



Restoration Report

Identification; LB73	Not listed
Location NGR; SU 2087 6837	Kennet DC, Parish of Marlborough; Forest Hill; A4, London Road opp. Entrance to Marlborough Cricket & Hockey Club
Design & material	Bath Road Shoulders – rectangular block with facets cut as a slice from top corners to mid front side. Grey Limestone –reddish when wet and iron leaches out
Date	Assumed to be ca 1826 recut of a 1743 rectangular block

	<i>Prior to Restoration</i>	<i>After Restoration</i>
Restoration work by Alan Rosevear, Aug 2004.		
Dimension	Width 46; depth 29 with painted letters	Height increased to 109; engraved letters 5h, numbers 7h
Condition of stone	Stone in reasonable condition. Although still vertical, stone has sunken; chip on left side; oil paint has focused pitting on lettered areas. In deep undergrowth.	Soil cleared to make stone stand higher. No filling undertaken. Undergrowth cleared to give sight line from road.
Condition of coating & letters	Oil paint had obscured all original inscriptions. A4 painted on face. When engraving revealed, painting did not correspond to format or detailed position; Erroneous mileage to Marlborough (is 2 not 1)	Stone painted with 20% diluted Keim Granital and one coat of off-white Keim topcoat. Summer shower soon after washed off some topcoat so need a partial second topcoat. Engraving of letters followed (where feint by comparison with LB72) in black Sandtex
Notes on Work	Stone was almost invisible in undergrowth. Perennial plants and some overhanging branches removed to give good sight line. Soil was cleared and excavated for about 5m around stone to reveal original soil level of stone. . Loose layers of paint removed to reveal engraving. However, needed paint stripper to remove substantial cover of oil paint. Stone scrubbed to remove lowest layers of limewash and residual areas of oil paint scrapped away. One layer of undercoat soaked in well to give dense cover. Topcoat had to be touched up after rain shower. Lettering traced in pencil for better accuracy in painting. The engraving is like flowing text with differences in width and depth. Painting of letters could not replicate this subtlety.	

Illustrations during work

			
Lost in undergrowth	Marlbo 2 showing through modern paint	After removal of oil paint and old lime	Undercoat with engraved inscription showing

Access – park in lay by beside entrance to Forest Hill Farm, 50m east of stone. Stone is well back from road in woodland so standard safety precautions adequate