

Lynnfield Historical Commission

Annual Report 2007

With the retirement of our dedicated Commissioners Earnestine June Rose, Edie Richard, and Barbara Drozeck, 2007 became a year of transformation. Three new members were welcomed; Linda Gillon, Steven Richard and Stephen Smith. Linda Gillon took the position of publicist, Steve Smith became treasurer, Steve Richard took the duties of photographer, Faith Honer –Coakley volunteered for recording secretary and Nan Hockenbury became chairperson.

Steve Smith worked to coordinate the Freeman Park project with local Eagle Scout , and the Conservation Commission. Plans include clearing the landscape, planting appropriate foliage and the installation of a granite bench to be inscribed with a dedication to Willard James and Dr. Freeman, and past members of the commission who initiated the project. A submission will be made to the Essex National Heritage Commission for a Historic Landscape Grant. Once restored, Freeman Park will be a valuable asset to the town as a place to meet, walk, or sit and enjoy the surroundings.

In 1992, the Commission comprised of Warren Falls, Elizabeth Morris, Edie Richard, Beatrice Dalton, John Schneider, John and Edith Medland, and Barbara Drozek, (Chairman), petitioned the selectmen and obtained three signs designating the historic district. Made by the DPW, the signs were placed where they stand today, on the east side of Main Street opposite Beaver Avenue, the east side of Main Street north of Summer Street, and the south side of South Common Street opposite Arlington Street. The sign on the east side of Main Street opposite Beaver Avenue is broken in half on its stake and needs to be replaced.

The Lynnfield Historical Commission has begun to establish a venue for concerned citizens to come together with the common goal of maintaining the integrity of the town. ALL, or Assure Lynnfield's Legacy, is to serve as a public clearing house to educate, inform, organize, and discuss issues and concerns that address Lynnfield's historic sites, their significance, and the consequences of their loss. Integral in saving the character are the Demolition Delay By-Law that can prevent unnecessary demolition to historic homes, buildings and landscapes, and the Community Preservation Act designed to acquire funds that would aid historic preservation, create open space, and help low-income property

owners. Those that could give their time to ALL might participate in grant writing, cemetery conservation, or survey building to create another National Historic District or local historic

Faith and I would like to thank our wonderful retiring members Barbara Drozek, Edie Richard, and Ernestine June Rose who gave countless hours of dedication to the town of Lynnfield and our historical commission. We will greatly miss you.