

HIDDEN GEMS AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE

KILL HISTORY GROUP



OLD MILESTONE

Just north of the village of Johnstown, alongside the busy motorway to Dublin [N7] stands a very old milestone.

The stone, which is made of granite, has “DUB 13” (miles) inscribed on one side and “Naas 2” on the other. These mileages are in the old ‘Irish’ measurements, which mean that they pre-date the coming into force of Act of Union (1800) after which ‘English’ measurements were adopted as standard in Ireland also.

It is likely that this stone is one of the few remaining milestones from the Dublin-Kilcullen turnpike road, which was the first toll road set up in Ireland, by Act of Parliament, in 1728. Such stones were erected every mile along the road in the 18th and 19th centuries for the guidance of those travelling on foot, on horseback or by coach.