

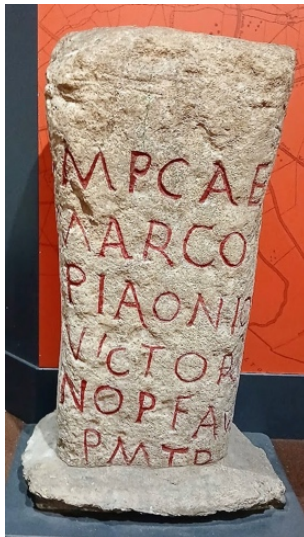
RELATED ROADSIDE FURNITURE



County boundary stone
Wansford Bridge
Wansford PE8 6JA



Sustrans Millennium
milepost close to
Milton Ferry Bridge
Castor PE3 6SB



Roman "milestone" found
near Water Newton displayed
Peterborough Museum

On wall at western end
of Peterscourt, City Road
PE1 1SA



AN OVERLOOKED HERITAGE?

There were once scores of milestones dotted along the roads of the Soke of Peterborough. Today only a dozen remain, lost to road remodelling, building developments and traffic accidents.

Peterborough's milestones go back to Roman times. In 1913 a large inscribed stone was discovered near Water Newton at the site of the Roman town of Durobrivae. The text celebrates Victorinus, Roman Emperor 268 – 271AD. It is now displayed in Peterborough Museum. Whilst part of the Latin lettering is lost, experts conclude that it provided a distance measurement on Ermine Street, the Roman road that runs from London to York. The Romans developed a system of marking every thousandth double-pace. The Latin word for "thousand" is "mille" giving us "mile".

From the 18th century, milestones began to be installed along turnpike roads. They were used by the local Turnpike Trust to levy a toll on road users; they provided details of direction and distance. For instance, the A47 was originally the turnpike road from Leicester to Peterborough. At the height of the turnpike era there were 20,000 miles of roads in Britain with milestones along them.

In 1888 local authorities became responsible for road maintenance including milestones and new iron markers were commissioned. However by the 1940s milestones began to disappear, sadly neglected and forgotten by most. In 2001 a small group of enthusiasts formed the Milestone Society www.milestonesociety.co.uk Members of the Society have searched for and recorded sixteen thousand milestones. The database is available on-line with astonishing detail of every milestone that could be found.

It is of course possible that further milestones may come to light. If you have information we would be delighted if you would contact the Peterborough Civic Society at the address below.

David Jost

Peter Sargeant

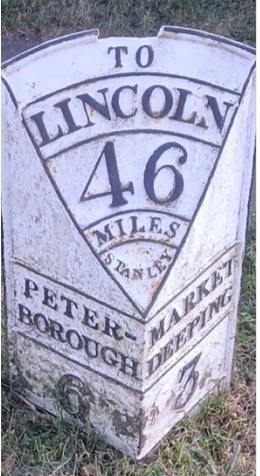
enquiries@peterboroughcivicsociety.org.uk

PETERBOROUGH MILESTONES



In 2025 members of Peterborough Civic Society, noticing that some local milestones were in a poor state, decided to track down and photograph all milestones in the Peterborough area listed on the Milestone Society's database; the result is this pamphlet celebrating a sadly neglected part of our heritage.





On grass verge
close to
34 Lincoln Road
Glington
PE6 7JS



Against fence on
bridge near
212 London Road
Old Fletton
PE2 9DU



On grass verge
close to
562 Oundle Road
Orton Waterville
PE2 5UX



On pavement
against wall
105 Lincoln Road
PE1 2SH

