Town Office Tales

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

The West Newbary Central School

The evolution of Town Offices into what they are today is evident by spotting a few clues throughout the building. Notice the frosted glass on the doors? The many chalkboards? You'd be correct in assuming this building was originally constructed as a school, which it served as until the early 20th century. The chalkboards are still here simply because they are too heavy to cart off- solid slabs of slate! The basement level of the building served as a cafeteria, while learning went on above. The principal's office was situated next to the old main entrance which overlooks Main Street.

1900s-era classroom doors.

Chalkboards pop up in various offices, such as the Select Board meeting room and the Treasurer's workspace.



With the founding of the regional school district, the Central School found a new purpose as a Town Hall, the cafeteria most notably being replaced by the West Newbury Police Station.

Cellblock door and pass-through.





To this day, evidence of the Department can be found by rolling down a shade, or noticing the little pass-throughs in the glass at the Station's former entrance.

