

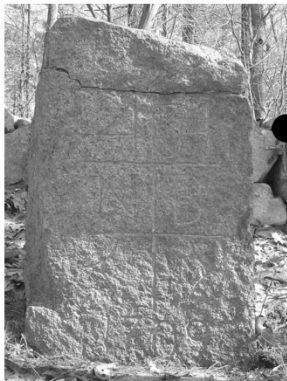
Colonial Carved Stones Tour Newbury, Massachusetts



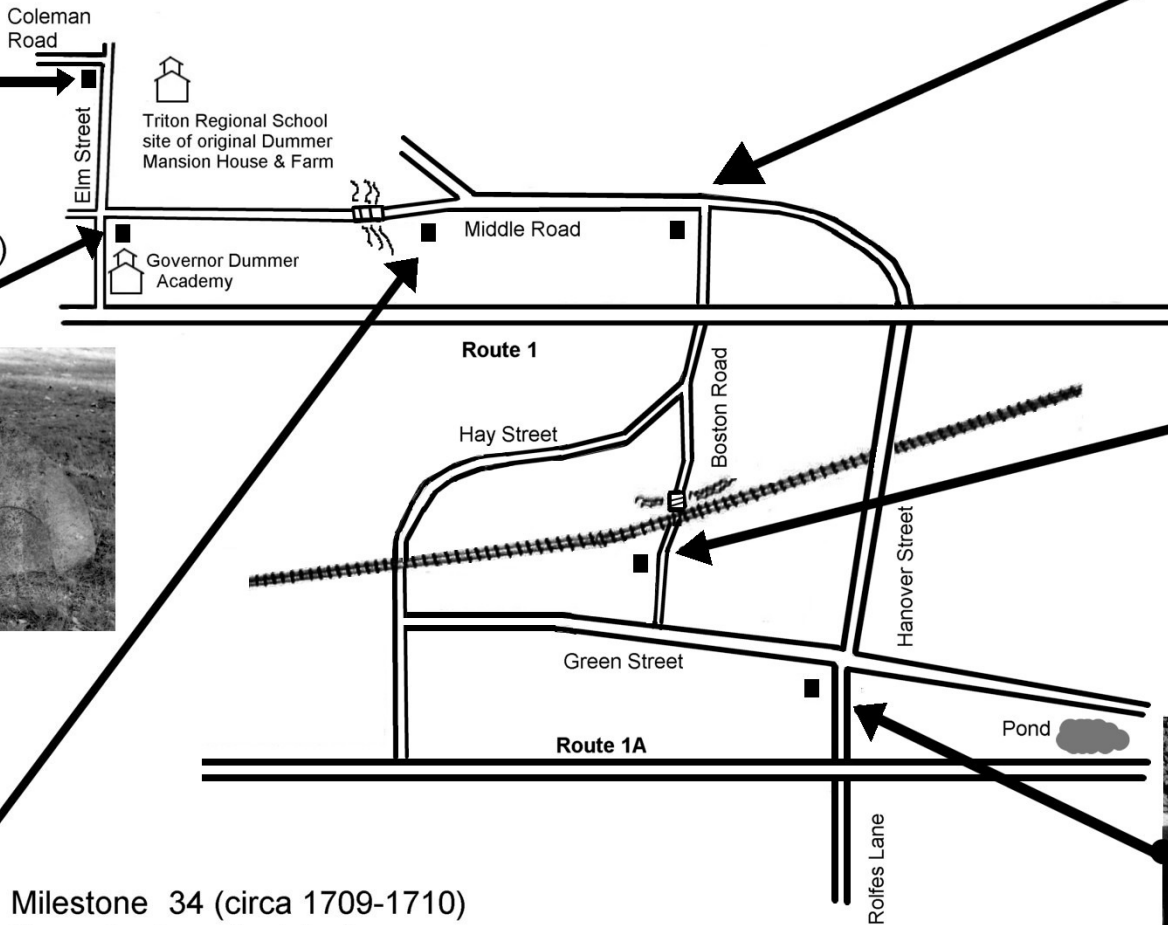
Father's Stone (1723)



Milestone 33 (1708)



Milestone 34 (circa 1709-1710)
Reproduction of original



Milestone 35
(circa 1733-1735)



Milestone 36
(circa 1733-1735)



Milestone 37
(Circa 1733-1735)

The Newbury Carved Stones

A total of 10 carved stones from the colonial period have been found in Newbury, Massachusetts. Six of the stones can be still seen in Newbury. The other four are in the Smithsonian Museum of American History.

Father's Stone (Coleman Road)

This stone was originally found on the Dummer farm, now the site of the Triton Regional School. The Dummer family was one of wealthiest families in the 1600 and 1700's in Newbury. The stone was removed to its present location in the 20th century.

It is known locally as the "Witchstone." A name derived from the idea that the circle designs were thought to be hex symbols. The circles and triangular are actually common decorative geometric designs popular in their time period.

The stone features a full length caricature of a man in late 1600's fashionable clothing which includes a long waistcoat and high heel shoes. The hands are on the waist and the feet point outward, a common pose used in folk art from the 1600's through 1725.

The stone was commissioned by John Dummer as a memorial to his father Richard Dummer Jr. It was used as a walkway stone leading to the family mansion house. It was carved in 1723 by Robert Mullicken, Sr. a gravestone carver from Bradford, Mass.

Milestone 33 (Gov. Dummer Academy)

"B 33" stands for 33 miles to Boston, "N 5" stands for five miles to the center of Newbury which was near the 1st Parish Burying Ground at the time. The stone was commissioned by John Dummer and carved by John Hartshorn, a local gravestone carver.

Milestone 34 (Middle Road)

This stone is a reproduction based on a surviving fragment of the original milestone currently in a private collection. It was carved circa 1709-1710. It is similar in design and basic layout to milestone 33 and several milestones on Rte 1A Wenham, MA.

Milestone 35 (Junc. of Middle/Boston Rd)

Milestones 35, 36, and 37 are the only known examples of milestones carved with bold geometric designs. All other surviving milestones from colonial America were carved with pertinent information and lack any real decorative embellishments. These milestones may have been commissioned for Newbury's Centennial in 1735.

Milestone 36 (Boston Road)

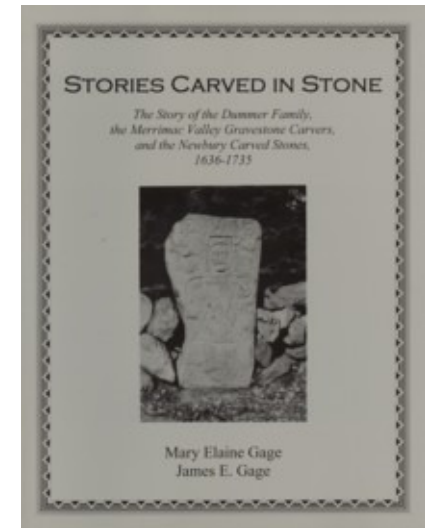
The top section of this milestone was broken off. The missing section had a whorl (pinwheel) design. It also has a triangle within the design on the bottom. A triangle motif is found on all of the milestones commissioned by John Dummer.

Milestone 37 (Junc. of Green/Hanover St)

This is the final milestone in the series. It has a double triangle design on the top and mileage to Portsmouth and Ipswich on either side. It was a family affair being carved by Robert Sr, Robert Jr., John, and Joseph Mullicken, all gravestone carvers.

Credits

Local authors, Mary Gage and James Gage (mother and son) have done extensive research on the Newbury carved stones. Their research is present in their book *Stories Carved on Stone*.



This tour map is made available for free courtesy of the Newbury 375th Committee (www.Newbury375.org) and by authors Mary Gage and James Gage:

www.StoneStructures.org