Old Mill, Cassiobury



I am trying to recover as much information about the remains of this mill, which was mainly demolished in 1956, to accompany some measured survey drawings of what remains. I have attached plans of the remains, a 1950s photo and recent photographs.

They show the position of a 310mm x 21mm beam, which spanned across the river bed. Do you think it is a reasonable assumption that this was the base timber of the hurst frame and might have carried one end the axle of the waterwheel? The hursting is visible, on the left of the b&w photo.

The plan and recent photo also show a large gate-valve and a circular metal object, buried in the base of the river. This must be the turbine installation, for which there is written evidence. In the 1922 it was driving a set of three throw horizontal pumps; these pumped water from a nearby spring up to Cassiobury House.

Stephen Buckland visited the dilapidated mill in 1955 and I have also attached my transcription of his notes. He recorded that the pumps were marked 'S. Owen & Co'; I have discovered that the firm of pump-makers and millwrights, S. Owens & Co, formed between 1865 & 1870 in London.



