

Seen Along the Way A671 Rochdale – Burnley Turnpike Trust

Structures & Artefacts of Interest recorded March 2026

A. **Milestone** SD 88184 16243 W3W [pocket.digit.sheets](#)



Milestone set in the garden wall of No 1 Willows Terrace, although not thought to be the original, but obviously old as it is showing only the top part. However, more interestingly along side it, is a very different and unusual milestone which was first brought to light during excavations for a building near Birches nearby, in the year 1911. It bears a latin inscription "Milliaris Primo me-tatis et Milliaribus Erectis Anno 1782 . Johanne Chadwick de Healey Hall. The inscription roughly translates as "First Measured and Erected Milliaris in 1782"



B. **Milestone** SD 88393 17799 W3W [harder.storms.deeplly](#)

The Milestone here is a bit of an anomaly, as according to both the 1839 and 1844 maps it should say "Rochdale 2 Bacup 5" which is the correct mileage at this point. However this one must have been moved here from a different road, nearer to Bacup, as it says "Rochdale 5 Bacup 3".



C. Trough

SD 89142 20820

W3W sponge.manliness.handfuls

Old roadside trough, near the end of a terraced row of houses, still being water fed and holding water well



D. Boundary Stone

SD 88567 21439

W3W quits.cobbles.lavender

Boundary Stone at Troughgate inscribed: "Bacup Hundred of Blackburn" on one side and "Whitworth Hundred of Salford" on the

other



E.

Milestone

SD 86923 24532

W3W backhand.celebrate.classic

Late 19th century Milestone by the junction with Dog Pits Lane. It's sandstone with an arched top and set in the wall of a former urinal.

Inscribed "Borough of Bacup, Burnley 6¼ miles, Rochdale 8 miles, Bacup 1 mile".

Grade 2 listed No 1309287, it was erected by the District Council in the 19th century.

Roadside Trough set into the wall next to the former Deerplay Inn



Structures and artifacts of interest

Recorded March 2026

Photo Ref	Item	10 Figure Brt Grid Ref	W3W What Three Words
A & A1	Milestone +	SD 88184 16243	pocket.digit.sheets
B	Milestone	SD 88393 17799	harder.storms.deeply
C	Trough	SD 89142 20820	sponge.manliness.handfuls
D	Boundary Stone	SD 88567 21439	quits.cobbles.lavender
E	Milestone	SD 86923 24532	backhand.celebrate.classic
F	Trough	SD 86561 26449	embarks.adjust.troll

Echoes of Turnpikes – via Bus Stops.

By Chris Ainsworth

3 June 2026

While I was preparing to walk the Rossendale segment of the “Rochdale and Burnley Trust (1754)” road, I thought I’d get the bus down to Whitworth, then walk back to Bacup, seeing what I could find along the way on that section of what remained of the turnpike road and/ or any associated “street furniture”, or at least where it had once been.



What I hadn’t expected to find was that my bus ticket would itself contain echoes of turnpike history. I got on a bus at “Lockgate” (on the 1815 “Haslingden and Todmorden Trust: Stacksteads and Laneside branch”) and alighted at “Whitworth Bar” on the Rochdale and Burnley Trust road – both bus stops still named after the turnpikes which were established at those sites more than two hundred years ago.



This set me thinking: how many other bus stops on the routes that I was investigating could give an inkling of their turnpike past? And might some be the only vestige of a turnpike having been present, despite there being no physical features there anymore?

The site of Whitworth Bar was very straightforward, being easily located on early Ordnance Survey (OS) maps, and evidenced by a road sign (“Bar Terrace”) perpendicular to the old turnpike site, as well as the bus stop being named after it.

Bar Terrace



Whitworth Bar bus stop

However, the Leavengreave Turnpike was less straightforward. Again, old OS maps made its location clear, and there is a handily contemporary stone raised-bed marker at the junction of where the Shawforth and Whitworth elements of Market Street meet opposite where the turnpike stood. But where could I find evidence of the area being called Leavengreave? It wasn’t present on the current (2026) OS maps website; nor was it on Lancashire County Council’s MARIO maps website; nor was there any obvious signage. In fact, the only obvious evidence that I was indeed at Leavengreave was that its bus stop bore its name!



A “bus stop echo” of the old Leavengreave Turnpike site

But already receding into the mists of time, and off any OS mapping, is the “Trough Gate” turnpike. We know from Hennet and Bingley’s “A map of the County Palatine of Lancaster ... from an accurate survey in the years 1828 and 1829” that this toll booth [TB on their map] existed, and circumstantial evidence of its whereabouts exists including: the “Trough Gate” area noted on MARIO maps; a boundary stone; the meeting of Bacup’s Tong Lane/ Trough Gate Lane with Shawforth’s Market Street; and the old “Travellers Rest” (now premises for a financial advice business), with the likely remains of the old smithy behind it.



Site of the re-purposed “Travellers Rest” on the left, with the site of the smithy on the opposite side of Tong Lane/Trough Gate Lane as it joins Market Street, Shawforth



The bus stop associated with this site is still called “Travellers Rest”, but this has been changed to “Prince Street” on the bus’s annunciator – but – whisper it gently – fortunately no-one has altered the actual bus stop sign yet. I won’t tell them if you won’t...

*We hope you have enjoyed our taster into the world of turnpikes
and that you will now go and explore more for yourself.*