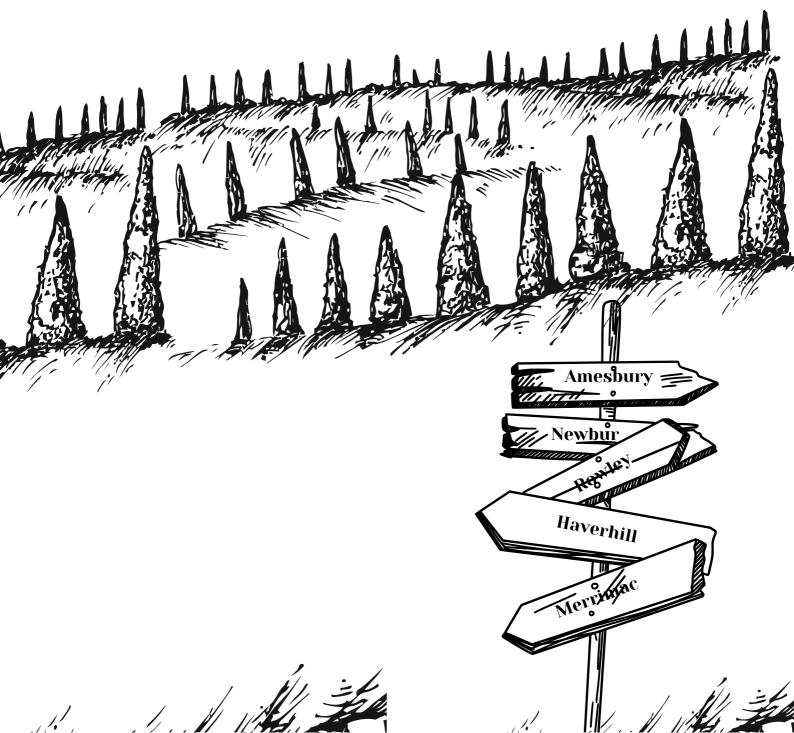
Town Office Tales

Curiosities and observations on the history, people, and objects inside and outside Town Hall.

West Newbury on the Move!

For 200 years West Newbury has been a Town on the move, dotted with roads, railbeds , bridges, and byways, these traversed by carriages and cars, trolleys and trains, pedestrians and pull-carts.



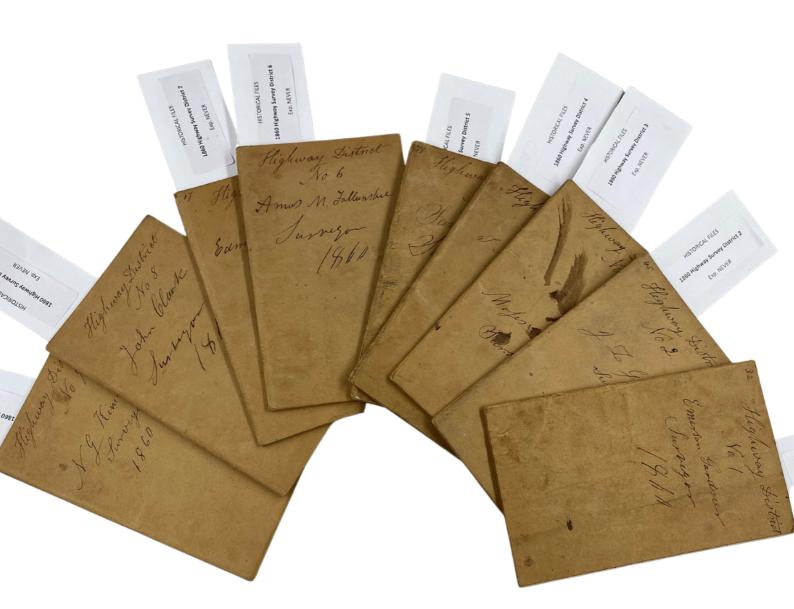
Calem January 6th 1830. Tothe filection of Met Mary Gentlemen request, we have examined the piece opnece voad in your town located anthe Petition of Thos. Chase Lalsand conought by Mr. Moulton-It is not so wide by several feet as ordered - when we direct a woad to be worked 24 peet wide we mean there shall be a wrought patts of this extent, on which the wheels an safely mue. the cannot accept it until it is so pini whit. The general hormof the road appeared to be such as it should be Forthe County Compr. adt. of Decv. Top

Then as now, the development of infrastructure was a slow and tedious process. This letter at left from the County to the Selectboard rejects a roadway proposed by West Newbury for being too narrow for County standards.

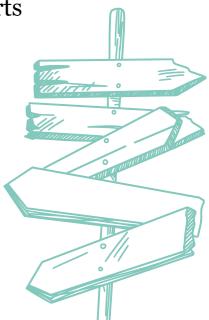
Then as now, traffic congestion was a primary concern on Route 113. This citizen's petition calls for the rejection of a proposed gas station at Post Office Square citing the high volume of cars.

111111

OF THE TOWN OF WEST NO able Board not to grant a permit for the erec e Station in Post Office Square, as the traffic in that location it time makes it a very dangerous locality, and the traffic to a very dangerous extent if such a Gasoline Joseph C 9n' auliffe Edna 9, Siles ada L. Welch. Joseph c Welch. Mary & Cooney alice m. Learly Henry & Nones Michael J. Leavy Daniel M Carly Mounay L. Brown 17. Pleiler mar Sonier Elizabeth Thompson Christated Bacheller Anea Estohner John B Swaf The a Hall Russell 7. Noyes Mary M. Christe Harriet V. Whiling Shaburr T. Daves Lung B Porce Helena 7. m. - anliff D. m. Balley Susan C. M atharine J. K. my a. Mail Charles a, Florington V. Thu na Robinso annie Swap



Regular inspection of the roads in West Newbury was undertaken by the Highway Surveyors, assigned a District (usually 1 through 12) to report in on to the Selectboard to ensure safety and maintenance. These are the Surveyor's reports from 1860.



Hard to believe, but at one time the trolley came through West Newbury right down Main Street. In the 1910s, the Boston and Northern Street Railway took over local service, running streetcars to and from Haverhill and other locations. In this letter, sent by Boston and Northern to the Town, they petition to act as sole carrier to convey "newspapers, baggage, express matter and freight".

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

IN BOARD OF RAILROAD COMMISSIONERS

[8172]

Adanted by an ergor March 2, 1911.

an order of the selection as

Petition of the Boston and Northern Street Railway Company for authority to act as a common carrier of baggage and freight in Billerica, Burlington, Dracut, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Lowell, Methuen, Middleton, Newbury, Newburyport, North Andover, North Reading, Rowley, Tewksbury, West Newbury and Wilmington.

The petitioner has obtained authority to conduct the business of a common carrier of newspapers, baggage, express matter and freight in the following cities and towns: Billerica, as granted by an order of the selectmen dated February

West Newbury, as granted by an order of the selectmen dated April 2, 1908; Wilmington, as granted by an order of the selectmen dated June 24, 1909.

-2-

After notice and hearing,- it is

ORDERED, That the Board hereby certify that public necessity and convenience require that the Boston and Northern Street Railway Company act as a common carrier upon the lines of railway named in the orders granting said authority, to the ext of receiving, carrying and delivering such baggage and freight, described in the schedule on file with the petition, as is usual transported by express companies, restricted to exclude besides explosives all articles and commodities the transportation of which may be hereafter prohibited by the Board, upon the under standing that the facilities by which and the manner in which business is conducted shall be subject to supervision and regution by the Board from time to time as the public interests may require.

(Signed) CHARLES E. MANN,

A true copy. Attest:

Charles Z.Mann

Attest:

Clerk.