

Note on Mostylea Mill (Also spelled Mosty Lea Mill or Mostylee Mill or Mosty Lee Mill). Near Stone

Grid Ref: SJ 9177 3624

Scotch Brook (Trib of R. Trent)

1. This was a mill for grinding flint for the Staffordshire potteries. I found the unusual construction of the pit wheel of particular interest. My note of my visit on 1st October 1977 (when I also went to see Wetmore Mill, nearby) reads:
“Note pit wheel with iron hub, wooden arms, iron rim, and chunky wooden teeth, wooden stays between the arms. Meshes with iron wallower with wide-spaced iron teeth. N.b. brick-lined wash tub [for separating coagulated particles in the mixture of water and ground-up flint]. Drive for pump incorporates roller chain. Mill very dilapidated.”
2. Happily the dilapidation did not last long, and the mill was restored in the 1980's, and has been kept in repair since. It is now owned by the scouts, who own Wetmore mill and Kibblestone camp site nearby. A volunteer group opens the mill to the public to a certain extent.
3. My digital images of the mill were taken when I assisted Adam Marriott when he was replacing waterwheel arms in 2013.
4. More information available in Barry Job's book "Watermills of the Moddershall Valley"; a lot of information on the internet; various items at Staffordshire Record Office.

John Bedington, 2020

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My items with this note:

B/W photos: taken 1st October 1977 – ST 97a, gable end of mill; ST97b, grinding pan; ST97c, pit wheel, etc

Digital images: taken January 2013 – A. Drive from waterwheel, B. Grinding pan, C. Millwright Adam Marriott trimming a new arm for the waterwheel. D. Adam Marriott with drying kiln of the mill behind.

Christmas card showing waterwheel of Mostylea Mill (probably between 1990 and 2010) (not my copyright)

