





Restoration Report

Identification; ABNE13	Grade II listed, ID 39834
Location NGR; SU 49137 78095	West Berkshire, Parish of Beedon; A34 slip road to northern carriageway from Beedon village, inside of bend near top of slope; on grass verge
Design & material	Isley Gable – rectangular cross section, made of porous limestone with no distinct bedding planes and some inclusions
Date	Dated 1776 – some time after turnpike created

	<i>Prior to Restoration</i>	<i>After Restoration</i>
Restoration work by Alan Rosevear, April 2006.		
Dimension	Was 64 high above soil level	Width 45; height 98 (83 to shoulder), depth 20; letters 5.5h, number 6h
Condition of stone	Leaning to left by 25 deg and sunken so half of text obscured. Hawthorn bush at the base and overhanging. Old damage to top. Painted text does not correspond to engraving (misses Miles). On excavation found square damaged area at base (presumed to be a cancelled BM)	Excavated soil and levered stone to vertical within the existing stone filling. Ca 30cm of dressed stone remain below engraving. Large hole in lower left side (filled) and chunk taken from right side (remains). Filled hole (potentially BM pin) in top .
Condition of coating & letters	Discontinuous layer of old oil paint Black/on/white with residues of old green layer. Below this are residues of limewash on sheltered areas. Only odd letters survive near top but 1776 and lower text better preserved	Stone scraped but old oil layers needed paint stripper to remove to porous condition. Stone painted with 2 coats of 20% diluted Keim Granital and one coat of off-white Keim top coat. Letters interpolated based on odd remaining text and pattern given by ABNE14 in Beedon. Lettering painted with black Sandtex
Notes on Work	Hawthorn bush and brambles removed and area around the stone excavated and soil banked behind so it stands above new soil level. Continuous film of old paint, particularly on sides could only be fully broken with paint stripper. No need to use algicide after this. Back not stripped and left bare with odd residues of old paint. Grass seed scattered on area around stone.	

Illustrations during work

			
Area around stone cleared	Excavation to straighten stone	Removal of layers of oil paint	Silicate Filling to top and side

Access – park at bottom of hill forming slip road, about 200m to south. Stone is on on wide verge, “Men at Work” sign erected and work area coned but able to work safely without special precautions.