

Extracted from  
CO-OPERATION FOR CONSERVATION OF RURAL ROAD VERGES  
J.M.Way (1974)  
NERC ITE

5. SOMERSET

A. County Council Surveyors' Department

Reported in 1972 that they had no contact with the Nature Conservancy nor the Naturalists' Trust on the subject of conservation of roadside verges. Consequently there were no scheduled sites of special interest\*.

B. Nature Conservancy

Agreed that there was no contact on this matter.

C. Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation

Reported in November 1973 that there were no sites scheduled with Surveyors' Department but that the Trusts' Conservation Officer was about to meet the Department to discuss the matter. A note on the result of this meeting reported that the Surveyors' Department had recently amended its maintenance policy as the result of a letter from the Department of the Environment and would be giving the Trust details in due course\*. The Highway Department were sympathetic to the idea of marking sites of special biological interest and to applying special maintenance to them. As a result the Trust was about to collate the information that it had from its members with a view to submitting a list of proposed sites to the County Surveyor. In general in the past liaison with the Surveyors' Department had been on a local basis between Trust members and Area Officers of the Department.

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\* Author's note (entered in proof) - In a policy document for Roadside Maintenance dated 22nd April 1974, the County Surveyor draws particular attention to the possibilities for conservation of natural vegetation on verges. Reference is made in this document to the meeting (described above) with the Conservation Trust, and to the agreement in principle for suitable areas of conservation importance to be marked and managed according to the Trust's recommendations.