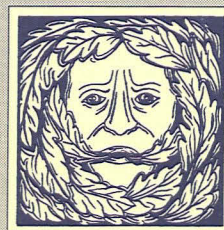


97/10

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL
IMPLICATIONS OF HEDGEROW REMOVAL AT
SCOPWICK,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SHI97)**



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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL
IMPLICATIONS OF HEDGEROW REMOVAL AT
SCOPWICK,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(SHI97)**

Work Undertaken For
North Kesteven District Council

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

July 1997

A.P.S. Report No: 28/97

1. INTRODUCTION

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by North Kesteven District Council to assess the archaeological and historical importance of two hedgerows in Scopwick, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). This was in advance of proposed removal of these hedges by the landowner. The assessment was undertaken using the criteria established in the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (Appendix 1).

One hedgerow is located to the south of Scopwick village at National Grid Reference TF 071 576 and is referred to as Hedge A in the following text. A second, Hedge B, is located east of the village centre at National Grid Reference TF 079 581. The hedges are located either side of a small stream valley at a height of between 15 and 20m OD.

2. METHODOLOGY

Compilation of the archaeological and historical data relevant to the areas described above involved examination of the primary and secondary sources available. These included;

- a) the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)
- b) historical documents, held in the Lincolnshire Archives Office (LAO)
- c) enclosure, tithe, parish and other maps and plans held in the Lincolnshire Archive Office
- d) published books and specialist reports

Information obtained from the above sources was supplemented by a site visit during which a visual assessment of the hedges was made and any archaeological data recorded.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SETTING

The hedges are located within the parish of Scopwick. No archaeological sites or findspots are recorded in the County Sites and Monuments Record as having come from the vicinity of either hedgerow. Aerial photographs do not depict any buried archaeological remains.

The earliest map of this parish is the Scopwick Enclosure Award plan dating from 1799 (LAO Kesteven Award 10). Both Hedge A and B are depicted on this plan as boundaries, although it is not stated that they form hedgerows. The fields on either side of Hedge A are known as Home Close, while Hedge B is the boundary between Burnett Close and Hoyes Close. The use of the word 'Close' signifies that the land was once hedged, fenced or walled (Bristow 1994, 41). That the term was in established use in 1799 suggests that the area forms part of a previously enclosed manor or estate.

These hedges have not been identified as any other boundary, such as Wapentake or Parish boundaries.

4. SITE VISIT

A site visit was made on the 1st July 1997 with the purpose of making a visual inspection of the hedgerows and their environs to determine the presence/absence of any previously unrecorded archaeological or historical features.

Hedge A - The hedgerow is fairly full with less than 10% gaps. There are also a few trees in the hedgerow. The hedge is situated on a slight bank, with a very slight ditch on the eastern side. The creation of a small bank prior to or immediately subsequent to hedgerow planting is common where topsoils are shallow and stony, hedges are planted into the banks to increase the chance of successful rooting.

Hedge B - The northern part of this hedge has no bank or ditch and no gaps were recorded. A single near dead tree was noted at the northern end. Between the north and south sections of this hedge is a gap that provides access between the fields. The southern part of this hedgerow is not as shown on the map. The dog-leg shown on Figure 1 in the southern part of the hedge is no longer in existence. The hedge has been straightened with the part south of the dog-leg on Figure 1 removed and a new hedge planted in line with the northernmost section. This new hedge is very young and thin (and therefore appears to have numerous gaps) but contains two trees. There is no bank or ditch.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological and historical investigations into the proposed hedgerow removal in Scopwick has revealed no archaeological sites in proximity of the two hedges. The enclosure award of 1799 for Scopwick depicts both boundaries. It is from this date that Hedge A is likely to have been planted. Hedge B separates two fields with 'Close' names in 1799 indicating that it has a pre-enclosure origin. It was usually stipulated in enclosure awards that those receiving allotments of land were to have them fenced, walled or hedged within twelve months (Hoskins 1970, 199).

The site visit undertaken as part of this survey revealed no traces of archaeological remains incorporated into the hedgerow. Nor were any recorded nearby. It was noted that both hedges were well developed, although a recent hedge had replaced a dog-leg in Hedge B.

6. SUMMARY

The hedgerows at the two locations in Scopwick relate to the five criteria listed on page 11 (Schedule 1 Part II) of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 thus:-

1. Both hedgerows -
do not mark the boundary, or part of the boundary of a historic parish or township.
2. Both hedgerows -
do not incorporate an archaeological feature.
3. Both hedgerows -

are not situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site.

4. Both hedgerows -
do not in *current knowledge* mark the boundary of a pre-1600 estate or manor or are visibly related to such an estate or manor, although Hedge B appears to have been in existence prior to the Enclosure Award when it formed a field division
5. Hedge A -
is not part of a field system pre-dating the Enclosure Acts or is visibly related to any building or other feature associated with such a system. On the strength of field name evidence, Hedge B **is** part of a field system predating the Enclosure Acts. Part of this hedge has already been removed.

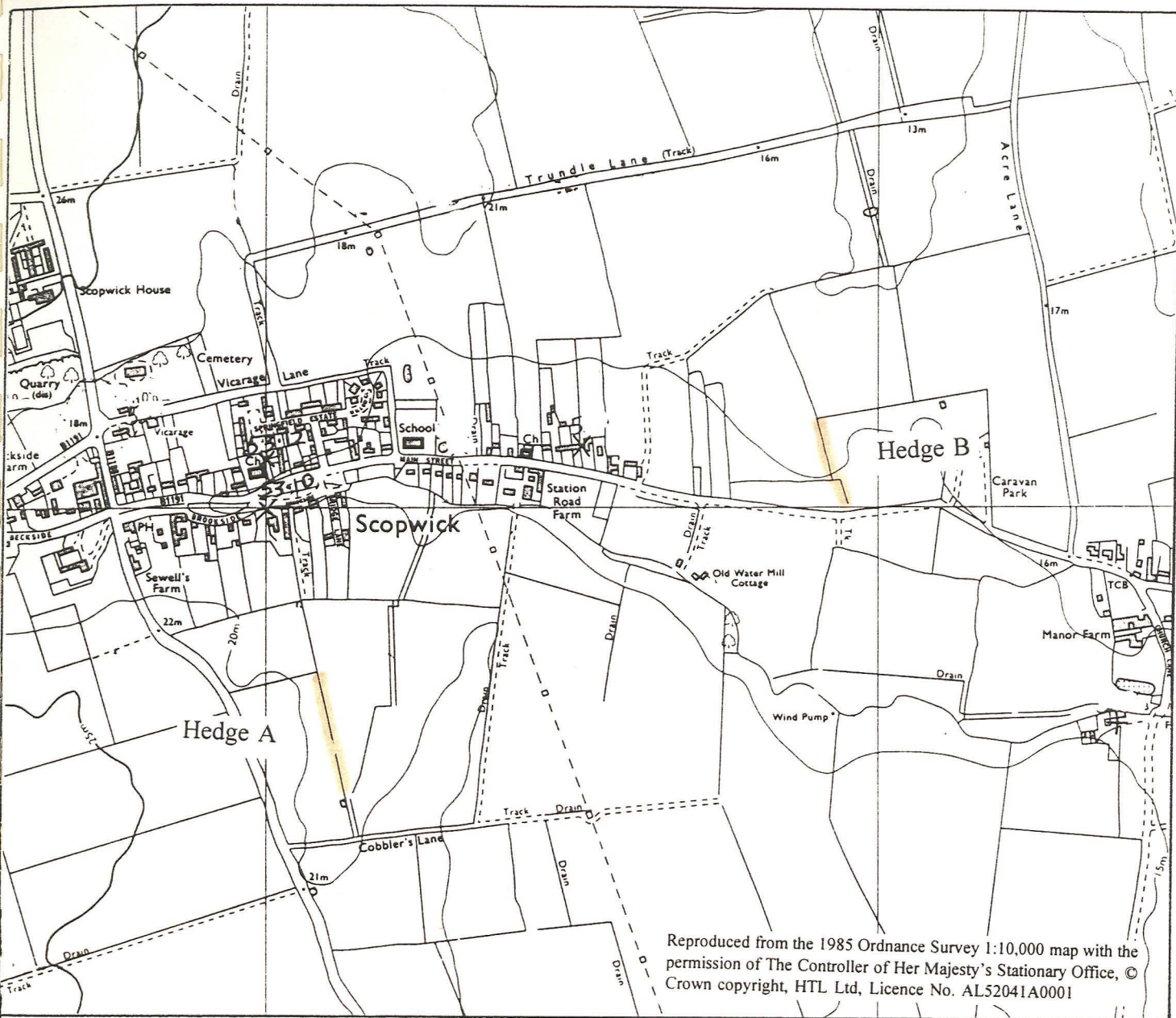
7. REFERENCES

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LAO Kesteven Award 10. *Scopwick Enclosure Plan 1799, whole parish*



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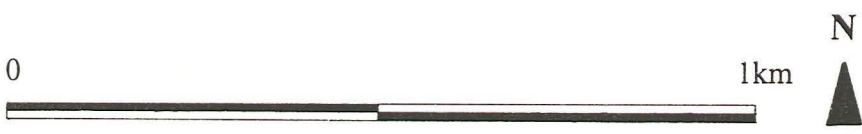


Figure 1 - Site Location Plan

Appendix 1

EXTRACT FROM 'ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING "IMPORTANT" HEDGEROWS, Part II Criteria

1. The hedgerow marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township; and for this purpose "historic" means existing before 1850.
2. The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature which is-
 - (a) included in the schedule of monuments compiled by the secretary of State under section 1 (schedule of monuments) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979(g); or
 - (b) recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record.
3. The hedgerow-
 - (a) is situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site included or recorded as mentioned in paragraph 2 or on land adjacent to and associated with such a site; and
 - (b) is associated with any monument or feature on that site.
4. The hedgerow-
 - (a) marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a Sites and Monuments Record or in a document held at that date at a Record Office; or
 - (b) is visibly related to any building or other feature of such an estate or manor.
5. The hedgerow-
 - (a) is recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure Acts(a); or
 - (b) is part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system, and that system -
 - (i) is substantially complete; or
 - (ii) is of a pattern which is recorded in a document prepared before the relevant date by a local planning authority, within the meaning of the 1990 Act(b), for the purposes of development control within the authority's area, as a key landscape characteristic.