

Fakenham's old mill.

In 1609 two men were granted the right to erect a mill at Fakenham. Evidence suggests that it was built on the site where today's mill stands. Half a mile downstream there was another older, possibly Medieval, mill. There is evidence that the ruins could be seen by travellers on an old road which used to cross the river nearby. This road had gone by the 19th century but the remains were visible when the first edition O/S map was drawn, the last time that it would appear on a map!

Following the second world war the river underwent considerable dredging and bank rebuilding which erased any evidence of fords. However, just a little upstream of the possible site of the old mill there are the remains of some sort of fence which may indicate some kind of river crossing there. A 17th century map shows a portion of Pudding Norton on the North Bank of the river at this point. Perhaps a river crossing there gave access to this piece of land and the mill to avoid the journey via Hempton.

A full survey of this area is needed to prove these theories.



The ruins of the old mill existed at the time that the 1st O/S map was published.



This mound of Ivy may have begun life climbing up something, perhaps the ruins of an old mill.