HERCOLOGICAL RECORD

SITE NAME & length (m)  R.Stour – Talbot Heath
Parish(es)  Kinson – Holdemhurst (both now Dorset)

grid ref. of ends
(A) SZ09036.99095
(B) SZ07044.92537

ref. no.  Kn1

Date of boundary
Pre 1800  vice-county, parish

Type:  Surveyor

RMWalls + A.Morgan

date  18 May 2013

weather

time on site  h

Owner(s)  various
Address(es)

tel.

e-mail

contacted:  y / n

PROFILE SUMMARY

hedge  cross-section

height:  m  Condition:  poor;
width:  m.  standards  yes  Gaps:  %

bank / ditch cross-section

height:  m
width:  m.  adjoining habitats:  gardens and arable fields.

SPECIES

Trees and shrubs in hedge  Herbs and grasses on bank  Fauna

Blackthorn  Horse chestnut  Reed  Common bent-grass
sallow  C.leylandii  Bracken  Annual meadow-grass
Crack willow  Scots pine  Ground ivy  Garden bluebell
Oak  Silver birch  Nettles  holm oak
bramble  field maple  Bracken  Gorse
sycamore  hazel  Garden bluebell  cotoneaster
holly  rowan  Nettles
elder  sweet chestnut  Gorse
elm  cherry laurel
ivy  Berberis
bird cherry

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

The section begins in the centre of the R.Stour and follows a defunct ditch to the edge of the floodplain (and the original course of the river which the modern county follows) before taking a fairly direct line between SW and S to the Boundary Roundabout by Bournemouth University. The first length after the old field ditch is along the side of a small valley up to the Redhill Roundabout. The route across Redhill Common is marked as the centre of the road on the definitive map, which is now the parish boundary. The 6" OS map shows old county boundary route on the NW side of the valley along the edges of the gardens backing onto the common until the level ground opens out into playing fields. It is the latter route that we surveyed. There is a variety of fences and walls.

The head of the dry valley is the Ensbury Park roundabout and from here the old county boundary runs down the E side of Boundary Rd. As this is no longer in use as a parish boundary it is not shown on Dorset Explorer. The present road has been built a little to the W of the old road, by an increasing amount southwards. Very little evidence of the boundary remains other than the alignment. There are the walls and fences of the domestic properties with scrappy hedges of exotic shrubs. Only some older oaks and a sallow are possibly pre-development.

The next section is the perimeter of an active farm and there is no public access, but from either end it appears to be of a uniform quality – a simple bank with a fence and trees. The same basic structure continues across Talbot Heath to the railway cutting. Where the boundary crosses Talbot Avenue there is a boundary post on the south side. Another boundary stone is marked on the older maps at the point where the boundary starts on the heathland, but this was not found although the bank continues to the railway and beyond.
Dorset Explorer Basemap with 100m grid lines and definitive Boundary Line. Add position of features, profiles etc.
PROFILES

vertical scale: 1 sq = .............. nts
horizontal scale: 1 sq = .............. nts

ref. no. Kn1

Kn1 Kinson 2-Feb-14
DCBS 2011

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The section begins in the centre of the R. Stour and follows an unexpected curve. The older map reveals this to be the route of an old field ditch before the river was straightened. The vegetation, dampness and shallow pools due to the engineering work are visible.

The route up from the floodplain is on the W side of a small valley, which continues through Redhill Common until the playground is reached at the S end. The valley is interrupted by the Redhill Roundabout, which appears to have been built on raised ground. There are two routes across Redhill Common. The one investigated on this survey is that on the 6" OS map along the W side of the valley near the top of the bank. This is also the vice-county boundary. The alternative is the definitive boundary running along the centre of the road. The definitive boundary also has a curious excursion to the E of the Redhill Roundabout.

There is a dog-leg in the boundary just N of the playground on Redhill Common. This clearly divides the wood dominated by older pines from more recent, prominently broadleaved woodland. The 2005 version of the OS 1:25000 map only has the land to the north wooded.

From Ensbury Park, the present boundary runs E along Columbia Rd whilst the older boundary runs S along the E side of Boundary Rd. (the old road, not the modern bypass). Amongst the mixture of fences, walls and occasional hedge of the individual properties are some larger trees which antedate the building of the housing estate.

Boundary Roundabout is relatively new, but the old route of Wallisdown Rd is still visible and on the E side of Boundary Rd, there are banks either side with old trees.

The next section is between an active farm and domestic properties; there is no public access, but from either end it appears to be of a uniform quality – a simple bank with a fence and trees. The same basic structure continues across Talbot Heath to the railway cutting.

The 6" OS map plots the boundary from Talbot Av. displaced by about 20m into the gardens onto the E side. From a discontinuity where maps are joined just N of the railway, the displacement appears to be an artefact, possibly when the national grid was added.