

Long Buckby Water Inlet Main Replacement



Archaeological Monitoring and Recording Report



October 2014

Client: Anglian Water

OA East Report No: 1684

OASIS No: oxfordar3-192800

NGR: SP 654 685

Long Buckby Water Inlet Main Replacement

Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

Site Code: XNNLBU14

Date of Works: September-October 2014

NGR: SP 654 685

Report No:1684

Excavator: Pat Moan

Client: Anglian Water

Report Date: October 2014

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Summary

During September and October 2014, Oxford Archaeology East carried out an archaeological watching brief at Long Buckby (SP 654 685). The monitoring was carried out during the installation of a replacement water inlet main. Four areas of the pipe route were monitored. A total of two sherds of Roman pottery and two struck flints were found in subsoil during the strip between Chainage 1100-1400, in the north-eastern part of the pipe route. No other archaeological finds or features were recorded.

1 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

1.1.1 The pipeline runs through differing geologies, ranging from Northampton Sand Formations in the north and Whitby Mudstone Formation in the south. The site lies at approximately 142m OD to the east, rising up to 178mOD at the western end by the pumping station. The general topography is that of gently undulating hills.

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1.1 The pipeline runs through a landscape rich in multi-period archaeological activity. Northamptonshire HER data indicates the pipe runs through or directly next to three fields with records of possible prehistoric activity (SMR 961, 999 and 1501).

2.1.2 Other records close to the pipeline include a possible Bronze Age burial mound (SMR 1000) located at Covert Farm, extensive prehistoric cropmarks within the fields opposite Tudor Lodge Farm (SMR 960) and a possible Bronze Age settlement to the north-west (SMR 994).

2.1.3 Locations of possible Romano-British settlements are located just to the east of the pipe route (SMR 1005, 1006 and 1007). Other archaeology in the area includes numerous fields of ridge and furrow (e.g. SMR 9896/0/8) and a Medieval Rabbit Warren and Deer Park (SMR 7417/1 and 975, respectively).

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1.1 The objective of this watching brief was to determine as far as reasonably possible the presence/absence, location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the development area, and then to preserve them by excavation and record.

3.1.2 This watching brief was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Lesley-Ann Mather (Mather 2014) supplemented by a specification prepared by OA East (Mortimer 2014).

3.1.3 The Brief required that controlled archaeological investigation and recording were to be undertaken during the removal of topsoil and subsoil between Chainage 1100-1400 Tudor Lodge Farm, Chainage 1700-1900 Covert Farm, Chainage 2000-2300 and 2600-2900. Once on site, the route of the pipe was altered, with both chainage 1700-1900 and 2000-2300 moved south to follow the path of the parallel road (Fig. 2). These new areas were monitored in place of the original areas.

3.1.4 Any archaeological features and deposits were to be recorded using OA East's *pro-forma* sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.

3.1.5 Site conditions were generally overcast, with occasional heavy rain.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1.1 Each area of the pipe route that was monitored are discussed below. See Fig. 2 for locations of the monitored areas.

Chainage 1100 to 1400

- 4.1.2 A total of 0.3m of topsoil was removed across the pipe route, below this, 0.3m of subsoil was overlying a geology of degraded sandstone. A total of two sherds of Roman pottery and two worked flints were recovered from the subsoil. During excavation of the pipe trench (Plate 2), no features were observed below the subsoil.

Chainage 1700 to 1900

- 4.1.3 A total of 0.4m of topsoil was removed, uncovering a geology of sand and sandstone. No archaeological features were present.

Chainage 2000 to 2300

- 4.1.4 A total of 0.44m of topsoil was removed, uncovering a geology of clayey sand and sandstone fragments. No archaeological features were present.

Chainage 2600 to 2900

- 4.1.5 A total of 0.35m of topsoil was removed, uncovering a geology of clayey sand and sandstone fragments. No archaeological features were present.

Finds Summary

- 4.1.6 Two highly abraded sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered from the subsoil between Chainage 1100-1400. The sherds were a utilitarian sandy grey ware, common between the 2nd and 3rd Centuries AD.
- 4.1.7 Two worked flints were recovered from the subsoil between Chainage 1100-1400. They are made from a fine-grained flint of good knapping quality. Both flints are flakes in highly abraded condition. Unfortunately neither piece is diagnostic, although they would be most typical of the earlier Bronze Age industry.

5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 The sparse archaeological evidence seen during the monitoring of the pipe indicates that the route did not impact on any known or unknown heritage assets. As the majority of the route followed the line of roads (Fig. 2), it is possible that any archaeology that may have been located in the route could have been disturbed by the construction of said roads.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1.1 The author would like to thank Anglian Water who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer
- 6.1.2 The brief for archaeological works was written by Lesley-Ann Mather, who monitored the watching brief.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Mather, L-A. 2014 Brief for a Programme of Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication associated with the WR Inlet Main Replacement Scheme at Long Buckby, Northamptonshire.
- Mortimer, R. 2014 Specification for Archaeological Observation, Investigation, Recording, Analysis and Publication associated with the WR Inlet Main Replacement Scheme at Long Buckby, Northamptonshire.

APPENDIX A. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	<input type="text"/>		
Project Name	<input type="text"/>		
Project Dates (fieldwork) Start	<input type="text"/>	Finish	<input type="text"/>
Previous Work (by OA East)	<input type="text"/>	Future Work	<input type="text"/>

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	<input type="text"/>	Planning App. No.	<input type="text"/>
HER No.	<input type="text"/>	Related HER/OASIS No.	<input type="text"/>

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt

Please select all techniques used:

<input type="checkbox"/> Field Observation (periodic visits)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Record
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Excavation (100%)	<input type="checkbox"/> Part Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Field Walking
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Recorded Observation	<input type="checkbox"/> Systematic Metal Detector Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysical Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Remote Operated Vehicle Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Test Pit Survey
<input type="checkbox"/> Open-Area Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Salvage Excavation	<input type="checkbox"/> Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the [NMR Monument Type Thesaurus](#) and significant finds using the [MDA Object type Thesaurus](#) together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

Monument	Period	Object	Period
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Project Location

County	<input type="text"/>	Site Address (including postcode if possible)
District	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Parish	<input type="text"/>	
HER	<input type="text"/>	
Study Area	<input type="text"/>	National Grid Reference <input type="text"/>

Project Originators

Organisation	<input type="text"/>
Project Brief Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Design Originator	<input type="text"/>
Project Manager	<input type="text"/>
Supervisor	<input type="text"/>

Project Archives

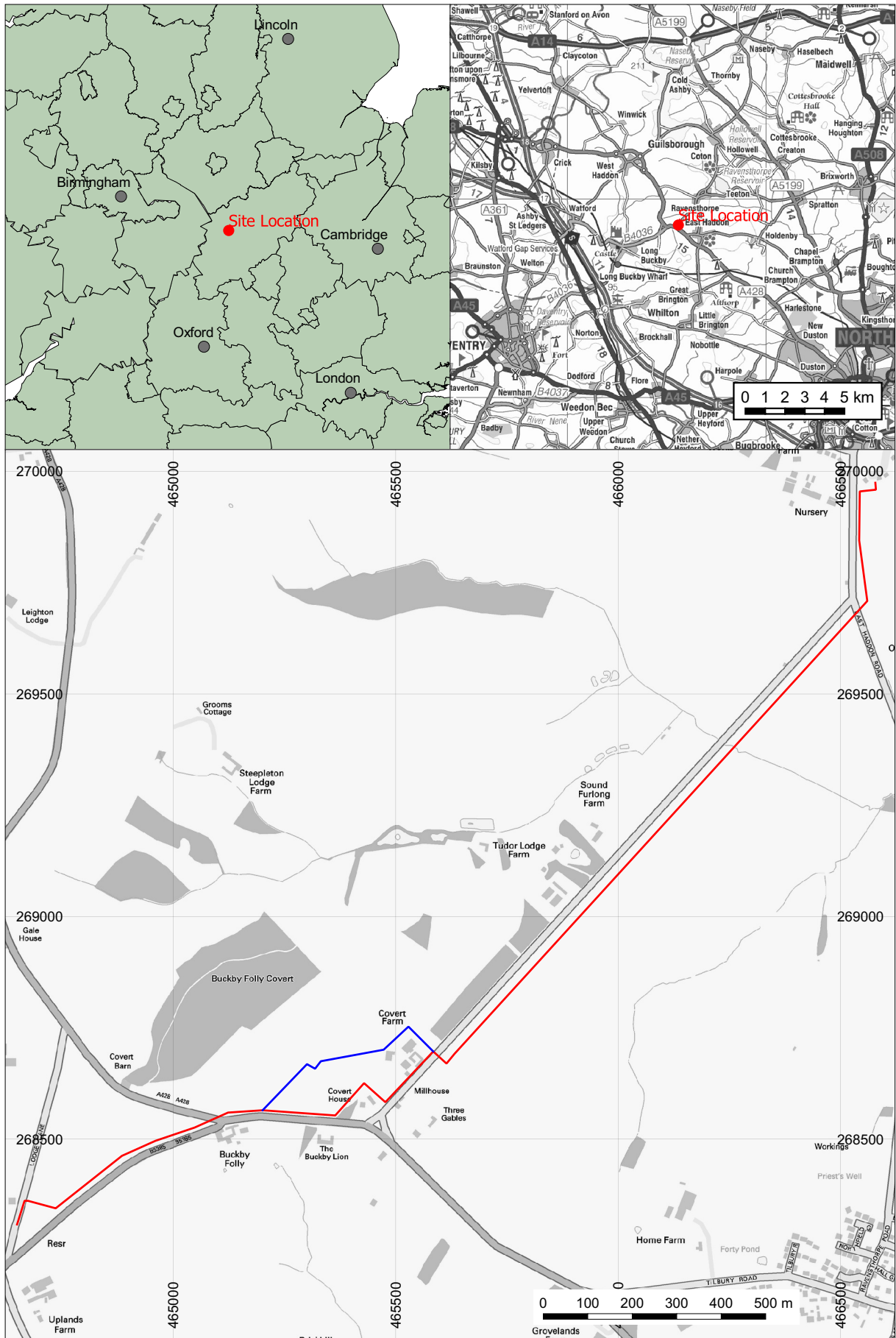
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Archive Contents/Media

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Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
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	<input type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:



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Figure 1: Site location showing pipe route (red) and original pipe route (blue)

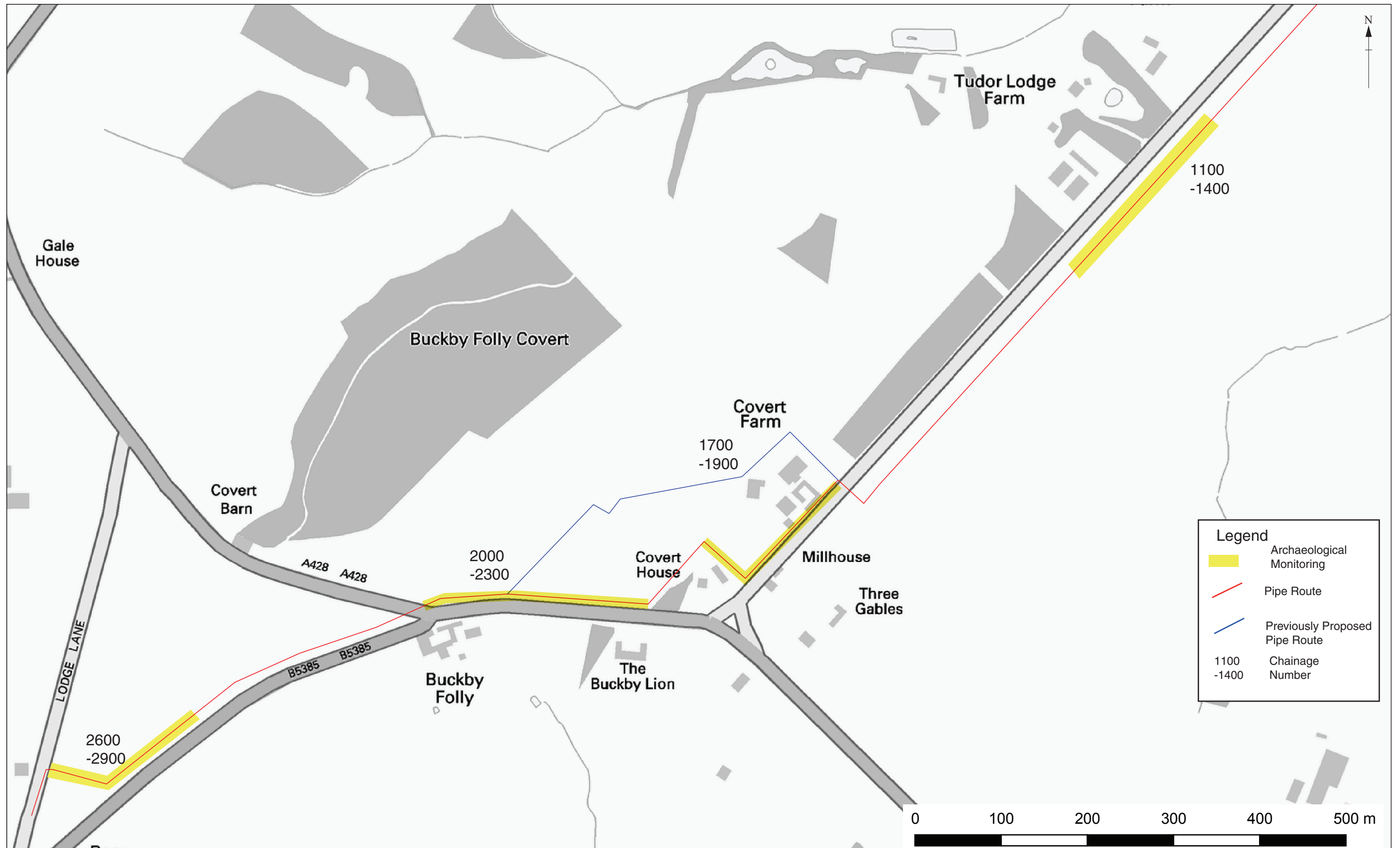


Figure 2: Pipe route (red) showing areas monitored (yellow) and previously proposed route (blue)



Plate 2: Trenching of pipe, Chainage 2000-2300



Plate 3: Stripping of Chainage 2000-2300



Plate 5: Chainage 2600-2900, looking north-west



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