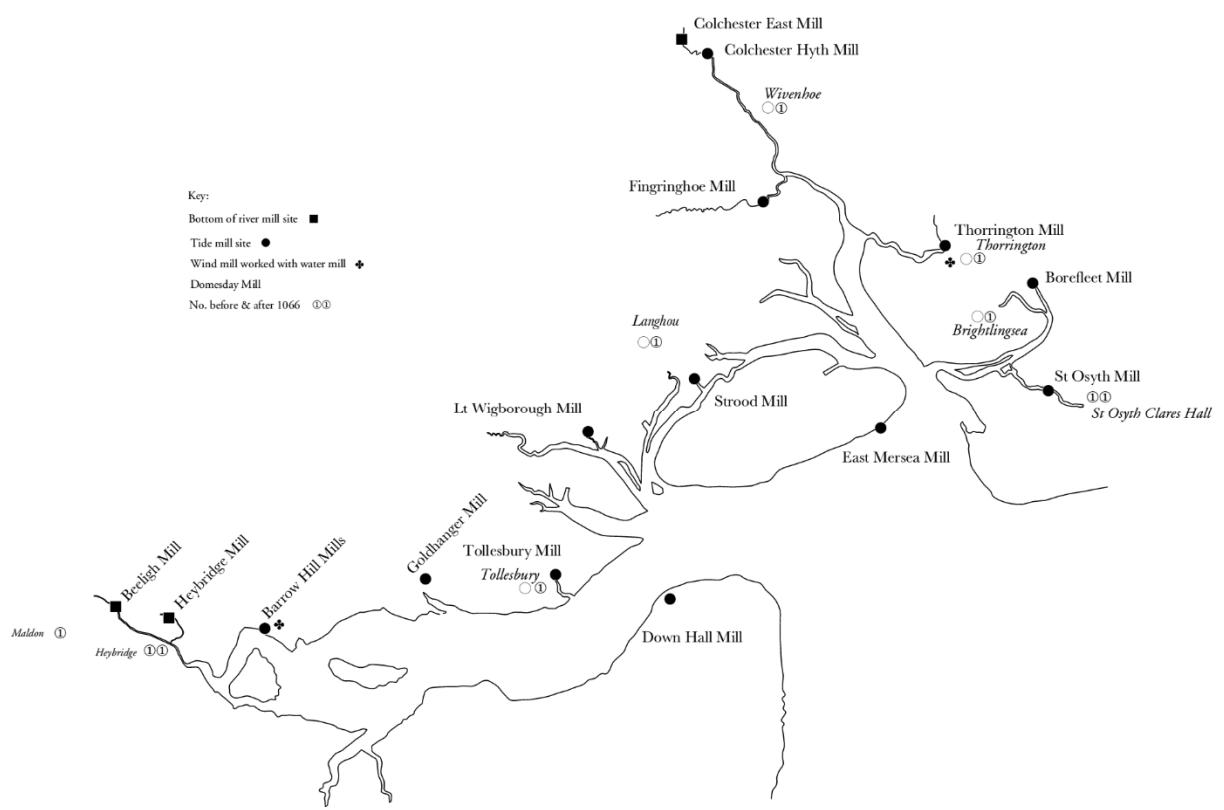


Water Power in Essex  
Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



Tide mills of the Blackwater & Coln estuary.

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

### GREAT & LITTLE TOTHAM

**Barrow Hill Mills** (tide mill and windmill): Mill Beach

Map refs :

Warburton map of Essex 1721 : A & C 1775 Barrowhill mills.

info reffs :::::

Deeds in Gt and Lt Totham. messuage and windmill & water mill called Barrow or Burrow Hill mill, granaries & land. (deeds of the Coape family Goldhanger) [D/DU 627/4] 1845-51.

Artical of Agreement Mrs Pigott and Joseph Finch 1811. £105 per annum.

Assignment of lease to William Aldham of Heybridge by Joesph Finch with consent of Mrs Piggot. 1813.

Lease of Barrow Hill Mills by Mrs Hannah Pigott to Robert Green of Lt Totham. 1817 for 29 years at rent of £105. [D/DU 627/14]

Inventory of mill:

Water Wheel shaft, Iron and Brasses. Pillow Blocks and sleepers to diito water wheel. Cog-wheel and wallower Nut with Irons upright shaft, Bridstree and Brays Upright shaft and case Iron Brasses and Crow Tree spurwheel. Two spur nuts with irons, Stone Bridge trees and Brays Gates rolls and chains. Crown wheel and nut to dito with Iron, Lay long shaft, Irons Brasses and Riggers Popet and Brays. Two pair 4 foot 4 inch French stones Iron and Brasses two sets of vats Ladders Hoppers and shoes. Two spouts. Two meal Trough Lighers Irons and Spanners two Saddles to stones, Bolts and Stones Bearers sack Tackle with Ropes and Cords complete. Flour machine with Hopper Shoe and Rigger. Flour mill with Hopper shoe and riggers jumper complete, Pollard Bins as fixed, two wheat Screens and Spouts. 12 spanners, lot of hard chisels and rat trap. 7 hammers, 4 crows and 50 mill bills 5 threfts, jackplane, Boat hook and 3 levers. Iron straight staff with box to ditto, 3 blocks staffs 3 brooms hand brush and strike 1 Bushel Scuttle and sieve. Cast Iron snatch block. Scale beam scales and lever, 5x~cwt, one Lr bloom weight and 5 Brass weight. 4 straps, 2 sack barrows and 4 shovels, 6 Hatch boards, 4 Notch blocks, 2 Stone wedges, 2 Iron chain and Iron cap to Gudgeon, writing desk and 2 lamps. Sack jacks Bags and cords. 8 bolting cloths, lot of tools.

1878 barrow hill mill water power only. D/F 21/22 pp478

E.C Vol 18 No.44 1960 pp309

\*\*\*\*\*

Chelmsford Chronicle 27/4/1781.

\*\*\*\*\*

Goldhanger.?same as Lt Totham

\*\*\*\*\*

SFI No.453537--1782. Thomas Piggott water corn mill in Tenure of Robert Clark, mill £200 REFI No.146184--1795. James Whiborn, miller. on the water wheel standing and going gears mill stones and machinery in a water mill brick & timber built & windmill.

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

Simmons:: ::mill was timber framed weather boarded painted white on brick foundations wheel 16ft dia by 8ft 6ins wide wooded float shaft 27ins square oak 4pr stones 4ft dia. 2 ponds 80 x 40 yds the other 30 x 20yds, water flowed in under road through brick arch.

D/F 21/12 pp114 18/4/1850 Edward Ding Goldhanger mills, steam flour mills.

D/F 21/18 pp 250 1/11/1870. James Coap Esq, Isl of Wight. £400 buildings water corn mill brick timber & slate £200 stock in trade £250 wind corn mill building. Barrow Hill Mills. Lt Totham.

D/F 21/22 pp478. 1878. Chas Smith miller Gt Totham.. £180 on stock in trade Barrow hill mill.

Note: 4pr stones, water power only, no kiln, no oats or paddy

D/F21/24 pp 747. 1894. George May, Tiptree. Fredrick May, Stisted.

£450 on water mill in occ Arthur Smith, Barrow Hill mills £150 on the water wheel.. 4pr stones.

D/F 21/25 pp133 .1895. G & J May. Malsters Merchants. Heybridge. Barrow Hill Mills £300 on stock in trade. Mill worked by water only

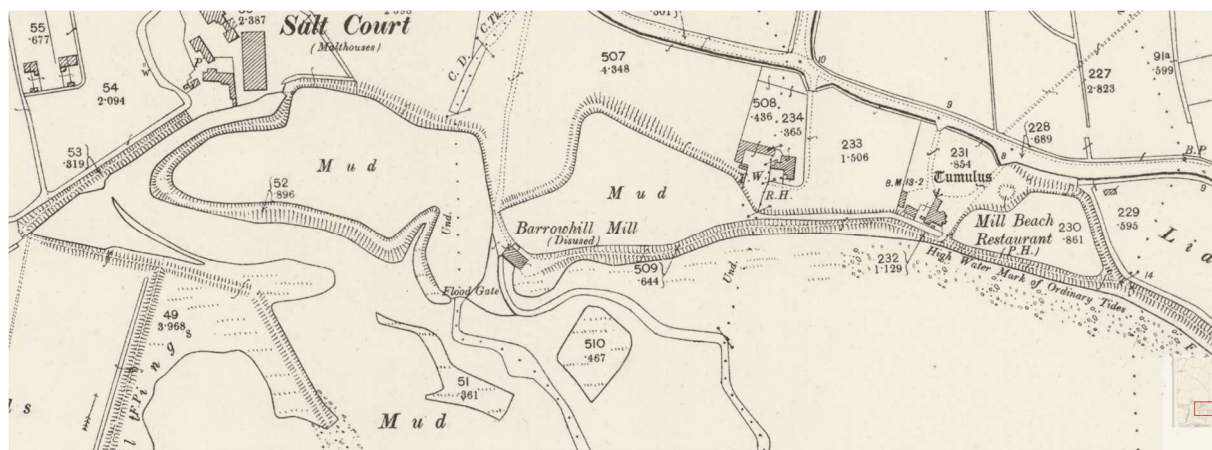
D/F 21/25 pp182 1896 Arthur Smith, Barrow Hill Mill {water} £75 on stock in trade G & J May water power only 4pr of stones, wood bridge trees or spindle stones

Essex Weekly News 14/12/1886

Re Arthur Smith of Barrow Hill Mills, Heybridge, in the County of Essex. Miiler I, Robert Henry Eve of Maldon, Essex, Merchant, **HEREBY GIVE NOTICE** that I have been duly appointed and certified by the Board of Trade as **TRUSTEE** of the estate of the above named bankrupt.

All persons having in their possession any of the effects of the Bankrupt must deliver them to me, and all Debts due to the Bankrupt must be paid to me.

Creditors who have not yet proved their Debts must forward their proofs of Debts to Mr Robert H. Eve. December 22<sup>nd</sup> 1886.



25inch O.S maps shows the tide mill with three reservoirs

Only the central reservoir is extant.

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



aerial view Mill Beach, 1949.

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



Mill Beach Hotel showing the eastern reservoir.  
The reservoir was filled in around 1960.  
Mill Beach Hotel closed in 2022



# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

### GOLDHANGER

In 1270-71 Philip de Hevenygham Manors of Little Totham and Goldhangr include a mill described as "the watermill of Goldhangr" [Feet of Fines]

### TOLLESBURY

*Tolesbiam* (Tollesbury)

In lands always held by St. Mary's, Barking, now one mill. [14,9]

### TOLLESBURY TIDE MILL

maps refs:

Norden 1594 : Marked as mill fleet on modern maps.

info reffs :::::

A crown grant by letters patent in 1562-3 gave to the Duke of Norfolk, Tollesbury Hall and a water mill in Tollesbury, in occ of Tho Bennett. [D/DQS59/2]

1595 Crown grant to Lord Howard inc Tollesbury Hall with water mill for grain and fulling. [D/DU304/20]

A landing place at Tollesbury mill, 1565/77. [EATvol17]



2<sup>nd</sup> series 6inch O.S maps.

The tide mill was probably located at head of Old Mill creek



## Water Power in Essex

### Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



John Norden's Map of Essex, 1594 showing Tollesbury tide mill

### PYEFLEET CHANNEL

#### Gt & Lt WIGBOROUGH

[D/DU 4/22] Survey of Gt Wigborough 1596

Quenn Eliz holds parcel of land called myllfield sometime belonging to Abbott of St Oseth

The demeanes of Abbeshall in Gt Wig Borough. one close of land called myll field

Customary tenants of the manor of Abbeshall: John Archer - for a water gate serving for a salt mill that lyeth in Lt Wigborough, xiid. one tenement and ix acres of pasture with a small salt marsh

Feet of Fines

1587[v6/53/24] 1 mess 1 mill and salt marsh in Gt & Lt Wigborough and Salcott Virley.

1557 [v5/61/17] 2 mess, 1 water mill salt marsh. Gt & Lt Wigborough and Salcott and Tolleshunt.

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

### **LANGENHOE**

*Langhou* (Langenhoe) In the lands of Count Eustace, (held before by Engelric as a manor), 1 mill. [19,20]

### **MERSEA**

East Mersea a water mill (John de Ryparis) 1278 [Inq post Mort]

### **STROUD TIDE MILL**

Map reffs:: John Nordon 1594 : John Warburton map Essex surveyed in 1721

Robt. Flyngaunt was ordered (3 Edward VI 1551) to make a trench (puteum) by the Strode, where the old mill formerly stood, from the green hill (a monte viridi). [Manorial Customs in West Mersea and Fingringhoe Essex Archaeological Society Volume XIII Part II Page 79,]

A landing place at STROWDE MILL recorded in 1565/77 [EAT vol 17]

To be sold :

Messuage and Water-Mill, situated in West Mersea in Essex (called the Stroud Mill) to sell, with or without a parcel of good oak timber ready laid there, fit for repairing thereof.

N.B It is well situated for buying fine Wheats and grinding for the London markets, to which Sloops of large Burthen can come up.

[Ipswich Journal 13<sup>th</sup> March 1756]

To be sold :

Messuage and Water-Mill, called Stroud-Mill in West Mersea in Essex, well situated for buying good Wheat and Grinding for the London market; and to which sloops of large burthen come up. (and if not sold to be let to a good tenant)

[Ipswich Journal 16<sup>th</sup> October 1756]

To be sold :

The dwelling house of the late Stroud Mill in East Mersea in Essex with about 30 acres of marsh land thereto belonging, and the right of building a Tide Mill upon the foundations of the said mill, (which were new laid about 35 years since the upper buildings whereof are lately fallen down [Ipswich Journal 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1760])

To be sold :

A dwelling house and the foundations of a tide mill called Stroud Mill (now standing) with the salt marsh containg about 30 acres, and the Oyster Laying Keyage and Landing place to the same belonging-----together with a large granary contiguous thereto, and used with the said mill when standing , now in the occupation of Mr. Cook.

N.B The foundation was new laid about 35 years since and the mill house is fallen down lately, is a convenient place to build an Oil Mill or Corn Mill and so situated that sloops come up to the landing-place and granary and take in their loadings to London and deliver out their loadings on their return to the said loading-place

[Ipswich Journal 17<sup>th</sup> September 1768]

The tide mill was not rebuilt, for A & C 1775 mark only a post windmill-Strode mill, and a building on the Strode which may possible be the granary of the tide mill.



# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



John Norden's map of Essex, 1594 showing Strode tide mill



Map of Essex 1777

Water Power in Essex  
Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



1<sup>st</sup> series 6inch o.s maps showing the old mill pond alongside the road to Mersea.  
The windmill had been pulled down.

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

### **TILLINGHAM**

*Tillingham* in the lands of St.Pauls, now one mill, one fishery. [5,5]

### **LATCHINGHAM & SNORHAM**

*Lalinge* (Lawling) In lands held by Holy Trinity, Canterbury, always one mill. [4,2]

### **BRADWELL**

Manor of Dounhall

In 1257 an agreement concerning marsh land makes reference to the mill of le Dune (Down Hall) [F of F]

1337, Richard de la Doune made an agreement concerning 2 mess 1 mill land and marsh in Bradwell. [F of F]

In 1399 Edward de Donne held land and a water mill. [Morant v1, p376]

Tomas de la Doun 2 parts of a wind mill 1305 {Inq post Mort}

Manor of Curry

1261 The manor of la Curie (Curry) possessed a mill, probable a wind mill standing at TL 994057, where photographs of the last mill show a low mill mound. [F of F]

Robert de Typpetot, (F of F page 252-1506, vol 1, 1260-1261), 1 mess 40 acres, 1 mill etc, manor of la Currie)

Henry de Tippetot held, in the reign of K. Henry iii (1216-1272), in Bradwell 30 acres of pasture and a watermill, for 40s rent [Inq post Mort]

### **TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY**

Mounds on E of stream 1 miles S/S/W of Church [RCHM]

Windmill in Tolissonte 1282 [Inq post Mort]

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

### St OSYTH CREEK

*Cice* (St.Osyth) In the lands of Ranulf Peveral, (held by Thorold, before by Siward as a manor), always one mill. [33,34]

In 1553 King Edward vi granted to Thomas Lord Darcy, the manors of Chiche St. Osith, Ampnerswic and Welwic, together with two water mills, a fulling mill and three fulling stocks.[Morant v1, p457]

St Osyth deeds for Manor & Farm called Wyer Hallalias Aula Guidonis inc 2 water corn mills and one fulling mill. 1641; 1645. [D/DB T1163,4]

### St OSYTH TIDE MILL

Map reffs: :::Warburton 1726 : A & C 1775 a corn mill : 1814 St Osyth [D/DCrP1]

Info reffs::

The mill was a wooden weather boarded building with a tiled roof, dating from a bout 1730 and was fitted with two under shot water wheels 18ft 6ins in diameter and 5ft wide and the other 17ft 6ins by 7ft. The wheels drove two groups of stones three pairs in one set and four pairs in the other. The mill worked until 1930 and collapsed in 1962.

Deeds inc mill 1894 [D/DCr E6]: 1880-1894 [D/ DCr L5/1-3]

1858 sale part inc large map inc tide mill [D/DU 268/14]

REFI No.148725, 1795. Neshack Seamans. Mill timber and tiled

1929 news paper cuttings re demolition of tidemill. [T/Z 23/2]

1746 deeds inc mill [D/DCr T1/2/3/4/5/11]

18th & 19th cent deeds inc graneries quayside & tidemill. [D/DCr T6/7]

1802-1827 lease of mill deatiled schedual of machinery [D/DCrT25] [D/Dcr E6,E22]

1916-1918 bill for repair of mill [D/DCr A28]

1880-1891, tide mill rights in legal brief. [D/DCrL5/1-3]



# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

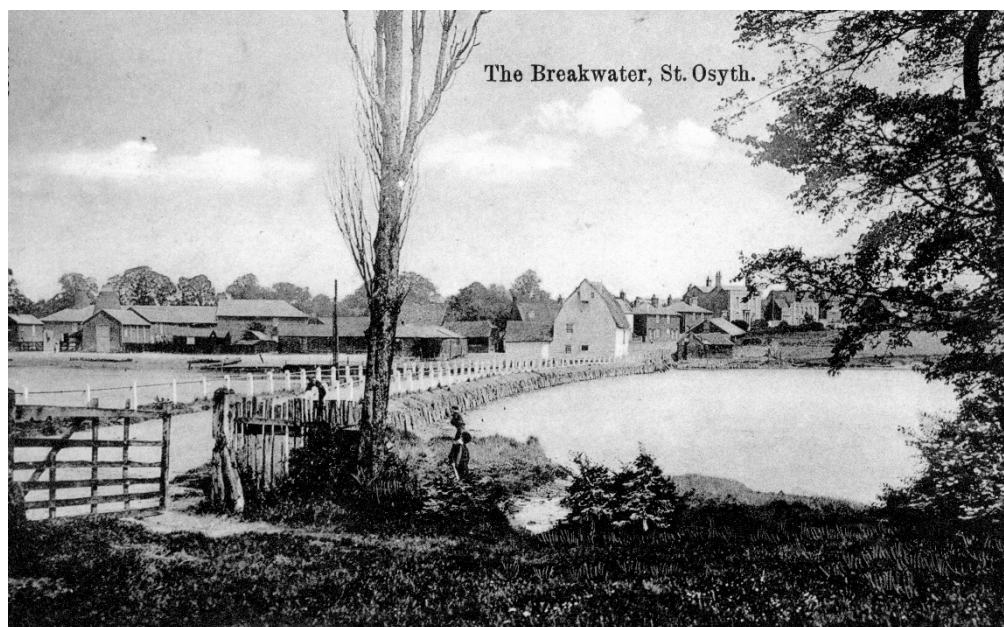


2<sup>nd</sup> series 6inch o.s maps



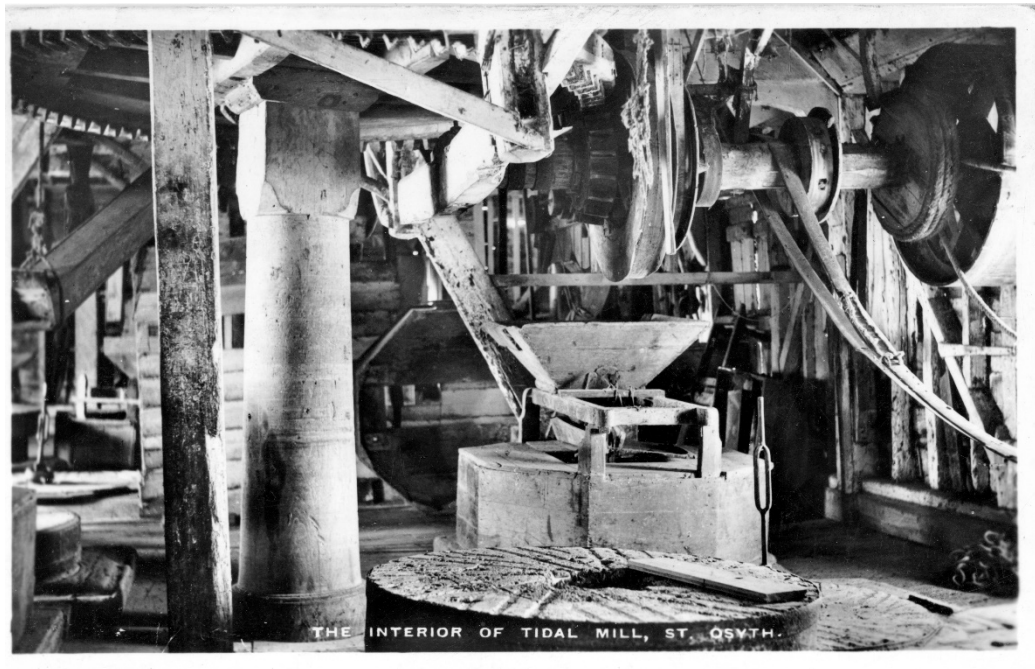
# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary





Water Power in Essex  
Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

### BRIGHTLINGSEA

In 1086 in *Brictriceseia* (Brightlingsea) In the lands of the King, now one mill. [26,1]

### BRIGHTLINGSEA CREEK - FLAG CREEK - THORINGTON CREEK

Marked as Barfleet. On Ogilby & Morgan map of Essex 1678. Borefleet Creek is mention in 17<sup>th</sup> century documents relating to Oyster laying. Borefleet alias Bright Creek 18<sup>th</sup> century.

**Tide mill** at the head of Thorington Creek at the point where the Saltwater Brook discharges into the tidal creek

map reffs:: Warburton map of Essex, 1726

info reffs:: 1 landing place Borefleet mill in Great Bentley, 1565/77 [EAT vol17 pp153] :

1586. Boreflew mill in Gt Bently. [D/DU 318/1]



2<sup>nd</sup> series 6inch O.S maps

# Water Power in Essex

## Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary



Warburton map of Essex, surveyed in 1721 shows a mill at head of creek

A & C map of Essex, 1775, marks only a post wind mill.

The wind mill is shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> series 1inch O.S map but does not appear on the 1<sup>st</sup> series 6inch maps



## Water Power in Essex

### Tide mills of the Blackwater and Coln Estuary

[A history of the town of Brightlingsea, a member of the cinque ports. Edward Percival Dicken. Pub 1913]

129. The importance of a mill in a manor was due to the fact, that the tenants had to take their corn to the Lord's mill to be ground, and to pay for it being ground. Private mills and querns were prohibited. There was a mill here in 1086, and it is mentioned in section 19. The Abbot had another mill called Brightlingsea Mill, but situated on Thorington Marsh. Near the mill was a landing place called Killers hith probably on the Thorington side, and from which a road was made to join the main road to St. Osyth, probably near Saltwater Brook. In 1291 the value of the Abbot's temporalities in lands mills and store beasts (? *Fetis animalibus*) was £6 13s. 7 1/2d This must represent the value of the demesne lands, and the profits of the mills and cattle. The rents of the tenants' lands cannot be included as they alone were worth more than this. The Beriffes owned a windmill here in 1521 Its site is not easy to locate, but it seems to have lain a little west of Hurst Green" Querns had not gone out of use by 1549, for John Beriffe mentioned two for grinding malt in his will of that year.

The present windmill was brought here by water on two oyster skiffs from Fingringhoe some few years ago. As may be guessed from this, oyster skiffs are beamy boats of very substantial build, and not of the slenderness usually associated with the name skiff.

[A history of the town of Brightlingsea, a member of the cinque ports. Edward Percival Dicken. Pub 1913]