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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL  
IMPLICATIONS OF HEDGEROW REMOVAL AT  
CLIFF ROAD,  
WELLINGORE,  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
(WHI97)**



**A P S**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
PROJECT  
SERVICES

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IMPLICATIONS OF HEDGEROW REMOVAL AT  
CLIFF ROAD,  
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LINCOLNSHIRE  
(WHI97)**

Work Undertaken For  
North Kesteven District Council

Report Compiled by  
Paul Cope-Faulkner

October 1997

Application No: HRN/004/97

A.P.S. Report No: 53/97

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by North Kesteven District Council to assess the archaeological and historical importance of hedgerows perpendicular to Cliff Road (A607), Wellingore, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The assessment was undertaken using the criteria established in the Hedgerow Regulations Act 1997 (Appendix 1) and in advance of proposed removal by the landowner. The site is centred on National Grid Reference SK 979 555.

## **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- b) historical documents, held in the Lincolnshire Archives Office (LAO)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 Archives 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 three hedges to be removed are situated towards the southern end of the parish of Wellingore. There are no archaeological sites recorded in the vicinity on the County Sites and Monuments Record.

No Inclosure map of Wellingore survives although a plan (Cole 1983; LAO Kesteven Award 95/18) has been reconstructed from the Enclosure Award of 1764 (LAO Par. Council dep [par. plans]). If the reconstructed plan is accurate, the three hedgerows under examination would comprise boundaries established in the Award. The 1956 Ordnance Survey map of Wellingore depicts these hedgerows along with a sunken feature along the southernmost hedge which may be a quarry pit or a pond. To the east is the site of a former (military?) camp.

## **4. SITE VISIT**

A site visit was made on the 4th October 1997 with the purpose of making a visual inspection of the hedge and its environs in order to determine the presence/absence of any previously unrecorded archaeological or historical features. The three hedgerows have been sub-divided below for easier reference.

Northern Hedge - This hedge contained limited species including a single tree. The hedge was not planted on a bank. A ditch is present on the southern side. The ground surface on which the hedge stands is somewhat higher than that in the field to the south possibly a result of earlier quarrying in the field. The ditch is *c.* 1m deep. Gaps in the hedge are rare and do not exceed 5% of the total length. An entrance gap is present towards the woodland/copse at the western end of the hedgerow *c.* 8m wide.

Central Hedge - Towards the western end the hedge is similar to that described above. There are few trees and no gaps except for a single entrance gap. Uphill, towards the east the hedge is planted along a slight bank with a ditch on the southern side. The ditch is *c.* 3m wide and approximately 0.5-0.6m deep. A second entrance gap through the hedgerow is present and an area of limestone fragments, including worked fragments, indicate an attempt at stabilising the entrance.

Southern Hedge - The southernmost hedgerow is very slight and is *c.* 1.5m wide and no more than 0.4m high. A slight overgrown ditch *c.* 2.5m wide and up to 1m deep is present on the southern side. A field entrance exists near the western end, some 4m wide.

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological and Historical investigations undertaken in advance of proposed hedgerow removal in Wellingore have indicated no archaeological or historical significance for the three hedgerows.

The reconstructed Inclosure map of 1764 for Wellingore depicts all three boundaries, although no indication is given as to whether these were hedges. It was stipulated within the Wellingore Award that '*quicksets three feet from outside boundaries of allotments*' were to be planted and these would normally have been completed within twelve months of the Act coming into force (Hoskins 1970, 199).

## 6. SUMMARY

The hedges perpendicular to Cliff Road, Wellingore relate to the five criteria listed on page 11 (Schedule 1 Part II) of the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 thus:-

- 1 The hedgerows -  
**do not** mark the boundary, or part of the boundary of at least one historic parish or township
- 2 The hedgerows -  
**do not** incorporate an archaeological feature and nor do they appear on the Sites and Monuments Record.
- 3 The hedgerows -  
**are not** situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site

4 All 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

5 All hedgerows -

**are not** part of a field system pre-dating the Enclosure Acts or are visibly related to any building or other feature associated with such a system

## 7. REFERENCES

Cole, R., 1983 *Wellingore in Times Past*

Hoskins, W.G., 1970 *The Making of the English Landscape*

LAO Kesteven Award 95/18 *Reconstructed Enclosure Award and Plan, Wellingore*

LAO Par. Council dep (par plans) *Enclosure Award 1764*



Figure 1 - Site Location Plan

Reproduced from the 1984 Ordnance Survey 1:10,000 map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, © Crown copyright, HTL Ltd, Licence No. AL52041A0001

## 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.