

Making a model mill – items to consider.



Century in which your mill was built

Was it built of bricks? of stone? of stone with brick on top? Stone with timber on top?



Some bricks were long, some bricks were narrow, and some bricks were

like our modern house bricks.

Will the roof of your mill lift off so the floor can be seen?

What will be floor be like? Brick? Ash/lime floor? Mortared? Cobbles?

Will you mill have 2 or 3 sections? Part 1 the mill workings with cogs and pits part 2 the main floor for the flour mill apparatus – mill stones - bins of corn bags of flour etc.

Will it have an extension? What is the extension for? an office? a showroom? a stable? What shape will the extension be?

How many storeys tall will your mill be?

You need a waterwheel. The way in which water flowed and turned the wheel changed over the centuries. The water came from the River Erewash in a channel some of which is now under the ball court.



Plate 37: Area 08 curved wall of (0329) looking north west

At one stage the water came in and hit the wheel at the base of the wheel. Later it was changed and the water hit the wheel higher up so the wheel could go faster and be more powerful. The wheel turned cogs and other cogs inside the mill house which operated the mechanisms for grinding the grain.

In Victorian times the flour mill became disused it became a mill powered by steam (maybe the steam engine was in the extension?) and it became a bone and soap factory (probably very smelly).

Did the watermill have a well? Was the well (now filled with ash) something for the soap works or was it for

water for the workers of the watermill?

