

NAME OF MILL	PYMORE MILL
TOWN	BRIDPORT
SOURCE of POWER	RIVER BRITT
MAP REFERENCE	193-SY-469 945
MILL REF	DOR.WT.53.

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1¼ ml. NNE of Church. marked on 1905 map standing disused 1939 ceased work 1959 (*Simmons*)

- 1086 Domesday -- land owned by Robert de Pymore.
- 1785 JOHN THOMPSON BULL of Burstled in Essex, Esq.
On his house, millhouse and offices all adjoining situated in Bothenhampton near Bridport in the Co. of Dorset (called South Mills) in the tenure of ROBERT CLAPCOTT, miller, £200.
water mills and going gears therein £100.
Balling Mill and stable adjoining near £100.
House & Millhouse in one building at Pimer (sic) in Co.of Dorset, in tenure of SAMUEL GUNDRY £150.
Oil and grist mills with the going gears therein £ 300. All thatched.
(*Sun Fire Ins.Pol. 507255 Vol.331. 13 July 1785*)
- 1810 Commission of Bankrupt against PUGSLEY GUMMER, of Bridport, Co. of Dorset, Twine Spinner.
To surrender 13 Nov. at the Bull Inn, Bridport. (*London Gazette, 27 October 1810*)
- 1810 Partnership between WILLIAM FOWLER Jnr. and THOMAS .HAYLER, of Bridport, Co. of Dorset, Sail-cloth manufacturers, dissolved by mutual consent November 16. William Fowler continues.
(*London Gazette, 20.November 1810.:*)
- 1838 There were two flax mills in Bridport in addition to the Allington one in 1838 according to the return of that year. They had between them one 12 horse power steam engine, one 12 horse power water wheel and another of 9 horse power, a total of 33 h.p. of which only 21 was used. Of the 64 people employed there only 8 were under the age of 18. (S)
- 1851 Pymore Mill Co. (Mgr. JOHN SUTTILL), Flax & Tow Spinners. (*dir.*)
- 1875 Pymores Mill Co., Flax Mill, twine and thread, Pymore Mill, Bridport, (*dir.*)
- 1875 JOHN PICKARD SUTTILL managing partner of Pymore Mill. (*Dir.*)
- 1789 WILLIAM FOWLER of Bridport in Dorset, Twine Spinner.
On his Mills called Pymore Mills, consisting of a Flour Mill and a Hemp Balling Mill, with two houses and outhouses all adjoining, situate in the parish of Loaders in Dorset, stone and thatched £ 300.
Utensils and stock and going gears therein £ 100. (*Sun Fire Ins.Pol. 552547 Vol357 8 Jan. 1789*)
- 1851 Pymore Mill Co., Flax and Tow Spinners, John Suttill mgr. (*under parish of Loders*).
- 1905 Pymore Mills. Marked "*Mills, flax*" on 1905 O.S.map. These appear to be in Loders parish. They are on the road from Bridport to Netherbury, on its west side, and on the River Britt. (*Simmons*)
- 1955 Mill ceased working, due to lack of female labour.
- 1956 The mill is not working. Owners-Pymore Mill Co.Ltd, Bridport. One exposed external iron wheel, 16ft diam. 16ft width. No inscription on rim. 40 'U' shaped iron buckets. Wheel shaft, round, iron, 19ft long, 2ft 6in diam with brass outer bearing, with 180 cast iron teeth.
Pit Wheel, 5ft, castiron, bolted sections, 120 teeth.
Wallower, castiron, bolted sections, 66 teeth. (*H J Pavey, 28 Sept. 1956*)
- 1961 Has a very fine wheel and buildings. It had been a silk mill which had failed and the property was bought by a Jewish firm from Penn Street, near Beaconsfield, Bucks, and Hackney, making built-in furniture. They had a fire in the old mill building, and the others, all of stone and all equally fine, were in the process of being converted and used to make furniture and being spoiled in the process. (*Rex Wailes 28 June 1961.*)

- 1961 Mill gutted, wheel remains. (*Rex Wailes Oct.1961.*)
- 1963 Mill gutted. One of the finest of mill buildings was at Pymore which, newly taken over as a furniture factory, suffered a disastrous fire and now even its fine and quite undamaged iron wheel has been sold for scrap. The main floodgates had three racks with worm and wheel drive and the sluice to the outside wheel had six racks and pinions. There was a Victorian clock made by Booth of Bridport. The left hand dial was an ordinary time-keeper; the right hand was geared to the water-wheel and adjusted to keep time with the other dial if the right amount of water was passing over the wheel. It was thus a water gauge. High breast wheel (sic) has louvres in front of it. They sloped upwards. Breast shot wheel (sic) 17ft.6in by 16ft. iron. Had 'U'-shaped ventilated buckets. The most interesting water shaft was at Pymore Mill, which was hollow 28ins. diameter and in two lengths, with flanges at the centre and at each end the journal bearings were 10ins. diameter. Pymore .Mill was burnt out in 1959 and has not been rebuilt. It was modernised c1850 and was a flour mill until c1890. It had a bakehouse, brewery, flax Mill, balling mlll and rope walk, and made sail-cloth and was taken over by an East London wood-working firm in 1958. The drive was from an internal gear ring on the water wheel to a large iron spur wheel on a lay shaft. Inside the mill was a cluster of four spur gears with a final drive by countershaft. A 230ft. shaft drove a half-ton lift by belt.
- (A.& Wailes Newcomen Soc. 1963)*
- 1965 Pyemore Mill, Built before 1800 as a grist mill and linseed mill, later converted to flax and hemp spinning. Stone built. There are additions dating from c1880. It has for some years been closed as a mlll. but part of the premises was until recently used for boat building. (*Kenneth Hudson, 1965*)
- 1984
- 1999 The site is to become a housing estate.
- 2001 Gladedale Homes are creating 80 new homes. Three cottages near one of the village streams have been dismantled and rebuilt using the original stone, but raised six (sic) metres. The girls hostel has been converted into three four bedroomed houses. Prices range from£95,000 for a two bedroomed converted apartment to &295,00 for the four bedroomed school cottage. (*Sunday Telegraph 2 Sept.2001*)

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