

## Minor Monuments and Lesser Antiquities of Derbyshire

ON OR NEAR THE HIGHWAYS, BYWAYS, DISUSED  
ROADS AND ANCIENT BOUNDARIES.

(FIRST LIST).

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By THOMAS L. TUDOR, County Representative and Chief  
Correspondent; Ancient Monuments Board for England.

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THE following list does not profess to be in any sense complete but it may be regarded as the beginning of a categorical record to be amplified from time to time with additions and further details of things already recorded. Barrows are not included as they form a special class to be dealt with later. They usually lie well away from the roads, and not likely to be disturbed by road alterations. But if any reader knows of such things in places where they might be disturbed I shall be grateful for information.

Concerning ancient guide-posts, there is much to be said of more than passing interest, but they can only be briefly spoken of here. In many cases they indicate ancient rights of way which may yet be revived although these have lapsed for many years. The rapidly increasing appropriation of the highways and byways by motors of all sorts tends to give added importance to this line of research.

Nevertheless, there is evidence that the motoring community is not oblivious to the many interests of the highways and a scheme is on foot for obtaining an omnibus scheduling order for many such things as are here described. It has been promoted by the Council for

the Preservation of Rural England and the Automobile Association in conjunction with the Ancient Monuments Board, and special lists have been compiled by the County Surveyors. Derbyshire lists have been sent up by the County Surveyor, and the present writer as Chief Correspondent. The final selection is yet to be made. Purely natural objects are not included.

I should like to thank correspondents who have sent me information on these matters in past years. It has all been used in some way or another and has led to many interesting discoveries in unlikely places. Also I wish to express my gratitude to the County Surveyor, Mr. C. G. Millican, M.Inst.C.E. for permitting me to see the information which he sent up direct to the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. Some particulars have been obtained from that list.

#### VILLAGE OR MARKET CROSSES.

(Containing Ancient Work; not Churchyard Crosses).

Figures and letters following names, e.g. 45B7 refer to 1-inch O.S. maps, Popular Edition.

1. Barlborough, 2. Bonsall, 3. Buxton, 4. Chapel-en-le-Frith, 5. Clowne, 6. Crich, 7. Foolow, 8. Glossop, 9. Higham, 10. King's Newton, 11. Litton, 12. Great Longstone, 13. Monyash, 14. Morley, 15. North Wingfield, 16. Pleasley, 17. Repton, 18. Stanton-by-Dale.

The cross of King's Newton is now only represented by a set of wide-spreading steps. A well-grown lime tree grows there. The carved head, which had for a long time been lost, was discovered by the present writer in 1915. It is now preserved in Melbourne Church. See article in the *Society's Journal* for 1916.

Higham Cross was removed to the side of the road some ten years ago after a motor accident. It was re-constructed with some new material.

Morley Cross lies within the vicarage grounds. Tradition asserts that the site, which is near the road, was once common land.

The cross at North Wingfield, of which the base and a short piece of the shaft remain, was used in the eighteenth century as a guide stone at a three-road junction (see no. 55). It is now approximately on its original site.

Crich Market Cross was re-constructed from old material in 1871 and finished with a figure of St. Michael, under the impression that that Archangel was the patron saint of the village. But the dedication of the church is to St. Mary.

### BOUNDARY CROSSES.

(Fragmentary).

19. *Robin Hood's Cross*. 45B7. On Abney Moor; built into wall near an old track to Shatton; behind a stile.

19a. *Martinside Cross*. 45B4. Near farmstead known as Martinside; a stump with socket.

20. *Edale Cross* (scheduled). 37J4. On summit of track from Edale to Hayfield; behind wall in a corner; a short cross, only slightly damaged.

21. *Robin Hood's Picking Rods*. 37G2. Sometime called the "Maiden Stones"; on Ludworth Moor approximately at the meeting of three townships, Ludworth, Chisworth, Mellor and Rowarth.

22. *Abbot's Chair*. 37H2. Mutilated base; a mere fanciful name though it was probably a boundary mark for Basingwerk Abbey; stands between Glossop and Hayfield near where the Charlesworth road runs in.

23. Companion stone to the above. This lies on the opposite side of the Glossop Road, near by.

All the above are referred to by Dr. Cox in "Plans of Peak Forest." (Memorials of Old Derbyshire).

24-5. *Fox lane Crosses* (two). 45C11. Ramsley Moor. (Scheduled).

26. *Whibbersley Cross*. 45DII. On Leash Fen beside the Chesterfield Road. See the Society's *Journal* for 1924-5, page 254.

27. *Lady's Cross*. 45BIO. Big Moor. Base and part of shaft.

The above four crosses were probably boundary marks appertaining to Beauchief Abbey. More are yet to be discovered.

28. *Shuckstone Cross*. 45J12. Massive base with mortice hole for shaft; in old Crich Parish, near Wheatcroft; see the Society's *Journal* for 1914, page 100.

29. *Ashe Cross*. 53G9. Near Sutton-on-the-Hill where the Egginton Road runs into the Etwall Road; a massive stump on large base, locally known as the "Butter Cross," and believed to have been used as a market cross during some visitation of the plague. (Compare for this use the "Headless Cross" at Derby. Now in the Arboretum). Undoubtedly, however, it is a medieval boundary cross; see *High Peak to Sherwood*, p. 208.

30. *Wheston Cross*, near Tideswell. 45C6. (Scheduled). This does not seem to be a boundary cross but a true wayside cross of which kind few remain in the country; it stands opposite a farmstead once Wheston Hall, now Middleton House Farm; is complete with elaborately carved head, in fair preservation; well worth a more detailed notice. Undoubtedly a medieval shrine, 14th century. By no means a minor monument but recorded here so that it may have a place on the list of Crosses.

#### OLD STONE GUIDE-POSTS.

With the exception of a few at the end of the list these were set up in the early years of the eighteenth century in accordance with Acts of Parliament of the years 1702 and 1705, ordering the erection of guide-posts, "Where two or

more cross high wayes meet for the better convenience of travelling," and these were to be marked with " the name of the next Markett Towne to which each of the said joyning high wayes lead." In trying to discover the original site of such stones as have been removed for gateposts or other purposes it is therefore plain that some point must be found which formed a road junction. This is often a useful hint. The earliest date yet found on the Derbyshire stones is 1705 (Hopton). Local road surveyors often cut their initials under the place-names. The rural rudeness of some of these inscriptions is only to be realised by seeing the originals or a good photograph. The spelling is recklessly phonetic and no doubt gives proof of early pronunciation. i.e. Darby Offerton (Alfreton), Backwell (Bakewell), etc.

Many more remain to be discovered, especially on the moorland roads. Being usually of massive stone, mostly grit, they have defied time and weather, not seldom however, to be uprooted for alien uses. We may be sure that before these Acts were passed the loss of life on country roads had become very serious.

The inscribed place-names have presented some difficulty in trying to give an idea of their untutored simplicity of style. Place-names are mostly cut in capitals, but a few have a capital in front and the rest in lower case, if I may use a printer's term. Where the word " Inscription " is used in the text it means I have given the correct characters. " Guide to " means I have no precise information and merely translate. Sometimes it has been possible to give the spacing according to the lines, and I am indebted to the Sheffield Clarion Ramblers' Year-Book for some of this information, especially to the Editor, Mr. G. H. B. Ward, F.R.G.S. whose many researches and careful copying of old inscriptions are both entertaining and useful. (See Nos. 47 to 51).

Of course the major consideration about these much

worn old friends of the wayside is the information they convey, and although space does not allow argument as to the old road system (if we can call it such) the records here set down may be helpful in future research.

Readers having knowledge of other examples are invited to assist in this record. Photographs are always desirable.

31. *Alport by Wirksworth.* 53A11. (In Alport Height enclosure. National Trust). A guide stone formerly standing at the road junction just below, opposite Spout Farm, where it was used as a gatepost; much mutilated; bears DARBY in bold capitals with I and a reversed. D for A.D. 1710. ASHBORN. WORKSWORTH.

32. *Hopton.* 53A10. Opposite Sycamore Farm; this stone dated 1705 stands at the foot of an old hill-road to Derby via Cross-o'-th'-Hands. The lettering is much perished but readable. DARBY. 'RKS (Worksworth) ASHBUR (Ashbourne) 'AKEWELL. See *High Peak to Sherwood* (Tudor) for illustration, page 39. Future references to this work will be given H.P.S.

33. *Grange Mill.* 45J4. Near Shothouse Spring; guide to Ashbourne, Bakewell Matlock, Chesterfield; also has fragment of memorial inscription "Near this place lieth..." Date 1757.

34. *Grange Mill and Winster* (between). 45H9. Opposite Bonsall Lane-end; now a gatepost; inscribed TO BAKEWELL. TO LEEKE, TO BONSTALL. TO WIRKSWORTH. Evidently removed from the lane-end opposite.

35. *Crowhill Lane, Bakewell.* 45E8. At junction with Sheldon Road; guide-stone to Tideswell, Winster, Bakewell, Buxton.

36. *Ball Cross.* 45E9. Between Bakewell and Edensor; guide to Sheffield, Chesterfield, Bakewell. See H.P.S. for illustration, page 326.

37. *Tansley* (Clay Cross Road). 45H12. Opposite Scotland Villa; inscribed WIRKSWORTH, DARBY,

CHESTERFIELD, BAKEWELL, 1710. (per correspondent). Also has initials Ax, Px, probably a surveyor's mark; this stone is now a gatepost.

38. *Flash Dam*. 45GII. Above Sydnope Hall. Under south-west edge of the dam; a stone with two dates, 1709 and 1739; guide to Chesterfield. Ashover. Alfreton. Winster., see H.P.S. page 322; when last seen this stone was almost lost in wild growth.

39. *Moor Farm*. 45FII. About one mile north of Flash Dam on secondary road from Two Dales to Holy-moor; formerly known as Darley Flash; several guide-stones are to be seen in the fields, having been brought from the neighbouring road; One was discovered giving Chesterfield. Sheffield. Winster and another as below:—

40. *Moor Farm* (continued). Winster. Bakewell. Chesterfield. Other stones remain built into walls on the road hereabout; see H.P.S. page 322.

41. *Beeley Moor*. 45EII. Apparently on the same route to Chesterfield, about two miles east of Beeley village; two stones described by Mr. John Simpson in the *Society's Journal* for 1914, page 97, with illustrations; No. 1 is inscribed CHE-STT-ERF-ELD. SHE-FELD. BACK-WELL. WORK-SWOR-TH. The direction hands are very usual.

42. *Beeley Moor* (continued). The second stone is inscribed OFFERTON ROADE. CHESTER-FEILD ROADE. CHATSW-ORTH ROADE. BAKEWELL ROADE. This stone is about half a mile from the former but the writer does not say in which direction.

43. *Gladwin's Mark* (near). 45FII. On the Beeley-Chesterfield road. Inscribed BACKWELL ROADE. DERBY ROADE. CHESTTER-FIELD ROADE. SHEFELD ROADE.

The moorland roads from Darley Dale and Beeley to Chesterfield were evidently much frequented in old times and many guide stones may yet be discovered.

These roads have a special character inasmuch as they run in straight sections. Is this the result of ancient sighting instincts on these level uplands or were these roads systematically engineered in consequence of enclosure awards?

44. *Curbar*. 45C9. At Curbar Gap, properly called Curbar Bar Head, stone inscribed SHEFE-LD-RD. DRON-FIELD-ROAD. CHESTOR-FEILD ROAD. TIDSW-ALL-ROAD. HVMPHE-RY-GREGORY-SUPERVISOR- 1709.

45. *Bleak House*. 45D11 (near). About three miles east of Baslow on a road to Chesterfield; Guide stone, particulars required.

46. *Pudding Pie Farm*. 45D11. About half a mile nearer Brampton; I am told there is another stone here; No particulars.

46a. Also an ancient mounting block by the road side.

47. *Barbrook*. (near Baslow). One-third of a mile S.S.W. Inscribed AST-R-FELD ROAD. DM. (5 lines) HOOP-E-ROAD (3 lines). DRO-NFE-LD ROAD. (4 lines). TIDSE-WALL-ROAD (3 lines). The first two are Chesterfield and Hope, but the beginning of the former is worn off, viz. 'CH.' After Chesterfield DM are probably Surveyor's initials.

48. *Barbrook*. Near the crossing of a streamlet. TO TIDSWA-LL. TO SHEFEILD, TO BAKWAL. Bears also various initials and dates:—IS-1737. 1775 IS. Also 1775 RC. No doubt this was a method of certifying inspection by road surveyors.

49. *Barbrook Reservoir Lodge* (near). 45C10. Stone of unusual height, 6 ft. 3 ins. marked "Bakewel Way" and "Sheffield Way," with two direction hands.

50. *Longshaw*. 45B10. In the park; contains some whimsical lettering. TOHA. THAR. SICH. ANDS. TOCH. APILI. NLEE. FRITH. 8 lines. Reads "To Hather-



sage and to Chapel-en-le-Frith. The 'S' after 'AND' is an extra with no obvious meaning. The remaining sides are inscribed SHAFILD 1709. TO TIDSWEL. TO CHASTERFILD.

51. *White Edge*. 45B10. Another stone bearing date 1709, stands at a point where the Dronfield bridle path joins a way from Tideswell. Inscription TIDS-WALL-ROAD. DRON-FEILD-ROAD. BAKE-WELL-ROAD. SHEF-IELD ROAD. (3 lines).

52. *Fox-lane*, Ramsley Moor. 45C11. Near two crosses (scheduled) Guide-stone. "1710. Bakew. Ches-field. Dronfield."

53. *Barlow*. 45C12. At entrance to Church Farm from main road; guide to Bakewell. Tideswell. Chesterfield. Dronfield. Used as gatepost.

54. *Edale*. 37J5. A correspondent tells me of a stone here which has a square cap (resembling the Hope Pillar). Said to be inscribed—To TIDSWELL. TO GRINDSBR. (Grindsbrook) TO HOPE AND TO CHAPEL IN LE . . .

55. *North Wingfield*. 46F1 (see village crosses). The base of the cross was utilised as a guide-stone in the eighteenth century and shows Darby Rode. Chesterfield Rode. Mansfield. Above Mansfield the road surveyor of the time cut his name:—"by Captin Fire brass."

56. *Stubbededge*, 45G13 (near Ashover). Stone built against the wall near Parkside cottages. Seems to have been brought from opposite side of the road. Inscribed WORKSWORTH ROAD. ALLFORTON ROAD. CHESTERFIELD ROAD. MANSFIELD ROAD.

57. *Newhaven Inn*. 45H7 (opposite). Direction stone with letters indistinct.

58. *Newhaven and Grange Mill*. (between) About 300 yards S.E. of High Peak Railway crossing; stone with letters indistinct; these stones may be deciphered on another attempt.

59. *Longstone Edge*. 45D8. Above the hamlet of Rowland. A rude limestone pillar now serving as a gatepost and much mutilated; has bold worn lettering and one can only make out TIDESWELL ROAD AND ASHBO ROAD with date 1717. Referred to in *Highways and Byways in Derbyshire* (Firth) and date quoted as 1737. See also High Peak to Sherwood page 339 for illustration. This stone has apparently been taken from the old road just above which is now little more than a cart track; but it well illustrates the character of these early ways which clung to the high ground where visibility was good and the surface hard. This stone is about one and a half miles east of Castlegate Lane; there are other stones in the locality marking the track along the Edge.

60. *Hope Cross*. 37H6. A tall square pillar not suggesting a cross in the usual sense of the word; it stands opposite Jagger's Clough on the line of the Roman road from Doctor's Gate to Brough (Hope) at a point above Edale End; it bears a square capstone with names on each edge, Sheffield, Glossop, Edale, Hope. Its appearance suggests the eighteenth century; is it successor to a real cross near this spot? The Ordnance Map shows the ancient site of a chapel not far a way; an inscribed date is 1737; This pillar was recently straightened and made firm on its base by the Chapel-en-le-Frith R.D.C. (A surveyor's commendable work).

61. *Makeney* (Duffield). 53D13. Old stone against the wall of the "Holly Bush" Inn says "Derby Coach Road, 1739"; whether this stone is in its original position has been disputed; see H. P. to S., page 232, for illustration.

62. *Wirksworth Moor*. 53B12, between Packhorse and Belper Lane End. Milestone indicating a London coach road of the late eighteenth century; stands 50 to 100 yards south of the lane coming from Alderwasley; inscribed in finished lettering—London 139. Derby 12.

Wirksworth 1. Mileages were not given on the early guide stones; they became important with the passing of the Mail Coach Acts towards the end of the century.

63. *Belperlane-End* (near). Old milestone giving London 133 Wirksworth 5. I am told this is not *in situ*, but nevertheless belongs to this road which appears to have gone along the Chevin and via Hazlewood through Duffield, *vide* Cary's Itinerary, 1817.

64. *Tansley*. 45HI2. Opposite the Saw Mill. Milestone of similar type—lettered London 147. . . . 23., would this be to Derby? There would be no direct valley road in those days; another Derby road went over Starkholmes and down to Cromford Bridge; thence via Wirksworth and "Iderichey."

I have been informed by correspondents of the following, but without sufficient particulars, viz.:—

65. *Ashford*. Stone built into a garden wall on the road side.

66. *Mather's Grave*. 45HI3. Stone with date.

#### VILLAGE STOCKS.

##### PINFOLDS.

##### LOCK-UPS.

#### BULL-BAITING RINGS.

#### VILLAGE STOCKS.

67. Birchover, 68. Eyam, 69. Chapel-en-le-Frith, 70. Little Longstone, 71. Sudbury.

##### PINFOLDS.

72. Allestree, 73. Hazelwood, 74. Horsley, 75. Sandiacre, 76. Wirksworth, 76a. Hathersage.

##### LOCK-UPS.

77. Alfreton, 78. Darley Abbey, 79. Newton Solney, 80. Sandiacre, 81. Smisby, 82. Ticknall.

(In 1932 a correspondent wrote me complaining that the County Council were making a sad mess of pinfold and lock-up at Sandiacre.)

## BULL-BAITING RINGS.

83. *Snitterton*. 45H10. In the road, below the surface. See the Society's *Journal* for 1908.

84. *Eyam*. 45C8. In the square. See *Journal* for 1912.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

85. *King's Newton*. 53J14. The Holy Well; beside a disused old road to the Derwent, near Packhorse Inn; bears a latin inscription "This sacred fountain was built by Robert Hardinge. 1662," see *Highways and Byways in Derbyshire* (Firth), page 29.

86. *Swarkeston*. 53J13. Two renaissance stone pillars once the gateway to the Hall, the residence of the Harpurs.

87. *Horsley*. 53D13. Three stone-built drinking fountains to the memory of members of the Wilmot-Sitwell family.

88. *Bakewell-Haddon Road*. Two boundary stones for townships of Haddon and Bakewell.

89. *Grange Mill-Haddon Road*, at Dudwood. 45G9. Drinking trough "Brimsbury Well A.D. 1826," and lettered—Winster 1 mile. Bakewell 4 miles. A purely local guide.

90. *Ashbourne-Buxton Road* at Pomeroy, between Hartington and Flagg. 45F5. Two boundary stones marked Hartington. Flagg.

90a. Also at Pomeroy. Memorial stone, 'J.S. August 1874.' Supposed to commemorate a fatal hunting accident.

91. *Dethick Lane* and *Asher Lane* junction. 45H12. Reputed Gibbet Stone.

92. *Staveley*. Hall Lane, near Barrow Hill cross roads. Stone post with memorial inscription, "The Guild of St. John the Baptist and other friends"; in memory of a curate of Handley who died of a seizure at this spot.

93. *Curbar*. 45C9. Drinking trough for cattle and covered trough for domestic purposes; ancient; no date.

94. *Hathersage*. 45A9., near the Scotchman's Pack Inn; Gospel Stone in wall.

94a. *Ashford*. Village pump and shelter.

95. *Stanage Pole*. 37J9. Between Hathersage and Sheffield; an eighteenth century landmark beside moorland track, the "Long Causeway."

96. *Great Hucklow*. 45B7.. Old stone drinking troughs. Information concerning examples of this kind of wayside accommodation will be very welcome; some of these troughs are of remarkable size and the methods by which they were made without undue waste of the cut-out material, is yet to be discovered through traditions of old-time mason craft.

97. *Baslow*. 45D9. Homogeneous with bridge structure; a watchman's, or toll collector's hut; east side.

98. *Cromford*. 45JII. Slight remains (gothic) of a bridge chapel; has sometime been used as a fishing house; south side, downstream.

99. *Ashford*. 45B8. Sheep-washing fold. At by-way bridge at upper end of the village; here, also homogeneous with masonry of the downstream side. A rare feature in construction in these parts. Gives the local name of "Sheepwash Bridge."

100. *Eyam Mompesson's Well*. 45C8. Recently surrounded by iron railings.

(To be continued.)