

From the M4 to Woodbridge Brook

the pastoral responsibility of St Marys Lydiard Tregoze, our parish neighbours being St Michael & All Angels, Brinkworth (part of the Woodbridge group of churches)

Having walked round and under the motorway bridge, and up to Folly Wood Lane we walked back down the lane to the motorway cutting at [SU060844].



At [SU060844], the boundary comes across the current line of the M4 motorway and heads W along the south side of the lane a couple of metres from the left hand verge. There is nothing to formally mark the boundary here. There are some old trees on the evident boundary line,



...some of the properties have grubbed up the hedge leaving evidence of an old bank or a line of trees or bushes across their front gardens.



...some stretches of existing hedgerow, bank and ditch follow the boundary line,



The boundary continues west on the line of the hedgerow and reaches the main road at [SU056845].

On the South side of the main, near to the road junction and next to the narrow lay by, there is a boundary stone at



[SU057845]

The boundary continues to the west near to the south side of the main road.



At [SU055845] it turns slightly left (south) and heads across the front garden of the property on the left, and then through front right hand corner of the house at 51 Highgate, then crosses into the next field 20 (and then 5) metres from the road and heads back to the road at [SU053845] visible along the hedge line at the back of a rather strange triangular shaped lay by on the left / south side of the road. It's triangular because of the parish boundary. There was no convenient way from the field back to the road so despite the enthusiasm of the landowner we didn't walk across the garden and field. There is nothing formal marking the boundary here – apart from the usual hedge lines.

The boundary continues west along the road south side of the road; slightly to the south of the existing line of the hedge at the entrance to Park Grounds Farm, on the left at [SU052845] and across the northern boundary of the next field, rejoining the hedge at the side of the road before Highgate Cottages. We walked along the side of the road at the boundary or keeping it in view.





Here the road is inside the parish.



It was nice not to have to cross it.



On the left / south side of the road at [SU046847] there is a Milestone (marked on OS maps). There is also a recent boundary stone here.

The boundary continues on the left hand / south side of the B4042.

There are many large trees to indicate the boundary along this stretch of road.





At [SU042847] the boundary leaves the roadside heading along the hedge and then fence line at the south side of a copse of trees. At the end of the copse it continues just north of West across the next field heading for a corner of the public footpath at [SU040847]. As the boundary was in view we walked along the road and then down the public footpath (which was barely accessible and very overgrown).

This point probably corresponds to Tres Divisas mentioned in 1228

The boundary turns right at the public footpath and follows it north east back to the road at a stile.



Looking back, east along the boundary line from the footpath at [SU040847]



There is a boundary stone here, under the finger post indicating the footpath.

There is a road sign saying "Parish of Lydiard Tregoz" a few metres east of here on the north side of the road, and facing west, which marks the boundary at this point.



The boundary crosses the road and leaves the roadside on a public footpath through a gate. This part of the boundary – as far as and along Woodbridge Brook (then called Garsiburn or Garseburn) are mentioned as the boundary of Bradon Forest in 1225, 1228 and 1279

At [SU 841848] the public footpath bears right (east), the boundary bears left (north) and heads along the hedgerow to the left. We walked across two fields, observing a deer in one of them, through a gateway and over a slanting gate, which presented the trickiest traverse of the day. We clambered elegantly, walked on north, and reached a wide hedgerow junction at [SU041851] Apart from the hedgerows there is nothing to mark the boundary here.



The boundary follows the hedgerow on our left, straight ahead. We walked across a prone barbed wire fence, through the hedgerow and climbed right over wire fence with rails set for climbing over.

We landed at the South end of the Ditch Field of Echo Lodge Meadows, a wildlife reserve administered by Wiltshire Wildlife. The boundary continues in the hedgerow on the left northwards towards Woodbridge Brook.





At Woodbridge Brook [SU041852] our boundary goes left along the line of the stream.

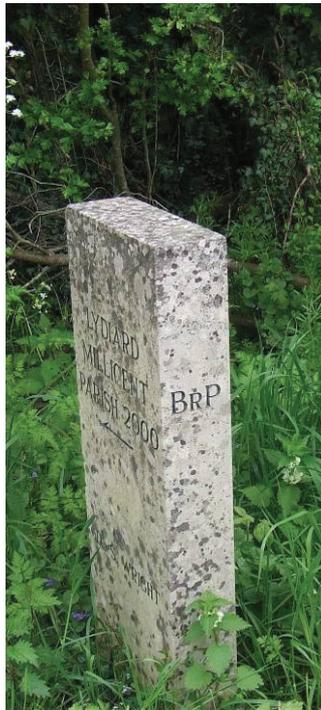
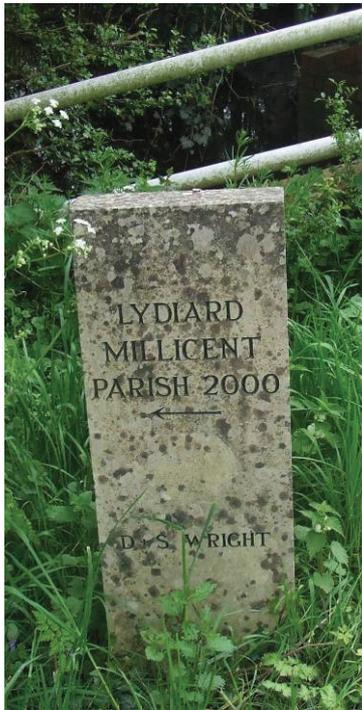
There is a boundary that goes right along the stream too; this probably defines the boundary between Lydiard Tregoze (south of the brook) and Lydiard Millicent (north of the brook).

Pastoral responsibility changes here, from St Marys Lydiard Tregoze to All Saints Lydiard Millicent

We crossed the stream to the north side and followed its line as closely as feasible to the west and as its bends, to the North West. There is nothing apart from the line of the stream to mark the boundary here. At [SU038854] we had to leave the edge of the stream and go round a field to the north. We headed for Webbs wood car park and a lunch date.



After lunch we walked NW down the entrance lane to Webbs Wood to reach Wood Lane, turned left and walked to the bridge where the road goes over Woodbridge Brook, at [SU036857]. There is a boundary stone here, on the eastern side of the road just south of the bridge over the stream.



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