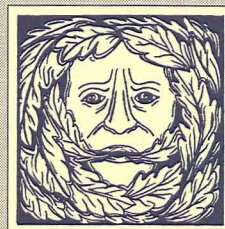


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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL
IMPLICATIONS OF HEDGEROW REMOVAL AT
STANDACRE FARM,
BASSINGHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSF98)**



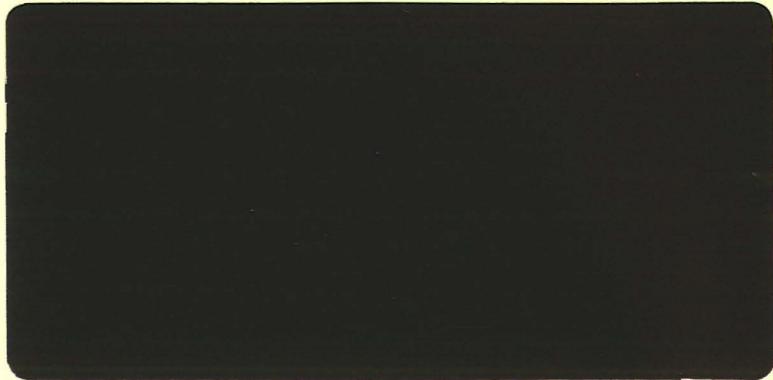
A P S
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECT
SERVICES

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Event LI 4476
Post med 60789

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL
IMPLICATIONS OF HEDGEROW REMOVAL AT
STANDACRE FARM,
BASSINGHAM,
LINCOLNSHIRE
(BSF98)**

Work Undertaken For
North Kesteven District Council

Report Compiled by
Paul Cope-Faulkner

January 1998

A.P.S. Report No: 2/98

1. INTRODUCTION

Archaeological Project Services was commissioned by North Kesteven District Council to assess the archaeological and historical importance of a hedgerow located to the east of Standacre Farm, Bassingham, Lincolnshire (Fig. 1). The assessment was undertaken using the criteria established in the Hedgerow Regulations 1997 (Appendix 1) and in advance of proposed removal by the landowner. The site is centred on National Grid Reference SK 931 597.

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- b) historical documents, held in the Lincolnshire Archives Office (LAO)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 hedge to be removed is situated towards the eastern end of the parish of Bassingham. There are no archaeological sites recorded in the vicinity on the County Sites and Monuments Record.

The earliest depiction of Bassingham is on a plan entitled '*Survey of the Parish*' dating from 1654 (LAO Bassingham Parish 17/1). This plan shows the hedge under examination as a boundary between the two fields as it appears at present. Standacre Farm was not in existence at that time. No enclosure plan is known although the 1654 map would seem to indicate that the land had been partitioned into fields by that date. The Tithe Award and plan of 1852 also shows the fields and the hedgerow under investigation (LAO Bassingham Parish 4/2). However, the fields appear to have been subdivided by a north-south boundary, of which no trace survives today. The fields are generally referred to as east and west Standacre Close, although Standacre Farm was still not in existence.

4. SITE VISIT

A site visit was made on the 11th January 1998 with the purpose of making a visual inspection of the hedge and its environs in order to determine the presence/absence of any previously

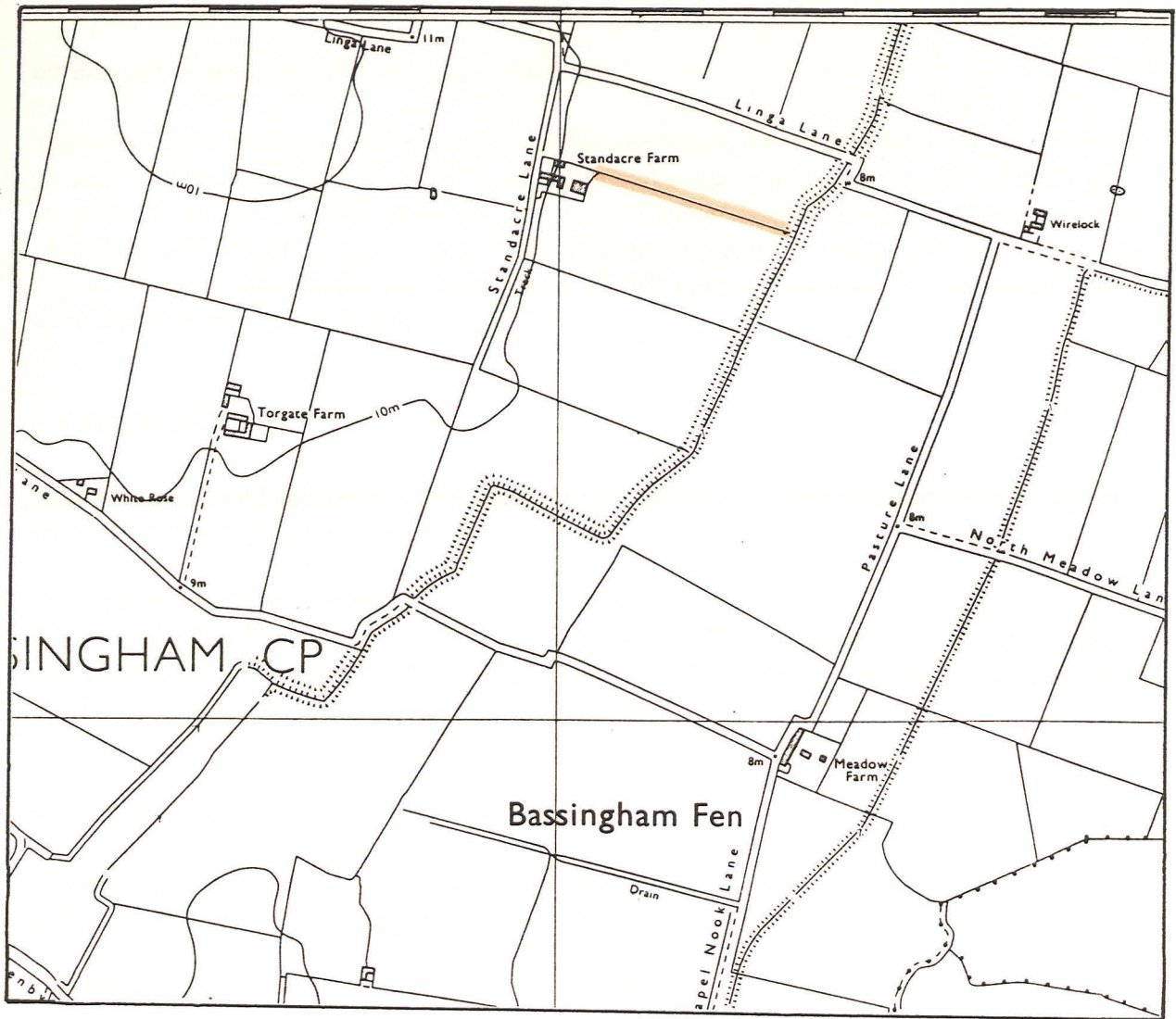


Figure 1 - Site Location Plan

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

unrecorded archaeological or historical features.

The hedge is located on a slight bank *c.* 1m wide and between 0.3 and 0.5m high. A wet ditch, some 3m wide and 1.5m deep survives along the north side of the hedge. Two field entry gaps are present, one at the western end was 4m wide and a 3m wide gap is present at the eastern half of the hedge. Two mature trees are present near the eastern end of the hedge. Numerous gaps are present along the western third of the boundary (*c.* 70% intermittent gaps) with the remainder of the hedge containing *c.* 5% gaps.

5. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological and Historical investigations undertaken in advance of proposed hedgerow removal in Bassingham have indicated that the hedgerow is of historical significance.

The earliest map from 1654 shows the boundary, although no indication is given as to whether this was a hedge. The same boundary is depicted in the Tithe Award of 1852. In consequence, they form an integral part of a field system established prior to the general Inclosure Acts 1845-1882 and consolidated by the Short Title's Act 1896.

6. SUMMARY

The hedgerow lying east of Standacre Farm relates 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 an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Inclosure Acts.

7. REFERENCES

LAO Bassingham Parish 17/1 *Survey of the Parish*, 1654

LAO Bassingham Parish 4/2 *Tithe Award and Plan*, 1852

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.