

CROSS ASH VILLAGE WELL HOUSE

All properties in Cross Ash village once drew their water supply from a spring opposite the Village Hall. The spring is surmounted by a stone built, stepped pyramid, probably built around 1850 to supply the shop and cottages nearby.



Wayne

The house of the Waen (Welsh for the meadow) is in the shelterd valley of the Llymon Brook. The property is notable in that it dates from the 1550's and was the home of John ap Philip Morgan, Receiver of the Duchy of Lancaster, Governor of the Three Castles of

Grosmont, Skenfrith and Whitecastle and MP for Monmouth 1553-4. John Morgan died in 1557 and his imposing tomb can still be seen in Skenfrith church today. Much of the current house appears to have been added to an earlier building in around 1610, possibly following the wedding of the grandson of John ap Philip Morgan. The building had a stair tower serving both the old and the 'new' parts of the house. It had a room at the top, which gave good views over the surrounding countryside. The top storeys of the tower have since been removed, though the stairs to the upper floors remain.

DUNKARD MILESTONE

An Act of Parliament in 1767 required every mile of road to be marked by a milestone. There is a milestone in the garden hedge at Dunkard Farm, 1 mile from Traveller's Seat.

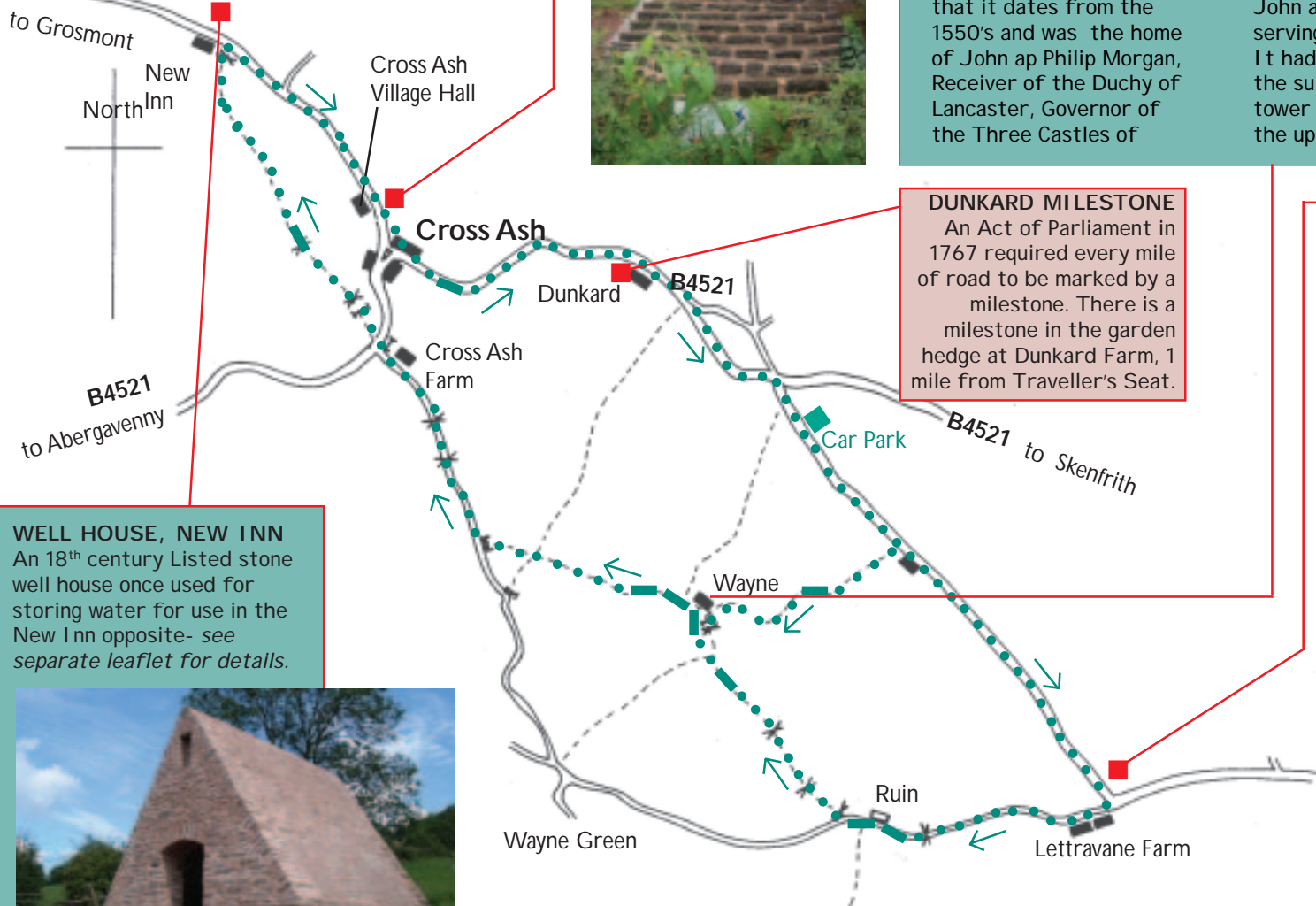
TRAVELLERS' SEAT MILESTONE

The Turnpike road established in 1780, took the more direct route to Grosmont, Crickhowell and Hay-on-Wye via Cross Ash and New Inn. The date 1913 marks the removal of the stone from the wall of a nearby house. *Ordnance Survey Maps 1063, 1064, 1086 and 1087 cover this route and the walk is way marked.*



The inscription on the milestone reads:

Travellers Seat, erected 1780
 To New Inn 2 miles
 From thence to Crickhowell 13 3/4 miles
 Brecon miles 12
 To Ross miles 10 from thence
 To Gloucester miles 16
 From Gloucester to Brecknock 54 miles.
 M.Q. 27 3/4 miles to Brecon to Gloucester 26 miles



WELL HOUSE, NEW INN

An 18th century Listed stone well house once used for storing water for use in the New Inn opposite- see separate leaflet for details.



Ordnance Survey "Pathfinder" maps 1063, 1064, 1086 and 1087 cover this area

TURNPIKE ROADS

The road network in the Welsh Marches evolved from the Roman occupation and later medieval military routes which connected Whitecastle, Grosmont and Skenfrith castles. Heavy soils, which become waterlogged in winter, led to routes being established on dryer ground along the ridges. Steep inclines through rolling countryside needed large teams of horses to control heavy loads. From 1555 parishes were responsible for road maintenance, which was not always done.

A series of Turnpike Acts brought a more co-ordinated system of alignment, construction and maintenance of longer stretches of main roads. Major landowners whose estates would benefit were able to invest in road schemes and recoup costs by toll charges. Better road networks led to more frequent and reliable coach services between main towns.

The route from Ross-on-Wye to Abergavenny originally ran via Skenfrith, Norton, the Garth, Cross Ways and the Boot, where it met the road from Monmouth. From Traveller's Seat it continued to Rhydeago to join what is now the B4521 Abergavenny Road at Hill House, west of Cross Ash.

Not until after 1822 was the Ross to Abergavenny road re-aligned to its present route.



Saint Christopher - Patron saint of travellers, at the New Inn Well House, by the sculptor Philip Chatfield.

THE VILLAGE ALIVE TRUST

We are a community based building preservation trust, run by volunteers. We aim to help conserve important vernacular buildings in rural Monmouthshire. We have restored the Listed Well Houses and Milestone featured in this Trail and a C18th Cider House (see web site for details of Open Days). The Trust also has a programme of recording memories for a local history archive and we run events to attract people to this beautiful area. We aim to support the local economy by providing some public access to interesting sites and publicising the area through our web site. If you would like to know more, or to become involved with the work of the Trust, please contact us at our Registered office (address below) or visit the web site: www.villagealivetrust.org.uk

Whilst every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the Trust cannot accept any liability whatsoever for any loss or damage arising in any way from this publication. Nor can they be held liable for any loss, injury or damage sustained by anyone visiting or walking the trail.

COUNTRYSIDE CODE

Please respect property and livestock when walking footpaths. Re-close gates and dispose of rubbish appropriately. Take particular care at the Travellers Seat corner to avoid road hazards. Thank you.

The Village Alive Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in Wales No. 5148543. Charity Commission No. 1107216. Registered Office: Yew Tree Farm, Llangattock Lingoed, Monmouthshire, Wales NP7 8NS
Member of Association of Preservation Trusts.

Text: Ed Baylis
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For information about the area and hospitality providers see: www.villagealivetrust.org.uk

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Village trails

No. 1



TRAVELLERS' SEAT MILESTONE and WELL HOUSES TRAIL Cross Ash Monmouthshire

A circular walk of just under 7 km, with shorter options. Allow about 1 hour

The Village Alive Trust
Ymddiriedolaeth y Pentre Byw

