

Longford River 'prohibition stone' Royal Parks

The prohibition stone was noted on a ramble across the newly constructed pathways from Feltham Park via Glebe Lands and Staines Road.



The position of this stone is south of Whites Bridge Staines Road, and along a short footpath and east of Longford River in the northern cul de sac of Ruskin Avenue Feltham.

It is a wedge shape stone some 18inches in width and has a depth/thickness of some 10inches - decreasing to 4inches at top, its height is 18inches above ground with most probably another 12inches below!

It is a composite mix of concrete, with a 2inch thick limestone screed on its face which is for incising the below inscription

RIGHTS OF WAY ACT 1949?

NOTICE

THIS FOOTWAY IS NOT

DEDICATED AS A

PUBLIC HIGHWAY

On enquiry to the Royal Parks the advice received was that it was a "prohibition stone" placed in-situ according to the Rights of Way (Highways) Act 1980 revision. The highways act goes back to 1835 but this dates from late 1940's.

This marker would have been placed to define the path as NOT a public right of way over Crown Land which exists either side of The Longford River.

Throughout the years the Royal Park has issued The London Borough of Hounslow a number of licences for the various rebuilds of White Bridge and footpath and indeed the widening of Staines Road. The licence gave legality to encroach upon Crown Land.

Markers like this, we are told, have importance on Crown Land as Crown Land is not traditionally shown on the Land Registry as it is owned by the State as opposed to a private individual.



The above noted habit is changing and the Crown is progressively registering its land to be shown on the Registry and Title Plans.



Whites Bridge c 1998