

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

26. WARWICKSHIRE

A. County Engineer's Department (formerly the County Surveyor's Department)

In February 1972 reported that there was no contact with the Regional Office of the Nature Conservancy but that liaison with the Naturalists' Trust was just developing. General management proposals were being discussed. There were no scheduled verges of special conservation interest. In October 1972 the Department initiated discussions between conservation and agriculture interests on the management of roadsides and proposed the setting up, in 1973, of trial roadsides in different parts of the County in order to assess the highway, conservation and agriculture effects of different programmes of management. These trials were subsequently organised in 1973 and the first year's results reported at a meeting in December. The trials are continuing in 1974.

B. Nature Conservancy

The Regional Officer reported in August 1973 that there was no contact with the Surveyor's (now Engineer's) Department. The Regional Office was represented at the December 1973 meeting to discuss the results of the management trials, which had originally been set up in consultation with the Research Branch of the Nature Conservancy.

C. Warwickshire Nature Conservancy Trust (formerly the Warwickshire Branch of the West Midlands Trust)

Reported in May 1974 that the list of 16 verges of conservation importance given in the Biological Record Centre's 1969 report was not notified to the County Surveyor until later. It was now agreed in principle for special treatment to be given to sites that had been accorded full (local) Nature Reserve status and that for these sites the County Engineers would cut only the front swath (plus any visibility splays) and the Conservation Corps of the Trust would manage the remaining areas. The list was being reviewed during 1974. At present five sites (marked P in column 7, see below) had been given Reserve status and a further 13 were under consideration. In the list below, in which there are additions to and deletions from the 1969 list, the sites designated as Reserves are managed according to the agreement and all the others are managed by the Engineers in line with ordinary County management policies for roadsides. The non-designated sites are all to be watched by the Trust during the summer of 1974, after which some more may be up-graded to Nature Reserve status.

Due to Local Government reorganisation the administrative county boundary has been changed and two of these verges now fall within the Metropolitan Borough of Solihull. Discussions have already been initiated between the new authority and the Trust, and it was likely that the outcome would be satisfactory.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
WARWICKSHIRE - all scheduled with the Engineer's Department.									
38	SP 152567	D 539	Wilmechote/Billesley	300	B	P	VP	FDM	Iris foetidissima
38	SP 142531	A 439(T)	Stratford/Bidford	600	N	P	VP	GBD	Orchidaceae
38	SP 159536	A 439(T)	Stratford/Bidford	20	S	P	P	GNI	Petasites hybridus
38	SP 110531	D 559	Bidford/Ardens Grafton	100	E		V	GBD	
	SP 111533	"	"	400	B				
38	SP 158609	C 39	Bearley X/Aston Cantlow	6000	B		VP	G	Geranium pratense etc
38	SP 335574	A 41(T)	Warwick/Banbury	100	E	P	VP	GBD	Helianthemum chamaecistus
38	SP 267495	A 429	Wellesbourne/Ettington	600	E		V	GBI	
38	SP 274475	C 109	Fosseway/Fulready	50	E		VP	GBI	Colchicum autumnale
38	SP 295452	C 109	Fulready/Whatcote	1300	N		VP	GB	Primula veris
38	SP 287490	D 1274	Fosseway/Pillerton Priors	2000	W		VP	GB	P. veris, Rhinanthus minor
38	SP 319420	C 54	Brailes/Compton Wynyates	300	E		VP	RDW	Dispsacus fullonum
38	SP 324472	A 422	Banbury/Stratford	400	N		VA	GBD	
38	SP 332493	C 53	Oxhill/Kineton	100	B		P	EGH	Aconitum napellus
38	SP 336610	C 43	Tachbrook Mallory/Harbury	100	B		P	EBH	Astragalus glycyphyllos
38	SP 384641	C 36	Welsh Road, Offchurch/Bascote	5000	B		VA	ENH, GND	Drove road with wide verges and thick hedges
38	SP 407642	C 97	Bascote/Long Itchington	100	E		VA	TBI	
SOLIHULL									
38	SP 226760	D 436	Fernhill Lane, Temple Balsall	140	B	P	V	SNI	
38	SP 214742	D 432	Oldwich Lane, Temple Balsall	1500	B		VA	SNI	