



PLOTTING PLYMOUTH'S PAST



Boundary and Leat Stones: Recommended Reading

For an introduction to the topic of boundary stones and for examples of the variety of bodies creating markers and stones (but not covering Plymouth) see *Dartmoor Boundary Markers* by Dave Brewer (Halsgrove, 2002).

For a good account of the history of the leats of Plymouth, Devonport and Stonehouse, with a section on the East Stonehouse Leat stones, see *Water from the Moor*, by David Hawkings (Devon Books, 1987). The course of the Plymouth and East Stonehouse leats is also charted in *Plymouth (Drake's) & Stonehouse Leats*, by Ray Bush (Old Plymouth Society, 2000).

The Old Plymouth Society also published Nicholas Casley's detailed study of the Plymouth medieval boundary and the boundary stones along it: *The Medieval Incorporation of Plymouth and a Survey of the Borough's Bounds* (1997). Copies of Old Plymouth Society publications can be obtained from the Society.

There is no other book on the boundary stones of the Plymouth area. However, reference has been made in compiling this survey to the listing by Plymouth local historian E. Masson Phillips in 1985 of 'The Boundary Stones of Plymouth' in the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association*, Volume 117 (1985); pp.69-81. He lists the Plymouth boundary stones of the post 1914 but pre 1987 City boundary, and includes some Admiralty and War Department stones. Masson Phillips also wrote an earlier article in the *Transactions of the Devonshire Association* Volume 85 (1943) 'Notes on some Old Roadside Stones in South West Devon', which included some Plymouth boundary stones as well as milestones.

Masson Phillips pays acknowledgment to a set of labelled photographs by P. E. Mills. Copies of this set of black and white photographs of Plymouth boundary stones, taken in the 1960s, remain available for inspection in the History Room at Plymouth Central Library, (Ref. P388.1). The original images are now with the Plymouth and West Devon Record Office (PWDRO), and can also be seen on the Plymouth City Council website at: <http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/archivescatalogue> - with the main sequence beginning at Ref. PCC/76/5/9961 through to PCC/76/5/10071.

In other information here, reference has also been made to maps held in the PWDRO, particularly the two Plymouth Borough Boundary Stone maps of 1848 (Ref.1523/1) and an undated but later map (Ref.1523/2). Also of note, are the Stoke Damerel Estate maps of circa 1834 by J. H. Rutger (Ref. 861/1 & Ref. 861/2). Other relevant maps in the Record Office include one of Devonport, based on the Rutger map but with revision of 1898 (Ref.302/1) and of Stonehouse in 1832 by Charles Chapple (Ref. 81/X65).

"Who owns the Hoe?" is a chapter title in F. W. Woodward's book *Citadel: A History of the Royal Citadel, Plymouth* (Devon Books, 1987). This contains a helpful account of the "Bellamy stones" on the Hoe, showing the Borough's claim to ownership; at least one such 1812 stone is thought to survive - now located at the top of Cliff Road, in front of 'The Grand' - formerly the Grand Hotel.