

= 1761 Milestone =

The 1761 Milestone is a milestone on 640 South Main Street in Woonsocket , Rhode Island . The stone originally marked the junction of a Colonial highway from Great Road and an east @-@ west route from Boston , Massachusetts , to the state of Connecticut . The stone was rediscovered during the installation of an electrical road ( likely a tram ) . In 1898 , the stone was reportedly restored to its original location by the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution . The stone is embedded in a low retaining wall at the corner of South Main Street and Smithfield Road . It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 24 , 1982 , and is historically significant as Colonial @-@ era highway marker .

= = History = =

The 1761 Milestone is a historic marker that marked the junction of a Colonial highway . In 1761 , it was located at the intersection of Great Road , from Providence , Rhode Island , to Mendon , Massachusetts , and an east @-@ west route from Boston , Massachusetts , into Connecticut . Currently , the marker rests near the intersection of South Main Street and Smithfield Road ( previously Great Road ) and occupies the land designated by the Woonsocket Assessor as plat 4 @-@ C , lot 69 .

The 2 feet ( 0 @. @ 61 m ) by 3 feet ( 0 @. @ 91 m ) marker is described by the National Register of Historic Places ( NRHP ) nomination form as an " odd @-@ shaped piece of grey slate , somewhat broken and effaced ... " It bears a boldly cut inscription of an unknown stonecutter ; the inscription is likened to 18th @-@ century handwriting and lacks a calligraphic pattern . The marker reads " Miles to [ B ] oston 1761 " , but according to Rhode Island : A Guide to the Smallest State it read , " Miles to Boston 47 " .

In 1898 , it was reported that the stone was unearthed during the installation of electrical road ( likely for a tram ) and restored to its original location by the Woonsocket chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution . Sometime later , the Daughters of the American Revolution placed a bronze plaque on the stone , but it was absent at the time of its nomination in 1982 . The marker is currently mortared into a retaining wall at the edge of the sidewalk on 640 South Main Street at the intersection and has been since prior to 1982 . As of 2013 , a Daughters of the American Revolution plaque is present .

= = Importance = =

The National Register of Historic Places nomination states the marker is at its original site and is historically important because " [ t ] his milestone is the only extant Woonsocket property which well recalls this era in the early history of American overland transportation , and it is one of but a handful of such stones surviving in Rhode Island that marks inter @-@ colonial highways . " It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on November 24 , 1982 .