

From Hay Lane to the Salthrop detached field

the pastoral responsibility of St Marys Lydiard Tregoze,
our parish neighbours being St John the Baptist & St Helen, Wroughton



At [SU109823] the boundary runs parallel to the western hedgerow behind the paddock next to Can Court Cottage and a few metres to the east of it – the middle of the paddock. With permission, we climbed the fence and walked to the gate. There is nothing to mark the boundary here. This is private property with no public access, but clearly visible from the roadside. At Can Court Cottage there is a field gate next to the front drive that we are told is on

the old line of Hay Lane, the west side of which defines the parish boundary.

The parish boundary follows the right hand / west side of Hay Lane. There is a hedgerow and several large trees on the boundary line, but nothing specific to mark it. The boundary continues (and so did we) up Hay Lane to a point at [SU111814]



At [SU111814] just north of a road-sign facing north and warning of tractors turning, there is a large tree in the hedge on the right clearly defining a corner of the boundary. This would be a good place for a marker,





The boundary here turns left, crossing the road and heading along a hedge line with several large trees, runs to the east for the width of a field, then turns south round the “back” of Hurst copse. On the South side of Hurst copse the boundary turns west again back along the field boundary back

to Hay Lane. There are many large trees defining the boundary, but nothing specific to mark it. As the hedge was thick we walked up to the gate and back along the inside of the hedge in order to walk round all four sides of the rectangle. This is private property with no public access, we walked with permission.



Once back at Hay Lane we continued southwards sticking to the boundary at the right (west) side of the road. In places the roadside verge is wide, the hedge line and boundary are more than a couple of metres from the road.

Local opinion is that the old road was a drove road and significantly wider than today’s lane.



At the entrance to Bassett Down Estate [SU114804] the boundary leaves the hedge line on a line slightly further west than the roads edge, and heads behind Bassett Down Lodge then parallel to the road. We climbed the rail fence and walked close to this line in the field beyond. Apart from the property boundary there is nothing to mark the boundary. This is private property with no public access, we walked with permission.



At [SU114802] the boundary crosses the entrance drive to Bassett Down Old Coach House and heads south across the garden of Bassett Down House, bends parallel to the current line of Hay Lane, but 10 or 20 metres from it, to its west and south, and follows a curving line through with embankments visible from the road and regains Hay Lane some distance up the hill. We did not walk across the garden, but returned to Hay Lane turning right/south/uphill. The boundary having returned to Hay Lane then follows its line on its western edge / right-hand side towards Salthrop.

At the “reservoir” marked on the OS maps at [SU118795] the boundary leaves Hay Lane and heads almost directly south. So does the line of the public footpath, however it is a fairly overgrown green lane, and there is a clear habitual path to the west of this line, at the field boundary. We turned right through a gateway into the



field round the end of the green lane, and turned left along its western edge on the path and walked south. Lunch was taken here. Apart from the green lane and some large trees in the hedgerows there is nothing to indicate the boundary, though there is considerable leisure walking traffic here, and this would be a good point for such a marker.



At [SU118791] the green lane ends, our parish boundary turns right along the field boundary to the West. However we have a detached portion of the parish some distance south of this and so we headed on through Wroughton Parish land. The path kinks to the left and continues to run south but on the left hand side of a narrowed hedgerow. We have no boundary here to mark.

At [SU117783] we reach the detached field.

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