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A6 LOUGHBOROUGH BYPASS
STAGE 2 REPORT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
for
ALLOTT AND LOMAX
Consulting Engineers, Nottingham
on behalf of
The Department of Transport

John Samuels Archaeological Consultants

Friday 20th August 1993

PART 2A : CULTURAL HERITAGE - ARCHAEOLOGICAL

2A.1 INTRODUCTION

2A.1.1 This report has been prepared by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants for Allott and Lomax, Consulting Engineers. It comprises an assessment of the effects upon archaeology of each of the proposed route options for the A6 Loughborough Bypass in Leicestershire and South Nottinghamshire.

2A.1.2 The Archaeological Assessment is based on the requirements of DoE Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (1990), draft guidelines of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, the draft section on Cultural Heritage of the DoT Manual of Environmental Assessment, and current best archaeological practice.

2A.1.3 Existing information already gathered for the Study Area, including that from the County Sites and Monuments Records (SMR) for both Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire, has been analysed and checked to ensure that it is current. Where relevant, further references have been followed up.

2A.1.4 A search has been made of additional sources, including historical and topographical works, and earlier Ordnance Survey and other maps.

2A.1.5 Three field inspections have been made in the form of rapid walkover surveys of each route to examine archaeological remains already listed in the SMRs, and to locate further unrecorded features.

2A.2 BASELINE CONDITIONS

This section lists known archaeological sites within each proposed route corridor in turn, and additional evidence with possible implications for other undiscovered sites. The numbers in parenthesis refer to the accompanying maps.

2A.2.1 Pink Route

From the junction of the existing A6 with the proposed Quorn and Mountsorrel bypass, north of Quorn, the Pink route passes:

- 1) 50m west of a possible rectangular enclosure (SK 549198), SMR 51 NW.C.
- 2) 30m east of and parallel to Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards), where the hedgerows contain a variety of species suggesting a routeway of some antiquity.
- 3) 350m west of a medieval watermill site (SK552205), SMR 52 SE.AB.
- 4) 250m west of Cotes (SK 554208), a shrunken medieval village with manor house of the 1580s and church. The village and church are Scheduled Ancient Monuments, SMR 52 SE.R, S, T.
- 5) 300m west of a possible medieval moated site (SK 550216), SMR 52 SE.F.
This is a classic spur-end position overlooking the Soar to the west, and could have been settled at any period in the past.
- 6) 200m to less than 50m south-west of Stanford Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards), to the south-west of which lie subdued but extensive earthworks currently under pasture.

- 7) 150m north-east of Stanford Viaduct (Loughborough Viaduct, SK 542217), findspot of a Roman coin hoard and skull, Notts. SMR 05202.
- 8) 40m south-west of a Roman villa site in Stanford churchyard (SK 54322197), Notts. SMR 00019. A mosaic floor was encountered in grave-digging, and numerous Roman tiles are built into the church fabric.
- 9) 50m south-west of St John the Baptist church, Stanford (SK 543220), a grade 1 listed building, with 13th and 14th century masonry, Notts. SMR 00042.
- 10) 70m north-east of Stanford Bridge (SK 54152196), a grade 2 listed structure.
- 11) 120m south-west of a cropmark enclosure (SK 543221), Notts. SMR 00043.
- 12) 70m north of an isolated earthwork embankment (SK 53392235), Notts. SMR 00209.
- 13) 240m north of a small mound (SK 52882208), Notts. SMR 00207.
- 14) 200m south of the findspot of Neolithic material (SK 517219), SMR 52 SW.Z.
- 15) 240m north-east of Dishley Grange (SK 513212), medieval grange, village and church. The church is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, SMR 52 SW.M, P.
- 16) 370 north-east of an enclosure and field system (SK 511214), SMR 52 SW.A.
- 17) 160m north-east of the historic core of Hathern village (SK 502223), SMR 52 SW.

2A.2.2 Brown Route

From the junction of the existing A6 with the proposed Quorn and Mountsorrel bypass, north of Quorn, the Brown route passes:

- 1) 50m west of a possible rectangular enclosure (SK 549198), SMR 51 NW.C.
- 2) 30m east of and parallel to Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards), where the hedgerows contain a variety of species suggesting a routeway of some antiquity.
- 3) 350m west of a medieval watermill site (SK 552205), SMR 52 SE.AB.
- 4) 250m west of Cotes (SK 554208), a shrunken medieval village with manor house of the 1580s and church. The village and church are Scheduled Ancient Monuments, SMR 52 SE.R, S, T.
- 5) 300m west of a possible medieval moated site (SK 550216), SMR 52 SE.F. This is a classic spur-end position overlooking the Soar to the west, and could have been settled at any period in the past.
- 6) 200m to less than 50m south-west of Stanford Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards, to the south-west of which lie subdued but extensive earthworks currently under pasture.
- 7) Through Stanford Viaduct (Loughborough Viaduct, SK 542217), findspot of a Roman coin hoard and skull, Notts. SMR 05202.
- 8) 200m south-west of a Roman villa site in Stanford churchyard (SK 54322197), Notts. SMR 00019. A mosaic floor was encountered in grave-digging, and numerous Roman tiles are built into the church fabric.
- 9) 210m south-west of St John the Baptist church, Stanford (SK 543220), a grade 1 listed building, with 13th and 14th century masonry, Notts. SMR 00042.

- 10) 180m south of Stanford Bridge (SK 54152196), a grade 2 listed structure.
- 18) 260m south-east of a prehistoric ring ditch (SK 538218), SMR 52 SW.G.
- 19) 180m north of an enclosure with trackway (SK 528216), SMR 52 SW.F.
- 13) 300m south of a small mound (SK 52882208), Notts. SMR 00207.
- 14) 200m south of the findspot of Neolithic material (SK 517219), SMR 52 SW.Z.
- 15) 240m north-east of Dishley Grange (SK 513212), medieval grange, village and church. The church is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, SMR 52 SW.M, P.
- 16) 370m north-east of an enclosure and field system (SK 511214), SMR 52 SW.A.
- 17) 160m north-east of the historic core of Hathern village (SK 502223) SMR 52 SW.

2A.2.3 Orange Route

From the junction of the existing A6 with the proposed Quorn and Mountsorrel bypass, north of Quorn, the Orange route passes:

- 1) 50m west of a possible rectangular enclosure (SK 549198), SMR 51 NW.C.
- 2) 30m east of and parallel to Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards), where the hedgerows contain a variety of species suggesting a routeway of some antiquity.
- 3) 350m west of a medieval watermill site (SK 552205), SMR 52 SE.AB.
- 4) 320m west of Cotes (SK 554208), a shrunken medieval village with manor house of the 1580s and church. The village and church are Scheduled Ancient Monuments, SMR 52 SE.R, S, T.

- 7) 400m south of Stanford Viaduct (Loughborough Viaduct, SK 542217), findspot of a Roman coin hoard and skull, Notts. SMR 05202.
- 19) 180m north of an enclosure with trackway (SK 528216), SMR 52 SW.F.
- 13) 300m south of a small mound (SK 52882208), Notts. SMR 00207.
- 14) 200m south of the findspot of Neolithic material (SK 517219), SMR 52 SW.Z.
- 15) 240m north-east of Dishley Grange (SK 513212), medieval grange, village and church. The church is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, SMR 52 SW.M, P.
- 16) 370m north-east of an enclosure and field system (SK 511214), SMR 52 SW.A.
- 17) 160m north-east of the historic core of Hathern village (SK 502223), SMR 52 SW.-.

2A.2.4 Turquoise Route

From the junction of the existing A6 with the proposed Quorn and Mountsorrel bypass, north of Quorn, the Turquoise route passes:

- 1) 70m south-west of a possible rectangular enclosure (SK 549198), SMR 51 NW.C.
- 2) Through part of Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards), where the hedgerows contain a variety of species suggesting a routeway of some antiquity.
- 19) 180m north of an enclosure with trackway (SK 528216), SMR 52 SW.F.

- 13) 300m south of a small mound (SK 52882208), Notts. SMR 00207.
- 14) 200m south of the findspot of Neolithic material (SK 517219), SMR 52 SW.Z.
- 15) 240m north-east of Dishley Grange (SK 513212), medieval grange, village and church. The church is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, SMR 52 SW.M,P.
- 16) 370m north-east of an enclosure and field system (SK 511214), SMR 52 SW.A.
- 17) 160m north-east of the historic core of Hathern village (SK 502223), SMR 52 SW.-.

2A.2.5 Blue Route

From the junction of the existing A6 with the proposed Quorn and Mountsorrel bypass, north of Quorn, the Blue route passes:

- 20) 70m south of the historic core of Woodthorpe village (SK 543173), SMR 51 NW.-.
- 21) 140m north of the findspot of Iron Age material (SK 513170).
- 22) 380m north of a Roman occupation site (SK 508170), SMR 51 NW.BE.
- 23) 70m south of Burleigh Farm (SK 50891747), a grade 2 listed building of the 17th century.
- 24) 50m west of a Roman occupation site (SK 502179) on Snell's Nook Lane, SMR 51 NW.BJ.

START OF GARENDON PARK

- 25) Through Garendon Park for 1.5km, a Historic Park and Garden, SMR 5 2 SW.AC/51 NW.BK.
- 26) 330m east of undated cropmarks and a medieval village site (SK 4916188).
- 27) 350m west of the findspot of a Neolithic stone axe (SK 503190), SMR 51 NW.B.
- 28) 150m east of the Temple of Venus (SK 49791906), a grade 2 listed building of the 1730s.
- 29) 220m east of a prehistoric enclosure (SK 497192), SMR 41 NE.F.
- 30) 250m west of the remains of medieval Garendon Abbey (SK 501198), a Scheduled Ancient Monument of the 12th century, SMR 51 NW.AH.
- 31) 250m west of the site of Garendon Hall (SK 501199) of 18th and 19th century date, overlying a 17th century Hall.
- 32) 230m west of a barn (SK 50102009), a grade 2 listed building with a probable medieval wall, SMR 52 SW.S.
- 33) 290m west of outbuildings (SK 50152012), a grade 2 listed building probably medieval in origin, SMR 52 SW.S.
- 34) 340m west of a dovecote (SK 50202016), a grade 2 listed building probably medieval in origin, SMR 52 SW.S.
- 35) 360m west of a drystone wall (SK 50212021), a grade 2 listed structure perhaps medieval, SMR 52 SW.S.

END OF GARENDON PARK

- 17) 200m west of the historic core of Hathern village (SK 502223), SMR 52 SW.

2A.2.6 Yellow Route

From the junction of the existing A6 with the proposed Quorn and Mountsorrel bypass, north of Quorn, the Yellow route passes:

- 20) 70m south of the historic core of Woodthorpe village (SK 543173), SMR 51 NW.-.
- 21) 140m north of the findspot of Iron Age material (SK 513170).
- 22) 380m north of a Roman occupation site (SK 508170), SMR 51 NW.BE.
- 23) 70m south of Burleigh Farm (SK 50891747), a grade 2 listed building of the 17th century.
- 24) 50m west of a Roman occupation site (SK 502179) on Snell's Nook Lane, SMR 51 NW.BJ.

START OF GARENDON PARK

- 25) Through Garendon Park for 1.5km, a Historic Park and Garden, SMR 52 SW.AC/51 NW.BK.
- 26) 330m east of undated cropmarks and a medieval village site (SK 496188).
- 27) 350m west of the findspot of a Neolithic stone axe (SK 503190), SMR 51 NW.B.
- 28) 150m east of the Temple of Venus (SK 49791906), a grade 2 listed building of the 1730s.
- 29) 220m east of a prehistoric enclosure (SK 497192), SMR 41 NE.F.
- 30) 250m west of the remains of medieval Garendon Abbey (SK 501198), a Scheduled Ancient Monument of the 12th century, SMR 51 NW.AH.
- 31) 250m west of the site of Garendon Hall (SK 501199) of 18th and 19th century date, overlying a 17th century Hall.

- 32) 210m west of a barn (SK 50102009), a grade 2 listed building with a probable medieval wall, SMR 52 SW.S.
- 33) 260m west of outbuildings (SK 50152012), a grade 2 listed building probably medieval in origin , SMR 52 SW.S.
- 34) 310m west of a dovecote (SK 50202016), a grade 2 listed building probably medieval in origin, SMR 52 SW.S.
- 35) 300m west of a drystone wall (SK 50212021), a grade 2 listed structure perhaps medieval, SMR 52 SW.S.

END OF GARENDON PARK

- 36) 290m west of Stonebow Bridge (SK 50402057), a grade 2 listed structure.
- 37) 60m south of a prehistoric burial mound (SK 508213), SMR 52 SW.L.
- 15) 240m north-east of Dishley Grange (SK 513212), medieval grange, village and church. The church is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, SMR 52 SW.M, P.
- 16) 150m west of an enclosure and field system (SK 511214), SMR 52 SW.A.
- 17) 200m east of the historic core of Hathern village (SK 502223), SMR 52 W

2A.3 ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

This section assesses the direct effects upon the archaeological remains catalogued under Section 2 of each proposed route option. In particular it examines sites within 50m of the centreline, but it also considers the effects upon the archaeological setting, where relevant, of other sites in the corridor.

2A.3.1 Pink Route

The Pink route would have direct effects upon:

- 1) A possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198).
- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).
- 6) Unrecorded earthworks south-west of Stanford Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards).
- 8) A Roman villa at Stanford (SK 54322197).

It would also materially affect the archaeological setting of (9) St John the Baptist church, Stanford (SK 543220).

2A.3.2 Brown Route

The Brown route would have direct effects upon:

- 1) A possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198).
- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).
- 6) Unrecorded earthworks south-west of Stanford Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards).

It may also affect Roman remains at Stanford, possibly associated with the villa (SK 54322197).

2A.3.3 Orange Route

The Orange route would have direct effects upon:

- 1) A possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198).
- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

2A.3.4 Turquoise Route

The Turquoise route would have direct effects upon:

- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

2A.3.5 Blue Route

The Blue route would have direct effects upon:

- 24) A Roman occupation site (SK 502179) on Snell's Nook Lane.

It would also affect the archaeological setting of (20) the historic core of Woodthorpe village (SK 543173).

More especially it would be intrusive for a distance of 1.5km through (25) Garendon Park, which at present forms an enclosed archaeological setting for (30) the remains of medieval Garendon Abbey (SK 501198); (31) the site of Garendon Hall (SK 501199), with its associated gateways and other features; and the group of structures (32), (33), (34), (35) north of the Hall site and of probable medieval origin.

2A.3.6 Yellow Route

The Yellow route would have direct effects upon:

24) A Roman occupation site (SK 502179) on Snell's Nook Lane.

37) A prehistoric burial mound (SK 508213) near the existing A6.

It would also affect the archaeological setting of (20) the historic core of Woodthorpe village (SK 543173).

More especially it would be intrusive for a distance of 1.5km through (25) Garendon Park, which at present forms an enclosed archaeological setting for (30) the remains of medieval Garendon Abbey (SK 501198); (31) the site of Garendon Hall (SK 501199), with its associated gateways and other features; and the group of structures (32), (33), (34), (35), north of the Hall site and of probable medieval origin.

2A.4 MITIGATION

This section expands upon the potential archaeological impact of the proposed route options, as described in Section 3, by examining what measures would be required to mitigate the effects in terms of further action.

2A.4.1 Pink Route

1) A possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198). This site would require further investigation and recording to define its character and extent, in the first instance possibly by geophysical survey.

- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

This lane would require further investigation with a species count in the first instance to assess the likely date.

- 6) Unrecorded earthworks south-west of Stanford Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards).

The earthworks would require field survey in the first instance to ~~date~~ define their character and extent.

- 8) A Roman villa at Stanford (SK 54322197).

A Roman villa was an estate farm with an extensive range of stone buildings and associated farm layout. Further investigation required ~~will~~ comprise geophysical survey in the first instance to define its character and extent, almost certainly followed by extensive excavation to identify, date and record the remains in detail.

Little could be done to mitigate the effects upon the archaeological setting of (9) St John the Baptist church, Stanford (SK 543220), short of realigning the route.

The Pink route runs through the Soar valley much of which is alluvial flood plain with a high probability of ancient settlement. There is also the potential for deposits which might yield palaeoenvironmental data. Besides the known sites listed there are likely to be others not yet discovered, and it is recommended that fieldwalking be carried out in the limited arable areas which exist along the Pink route.

It should be noted that the Stanford area in particular is likely to be rich in Roman remains, and would require detailed field inspection.

2A.4.2 Brown Route

- 1) A possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198).

This site would require further investigation and recording to define its character and extent, in the first instance possibly by geophysical survey.

- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

This lane would require further investigation with a species count in the first instance to assess the likely date.

- 6) Unrecorded earthworks south-west of Stanford Lane (sk 548216 north-westwards).

The earthworks would require field survey in the first instance to define their character and extent.

The Brown route runs through the Soar valley, much of which is alluvial flood plain with a high probability of ancient settlement. There is also the potential for deposits which might yield palaeoenvironmental date. Besides the known sites listed there are likely to be others not yet discovered, and it is recommended that fieldwalking be carried out in the limited arable areas which exist along the Brown route.

It should be noted that the Stanford area in particular is likely to be rich in Roman remains, and would require detailed field inspection.

2A.4.3 Orange Route

- 1) A possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198).

This site would require further investigation and recording to define its character and extent, in the first instance possibly by geophysical survey.

- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

This lane would require further investigation with a species count in the first instance to assess the likely date.

The Orange route runs through the Soar valley, much of which is alluvial flood plain with a high probability of ancient settlement. There is also the potential for deposits which might yield palaeoenvironmental data. Besides the known sites listed there are likely to be others not yet discovered, and it is recommended that fieldwalking be carried out in the limited arable areas which exist along the Orange route.

It should be noted that the vicinity of Stanford may contain Roman remains.

2A.4.4 Turquoise Route

- 2) Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

This lane would require further investigation with a species count in the first instant to assess the likely date.

Part of the Turquoise route passes through the north-west industrial suburb of Loughborough, with little or no archaeological implications. Outside the town it runs through the Soar valley, much of which is alluvial flood plain with a high probability of ancient settlement. There is also the potential for deposits which might yield palaeoenvironmental data. Besides the known sites listed there may

be others not yet discovered, and it is recommended that fieldwalking be carried out in the limited arable areas which exist along the Turquoise route.

2A.4.5 Blue Route

(24) A Roman occupation site (SK 502179) on Snell's Nook Lane.

This site would require further investigation and recording to define its character and extent, in the first instance by fieldwalking and possibly geophysical survey. Subsequent excavation may be necessary.

In order to protect the archaeological setting of the historic core of Woodthorpe village (SK 543173), it would be desirable to consider a zone of sympathetic planting south of Woodthorpe.

Little could be done to mitigate the effects upon the archaeological setting of (25) Garendon Park, with the numerous internal features described, short of a major westward realignment of the Blue route.

Because of the numerous known sites of prehistoric, Roman and medieval occupation in proximity to the corridor, and the suitability of the topography and soils for settlement and farming, the probability of undiscovered archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Blue route is regarded as high. It is therefore recommended that a prior fieldwalking programme should be designed and implemented for all arable land in the Blue route corridor.

2A.4.6 Yellow Route

- 24) A Roman occupation site (SK 502179) on Snell's Nook Lane.

This site would require further investigation and recording to define its character and extent, in the first instance by fieldwalking and possibly geophysical survey. Subsequent excavation may be necessary.

- 37) A prehistoric burial mound (SK 508213) near the existing A6.

This site would require further investigation and recording to define its character and extent, in the first instance possibly by geophysical survey. Subsequent excavation may be necessary.

In order to protect the archaeological setting of the historic core of Woodthorpe village (SK 543173), it would be desirable to consider a zone of sympathetic planting south of Woodthorpe.

Little could be done to mitigate the effects upon the archaeological setting of (25) Garendon Park, with the numerous internal features described, short of a major westward realignment of the Yellow route.

Because of the numerous known sites of prehistoric, Roman and medieval occupation in proximity to the corridor, and the suitability of the topography and soils for settlement and farming, the probability of undiscovered archaeological sites in the vicinity of the Yellow route is regarded as high. It is therefore recommended that a prior fieldwalking programme should be designed and implemented for all arable land in the Yellow route corridor.

2A.5 PRESENTATION OF KEY ISSUES

This section summarises the key areas in terms of the relative effort required to implement the mitigation measures described in Section 4. By bringing these into focus it is intended to facilitate comparison between the different route options.

Essentially, alleviation of the impact upon an archaeological site directly affected would entail the production of a full record, written, drawn and photographic, by survey or excavation as appropriate, with an appropriate level of retrieval of artifacts and samples.

2A.5.1 Pink Route

This would require four site surveys at various levels. For two of these, (1) a possible rectangular enclosure west of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198), and (6) unrecorded earthworks south-west of Stanford Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards), survey might lead to a requirement for trial excavation. A third, (8) the Roman villa at Stanford (SK 54322197), would almost certainly require extensive and detailed excavation.

Selective fieldwalking along the route would also be necessary, with special attention to the Stanford area, which might initiate a need for further work.

It is noted that the effects upon the archaeological setting of Stanford church could not be satisfactorily mitigated.

2A.5.2 Brown Route

This would require three site surveys at various levels. For two of these, (1) a possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 548216 north-westwards), survey might lead to a requirement for trial excavation.

Selective fieldwalking along the route would also be necessary, with special attention to the Stanford area, which might initiate a need for further work.

2A.5.3 Orange Route

This would require two site surveys. For one of these, (1) a possible rectangular enclosure east of Allsopp's Lane (SK 549198), survey might lead to a requirement for trial excavation.

Selective fieldwalking along the route would also be necessary, with special attention to the Stanford area, which might initiate a need for further work.

2A.5.4 Turquoise Route

This would require one site survey, of Allsopp's Lane (SK 548198 northwards).

Selective fieldwalking along the route would also be necessary, which might initiate a need for further work.

2A.5.5 Blue Route

This would require one site survey, of (24) a Roman occupation site (SK 502179), which might lead to a requirement for excavation.

Comprehensive fieldwalking along the route would also be necessary, which might initiate a need for further work.

A zone of planting at Woodthorpe is also recommended for screening purposes.

It is noted that the effects upon the archaeological setting of Garendon Park and its monuments could not be satisfactorily mitigated.

2A.5.6 Yellow Route

This would require two site surveys. For both of these, (24) a Roman occupation site (SK 502179), and (37) a prehistoric burial mound (SK 508213), survey might lead to a requirement for excavation.

Comprehensive fieldwalking along the route would also be necessary, which might initiate a need for further work.

A zone of planting at Woodthorpe is also recommended for screening purposes.

It is noted that the effects upon the archaeological setting of Garendon Park and its monuments could not be satisfactorily mitigated.

2A.6 CONSULTATION

During the preparation of this Stage 2 report liaison has been maintained with the Consulting Engineers, and with the County Archaeologists for Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire. The conclusions of the archaeological assessment remain to be discussed with English Heritage and with the two County Archaeologists.

2A.7 CONCLUSIONS

From an archaeological viewpoint it is considered that the Pink, Yellow and Blue routes would have a very serious impact.

The option with the least impact would be the Turquoise route.

The recommended order of route preference is therefore: Turquoise route; Orange route; Brown route; Blue route; Yellow route; Pink route.