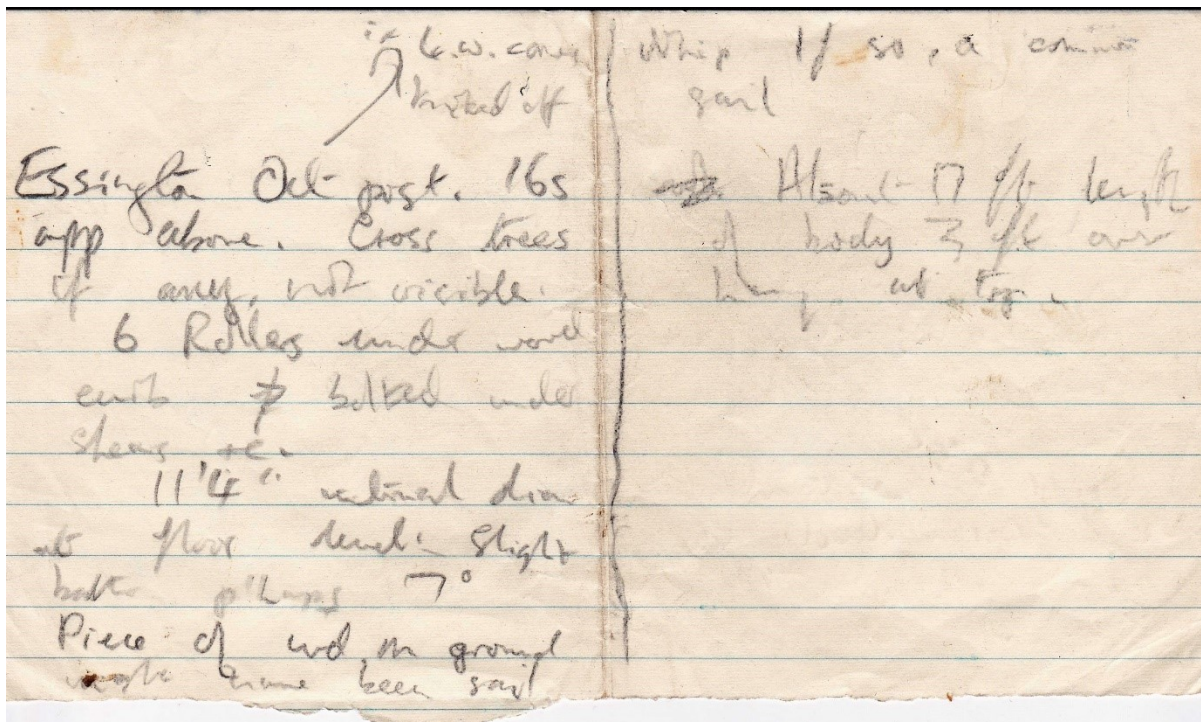


Note on Essington Windmill Staffs (near Wolverhampton)

Ruins of post windmill. Grid ref: SJ 9435 0368

1. I visited this ruined mill on 28<sup>th</sup> Oct 1966 and again in 1982 and have a scribbled note that I made presumably on one of those occasions as follows:



For what little that is worth, it reads "Essington. Octagonal post i.e 4 [sides] with corners knocked off, 16 sides apparently above. Cross trees, if any, not visible. 6 rollers under wood curb bolted under shears etc.

- [Roundhouse] 11ft 4in internal dm at floor level, slight batter, perhaps 7 degrees
  - Piece of wood on ground might have been sail whip. If so, a common sail.
  - About 17ft length of body, 3ft overhang at top. [Seems to refer to the amount by which the base of the body (shears, etc) overhung the brickwork of the roundhouse]"
2. Robert Sherlock in his book "The industrial archaeology of Staffordshire" (1976) says "Essington Windmill presents the midlands type of post-mill where the body is supported by a post but some of the weight is taken by rollers running on a curb. All that remains is the brick roundhouse, 6ft high x 11ft 3in diameter internally, the octagonal post, 2ft 4in across, the

crown-tree socketed to the top, and a pair of sheers. On top of the roundhouse is the curb and four of the six rollers.”

3. More information can be found in Barry Job’s book “Staffordshire Windmills” and in Seaby and Smith “Windmills in Staffordshire”. The mill has ID 1276 on Mills Archive database and they have other items on this mill. Staffordshire Record Office have various relevant items, and there are numerous items on the internet, including two pictures on the Staffordshire Past Track website.

John Bedington, 2020

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Photos with this note:

*B/W photos:* Taken 28<sup>th</sup> October 1966 – ST44a Mill from distance; ST44b, mill close to (very blurred)

*Colour slides:* Taken 28th October 1966 – STh1, general view of mill; Taken in 1982 –ST h 3, view of the mill, with Rhoda Bedington and Barrie Steel.