HERCOLOGICAL RECORD

SITE NAME: R Yeo – Crackmore Rocks (1962 m)

Parish(es):
Oborne (Dorset) / Poyntington (now Dorset, in Somerset until 31st March, 1896) (198 m)
Oborne (Dorset) / Milborne Port (Somerset) (1764 m)

grid ref. of ends:
(A) ST65534.19605
(B) ST66680.18338

ref. no. Ob 5

Date of boundary:
Pre-1896 and modern

Pre-1896 Type:
modern county; former county; vc; parish; estate; field; …

modern surveyors:
R.M. Walls, B. Lane, J. Hart

surveyors date:
3 May 2012

weather:
overcast

time on site:
6½ h for complete survey

Owner(s):
Owners on both sides of the boundary were contacted and permission obtained

Address(es):
tel.
email

contacted: y / n

PROFILE SUMMARY

hedge cross-section
height: ~2 m.
Condition: variable ………
width: ~2 m.
standards few.
Gaps: ~2 %

bank / ditch cross-section
height: ~1 m.
width: ~3 m.

adjourning habitats: arable and pasture

SPECIES

Trees and shrubs in hedge

Oak
Ash
Hawthorn
Elder
hazel
blackthorn
sycamore
eš
bramble
wayfaring tree

Herbs and grasses on bank

red campion
nettle
cleavers
lesser celandine
Arum
hogswee
dogs mercury

Fauna

On leaving the stream the boundary runs straight up the valley side to join the modern county boundary around the bottom edge of a field. The field is an unexplained excursion from its line along the top of the valley slope. In general, where the boundary runs down a slope there is a bank and often ditch structure. When parallel to the slope there is usually a lynchet. Hedges are of variable management and not always stock-proof. The line of the boundary to the south of this field is shown as “defaced” suggesting that the hedge is new and does not necessarily follow the original boundary line exactly.

From the top of the Yeo valley to Crackmore Rocks the boundary follows a fairly straight line: down a slope cut by the railway and then across undulating ground to the shallow valley leading to the A30. Between the railway and the A30 the bank and ditch have been used to collect runoff and spring water where this appropriate and channel it drains. Plants associated with these ditches are small-flowered willowherb, reeds and hemlock.

Oak trees have diameters of 1.120, 0.796, 1.006, 0.777 m.
MAP 1: Dorset Explorer 2002 aerial map with 100m grid lines and definitive Boundary Line.

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PROFILES

vertical scale:  1 sq = ..............

horizontal scale: 1 sq = ..............
The boundary shown stippled with yellow follows the line of the stream as far as a tree, and then runs up the slope. Poyntington is to the left of the picture, Oborne to the right. The boundary near the skyline is the boundary between Oborne and Milborne Port (Little Hackpin).

The line of the pre-1896 county boundary (shown in yellow) showing Little Hackpin (in Milborne Port) between fields in Poyntington (to the left) and Oborne (to the right). The modern county boundary between Poyntington and Milborne Port is shown in green. Donkey Lane follows the line of the horizon. The site of Folly Cottage is also shown.
PHOTOGRAPHS

Dorset Explorer Basemap with 100m grid lines and definitive Boundary. Add position and direction of photographs

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Ob5._120503_003. Taken from approximately ST659 193 looking south south east © JH. May 2012

The line of the boundary shown with yellow dots crossing the foot of Vartenham Hill to Crackmore Rocks on the A30. The picture also shows the position of a “Boundary Post” on the A30 some 160 m to the west of the County Boundary marking the limit of the Somerset Highway Authority.

Ob5._120503_004. Taken at ST667183 looking east © JH. May 2012

The old line of the road going up Vartenham Hill beside Crackmore Rocks.
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None