

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| J. Howard Black | 2007 |
| Martha Remington | 2008 |
| Gregory Thomas..... | 2008 |
| Alice Coggeshall..... | 2009 |
| Linda Engelmann | 2009 |
| John Karlon | 2009 |
| Christina Rickard | 2009 |

The Bolton Historical Commission was established in 1992 by Article 14 on the town meeting warrant. The Commission is charged by the Town of Bolton and the Massachusetts Historical Commission to identify, evaluate, document, and where possible, protect and preserve Bolton's historical, cultural, and architectural resources.

ACTIVITIES

Heritage Landscape Inventory Program

The Commission wishes to thank **Bolton Historical Society** President, Tim Fiehler, for serving as Co-Project Coordinator for this program which was co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and Freedom's Way Heritage Association. At the February 15th Public Meeting, 82 landscapes in town were deemed 'special places created by human interaction with the natural environment' that help define the character of Bolton and reflect its past. The ***Bolton Reconnaissance Report***, available on the town web site and at the Bolton Public Library, is the culmination of this program. Our thanks also to Mary Ciummo, Betsy Cussen, and Margaret Campbell for joining with Linda Engelmann, Martha Remington and Tim Fiehler to serve on the Heritage Landscape Inventory Committee.

Demolition Permit Requests: None received.

Tree Replacement Program

Along with the Tree Warden, the Commission co-sponsored a successful article at Annual Town Meeting to set up a program for tree replacement with special emphasis in the town center. We are in the process of drafting guidelines for the program.

Eagle Scout Project

Along with the Selectmen, the Commission was pleased to sponsor Steve Sterling's Eagle Scout project to rebuild the stone wall in front of the Bolton Country Manor senior housing complex along Main Street. The wall had been breached since the mid-1990's to allow access for construction of the Florence Sawyer School.

Pan Cemetery

A land survey of Pan Cemetery was performed and the lot was recorded at the Worcester Registry of Deeds. The first 7 decorative bollards were installed in early December, and chain has been ordered for installation between the bollards. The procedure for listing of the cemetery on the National Register of Historic Places is continuing normally since filing of the paperwork with Massachusetts Historical Commission in July of 2005.

Web Site Resources

Although the Commission has been unsuccessful in restoring much previously available information on many resources contained within the Historic Properties Survey, we have made progress toward the availability of the complete text of the Preservation Plan for the town, which we anticipate will be on-line by early next year.

Participation with other town groups

The Commission collaborated extensively with other town boards and commissions and had a liaison present at many meetings and hearings on a variety of issues and topics:

Board of Appeals:

- Proposed Riverside 40B at the former Job Howard brickyard site
- Proposed Pondsides 40B (now Regency at Bolton). Worcester lunch car

‘Mindy’s Diner, serial #747’ c. 1939, was purchased by a private party and removed from the site.

Planning Board:

- John Karlon also serves on this board and has kept us up to date on Century Mill Estates, design planning, scenic roads, etc.
- Provided requested input to Town Planner for Community Development Block Grant application

Conservation Commission:

- Provided research and documentation for the planned Wilder Goose Pond dam site clean-up
- WWTP ‘sheep field’ site and construction access

Board of Selectmen:

- Bose Traffic signals
- Supported the adoption of the Community Preservation Act

Waste Water Treatment Plant Committee:

- Arranged for Mr. Russell Kempton of NEGeophysical in Mendon, MA to conduct a ground penetration radar study of the town’s ‘sheep field’ property, a possible location of the first period William Sawyer farmstead.

New or Updated Surveys and Assessments

In December, pre-application to the recently announced Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey and Planning Grant cycle was filed. Its proposed topic is ‘A

DOCUMENTATION OF BOLTON'S ENGINEERING SITES FROM THE EUROPEAN SETTLEMENT'.

The Commission continues to document the town's historical resources with the services of a preservation consultant. These documents consist of several pages of written descriptions and other information, including detailed photographs. Copies are eventually filed in binders. These binders are available for public use at Town Hall and the Library. Recent surveys include 116 Bare Hill Road, Sawyer sawmill at 401 Main Street, and Indian Boulder at 579 Main Street.

Membership

After a late summer search for new members, we are delighted to welcome Christina Rickard, Alice Coggeshall and J. Howard Black. Regrettably, Roland Russell and Myles McConnon have had to resign due to family and work commitments.

**Financial Statement
July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006**

Expenses

| | | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------|--|-------------------|
| Appropriated | | | | \$3,600.00 |
| Expended | Purchase of Services | \$1,775.00 | | |
| | Advertising | 0.00 | | |
| | Postage | 35.13 | | |
| | Supplies | 1,424.92 | | |
| | Books | 24.95 | | |
| | Dues | 340.00 | | <u>\$3,600.00</u> |
| Unexpended balance returned to general fund | | | | 0.00 |