

# Hinxton Mill History

Water mills have been in existence from 1st century BCE and there has been a water mill on the River Cam at Hinxton since at least 1086. The present building was constructed in the 1600s, whilst the adjoining cottage was built in the 1700s. In the mid-1800s, the mill was extended in size by building towards the cottage and its front elevation was refaced with brick.

The mill was used for grinding grain to make flour. The power of the water is used to lift sacks of grain into the roof of the mill. From there the grain is tipped into the mill stones, which are turned by the power of water. The stones crush the grains into flour which spills out and is collected in sacks.

The mill was originally powered by a traditional breast shot waterwheel, whereby the water flows onto the wheel to turn it. This was replaced in 1913 by a Jones 'Little Giant' water turbine, and this is a rare surviving example.

The mill business ceased to operate in 1955 and the mill was neglected from that date. The cottage, although occupied, became almost derelict with no mains water supply and the roof leaking in a dozen places. In 1984, when the council was about to put a closing order on the cottage, CambridgePPF stepped in to purchase and restore the property.

The award-winning restoration of this grade II listed building made it safe and brought the mill machinery into working order.

## Find Us

▶ **Hinxton Watermill**  
Mill Lane, Hinxton  
Cambridge, CB10 1RD  
See the mill in action on our open days, visit [www.cambridgeppf.org](http://www.cambridgeppf.org) for dates and times.

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# Hinxton Mill

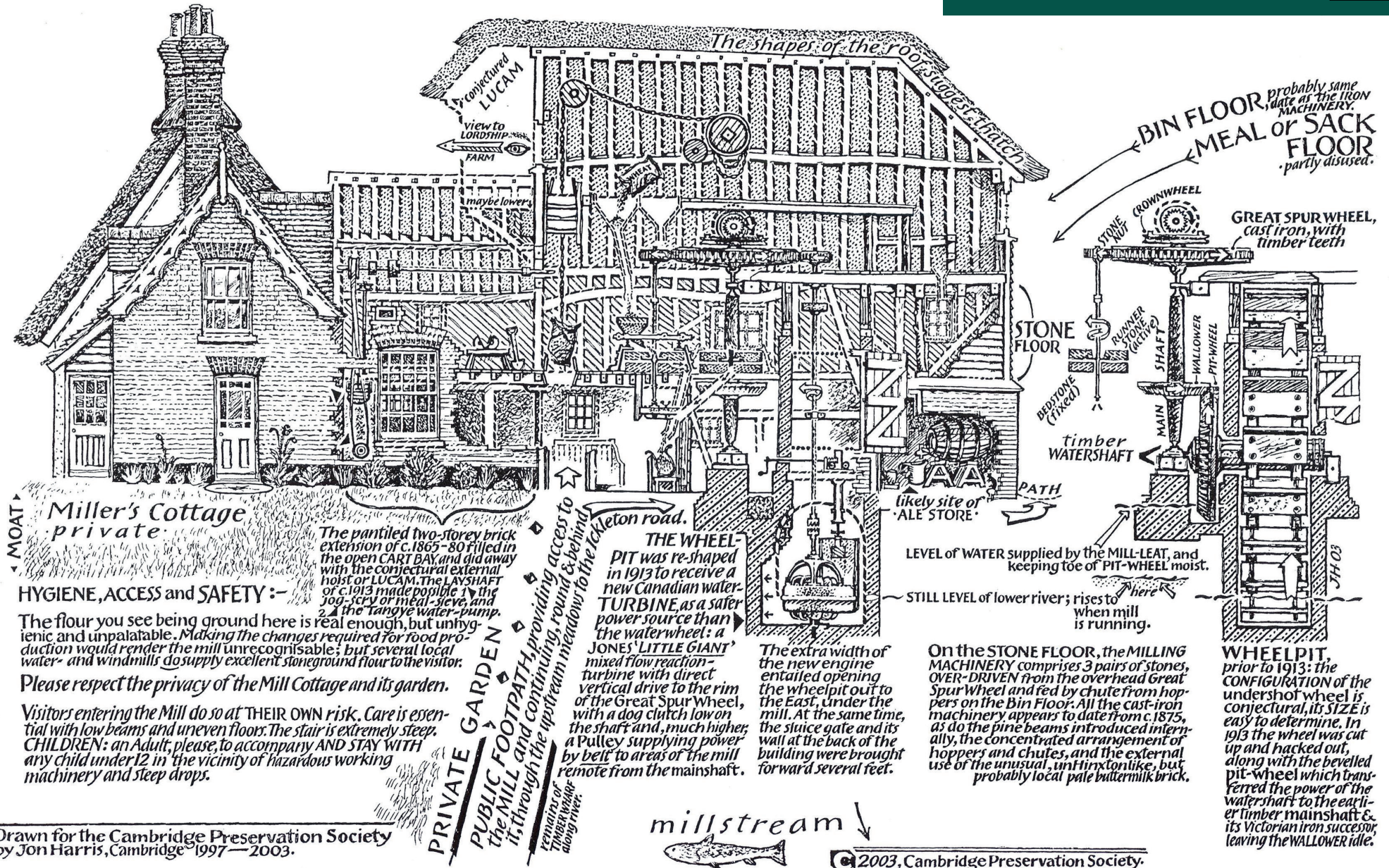
## Watermill

## VISITOR GUIDE



# Hinxton Watermill

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Miller's Cottage private

HYGIENE, ACCESS and SAFETY :-

The flour you see being ground here is real enough, but unhygienic and unpalatable. Making the changes required for food production would render the mill unrecognisable; but several local water- and windmills do supply excellent stoneground flour to the visitor.

Please respect the privacy of the Mill Cottage and its garden.

Visitors entering the Mill do so at THEIR OWN risk. Care is essential with low beams and uneven floors. The stair is extremely steep. CHILDREN: an Adult, please, to accompany AND STAY WITH any child under 12 in the vicinity of hazardous working machinery and steep drops.

PRIVATE GARDEN  
PUBLIC FOOTPATH, providing access to the MILL and continuing, round & behind it, through the upstream meadow to the Tockleton road.  
remains of Tangle water-pump along river.

Drawn for the Cambridge Preservation Society by Jon Harris, Cambridge 1997—2003.

millstream ↓  
2003, Cambridge Preservation Society.