A number of 'quern' fragments were found during the excavation at 3, Bell Street. Three of the pieces are illustrated below. Each has a curved edge and would have formed a section of a disc of approximately 90cm diameter. These are surely too large to be hand-propelled rotary querns. I think these are millstones. They were found in late Saxon deposits along with smelting slag and evidence for smithing.

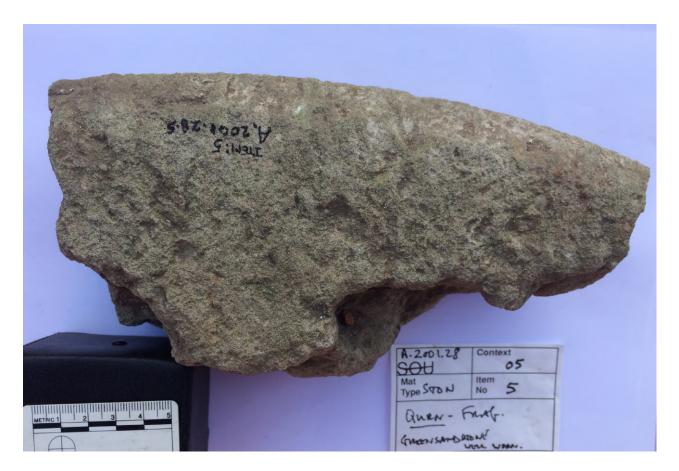
If these are millstones there must have been a mill nearby. The site lies near the eastern edge of the western branch of the Fishlake. It is at the point where the land slopes down from the edge of the terrace. This is an obvious location for a mill.



Millstone fragment, Context 06

Fossiliferous greenstone with grooves cut on one surface.

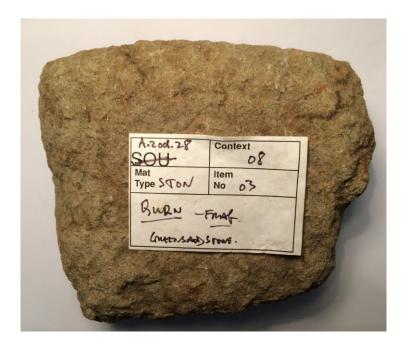






Green sandstone millstone fragment, Context 05.

This photo shows a millstone constructed from multiple pieces of stone. They would have been held in place by an iron rim.



Millstone fragment from Context 08.



