

**COMMENTS ON CHEPSTOW MILESTONES by Roy Parkhouse  
B4235 CHEPSTOW TO USK**

Ref: [www.parkhouse.org.uk/chepstow/milestones](http://www.parkhouse.org.uk/chepstow/milestones)

**INTRODUCTION**

As a member of the Milestone Society and a resident of Llangwm on the B4235 I have the following comments and suggestions for additions to the above reference. I have also been able to supply photographs of three milestones.

**COMMENTS**

**Datum Point in Chepstow:** With **2 mile Milestone** at ST506942, **1 mile Milestone** could reasonably be expected to be found at ST523943 ie at the B4235/A466 junction. The **Datum Point**, 1 mile from there via Welsh Street, appears to be at the bottom of High Street, ie near to the Priory Church of St. Mary. This is in accord with the traditional use of the location of a parish church to mark the centre of a village or town.

**7 mile Milestone:** This should be at ST445969 but is not shown on the OS Explorer Map OL14 and cannot be found. This position is near the Medieval Burial Chamber. I understand there may have been ground work undertaken by the farm at this site and consequently the milestone has been moved or lost due to this.

**8 mile Milestone:** This is located in the Great Wood section of the B4235 and recent clearance work by the Forestry Commission around June this year (2017) has exposed it. I have not yet had chance to clean it but attach close-up and location photographs.

**9 mile Milestone:** This should be at ST431986, near Brickyard Farm. The current resident has lived there for many years and is unaware of the milestone.

**10 mile Milestone:** The location of this stone on the OS map is ST427002, not as given.

I attach close-up and location photographs which show it to be well preserved. (I have a personal interest in this because it was my wife, Mavis, who as a member of the Llangwm Best Kept Village Committee, renovated the stone a few years ago. She has sadly died since but the residents still refer to it as "Mavis' Stone").

**11 mile Milestone:** I have not been able to find this stone. It is shown on the OS map to be opposite *Wern Panna House*. The toll house, *Turnpike Cottage*, is adjacent to this and I attach a photograph.

**12 mile Milestone:** The location of this stone on the OS map is ST407017, not as given. I have not been able to find the stone; the grass verge along the road is very overgrown.

**13 mile Milestone:** This should be situated at about ST391011 but appears to have been lost in the construction of the B4235/A49 road junction.

**Further Milestones:** All the milestones referred to are situated on the site of the Chepstow/Abergavenny turnpike and don't extend beyond the eastern outskirts of Usk. Unfortunately any further contribution on my part on milestones between Usk and Abergavenny will have to await the results of research I hope to undertake on the remainder of the turnpike.

**Tollhouses:** However, as well as *Turnpike Cottage* there are two others in Usk which could be relevant.

*Ty Basket* is situated at the corner of Castle Parade and Castle Street and was presumably the collection point of tolls paid by travellers coming through Usk and about to use the turnpike towards Chepstow.

*Toll House*, at the western end of Usk Bridge and built in 1837, would probably have collected tolls from travellers approaching or leaving Usk from the present A472 and the unmarked secondary Caerleon road.

Again further research is necessary to clarify the purpose of these tollhouses shown in the attached photographs.

## **FURTHER COMMENT**

There is another milestone in the Llangwm area, actually to the north-east of the village of Gwernesney, which as far as I am currently aware was not on a turnpike. It is at ST419026 on the unmarked secondary road leading from the B4235 but is situated on the east side at the corner of the narrow lane to Llansoy, not on the side of the *Gliding Club*. It shows Monmouth 9 miles and Usk 2 miles.

I attach a photograph and hope to clean it in the near future.

**B4235 CHEPSTOW to USK**



**8 mile Milestone**



**8 mile Milestone- looking towards Chepstow**



10 mile Milestone



10 mile Milestone at Llangwm village crossroads



Milestone near South Wales Gliding Club (ST419026)



*Turpike Cottage, Gwernesney, near 11 mile Milestone*



*Turnpike cottage, Ty Basket Usk*



*Toll House, Usk*