



2016 Princeton Historical Commission Annual Report

The Historical Commission continues to undergo changes in membership. This past year, Sheila Dubman resigned from the Commission. The Commission will miss her encyclopedic knowledge of town history and her insightful contributions to discussions. The Commission also notes that Krista Ferrante resigned this past year. Krista, too, had much to add and we are sorry to see her go. Larry Todd now serves as chair of the Commission.

Early in the year, the Commission finalized the Town Common Guidelines, which were approved by the Selectboard. These guidelines require Commission input on permanent changes to the Common. Although non-binding, the Commission's recommendations will be considered by the Selectboard and will help to preserve the historical integrity of our Common. The Commission continues to follow discussions regarding restoration and re-use of Bagg Hall and provides its support for restoration efforts.

The Commission assisted Sam Goodnow with his Eagle Scout project, which consisted of restoration of wooden benches in Dingman Park. A plaque was also installed on one of the benches in dedication to Ali Pierce. The Commission also assisted Teddy Lindberg with his Eagle Scout project, which involved cataloging and storing grave marker fragments at Meetinghouse Cemetery. Restoration of grave stones at Meetinghouse Cemetery continues, with professional restoration of eight additional markers by TaMara Conde. Plans are also under consideration for restoration of the steel vault doors.

Plaques were installed at the intersection of Old Colony Road and Gates Road and at the Wachusett Meadow Wildlife Sanctuary, marking the newly established historical district, which includes the four corners area and the Goodnow farm, on Audubon property.

The Commission continues to monitor progress on the Route 140 project in East Princeton, and to provide its input. Members Sheila Dubman and Matt Lindberg participated in a committee to provide the Commission's opinion on design issues, such as lighting and restoration of the bridge at Keyes Brook.

Finally, the Commission notes that it has been in discussions with the Conservation Commission relative to the Town pound and hopes to make progress on that project during 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Lindberg