

TO: Director, Preliminary Plan Review Bureau	ENGINEERING INSTRUCTION	
	NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	
	SUBJECT: CLEARING AND GRUBBING	
	Subject Code: 7.30	
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APPROVED:	<i>R. R. Kelly</i> Assistant Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction Subdivision)	Date: <u>1/21/75</u>
		Supersedes:

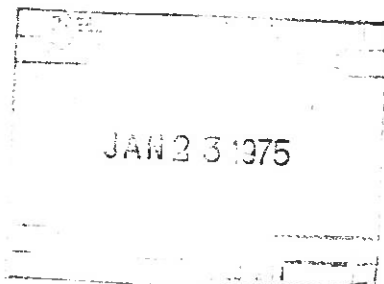
The Standard Specifications of January 2, 1973, Section 201, Clearing and Grubbing, states that the work of clearing and grubbing which consists of clearing, grubbing, removing and disposing of all trees, brush, stumps, fences, debris and miscellaneous structures not covered under other contract items, within the construction area and such other areas as specified or directed.

On a few recent projects the right of way has been cleared to a uniform width beyond the construction limits resulting in the loss of desirable trees and subjecting the Department to unfavorable criticism.

It is the responsibility of the engineer to designate the limits of the area to be cleared. Generally, clearing should be confined to the area required to construct the highway and to permit the safe operation of the facilities. If at all feasible, haul routes and construction access should be limited to the work areas in order to save as much of the existing landscape as possible. However, an additional strip of varying width beyond the disturbed areas necessary for cuts, embankments and facilities may be required for the operation of construction equipment.

It is also the engineer's responsibility to determine where desirable vegetation within the right of way is to be saved and to see that the contractor's operations are confined to the designated work limits.

You can easily understand the importance of designating work limits in the wooded areas such as the Adirondack and Catskill Parks. This same care must be applied to all projects on a statewide basis. Your cooperation in doing a thorough job under clearing and grubbing will be instrumental in improving the Department's image in both conservation and ecology.



RRK:LG