specific effect on the mills of Eardisland on the river Arrow. It can be inferred, though, that there was a tightening of administrative control of them, but this would not have been detrimental; quite the opposite.

And so to the 1469 text itself:

Farm of Mills.

*And of 20s received for the farm of the mills of the lord there [Erleslane]
as the lord granted to Thomas Grynd this year.*

And a little later in the same source:

*pasture near Burghe mill*⁴³

These could be taken to indicate the existence of a third mill ie....(two)...*mills of the lord* and a third, the...*Burghe mill*...not directly administered by the lord of the manor.

But it is not completely clear, when taken in context, that Burghe mill is not in fact one of the two mills of the lord. If that was the case then the third mill never existed.⁴⁴ Indeed *Grant of another Mill*⁴⁵ in 1426 would then imply that only one was in existence immediately pre 1426, there having been two in 1382 (ie. operational mills) which had decreased to only one for a while. It is not inconceivable that one of the two mills mentioned in 1382 may have been destroyed circa 1402 during the Glendower Revolt and had not been subsequently re-established until this grant.

It is reasonable to take it that one of these two mills of the lord was the *Ereslanemull* named in the Inquisition Post Mortem Philippa Mortimer in 1382,⁴⁶ but what of Burghe mill?

Also in the same document, but under a separate heading therein, *Perquisites of court* is: *Bur accounts for 5s 8d received for the perquisites of the 1st leet held there this year accordingly placed in the rolls of the court this year. Total 5s 8d*

This refers to manorial dues relating to, for example, an amercement levied for the non- upkeep of a hedge or ditch, as well as the money equivalent of the proceeds of working the land. The word *Bur* may well be a slight aberration of transcription. If so what we then have

⁴¹ King Henry VI.

⁴² Between two and three miles north of Eardisland. The exact site is disputed by modern historians.

⁴³ TNA SC6/861/19: Bailiff's Accounts of the manor of Eardisland.

⁴⁴ But a much more recent document, 1840, does give some support to the idea of three mills.

[GlanArrow Deeds. LH54, page 8].

⁴⁵ See 1426, above.

⁴⁶ As discussed on pages 6-9, preceding.

is a reference to the Burghe⁴⁷ or Borough⁴⁸ of, then, *Erleslane*.

In this context I take the Burghe of Eardisland to be what was administered by the tenants of the lord of the manor for their own benefit, still subject though to the usual manorial dues and fealty etc., as opposed to the demesne lands which would be farmed to the direct benefit of the lord of the manor and his close household.

One of the main areas, if not the main area, of strip cultivation in manorial Eardisland was Shirlfield(s) of which much was still to be seen at the time of the Tithe Map in 1844. Such strip cultivation can be taken to be evidence of land being used by, predominantly if not exclusively, copyhold tenants of the lord of the manor and therefore part of the Burghe.

Shirlfield is the major tool which I used to position Schorlemull as put forward earlier in this Paper. It therefore seems correct to conclude that the Burghe Mill of 1469 was the same as the one earlier referred to as *Schorlemull*.

.....

1495

After 1469 the next reference is not until 1495, ten years after the Battle of Bosworth (22nd August 1485). In this instance the date 1495 has been calculated back from within a reference dated 1508.⁴⁹

...mills there⁵⁰ as leased to Henry Eliotts for the term of (blank) years this year the 13th.

This 1508 reference, and indeed the following three also, make it clear that Eardisland, the manor,⁵¹ was then still under direct royal administration. This continued to be the case until, at least, 1550. The same run of references includes the only two to Curgit Mill, which I suggested may have earlier been known as Burghe Mill and that it may have been on the site of one of the two pre-Conquest mills mentioned in Domesday Book.

.....

1508

Farm of mills

And of 26s 8d for the farm of the mills there as leased to Henry Eliotts for the term of [blank] years this year the 13th
Total 16s 8d⁵²

Clearly more than one mill, but no indication of their locations or by what names they may have been known. There may even have been more than one type of mill at the same location.

Later in the same document⁵³, under the heading:

⁴⁷ Dating to 168 years later is mention of 'The Boro of Erislande etc August 1637' in HAS SR62.

⁴⁸ OED (2nd Edition) has: "Burgh - Var. of 'Borough'; obs. in ordinary Eng. use since 17th c., but continued in Scotland."

⁴⁹ See page 12, preceding.

⁵⁰ "Erleslane".

⁵¹ And also the manor of Hinton.

⁵² Later similar entries suggest that this is a typing error and that 26s 8d is the correct amount.

⁵³ *Crown lands, parcel of the earldom of March. 24 Hen VII – I Hen VIII. Viz. 1508-1510. At TNA SC6/HENVIII/1273 m.6d.*

Sale of herbage meadow and pasture

is:

.....*Nor for certain parcels of pasture near Curgit Mill*

Taken in conjunction with the *Farm of mills* wording at the start of this dated section, this suggests more than one mill site, of which *Curgit Mill* was one. Nothing, however, as to their locations.

.....

1521

There is record that in March 1521 a lease was granted to:

Wm. Martyn of London John Man Yeoman of the Chamber for 21 years of a Watermill in the lordship of Erleslande parcel of the Erledom of Marche at a rent of 26/8d & 13/4d increase-⁵⁴

21 years from 1521 takes matters forward to 1542, well after the date of the next reference; to be 1533. Comment about the possible relevance of the length of this 1521 lease will be included then.

For now suffice it to say that, again, there is nothing to help with the location of this mill, nor by what name it may have been known locally.

.....

1533

Dating to c.1533, another entry in the bailiff's accounts again details receipt of 26s8d:

for the farm of the mills there as demised to Thomas Elyott for the term of (...blank...) years this year the 39th of his term.⁵⁵

Thirty nine years before c.1533 takes us well before March 1521. I consider that this does indicate that there were indeed three mills here at the time of these records as I suggested as a possibility under the year heading 1469.

This same bailiff's account for c.1533 goes on to again⁵⁶ mention: *certain parcels of pasture near Curgit Mill* and to give details of the financial deposition of the income from the watermill. These suggest that the actual income from the watermill was sufficiently higher than the annual dues of 26s8d both to cover an annual increment each year payable to the Crown, and presumably, even after all else was paid, to produce an acceptable level of income. The exact wording in the transcript is:

13s4d for the increment of the farm of the watermill there above the dues of 26s8d each year appropriated in this way as above and demised to John Maine⁵⁷ and his assigns by letters patent of the Lord King for the term of 21 years priced 40s each year this year the 13th of his term.

⁵⁴ HAS CF50/242, p.42 recto.

⁵⁵ TNA SC6/HENVIII/1297.

⁵⁶ As previously in 1508.

⁵⁷ It seems likely that John Man Yeoman of the Chamber and John Maine were one and the same person. History does not at present inform me when William Martyn fell out of the arrangement.

These two references to *Curgit* mill, dating to between 1508-1510⁵⁸ and two between 1533-1535⁵⁹, all come from the Bailiff's Accounts of the manor of Eardisland. Apart from the name of the mill, the wording is exactly the same as with Burghe mill; on these occasions:

for certain parcels of pasture near Curgit Mill

All have the same heading and all are very close to the end of that particular section of their respective documents.

It can be taken, therefore, that Curgit Mill was the same as Burghe Mill⁶⁰, but known by different name only about forty years after the previous reference.

But what of the name Curgit?

In December 2009 I had the opportunity of asking a nationally recognised expert on Mills, but he knew nothing of the word. The nearest I can get to explaining it⁶¹ comes in Ekwall⁶² who lists:

Curborough.Staffs.*Curburn* =OE '*Cweornburna*' =MillStream.

He links the *Cur* of *Curborough* to Watermill. In another context when a mill was not involved this would have been very revealing, but nevertheless it does help with our Curgit, although the text itself says that it is a mill. I have been unable to find out anything about the *git* element of the word, but wonder whether it may be a precursor of the more modern *grist* which is often found associated with mills.

However, from Ekwall's explanation of *Curburn* it is clear that *Cur* stems from the OE '*Cweorn*' = a mill.⁶³ It is reasonable to take it therefore that Curgit Mill may well have existed in pre-Conquest times. If it did indeed pre-date 1066, then it was one of the two mills referred to in the Domesday Book entry for Lene/Eardisland in 1086, only twenty years after the death of the last Anglo-Saxon King, Edward 'The Confessor' 1042-1066.

.....

1550

Under a heading *Conventual Leases* is:

4 Edw.6 A Grant to Thomas Crofte gent.....togr. with⁶⁴ a watermill in Ereslane with the appurts late parcel of the possons of the Earl of March for the term of 21 years under the yearly rent of £2.0.0 for the Mill. Dated 18 Feb. 4 Ed 6.⁶⁵

This provides insufficient information to establish which of the earlier named mills this was, or its location.

I have made no attempt to establish the identity of *Thomas Crofte gent.....* He may perhaps have been related to *Edward Crofte knight receiver of the Lord King there*⁶⁶ in 1533,

⁵⁸ TNA SC6/HEN VIII/1273.

⁵⁹ TNA SC6/HEN VIII/1297.

⁶⁰ It will be remembered that I have identified Burghe Mill as being the mill earlier known as Schorlemull.

⁶¹ Thanks are due to Graham Simpson who brought this to my attention.

⁶² Ekwall,E. "The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place Names" 4th Edition. 1959.

⁶³ OE is "Old English"; at a less scholarly level, "Anglo-Saxon".

⁶⁴ Some pasture land in Kingsland is also included.

⁶⁵ HAS CF50/92. This is not the actual Conventual Lease itself. It is from within a collection of Herefordshire references compiled *c19th.....by W.H. Cooke*.

⁶⁶ Bailiff's Account . Manor of Eardisland; circa 1533. TNA SC6/HENVIII/1297. m.1d.

who may himself have been *Edward Crest/Croste receiver there*⁶⁷ circa 1508.

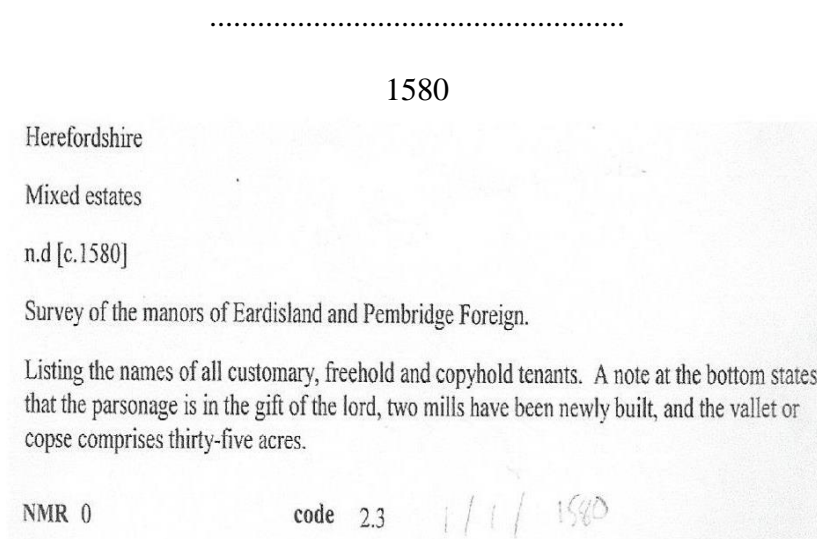
Alternatively they may have been related to Johanne Croft, a taxpayer in Eardisland in 1379, or of John Croft Esq who is mentioned in the Inquisition as to Proof of Age of Thomas Downton in 1423-1424. This in connection with the lordship of the Manor of Burton in Eardisland.

All may perhaps have been connected to the Croft family of not very far away Croft Castle.

This is not the place to explore and explain the wording:

late parcel of the possions of the Earl of March

To do so would add nothing to our knowledge of the watermill which was granted to Thomas Crofte under the terms of this lease.



This extract is from a schedule of documents relating to the manor of Eardisland⁶⁸ held in the Archives at Longleat House, Wiltshire, the seat of the Marquess of Bath.

The documents are at Longleat because from 1646⁶⁹ until 24th March 1802⁷⁰, the manor of Eardisland was held by ancestors of the present Marquess of Bath.

The sub-heading of this catalogue extract includes mention of Pembridge Foreign as well as Eardisland. This is because from at least 1570⁷¹ these two adjacent manors were in the same ownership and were dealt with, as in this instance, within the same single documents. There is, however, no suggestion that they were ever administered as one unit. Separate manorial courts were held.

The six words *two mills have been newly built* pose questions rather than provide clarification of the situation. If the view is taken that both these mills were in Eardisland, as is likely⁷² but not without doubt, the questions arise, which were they and where were they situated? And does *newly built* mean old mills built anew, ie. refurbished/rebuilt - or does it mean two completely new mills on fresh sites?

⁶⁷ Manor of Eardisland and Manor of Hinton in Eardisland. TNA SC6/HENVIII/1273 m.7d.

⁶⁸ Prepared for me in 2003 by the Archivist, Dr. Kate Harris.

⁶⁹ HAS CF50/106.

⁷⁰ Longleat Schedule 1801-1803.

⁷¹ Ibid: ref. NMR 1286.

⁷² The Archivist was only asked to provide entries relative to the manor of Eardisland.

An Indenture dated:

the fifteenth day of Maye in the

ffortieth Year of *the* reign of our Sovereign Ladie Elizabeth by the grace of God of England Ffrance and Ireland Queene defender of the faith etc. Betweene Roger Vaughan of Kynsley in the Countie of Herefforde esquire now the Lorde of the Manor or Lordshippe of Erslande in the said Countie one thon party and Nicholas Deyos of the paryshe of Ersland aforesaid gentleman on the other party *Witnesseth* that the

Footnote ⁷³

The essence of what the Indenture witnessed was that he, Roger Vaughan, Lord of the Manor of Eardisland, granted a lease to Nicholas Deyos of:

said Nicholas Deyos his executors,, & administrators and assignes on half acre of arable lande p'cell of my said manor or lordship, sett, lieinge, and being in a field there called the weaste feilde, between the demaines Land there called the mill Gobbe, and the Millpounde, north and south, & stretchinge from the pasture of Richard Price to foreste acre there, easte and weaste sometimes parcell of the coppieholde landes of Thomas Houlden deceased, but now the landes of the said Nicholas and in his present possession with my wattermill in the foresaid Erslande, and all rentes, arredges of

In the context of this Paper it is the last line *with my wattermill in the foresaid Erslande* that is relevant. Whilst the preceding detail can be used to tentatively position the half acre of land, it is only important to note that the half acre was already in the possession of Deyos, although no doubt still part of the lands of the lord of the manor.

Later in the Indenture Vaughan grants license to Deyos to:

executors, administrators, & assignes, that it may & shal be lawfull to & for the said Nicholas his heyres, executors, administrators & assignes and or any of them, the said watter mill with all houses, courses, bankes, weares, poundes, watters, wattercourses utterlie to take downe & destroye, stoppe, and barr uppe, and the said mill or the like mill or mills, with stankes, bankes, wattercourses, weares and poundes, to make errechte, reare, & builde uppe in & upon any the groundes of the said Nicholas lieinge & being from the upper end of the new weare unto the place in the towne of Ersland presaid (?) where the said mill watter doth meete againe with the reste of the river of Arrow, whyther it be upon his freelandes or coppiehold landes, or upon the free or copieholde landes of any the tenantes of the said manor or lordshippe of Ersland

ie. to demolish the existing mill and its supporting infrastructure and to build, on any of the grounds already held by Deyos in that vicinity, a replacement mill complex.

Where then was the mill which existed before the *new weare* ie. Vaughan's *my wattermill* ? and indeed where was the new weir itself?

Whilst nowadays we refer to the weir across the river south of Folly Farm and the millstream as separate features, it is clear from the wording in the Indenture that when

⁷³ This transcript is now in Herefordshire Archive, together with a photocopy of it. The document itself remains in private ownership in the village.

Vaughan mentions *the new weare*, he includes both the actual weir across the river and also the millstream from it to where it still today rejoins the river just east of the bridge near the dovecote in the village.

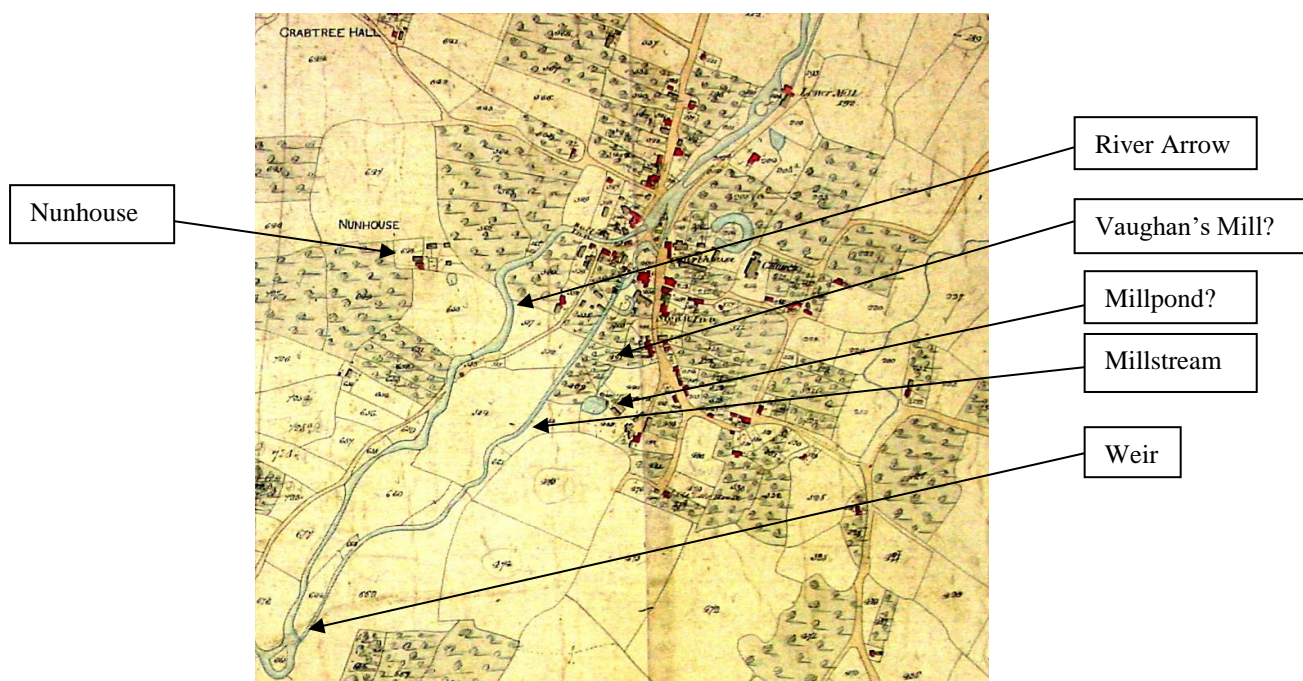
Both the weir and the millstream can therefore be dated to May 1598 or very shortly before then.⁷⁴

That the new weir was the one near Folly farm and not the one, also still existing, downstream of the bridge in the village, near Glan Arrow, is strongly supported by the origin of the source document from which all these extracts are taken. It remains in the possession of the owner of the mill, later known as Upper Mill, sometimes simply Eardisland Mill, between the Dovecote and Arrow Lawn, just south of the bridge in the village. That there was at least one watermill associated with the other weir, further downstream, east of the bridge, is not in doubt, but the references to it/them are in a completely different set of Deeds viz. HAS reference B16/--- .

But to return to establishing the position of Vaughans *my wattermill* and the *new weare*.

The alterations for which Vaughan granted licence, whenever they later took place, will have made both the millpond, mentioned early in the document when describing the position of the half acre, and Vaughan's *my wattermill*, which will have depended on the millpond for its power, redundant.

Whilst it is acknowledged that there is absolutely no certainty as to what its function was, there is a feature on the Tithe Map (1842-1844) which could be residual of the millpond of 1598. If this was indeed the millpond then it can be suggested that Vaughan's mill was at the end of what appears to be an outflow from it.



Nunhouse is highlighted because it was associated with the Deyos family from, at very latest, 1576.

⁷⁴ It has been suggested that the *new weare* may have replaced an earlier one. However, I consider that the wording *newe millwater* and *backwatter* indicates otherwise.

The water feature which I suggest may have been a millpond is not far from Tanhouse, where there was indeed a Tanyard. It has been assumed, certainly in recent years, that this body of water related to this tanning enterprise and was, impliedly, formed for that purpose. Possibly so, but that may simply have been a matter of upgrading the former millpond to a new use. The millpond, if such it was, fell out of use between 1598 and whenever it was that the 'new weare' started to be used for driving a new mill. Later entries in this Paper will reveal that this was some time between 1672 and 1704.

Only by a very small margin, and that assuming that the dating is accurate, which is not established, does this conflict with extant information about the existence of a Tanyard here.

The earliest reference I have to a Tanhouse is 1710⁷⁵, but also extant in a document of 1670 is mention of *Thomas Wyerte Staunton on Arrow tanner there one year; before at Eardisland for one year*⁷⁶

If this does indeed reflect what happened, then soon after the millpond became redundant it was put to some alternative use connected with a tanning enterprise based on Tanhouse, now known as The Elms.

Towards the end of the 1598 Indenture Vaughan further supports Deyos' hold over the area with the wording:

executors, administrators & assignes that I the said Roger Vaughan my heyres
executors administrators and assignes shall not from henceforth make create or build
uppe any mill, weare, or stanke in any parte of the said river of Arrowe within the said
manor or lordshippe of Ersland from the upper end of the said new weare, such that
the said newe millwatter and backewatter wholly from the upper end of the weare unto
the meetinge of them watters in the town of Ersland foresaid with all bankes, stankes,
moundes, fyshings, fowlings& all other commodities in them beinge or hereafter shalle,
To be & remayne from henceforth wholly unto the said Nicholas Deyos his heyres
executors and assignes forever; *And* I the said Roger Vaughan do further covenant &

Later information records that alterations made possible by Vaughan giving that general and wide ranging permission did indeed take place.

All this later dated information is within an Indenture dated 1704 which recounts it to identify the land which is the subject of that Indenture. These dated entries are included in these pages at each applicable date and then discussed later in this Paper, at date 1704.

.....

⁷⁵ 1710 "...Henry Davis for Tanhouse." [Served as Overseer of the Poor and Churchwarden] from HAS AJ32/58.

⁷⁶ HAS HD4/2/12, f.61.

Feoffment, 6 June, 4 James I (1606)

(i) William Whittington of Burton, Herefs

(ii) Francis Parlar of Ersland, yeoman⁷⁷

The description of the land which is the subject of this Feoffment is long, 27 lines in transcript.⁷⁸

Whilst the actual mention of a mill is brief, and near the end, parts of the land description enable an approximate location of this mill to be established. In full therefore:

All that his right and interest which he the said William Whittington now hath or ought to have of right unto the mansion or dwelling house of Henry Niccoles with all barns, house, gardens, orchards, yards and backsides to the said mansion house belonging or appertaining, situate, lying and being in Ersland in the county aforesaid and now in the possession of the said Henry or his assigns. Which said yard or backside doth stretch itself from the king's highway that leadeth to Leominster on the north part to the river of Arrow on the south part, and stretcheth itself on the west part from the orchard of James Bullock deceased to a close of the said James on the west part. Except and reserved out of the said yard or backside all that land which lyeth between the river of Arrow and the north part of a new ditch lately made by the said William Whittington. And also except and reserved out of the said yard and backside all that ridge or land which stretcheth itself along by the said yard or orchard of the said James Bullock on the west part of the said yard or backside along the river of Arrow and so along from the south end of the said ridge or land five yards from the bank of the said river of Arrow round about to the said new ditch. Which said land excepted must be sufficient for a wain with oxen and people to carry and carriage from the king's highway aforesaid to the weir and banks of the said river of Arrow; which said ground or land is to be divided and kept at the charges of the said Francis Parlour from the said yard or backside with bands and mears as the said William at his pleasure shall appoint and divide the same five yards from the river and the banks thereof and all trees growing in or upon the banks of the said river of Arrow excepted and all other things which shall be convenient and needful to be had for the use of his mill and water course of the said mill for ever the ridge, ditch and water course excepted to the said William Whittington his heirs and assigns for ever.

Memorandum that it is agreed between the said parties that the said Francis Parler shall for a fine plant, set preserve and keep the number of forty apple trees of the best fruit the came [same?] set within the space of two years after the date hereof which agreement was made before the ensealing and delivery hereof, which trees are to be planted, preserved and kept in the parcel of land which lyeth between the new ditch and the river of Arrow,

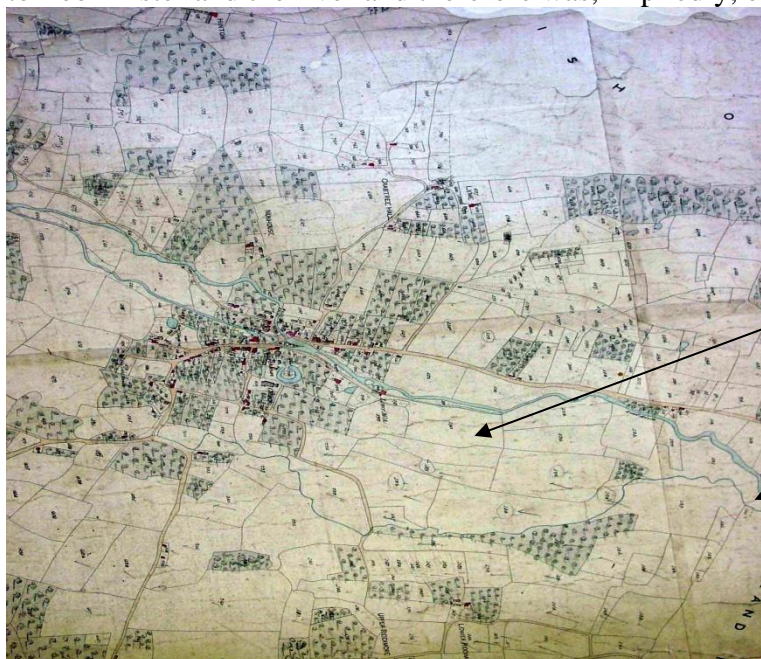
A review of my other records containing mention of the Whittington, Nichols, Bullock and Parlar families revealed nothing to help establish the position of this mill. And so an

⁷⁷ HAS D4/20. (Catalogue detail).

⁷⁸ I am indebted to Sue Hubbard who prepared it for me in November 2010.

attempt to do so now depends solely upon an assessment and interpretation of the other detail in the text.

First ‘the broad picture’. The land in question was described as being between the road from Eardisland to Leominster and the river and therefore was, impliedly, east of the bridge.



It can be seen that there are two areas which fit the description, separated by a short length of river where it comes very close to the road. The illustration above dates to 1842-1844⁷⁹. The current Ordnance Survey map shows a similar, but still identifiably different, situation. Exactly what line river and road took in 1606 I am unable to demonstrate. The wording of the 1606 document, up to this point, does nothing to help decide which of these two possible/likely areas of land is referred to.

Lines ten to twenty of the transcript identify land which is not to be included. For ease of reference I repeat them here:

Except and reserved out of the said yard or backside all that land which lyeth between the river of Arrow and the north part of a new ditch lately made by the said William Whittington. And also except and reserved out of the said yard and backside all that ridge of land which stretcheth itself along by the said yard or orchard of the said James Bullock on the west part of the said yard or backside along the river of Arrow and so along from the south end of the said ridge or land five yards from the bank of the said river of Arrow round about to the said new ditch. Which said land excepted must be sufficient for a wain with oxen and people to carry and carriage from the King's highway aforesaid to the weir and banks of the said river of Arrow;...

This additional detail does not help identify the exact position of the land, but it does help establish its likeley approximate position.

It is clear from the context that land on or close to the north bank of the river and east of the bridge is being referred to. Two possible areas are illustrated above.

The text mentions *a new ditch* and a *ridge of land* in relation to it. The ridge of land: *stretches itself.....along the river of Arrow*

but the next several words do nothing but add confusion to a close analysis such as this:

⁷⁹ Tithe Map: Diocesan Copy. At HAS.

and so along.....to.....said new ditch.

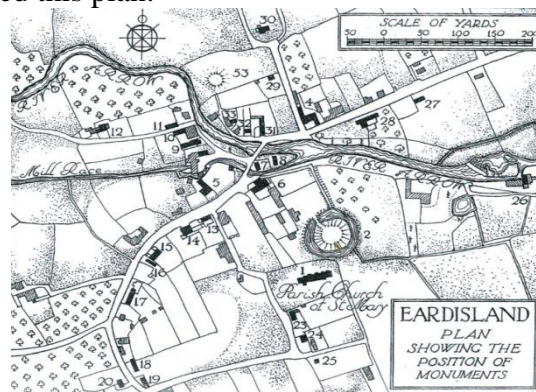
Furthermore, on the reverse side of document D4/20 is a *Memorandum* which includes the wording:

.....forty apple trees....., which trees are to be planted, preserved and kept in the parcel of land which lyeth between the new ditch and the river of Arrow,...

It has been estimated⁸⁰ that about 1/4 acre would be needed to accomodate the forty apple trees.

The wording of this *Memorandum* places the *new ditch* approximately parallel with the river for far enough for this planting of trees to be possible.

Whilst neither the 1832 OS Map nor the Tithe Map in 1842-1844 show enough detail for a feature such as this to be included, the 1886 OS 6 inch map may be what the RCHM had in mind when they formulated this plan:



Is this the D4/20 ditch or perhaps a later feature based on it?

This uncertainty is to some extent dispelled by:

Which said land excepted must be sufficient for a wain with oxen and people to carry and carriage from the king's highway aforesaid to the weir and banks of the said river of Arrow

in that it is probable that the position of the weir has not changed much, if at all, between then and now. However it also raises the question why it should be required to secure an access for a *wain with oxen and people.....to the weir and banks of the said river of Arrow* .

I think it extremely unlikely that the answer is so that they could somehow use the top of the weir to cross the river [surely not with a *wain with oxen*].

A much more likely meaning is that it refers to the area near to the weir and something to which access was needed downstream of the weir but still on the same [north] bank of the river. This I believe to have been a watermill, as is indeed referred to in the final words of the document:

and all trees growing in or upon the banks of the said river of Arrow excepted and all other things which shall be convenient and needful to be had for the use of his mill and water course of the said mill for ever the ridge, ditch and water course excepted to the said William Whittington his heirs and assigns for ever.

This feoffment of 6th June 1606 refers to land between the road to Leominster from Eardisland and the river Arrow. Wherever the bridge was at that time the land described is

⁸⁰ By the late Jolyon Gill.

likely to have been to the east of it, towards Leominster, and thus downstream of the bridge, north of the river. The last few lines of the transcript identify the presence of a mill and associated watercourse somewhere on this wedge of land, but not how far downstream of the bridge it was. The weir [assuming in the same place, or nearly, as at present] gives some suggestion of how far downstream of the bridge the mill referred to in the document must have been- and all this places it gratifyingly close to where I have earlier positioned *Schorlemull*.⁸¹

.....

1607

*Item money which of ancient time is due for the water mills of the said parish as namely out of the mill of Erslan 11s 8d of the mill of Twiford 3s 4d of Burton 2s 8d of the mill of the demesnes of Ersland 3s 4d.*⁸²

The source document of this extract is a Glebe Terrier of 1607, at the reference detailed in the footnote.

Whilst there is no specific detail as to the location of any of the mills in this wording, there is mention of *mill of the demesnes* which, with acceptable probability, confirms the continuity of existence of *Ereslanemull*, which is discussed on the first four pages of this Paper.

The identity and location of *the mill of Erslan* is not established. Possibilities include Roger Vaughan's *my wattermill*⁸³, and indeed the other un-named mills mentioned in these pages at various dates.

.....

1614

The capital messuage and tenement called the Court of Erdisland at Earesland in which William Whittington lately lived in Erdisland...with all houses etc. used with it, and all that water corn mill near adjoining the capital messuage, with all "weares" etc., and several parcells of arable land meadows, leases etc., in Erdisland al Earesland and Pembridge , as follows:-

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to a "Bargain and Sale enrolled(Mortgage) dated 12th May, 1614, 12 James 1". Its reference is HAS B16/2.

Taken in isolation this wording could be said to position the mill mentioned with some degree of accuracy, particularly in the knowledge that the *capital messuage* was modern Court House Farm, this being the second of a run of many documents held at HAS at reference B16/---.

However, other circumstances, not least those set out in HAS B16/1, which dates to 23rd November 1576, introduce a degree of uncertainty.

The 1576 reference does not in fact mention a watermill, but it has possible implications for this 1614 entry and other subsequent ones in this run of documents and also, importantly, for the watermill already included in this Paper at 1598. However, the circumstances recited, together with even a small degree of knowledge of the many changes evidenced around this date by other documents which are not specific to watermills, make any attempt to position

⁸¹ See pages 6-9 of this Paper.

⁸² HAS HD2/3/14.

⁸³ As discussed on page 16.

this 1614 mill with accuracy doomed to failure. This will become evident when the year 1840 is reached in these pages when there is mention of three mills closely associated to the same area close to the river. Which of those three is being referred to here? Intervening references may perhaps make this clear.

THIS LAST PARAGRAPH ALSO APPLIES TO THE NEXT FOLLOWING SEVEN ENTRIES, ALL FROM THE SAME RUN OF DOCUMENTS.

.....

1616

All that capital messuage and tenement with appurtenances called the Court of Erdisland, al. Earesland in which one William Whittington, esq., sometime lived in Erdisland al. Earesland, with all houses, etc., dovehouses, courts, curtillages, yards, backsides, gardens, orchards and conneyberries belonging. And all that water corn mill in Erdisland al. Earesland adjoining the capital messuage , with all weares etc. And all those several parcels of arable land...

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to a “Bargain and Sale 7th August, 14 James 1”. Its reference is HAS B16/5.

.....

1616

All that capital messuage and tenement with appurtenants commonly called the Court of Erdisland al. Earesland in which one William Whittington sometime lived – with housests.,⁸⁴ gardens, orchards, “connyberries” lands etc. belonging or used with it. And also all that water corn mill in Erdisland (Earesland) near adjoining the capital messuage with all weares, mounds. etc., belonging and all those several parcels of arable...

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to a “Feoffment 10th December, 1616 14 James 1”. Its reference is HAS B16/6.

.....

1627

All that site of the manor capital messuage or tenement with appurtenances, called the Courts of Erdisland al Earsland in which one William Whittington formerly lived... and the water corn mill, And lands (see B16/2).....

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to a transaction “22nd Jan. 2 Charles.”. Its reference is HAS B16/8.

.....

1627

One messuage, one cottage, one watermill, one dovehouse, 2 barns, 2 gardens, 2 orchards, 140 acres land, 40 acres meadow and 150 acres pasture in Erdisland al. Earesland and Pembridge.

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to a “Final Concord Westminster, Octave of the Purification, 2 Charles”. Its reference is HAS B16/9.

.....

⁸⁴ This is the spelling in the HAS catalogue wording.

1627

All the site of the Manor Capital messuage called the Court of Erdisland al. earesland, the water corn mill, and lands (see previous deeds). And all.....

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to “Feoffment 14 June, 3 Charles”. Its reference is HAS B16/10.

.....

1628

1 messuage, 1 cottage, 2 barns, one water mill, 1 dovehouse, 2 gardens, 2 orchards, 140 acres of land, 40 acres meadow, 150 acres pasture in Erdisland al. Earsland and Pembridge.

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to “Final Concord (in duplicate) Westminster, Trinity in three weeks, 3 Charles.”. Its reference is HAS B16/11,12.

.....

1647

*All that capital messuage and site of the manor of Ersland al. Erlsland and house etc., water corn mill, appurtaining now in the possession of.....
to uses as follows-*

The capital messuage and site of the manor of Earsland, the mill and messuages and lands in Earsland except such meadows as lie below the mill between Midley meadow and the river of Arrowe, for the use of the trustees.....

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to a “Marriage Settlement 7th January, 22 Charles”. Its reference is HAS B16/13.

THIS IS THE LAST ENTRY FROM THE RUN OF DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO AT THE END OF THE 1614 ENTRY, PRECEDING.

.....

1649

...and whereas John Deyos son of the said Nicholas Deyos by his Indenture of assignement bearing date the first day of June in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and forty nine for the consideration therein mentioned Did give grant assign.....unto Nicholas Deyos his son and heir apparent.....the said half acre of land and water mill.....

This description is from the preamble “Whereas” clauses of an Indenture dated 1704.

That Indenture starts by referring back to the Indenture of 1598 which is already included in these presents. No doubt, then, as to the identity of the mill and associated half acre of land; but no additional positional information. The 1704 Indenture itself will be dealt with later, at date.

1653

.....premises abutting on ye north side upon ye river Arrow on ye east side upon a parcelle of ground called ye Langott on ye west side Adjoining to a Parcell of ground there called ye

Ground below ye Mill on ye South side adjoining to a meadow called Midley meadow...

This description is from document 9 of “GlanArrow Deeds”, towards the bottom of page two. It links back to an Indenture of 7th January 22 Chas I, in the same run of deeds, which itself relates back to HAS B16/13 which is the subject of entry 1647, above.

The various land transactions behind this wording are not themselves relevant to the topic of “Watermills” and need not concern us here. The relevant point is the further description of land included in this extract.

If *ye Ground below ye Mill* can be identified by a Field-name reconstruction, then the exact position of the mill referred to would become clear and its identity, either *Ereslanemull* (see 1382) or modern GlanArrow Mill established. It may even be that *Ereslanemull* and GlanArrow Mill are one and the same. This however would be very difficult to establish with any degree of acceptable certainty.

.....

1672

and whereas the said Nicholas Deyos son of the said John Deyos by his Indenture of assignement bearing date the first day of October in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred seventy and two for the consideration therein mentioned did give grant assign.....unto the said Richard Deyos.....the said half acre of land and water mill

This description is from the preamble “Whereas” clauses of an Indenture dated 1704. That Indenture starts by referring back to the Indenture of 1598 which is already included in these presents. No doubt, then, as to the identity of the mill and associated half acre of land, but no additional information. The 1704 Indenture itself will be dealt with later, at date.

.....

1679

All that site of the manor, capital messuage called the Court of Eardisland in which Richard Dolphin now lives – with houses, etc., and lands etc., appertaining and all that water corn mill adjoining the capital messuages, with “weares” etc., cottage and backside called the house at the lands and late in tenure of Thomas Blayne.....

This describing is from the catalogue detail dated 26th December, 1679 at reference HAS B16/19.

.....

1679

Item there has been accustomed to be paid to the said vicar for mills at or about Easter annually as follows viz: for Burtons Mill now in the possession of Mr Lamb 2s 8d for Mr Doyes Mill 6s 8d for Mr Dolphins Mill 3s 4d his now mill uncompounded for.⁸⁵

This is from an undated Glebe Terrier from between 1679-1730. A detailed analysis of the detail might enable a tighter date range to be established if appropriate.

Burtons Mill not being worked from the river Arrow but by Tippetts Brook, calls for no

⁸⁵ HAS HD2/3/13.

comment here.

Mr Doyes Mill further records the mill held by Richard Deyos. The entry at 1672 hereabove, refers.

The important point is that in addition to Burton Mill three other mills are mentioned, one of which, Mr Dolphin's *his now mill*, was impliedly of recent construction.

This raises the question of the position of this particular mill and indeed that of Dolphin's other, impliedly long-established, mill for which the accustomed payment to the Vicar was 3s 4d.

In the first of these two 1679 references, the first one being on page 25 preceding, Richard Dolphin is recorded as living in the *capital messuage called the Court of Eardisland* viz: modern Court House Farm.

This second 1679 reference, suggesting as it does a mill of recent construction, brings into this discussion a document dated 1840, which is included later, at that date. That 1840 document is from *GlanArrow Deeds*. GlanArrow was split out from the Court House estate around 1840.

The document cited mentions:

ALL THOSE two Water Mills and Dwelling house formerly consisting of three Water Mills and a dwelling house and which were afterwards pulled down and destroyed and...

The exact position of these various mills, in particular the three which were pulled down, is likely to remain as it now is 'to be established'.

.....

1680

One messuage, one cottage, 2 barns, one water corn mill, one dove house, 2 gardens, one orchard, 90 acres land, 24 acres meadow, 47 acres pasture in Eardisland.....

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to "Final Concord in duplicate Westminster, octave of St. Hilary, 31 Charles II". Its reference is HAS B16/20,21.

.....

1696

The site of the manor of the [sic] Eardisland and the capital messuage in Eardisland and appurtenances, water corn mills and lands enjoyed with it. Cottage in the possession of George Bullock.

This description is from the catalogue detail relating to "Release 13th Oct. 1696". Its reference is HAS B16/23.

This Release of 1696 includes mention of an unspecified number of *water corn mills* and a *Cottage in the possession of George Bullock*. It could be taken that this cottage had close association with at least one of the mills. It is from a further item within the deeds of The Court House Estate, HAS B/16---.

Earlier in this sequence of references to watermills, at date 1606⁸⁶ there is mention of lands held by a James Bullock. To a small extent it was possible to use the detail there to discuss the

⁸⁶ HAS D4/20.

position of that particular watermill. This included establishing that it was north or the river.

If the George Bullock of 1696 was the successor in title to the lands of James Bullock of 1606⁸⁷ then it follows that one of the 1696 mills was probably the 1606 one, its position north of the river having already been discussed.

This possibility is further explored later in these pages, under date 1840, when there is mention⁸⁸ of the destruction of three mills and their replacement by only two.

.....

1698

And Whereas the said Richard Deyos hath since the making of the said first Indenture of lease caused one other mill to be erected and built and also buildings to be erected on part of the said lands in the first receipted Indenture of lease granted And Whereas the said Richard Deyos by his Indenture of Lease bearing date the one and twentieth day of January in the ninth year of the reign of our late Sovereign Lord William the third.....the said half acre of land and Water Mills in and by the said Roger Vaughan as aforesaid and also the other Mill and buildings thereon erected and built...

This is from the preamble “Whereas” clauses of an Indenture dated 1704. That Indenture starts by referring back to the Indenture of 1598 which is already included in these presents.

The additional detail in this latest extract opens up further avenues of interpretation. These, and the 1704 Indenture itself, will be dealt with later, at date.

.....

1699

And Whereas the said James Price by his Indenture of Assignement bearing date the thirtieth day of October in the eleventh year of the reign of our said late Sovereign Lord William the Third.....and the said John Browne.....the Mills lands and premises with their and every one of their appurtenances.....

This is from the preamble “Whereas” clauses of an Indenture dated 1704. That Indenture starts by referring back to the Indenture of 1598 which is already included in these presents.

The 1704 Indenture is dealt with next hereunder.

.....

1704

This Indenture made the first day of May...[1704]...Between John Brown of Yarpole.... and Richard Deyos of the Nunnhouse in the parish of Eardisland...of the one part and Edward Phillips of the parish of Eardisland aforesaid miller of the other part.

Several clauses follow setting out previous circumstances relating to the assets/premises

⁸⁷ This remains to be established from the Parish Register or other sources.

⁸⁸ Again in HAS B16/---, deeds of the Court House estate.

involved. Then, close to the end of the document, are words of summary:

Now this Indenture Witnesseth that the said John Browne.....and each of them doth bargain sell set over unto the said Edward Phillips.....the aforesaid half acre of land and the said Water Mills and the buildings thereto belonging and all other the aforesaid premises with the appurtenances in and by the said first receipted Indenture of lease granted by the said Roger Vaughan

The lease was to run for the remainder of the five hundred year period granted to James Price ⁸⁹ and thereafter for the unexpired term of the one thousand year head-lease granted on 15th May 1598. To all intents and purposes, then, this was the transfer ie. sale, of what in modern terminology would amount to the freehold of the premises in question; Edward Phillips being the new owner.

But of what was Edward Phillips the new owner?

...the aforesaid half acre of land...

This has been discussed, and to the limited extent possible, positioned, at date 1598 earlier in these pages.

...and the said Water Mills and the buildings...

This is from the detail of what the 1704 Indenture witnessed. It is included earlier on this page. Parts of what this wording refers to relate back to the lease granted by Roger Vaughan in 1598, which has already been discussed at that date in these pages. Some aspects of the 1598 lease now need to be re-introduced into these comments about the 1704 lease.

It, the 1598 lease, also mentioned Vaughan's *my wattermill* before adding license for Nicholas Deyos to demolish the then existing mill and its supporting infrastructure, and to build, on any of the lands already held by Deyos in that vicinity, a replacement mill complex.

Close to the end of the 1598 lease Vaughan further undertakes that neither he nor his successors in title will ever do anything detrimental to any of the lands and mills set out within the lease including the new mill complex for which he has just given permission. The wording is set out in full on page 18 of this Paper.

Between 1598 and 1704 various changes both as to ownership of the land and the nature of the assets themselves did indeed take place. These are set out in the several *Whereas...* clauses of this 1704 document. Not until these have been analysed can it be established of what Edwards Phillips became the new owner.

In 1649 John Deyos, son of Nicholas, passed title of the same assets detailed in 1598, to his son, also named Nicholas. Then in 1672 this second Nicholas, grandson of the first one, sold the lease to Richard Deyos, one of the parties to this 1704 Indenture. There was still no change to the land and assets included.

Then, at some unspecified date between 1672 and January 1698, Richard Deyos:
caused one other mill to be erected and built and also other buildings to be erected on part of the said lands in the first receipted Indenture of lease granted

This wording goes on to detail that Richard Deyos leased the same, as security for the sum of *Fifty Pounds*, to James Price of Hereford.

Then, late in October 1699 James Price, with the involvement of Richard Deyos, for the consideration of £53 to Price and £47 to Deyos, made the same premises (viz. the half acre

⁸⁹ It was granted to James Price on 21st January 1698.

and *said Water Mills*) over to a certain John Browne for the unexpired period of the lease.

The Indenture then sets out the purpose for which it was drawn up: *Now this Indenture witnesseth...* Its purpose was to transfer from John Browne *by the direction and appointment of the said Richard Deyos* to Edward Phillips the *half acre of land and the said Water Mills and the buildings thereto belonging...*

And so in 1704 there were two water mills in the area that has been discussed.

These must have been Vaughan's mill of the 1598 lease and the *one other mill...erected and built...* by Richard Deyos between 1672 and January 1698.

Knowing the source of both⁹⁰ these documents, it can only be concluded that Richard Deyos's *one other mill* was what later became known as Upper Mill, the one which was in modern times destroyed by fire, as is illustrated at the end of these explanatory pages.

Thus, on 1st May 1704, Edward Phillips became the owner of the half acre of land, two water mills and other associated buildings. One of these mills may already have long been redundant. Certainly it did not survive to modern times; the other did.

.....

1706

Edward Phillips married here on 19th September 1706, when the Parish Register records him as being a miller (*molendinarius*). No further detail can be expected from that source; indeed the recording of occupations in parish registers was not usual practice. It only happened here for a little over twenty years, ending around 1706.

.....

1720

Tho^s Phillips for the Lower Mill

1720 ⁹¹

This HAS reference is to Eardisland Parish Book. It is the first mention of *Lower Mill* currently extant.

Earlier documents linking the Phillips family to a mill here have been from records of what later, on the Tithe Map (1842-1844), was shown as "Upper Mill". But to use that, unproven⁹², family link to suggest that this entry relates to one of the two mills discussed in the 1704 entry in this chronology, would be a very hazardous conjecture. Indeed, whilst from a different documentary source, the text dated 1738 discussed next hereunder, makes it clear that this 1720 Lower Mill was close to, or identifiable with, what is shown on the Tithe Map as "Lower Mill", downstream of the bridge and "Upper Mill".

1738

The four daughters of Philip Munn against Richard Whitehead the elder and Richard Whitehead the younger. In the matter arising out of the will of Sarah Dolphin who devised corn mills and lands in Eardisland.....(the will is recited. Among the bequests.....arrangements made for watering the meadows of the Court House estate from the mill pond) Sarah Dolphin died in 1737.

⁹⁰ Those discussed at 1598 and 1704 in these pages. Transcripts are at HAS... , actual documents privately held.

⁹¹ *Served as Overseer of the Poor and Churchwarden.* From HAS AJ32/58, page 4.

⁹² Edward Phillips in 1706, now Thomas Phillips in 1720.

This is from the catalogue detail at HAS B16/82. The document itself records a “Bill of Complaint in Chancery”. This is dated *18th Aprill 1738*. It quotes at length from the Will of Sarah Dolphin which includes much detail of the lands she possessed here. Particularly relevant to this Paper is:

...to Phillip Munn of Leominster aforesaid Dyer all those my Water Grist Mills under one Roof commonly called the lower Mills situate on or near the River Arrow in Eardisland in the said County of Hereford with the messuage or dwelling-house Buildings & outhouses thereunto belonging now in the occupation of my Tenant Thomas Phillips and the ground whereon the said mills and buildings do stand and also all Roads rivers & Mill Ponds and the soil thereof to the said Mills belonging and all Banks Stanks Ponds Streams of water watercourses Rivers fishings places ways paths passages easement profitts Hereditaments & appurts whatsoever to the said mills and p. Ems belonging or in any wise appertaining and also all that my parcell of meadow ground called the lower Conygree and also all that my Plock or parcell of meadow ground lying between the said lower Conygree and the said Mill Meadow And also all that my parcell or Langett of meadow ground leading from the said Mills up to the Little Bridge in Eardisland aforesaid with the Barn erected thereon and also all that my other parcell or Langett of Meadow Ground lying between the said Mills & Mill Meadow and the Mill Stream and the said River Arrow all which said parcels of land are now in the occupation of the said Thomas Phillips And also.....

Mention of *my Tenant Thomas Phillips* on the 4th line is one of the several circumstances which support what I say at 1720, above.

This wording makes it clear that in this her Will Sarah Dolphin is referring to one mill building containing at least two milling operations, very close to, or identifiable with what most recently has been called Glan Arrow Mill, earlier, and frequently over the years, Lower Mill.

.....

1744

*Overseers & Churchwardens
Tho^s Eves for the Lower Mill*

174-

In the text the last digit of the date is unclear. By comparison with the entries before and after though, it must be 1744.⁹³

Both in 1720 and 1738 Lower Mill is associated with Thomas Phillips. However the 1738 entry is specific in mentioning him as the tenant of it, not the owner.

That now, six years later, Thomas Eves is associated with Lower Mill may well only reflect that Thomas Phillips' lease had run its course, and he had been replaced.

1745

Will of

John Trumper of Leene in the Parish of Pembridge

Such is the wording in an early copy of the Will which records its date as *this seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty five*.⁹⁴

⁹³ HAS reference AJ32/58, page 5 of the transcript there, refers.

⁹⁴ HAS D32/183.

However, an inscription on a tomb slab in Eardisland church very strongly suggests that this was John Trumper of Porch House, here in Eardisland:

John Trumper of The Porch House Gent. Died the 30th day of Sep. 1745

In his Will he specified that his daughter, Anne, who was to inherit (other than the Mill): *all and singular my freehold and leasehold Messuages Dwelling Houses, Lands, Tenements should*

permit and suffer my said wife and her assigns to hold and enjoy during her natural life two plocks of land adjoining to the buildings belonging to the Porch House in Eardisland.

Without reasonable doubt this is John Trumper of the Porch House, Eardisland.⁹⁵

His first recited bequest is:

first I give Devise and Bequeath unto my loving wife Anne all that my Water corn Mill now in possession of Thomas Phillips situate in Eardisland with the.....Millstream.....thereunto belonging.

Thomas Phillips was associated with Lower Mill in 1720 and 1738⁹⁶, but by 1744 it was Thomas Eves who was linked to that mill. It seems likeley that Phillips' tenancy⁹⁷ had expired and that Eves replaced him. It is also likely, but not absolutely certain, that Eves was still at Lower Mill in 1745.

The mill bequeathed by John Trumper to his wife, *then in possession of Thomas Phillips* can not therefore have been Lower Mill, but was what later became known as Upper Mill. The close proximity to Porch House of Upper Mill, Lower Mill being almost half a mile downstream of Upper Mill, adds support to this.

I have no record of when this mill first came to be owned by the Trumper family, nor indeed of the nature of their tenure. However, if my reasoning about the identity of the mill that was the subject of the 1704 Lease, already discussed, is realistic, then it must have been after then.

Similarly there is no certainty when the Trumper family were first at Porch House. All that can be said is that the date was between 1624⁹⁸ and 1727⁹⁹, although a family/families of that name are recorded elsewhere in the parish very much earlier.

.....

1756

And Also one parcel of Customary land at the north end of a certain Mill in the Village of Eardisland called the Upper Mill containing in breadth one foot and an half and in length nineteen feet.....

This is from a reference to a previous Court of 1st November 1756 in a Court Roll

⁹⁵ I make this point in detail because I have seen mention of other John Trumpers in this vicinity at about this date. Also 'John', sometimes shortened to 'Jo.' can easily be mistaken for 'Jo.', being also short for Joseph. He had a brother named Joseph, and a nephew of the same name.

⁹⁶ As already discussed.

⁹⁷ See 1738, preceding.

⁹⁸ When the Crump family owned it. Reeves 'Leon Valley...', page 147.

⁹⁹ Monumental Inscription in Eardisland church of Joseph Trumper 'late of ye Porch House'.

(Eardisland) entry relating to a Court held on 3rd July 1806. The document is at HAS AA62/2, page 2.

There is no reason to doubt that the Upper Mill referred to in this extract was the same as that which was discussed at date 1745, preceding.

Much less certain, and likely to remain so, is why it was appropriate to convey such a small piece of land.

.....

1761

(----) *Whitehall for y^e Lower mill but runnd away*

He was to have served as Overseer of the Poor/Churchwarden. It is from HAS AJ32/58, page 6.

I have no other references to the Whitehall family. Why he *runnd away* is not known, nor is it the concern of this Paper.

This, and the following three entries, all make specific mention of Lower Mill, the position of which has already been discussed at dated entry 1720.

.....

1765

*...Overseers and Churchwardens...
Meredith for his house at the Barwood
& Thomas Davies for the lower Mill*

This is from HAS AJ32/58, page 6.

My comments at 1761, above, apply.

.....

1785

*...Overseers & Churchwards...
John Meredith for the Riddox &
Thomas Williams for Lower Mill*

This is from HAS AJ32/58, page 7.

My comments at 1761, above, apply.

.....

1790

One entry for 1790 which starts page 33, hereunder.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

WATER CORN, FLOUR, and GRIST MILLS, with a brick, sashed Dwelling-house, TO BE LET and entered upon at Candlemas next, called the LOWER MILLS, situate on the river Arrow in the parish of Eardisland, near the turnpike road from Leominster to Kington, Weobly, and Presteigne all good market towns, and near the centre between them, 14 miles from the city of Hereford; with or without eight meadows, an orchard, and two hop-yards, planted with the choicest fruit trees, all adjoining; having the river Arrow flowing down the same, which may be diverted over, or kept off the meadows, at pleasure, from the mill pond, which is from six to eight feet deep, and about two hundred yards long by ten wide, at the upper part of the meadows, with plenty of water in the driest season, now in possession of Mr. John Harper, and Mr. Brown, who will shew the premises.

For particulars apply to Mr. Francis Eves, Attorney at Law, at Clifford, near Hay, Breconshire. Letters post paid, will be duly attended to.
Thursday, December 30, 1790. Berrow's Worcester Journal

This is the last of the Lower Mill references mentioned at dated entry 1761; earlier discussed at 1720.

The size of the Mill Pond, its exact position and its use to feed Water Meadows will be discussed in a separate Paper.

.....
1792

Lease, 27 February 1792

1. *William Watkins of Kington, baker.*
2. *John Miles of Yearsland, co. Herefs., miller, and Thomas Williams of the same, miller.*

Water –corn grist mill called “Bullocks Mill” with lands and apps. 2 years. rent £36.15.0.

Maintenance clause, including penalties for felling or lopping trees.¹⁰⁰

A close consideration of the document itself and of the records positioned before and after it in the HAS catalogue, reveals nothing to suggest that this Mill, *Bullocks Mill*, was not in Eardisland as indicated by a Catalogue sub-heading “Property in Eardisland” (K199/153 to K199/159).

The wording in the document itself *ALL that Messuage or Tenement and Water Corn Grist Mill called Bullocks Mill.....* is not followed by anything to indicate more closely where the mill was located.

A James Bullock is mentioned in document HAS D4/20, which was the subject of the 1606 entry in these pages.

This family name is the only potential link between the 1606 mill and this 1792 mill. Nebulous to say the least.

.....
1793

One entry which starts page 34 hereunder.

¹⁰⁰ Catalogue detail at HAS K99/159.

Trinity Term, 33. Geo. 3.

<p>EVES, GENT. <i>against</i> BURLTON AND ANOTHER.</p>	}	<p>HEREFORDSHIRE, to wit. Francis Eves, gent. complains of John Burlton and Thomas Burl- ton, being, &c. of a plea of breach of covenant; for that whereas by a certain indenture made the twelfth day of January, in the year of Our Lord 1791, at the parish of Eurdiland, in the said county of Hereford, between the said Francis of the one part, and the said John and Thomas of the other part (one part of which said indenture, sealed with the seal of the said John and Thomas, bearing date the day and year aforesaid, he the said Francis now brings here into court): It is witnessed that the said Francis, for the considerations therein mentioned, did lease, set, and to farm let unto the said John and Thomas, their executors, administ- rators, and assigns, all that messuage, tenement, or farm-house, with the water, corn, flour, and grist mill, &c. together with all gardens, &c. &c. to hold the same demised premises unto the said John and Thomas, their executors, administrators, and assigns, from the second day of February then next ensuing the date there- of, for and during, and unto the full end and term of twenty-one years,</p>
--	---	---

From a Family History enquiry. Source not established.

This may be the mill which is the subject of the 1790 entry at the top of the preceding page of this. The 1790 Indenture which is mentioned is not currently extant.

1796

Dec^r 28th paid Mr Munn with an apprentice for the Mill 1 1 0

This is from my transcript of the 'Parish Book' at HAS AJ32/59, (my) page 43. The entry next hereunder strongly suggests that this apprentice had been allocated by the Parish Vestry to Lower Mill. No information about how, when, why, Mr Munn came to be at Lower Mill is currently extant.

1797

...Overseers & Churchwardens...
Mathew hartland for Upper Hardwick
Joseph Munn for Lower Mill

This is from HAS AJ32/58, (my) page 8. No further comment is necessary.

1800

Mr Holls had Jas^s Phillips for Lower Mill

This is from HAS AJ32/59, (my) page 24. As with 1796 above, this refers to the placing of an apprentice by the Parish Vestry.

1803

TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION...on Friday the 8th day of July next,....A Capital WATER CORN MILL, called Eardisland lower Mill....

This is from the Hereford Journal Issue No. 1722, of Wednesday June 22nd 1803, via HAS reference F1/10.

The position of Lower Mill being well established in these extracts, there only remains to say that this Notice contains some useful information about the land held in conjunction with the mill.

.....

1811

John Thomas to Geo Wells Lower Mill

This is from HAS AJ32/59, (my) page 138. Another reference to a Parish Apprentice being put out. The list does also include an apprentice to go to Burton Mill, but no other mill references relative to the river Arrow.

.....

1813

Geo Wells-----Lower Mill

This is from HAS AJ32/59, (my) page 136. It refers to Geo Wells being appointed an Overseer of the Poor. No implications regarding Lower Mill itself.

.....

1823

Mr. Thomas Caldicott of Lower Mill allowed expenses to go to Hereford...

This is from HAS BR67/35. No implications regarding Lower Mill itself.

.....

1827

William Hayward of the Court House, Eardisland, gent. and John Caldicott of the same, miller. Messuage and lands called the Court House, now in the occupation of William Hayward (122 acres) and tithes.

This is the catalogue detail relating to HAS B16/67. Later the same reference gives lots of detail as to the land and what was/was not permitted regarding trees etc, but there is no mention of a watermill.

In the light of what has gone before, to find a miller mentioned in connection with *The Court House* calls for no comment.

.....

1830

Carpenter John Nelson Eardisland Miller

Dated circa 1830, this is from HAS AJ32/110, which is *A list of persons in the Parish of Eardisland liable to serve on the Jury*

This tells us a little about John Nelson Carpenter, but nothing about watermills.

.....

1835

*Millers
Caldicott Thomas, Eardisland
Carpenter, John, Eardisland.*

These entries are from Pigott & Co.'s Directory of 1835.

.....

*Caldicott Thos.....Miller
Carpenter, John.....Miller & Malster*

These entries are from *Robson's Directory of Herefordshire 1835-1837*, page 34.

These two references tell us that there were two millers here in 1835. Only impliedly do they suggest two mills, and that only from the benefit of what has gone before in these pages.

.....

1840

ALL THOSE two Water Mills and Dwelling house formerly consisting of three Water Mills and a dwelling house and which were afterwards pulled down and destroyed and the said two Water Mills and dwelling house erected and built instead thereof situate lying and being in the parish of Eardisland in the County of Hereford with the barns stable buildings yard fold yard gardens and appurtenances thereunto belonging AND ALSO all that piece or parcel of meadow ground now or lately called by the name of Langett with the barn thereon erected adjoining to the said mills and dwelling house which said barn was sometime since erected and built in lieu of another barn formerly erected and built on the said piece or parcel of land which was afterwards taken down and destroyed AND ALSO all that piece or parcel or plock of pasture ground also now or lately called or known by the name of Langett between the Mill Stream and the river Arrow and planted with fruit trees for an orchard AND ALSO..... [Much more detail follows, but nothing else specific to mills].

This extract is from a Transfer of Mortgage for securing £1500 and interest dated 18th/19th February 1840. It is from deeds relating to what is now the dwelling known as 'GlanArrow'. The deeds remain in private ownership in the village.

The detail in this extract makes it clear that it is Lower Mill/GlanArrow Mill which is being referred to.

It is the wording ... *two Water Mills and Dwelling house formerly consisting of three Water Mills and a dwelling house.....* which calls for further comment.

Even if it is accepted that two of these three earlier mills were those recorded in 1738 as being *all those my Water Grist Mills under one Roof commonly called the lower Mills.....* one earlier watermill still remains to be identified.¹⁰¹

Two Langetts are mentioned in this 1840 entry. This leads one to wonder whether the third watermill mentioned as having formerly existed could relate back as far as *Ereslanemull* first mentioned and discussed at 1382 in these pages.

This is not to suggest the survival of physical remains of that much earlier mill; simply to wonder whether it may be the case that it had been habitually so referred to in earlier deeds and grants over the centuries; or even perhaps that it had continued as a folk memory.

.....

1840

Miller... Carpenter, John, Eardisland

This is from Piggott's Directory, via an unrecorded website. It is not clear whether the date is 1840 or 1844.

It tells us a little about John Carpenter, but nothing about watermills.

.....

1842-1844
Tithe Map¹⁰²

The diocesan copy shows:



Lower Mill

Upper Mill

¹⁰¹ Unless indeed Sarah Dolphin had as many as three mills under the one roof.

¹⁰² The Diocesan copy of Eardisland Tithe Map is not dated. It is at Herefordshire Archive reference L287.

Its Apportionment Schedule is dated 1842, reference HD287.

Also at Herefordshire Archive, on microfilm, reference IR30/14, is the National Archives Copy of the map; this is dated 1844.

The parish copy of the map is no longer extant.

After 1844 there is a proliferation of references to watermills in the parish; in Trade Directories in particular. None of these suggest the survival of either physical remains, or ‘folk memories’ of mills other than the two shown on the Tithe Map. Eventually they too fell victim to the march of time.

Lower Mill, also subsequently known as GlanArrow Mill, is referred to at page 46 of “Portrait of a Village”¹⁰³:

It is believed that Glan Arrow Mill was last in use as an operating mill in the 1870s when the miller was Charles Hundley.....The mill subsequently fell into disrepair and was subsequently renovated for residential use.

Upper Mill is referred to at page 171 of Reeves N. *The Leon Valley. Three Herefordshire Villages* where it is recorded that:

The water-mill in the centre of the village was grinding corn up to 1950.

Subsequently, it is thought in the early 1950s, the building suffered a major fire:



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Later still, it too was converted for solely residential use. It is now named *Mill House*.

..... *Finis*.....

¹⁰³ Four photographs of the mill, before and after conversion, are included there.

¹⁰⁴ Photograph in private ownership in the village.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid.

SUMMARY

Fifty six dated extracts have been included.

Some have been discussed at length, with positions of the mills and, in some cases, illustrations of their whereabouts included.

It would be possible to suggest reasons why the sites of various mills have changed, or even completely disappeared over the centuries; for example *Schorlemull*. Indeed earlier drafts of this Paper included such comment. These earlier drafts were later discontinued and deleted from my files.

Why to include such reasons was, and still is, deemed inappropriate because of the likelihood of floating yet another local 'Myth', is best illustrated by listing a random selection of such potential reasons which have survived in my various background notes.

These incorporate such topics as:

The Dissolution of the Monasteries and the redistribution of their lands and assets.
What I refer to as the Dissolution of the Manor of Eardisland after it was sold by the Crown in 1559-1560.

Changes in agricultural practice.

Population variations in this vicinity.

Access to local markets: roads and bridges.

Unavoidable dilapidation of mill structures from vibration.

Changes in the technology of watermills.

This list could be considerably expanded, but the point is made.

What it is safe to say, however, is that most of the watermills which have been scheduled, discussed and in some cases, positioned in these pages were on the south side of the River Arrow. Only Schorlemull, if the suggested position reflects reality, and the mill mentioned in HAS D4/20, dated 1606, with near certainty, were north of it.

To attempt to link these mills by spanning often a considerable number of years using such attributes as the tenure of the land on which they stood and other known circumstances at the time of the various references would be hazardous in the extreme.
I shall not attempt to do so.

Two millponds are also mentioned in the texts.

One in 1598 in association with Vaughan's Mill and one in the Will of Sarah Dolphin (1738); later, with useful detail, in the Sale document of Lower Mill in 1790.

These and the, implied, associated watermeadow systems, will be dealt with in a separate Paper.

..... *FINIS*

