

Fordham Anglian
Water Pipeline
Mill Road, Fordham,
Colchester, Essex



**Archaeological
Watching Brief Report**



November 2016

Client: Anglian Water

OA East Report No: 1999

OASIS No: oxfordar3 - 266170

NGR: TL 92857 27450

Fordham Anglian Water Pipeline

Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester, Essex

Watching Brief

Site Code: XEXFAW16

Date of Works: 19th October 2016

Report No: 1999

Excavator: Simon Birnie

Client: Anglian Water

Report Date: 20th November 2016

Table of Contents

Summary.....	5
1 Geology and Topography.....	7
2 Archaeological Background.....	7
3 Methodology.....	7
4 Results.....	8
5 Acknowledgements.....	8
Bibliography.....	9
Appendix A. OASIS Report Form.....	10

List of Figures

Fig. 1 Site location map

List of Plates

Plate 1. Working shot.

Plate 2. Working shot.

Plate 3. Pipe installation.

Summary

On the 19th October 2016 OA East carried out an archaeological watching brief at Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester. Essex (TL 92857 27450). The monitoring was undertaken during work being carried out by Anglian Water which comprised the installation of 16 metres of water pipe within a narrow cut trench. No archaeological features or artefacts were found, with only modern topsoil and natural deposits being encountered.

1 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.1.1 The site was located in an area of River Terrace Deposits (Sand And Gravel) 1 To 2 - Sand And Gravel. <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain>

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 600m to the north of the site is Fordham All Saints Church (Listed Building (I): 1239789). Grid reference: TL 927 280.
- 2.1.2 In 1997 an observation of a gas main trench was excavated from the churchyard gate, along the south side of the church, and round to its east end. The remains of the old boilerhouse and coalhole were exposed against the east chancel wall and medieval floor tiles recovered from the trench (Archaeology Data Service a).
- 2.1.3 In 1984 an excavation took place at Fordham Hall Farm, Grid reference: TL920002800 resulting in the discovery of a Roman burial (Archaeology Data Service b).
- 2.1.4 In 1998 a watching brief was undertaken at Fossetts Lane, Fordham, Grid reference: TL9310027900. This work was undertaken during topsoil stripping for the construction of an agricultural reservoir. Several post medieval or modern features were revealed, including the line of a hedge (still surviving as an earthwork at one end of the site), a pit and a possible ditch (Archaeology Data Service c).

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.
- 3.1.2 A single trench measuring 16m long and 0.30m wide was machine excavated along side Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester. This work was carried out by Anglian Water to a depth to of up to 1.40m to allow for the installation of a section of water pipe. The topsoil was to a depth of 0.30m and directly overlay the natural sands and gravel, no subsoil was present.
- 3.1.3 Trench location, plans and sections were recorded with sketches and digital photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
- 3.1.4 The watching brief was carried out in dry and overcast conditions with clear visibility.

4 RESULTS

- 4.1.1 No Archaeological features or artefacts were encountered.

5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 5.1.1 The author would like to thank Anglian Water who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain>

Archaeology Data Service a

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1854533>

Archaeology Data Service b

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1854533>

Archaeology Data Service c

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archsearch/record.jsf?titleId=1852979>

APPENDIX A. OASIS REPORT FORM

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number	oxfordar3 - 266170			
Project Name	Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester, Essex			
Project Dates (fieldwork)	Start	18-10-2016	Finish	18-10-2016
Previous Work (by OA East)	No		Future Work	Unknown

Project Reference Codes

Site Code	XEXFAW16	Planning App. No.	NA
HER No.	NA	Related HER/OASIS No.	NA

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 checked="" 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
NA	Select period...	NA	Select period...
NA	Select period...	NA	Select period...
NA	Select period...	NA	Select period...

Project Location

County	Essex	Site Address (including postcode if possible)	
District	Colchester	Mill Road, Fordham, Colchester, Essex. CO6 3NN	
Parish	Fordham		
HER	Colchester		
Study Area	16m long, 0.30m wide.	National Grid Reference	TL 92857 27450

Project Originators

Organisation	OA EAST
Project Brief Originator	
Project Design Originator	
Project Manager	Richard Mortimer
Supervisor	Simon Birnie

Project Archives

Physical Archive	Digital Archive	Paper Archive
Location ...	Location ...OA EAST	Location ...Colchester Museum
Accession ID ...	Accession ID ...XEXFAW16	Accession ID ...TBA

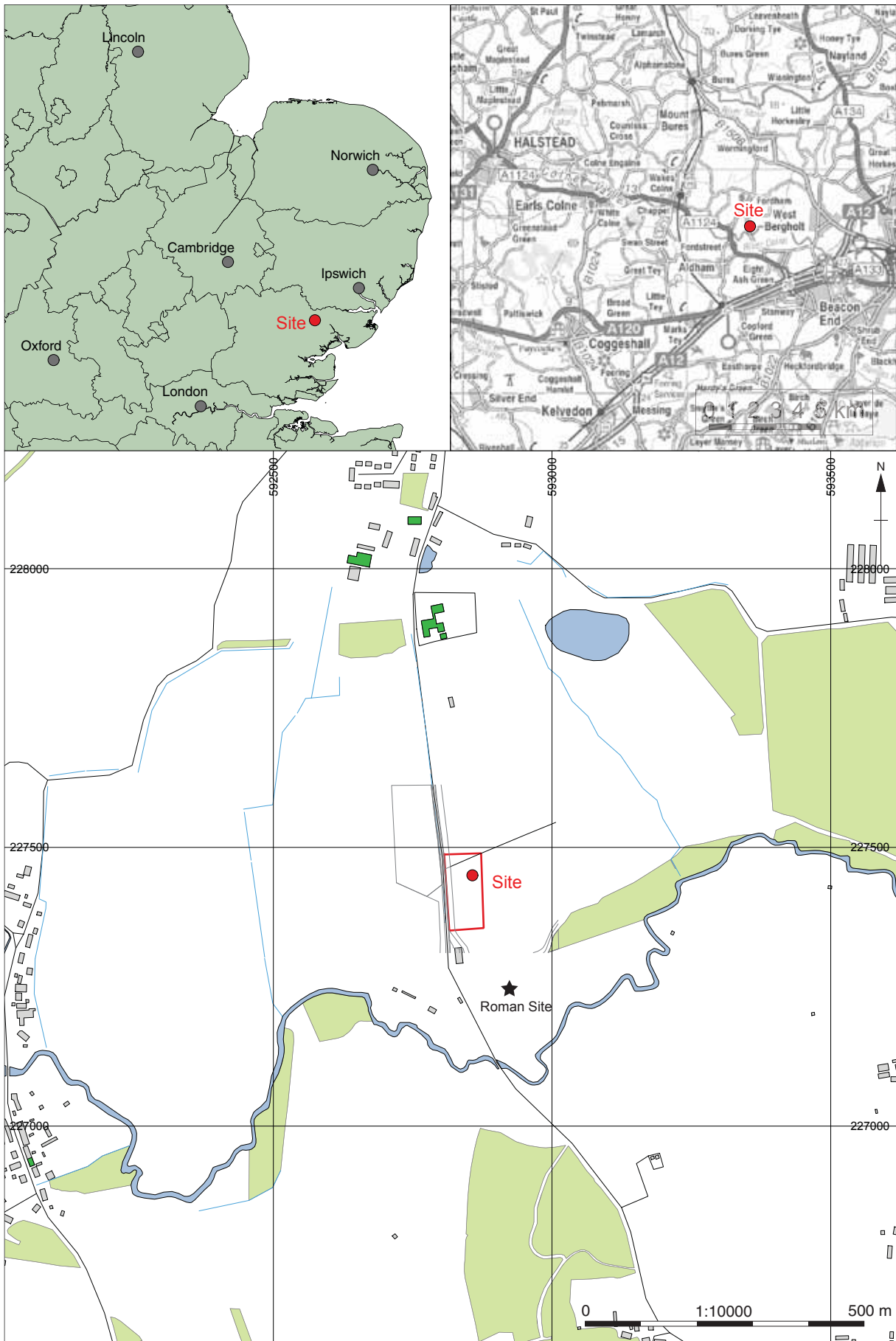
Archive Contents/Media

	Physical Contents	Digital Contents	Paper Contents
Animal Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ceramics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Environmental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Bones	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leather	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stratigraphic		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Survey		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Textiles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Bone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Worked Stone/Lithic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
None	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Digital Media	Paper Media
<input type="checkbox"/> Database	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial Photos
<input type="checkbox"/> GIS	<input type="checkbox"/> Context Sheet
<input type="checkbox"/> Geophysics	<input type="checkbox"/> Correspondence
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Images	<input type="checkbox"/> Diary
<input type="checkbox"/> Illustrations	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Moving Image	<input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript
<input type="checkbox"/> Spreadsheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Map
<input type="checkbox"/> Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> Matrices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Text	<input type="checkbox"/> Microfilm
<input type="checkbox"/> Virtual Reality	<input type="checkbox"/> Misc.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Research/Notes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos
	<input type="checkbox"/> Plans
	<input type="checkbox"/> Report
	<input type="checkbox"/> Sections
	<input type="checkbox"/> Survey

Notes:

No finds made.



Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2016. All rights reserved.

Figure 1: Site location and development area (red)

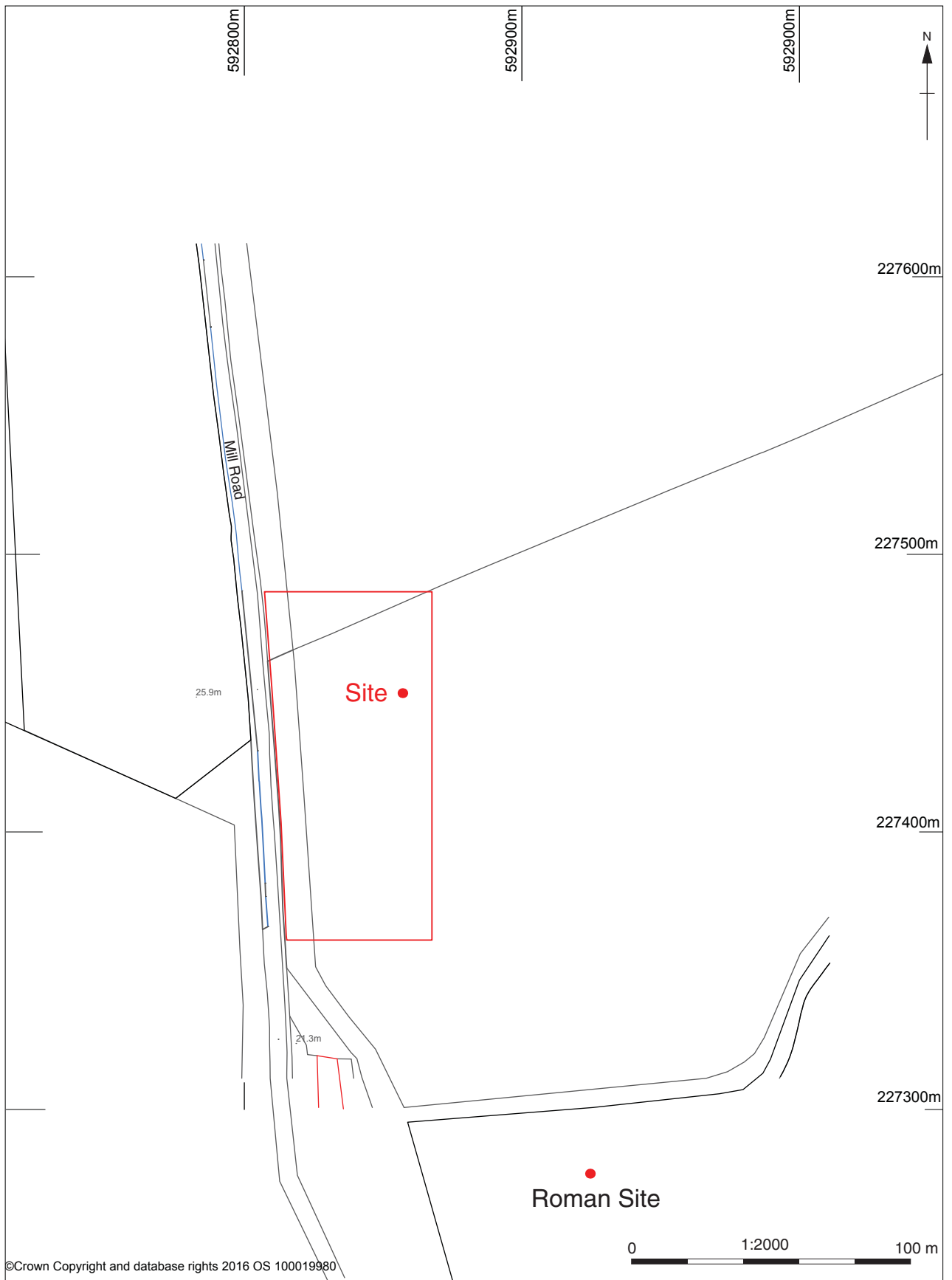


Figure 2:



Plate 1: Working shot



Plate 2: Working shot



Plate 3: Pipe installation



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*