

## Funding for 'Sheriff's Mill', Gloucester site

Work is underway to restore/retain the remains of a Gloucester water mill once powered by the little River Twyver. The 'Sheriff's Mill' off Abbeymead Avenue originally produced flour but like so many other country mills, switched to animal feed before finally closing in 1921.

First recorded in 1221, it was one of the earliest of a series of small mills that were built along the Twyver. For a time, it was known as Sheriff's Mill. In 1793 the mill was bought by William Green, then becoming known as Greens Mill, then Stewarts Mill, and finally, Barnwood Upper Mill. In 1830, Pigots Directory lists Edward Palling as the resident miller.

In 1887 the mill became incorporated into the Coney Hill Lunatic Asylum estate, built in 1883 on the site of Barnwood Mill, the next one downstream.

At the time of its closure, it comprised an 18<sup>th</sup> century house and 19<sup>th</sup> century brick mill and was also used as a farmhouse.

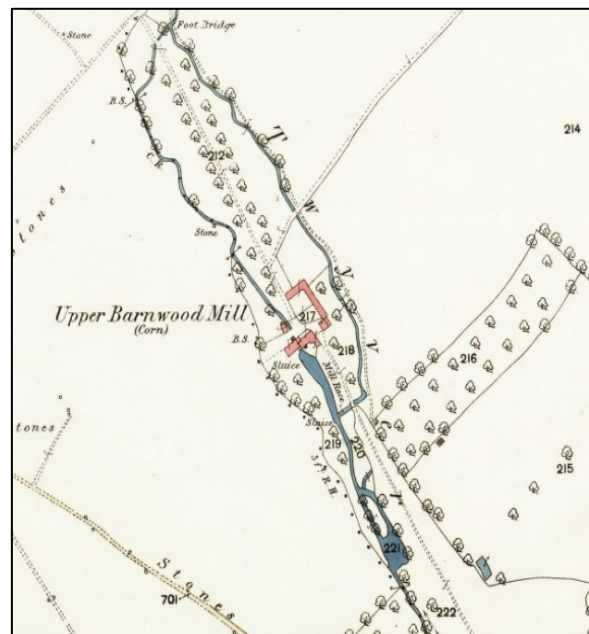
The rare photo is from the *Gwladys Davies Photographic Collection*, available at: <https://glosdocs.org.uk/gsia-daviesgm-images/>

Much of the site was eventually cleared and the buildings demolished, mostly obliterated by the building of Abbeydale Avenue. However, a few remnants survived, currently the focus of this new initiative. This includes some of the mill leat, a footbridge, a millstone, and traces of the brick-lined millpond.

Gloucester City Council has been awarded a grant of £6000 after applying to the Enovert Community Trust to carry out suitable clearance and repair and restoration works.

An interpretation board will also be installed.

Stephen Mills     June 2025



OS Map XXXIII.8 of 1885 showing the mill's layout

## **Update      June 2025**

Members may recall that the April newsletter reported on efforts to restore/retain the surviving parts of the Sheriff's Mill, later Upper Barnwood Mill, once powered by the River Twyver.

A 2.24 minute Youtube video has appeared, with Gloucester City Archaeologist Andrew Armstrong discussing the sensitive restoration of the site. The project is being managed by Gloucester City Council and funded by the Enovert Community Trust. The video is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wiWYvILloJw>