

Village Millstone

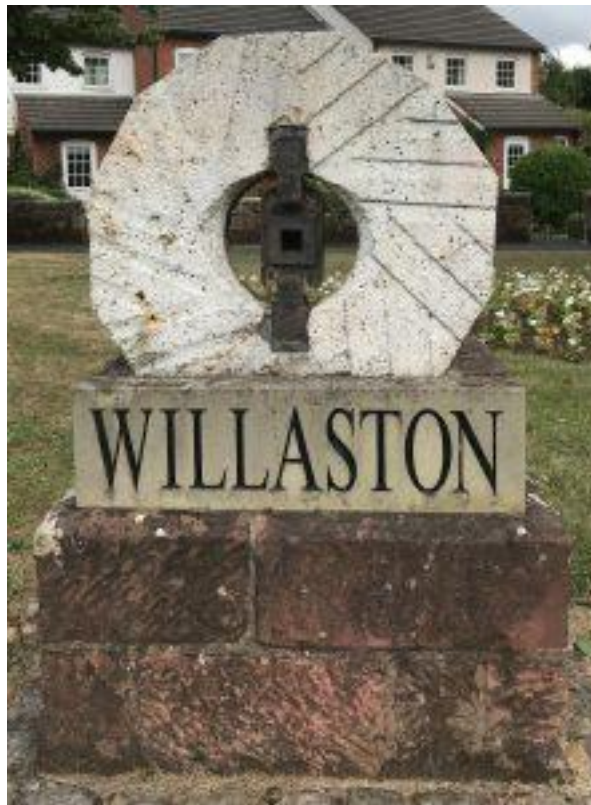


Photo: Martin Eves

The millstone on the Little Green was installed in 1996. It is from Willaston Mill, which used to be a working mill. The stone originally ground wheat into flour, oats and beans into cattle food. The stone could be over 100 years old and is made of Millstone Grit, a durable and coarse variety of sandstone. It would have been placed at the very top of the Mill and driven by a central shaft which fitted onto the iron moulding welded into the stone.

The design of the millstone village sign was by Dennis Williams, a local village artist, who also designed the clock on the Memorial Hall, following a competition for the best design.

The sandstone plinth was worked by John Sanderson, a local stonemason, using sandstone recovered from local village sites. The name 'Willaston' is carved on a slab of York stone by Alan Roberts.

Two time capsules are buried below the structure, one provided by Willaston Residents' and Countryside Society and one by Willaston C of E School.

The contents of the time capsules are:

- Pair of children's socks
- Toothbrush

- Floppy disc
- CD of Gloria Estefan
- Tape of classical music
- Golf ball
- Piece of soap
- National Trust biro pen
- Village Silver Jubilee bookmark
- Calculator
- Knife, fork and spoon
- Key ring of Willaston School
- Coins used in 1996 and what they will buy
- Ordnance Survey map of Chester, including Willaston
- Marks and Spencer green plastic carrier bag and receipt
- Postage stamps
- Ladybird books – Tom Thumb and Cinderella
- Small photo album with 12 photos of Willaston village
- Willaston Primary School Energy Saving awards
- 'My Home Region – Willaston' by Matthew Bode
- Package from the Pugh family with letter, photos and magazines
- Village Walks leaflet
- List of village organisations on one side and Johnston Recreation Ground newsletter of June 1995 on the other
- Calendar – Cheshire School holidays
- School uniform booklet
- Football Junior League programme
- House of Commons envelope to Mrs Drew at the Primary School
- RAC card – Breakdown services
- Tesco price list
- School newsletter
- Cheshire Adventure and Discovery Programme for Summer 1996
- Raffle tickets of School May Fair 1996
- Parish News for May 1996
- Small book of recipes and handy hints
- Small book of sweet flavourings and recipes
- Explanatory letter about the idea for the village sign and time capsule

The capsule also contains a scroll of 250 signatures of Willaston residents in 1996, which is reproduced below



Adding their names to the scroll, from the left: Margaret Kennedy, Ingrid Harlan-Taylor, Lillian Williams and project organiser Mary Daugherty.
Photo from a press cutting, unknown paper

Signatures of Residents of the village of Willaston Wirral 1996

Darren Richmond
 Ellen Richmond (McCaig)
 Lynda Millard
 Joyce Spence
 Michael Burtley
 Mary H. Barker
 Betty Greenwood
 Barbara Brooker
 Lucy Hardy
 Ena Nytt
 J. E. Hutchings
 Joan Adams
 Joan Brown
 Marie Beckett
 Jim Collins
 David Luth
 Thomas R. Jones
 Pamela Gardiner
 Anthony Jones
 Alice Page
 Janet Harrison
 Susan Harrison
 Jamie Gardiner
 Penny Gardiner
 Rufus Gardiner
 Ruth Stevenson
 Arthur Stevenson
 Clare Padgett
 Tonya Cook-Somers
 Cathryn Cook-Somers
 Daniel Cook-Somers
 Lee Cook-Somers
 Brenda Wilkinson
 Roger Dale
 Simon Dale
 Tina Dale
 Pat Dale
 Debbie McJury
 David McIlroy
 Neil Walmsley
 David Willis
 Claire Willis
 Sarah Willis
 Catherine Willis
 Joyce Miller
 Ralph Miller
 Joan Bishop
 G. Saps
 H. Somers
 P. Saps
 Joan King
 Doreen Winstanley
 Gloria Winstanley
 Tracy Nott
 Joan Evans
 June Egan
 Joan Egan
 Maureen Reid + family
 Carol Barker
 Norma Denshall
 Margaret Williams
 Kathleen Reddock
 Marion Simes
 L. Hocking
 Joan Butcher
 Keith Butcher
 David Hill
 Kathleen N. Bird
 Monica Bird
 Jean Griffiths
 Marjorie Downham
 Richard Wells
 B. J. Pines
 Lina Price
 Paula Sedgwick
 Katy
 Alastair
 Alan
 David Malcolm
 Jack Kelly

Signatures of Residents of the village of Willaston Wirral 1996.

Wesley Thomson

Pearl Graham

Lita Ashby

Lynette Hall

Anne Rowlands

Clare Pratten

Jane Jones

Dorothy J. A. Jones

Margaret A. Jones

Mary Stoddart

Ann Peck

Don Peck

The Buttons

Francis Family

Joy - Gordon Watson

The Arnold Family

Ken Edwards

Hilda Edwards

Elsie J. Davies

Dorothy Haldenorth

Pat Hodgson

Margaret Raven

Eileen C. Agar

May Hale

Alan Davies

Albert Haldenorth

Thomas Kilby

Hayes Hogg

Harold Hogg