



## **MILFORD HERITAGE COMMISSION**

**Meets 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday 7:00 PM  
Wadleigh Memorial Library**

### **2014 Annual Report**

The primary purpose of the Milford Heritage Commission is to promote the proper recognition, use, and protection of the unique cultural and historical resources of Milford. One of its goals is to integrate preservation planning into a partnership with individuals, businesses, town boards and other appropriate groups. As stated in New Hampshire RSA 674:44 and referencing the Town of Milford Master Plan, the Milford Heritage Commission shall have advisory and review authority. It is empowered to accept and expend funds for a non-lapsing Heritage Fund and to acquire and manage property and property rights.

The Heritage Commission represents the Historic Conscience for this community.

#### **Activity 2014**

Monthly meetings were primarily concerned with Interdepartmental Reviews of Planning Board submissions.

The Goldman and McLean dam removal projects occupied much of our activity early on this year as we felt the loss of these two structures would have a serious detrimental effect on our community. The Selectmen have concurred with a similar opinion and have voted not to pursue this project.

We continue to be involved with Freedoms Way National Heritage Area of which Milford forms a significant part. On July 30 Milford played host for a Freedoms Way educational event for 30 librarians and school teachers from New Hampshire and Massachusetts. The seminar concerned techniques and procedures for researching old records and discovering hidden stories within them. The day included a walking tour of the Historic Oval Area which for most of the participants was their first visit to Milford. Many said they would be returning to explore our town in more detail. Look for a special event to “Discover Hidden Treasures” in Milford and other participating communities to take place in Mid-May of 2015 for details and information go to [www.freedomsway.org](http://www.freedomsway.org).

In conjunction with Milford Improvement Team (MIT), the Historic Society and the Conservation Commission we have worked for several months to help create the Historic Tour of Milford. Using the latest digital technology of Quick Response or “QR” codes it enables smart phones and tablet users to easily connect to a web site that

leads visitors on a self-guided tour of the Historic Oval area of Milford complete with maps, old pictures, and historical notes. You can also visit the web site by typing [www.QRToursMilfordNH.org](http://www.QRToursMilfordNH.org) on your computer or device.

At year end we have been reviewing a change that is being proposed to the Cell tower located on Town Hall. We are concerned with the adverse visual impact this change will have on the surrounding area as well as the added physical risk of damage to the Historic Building.

We need volunteers to serve on the commission as alternates, project workers, and research assistants. Please make your willingness to serve known to one of the Commission members or to the Selectmen's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles F. Worcester, Chairperson  
Herbert Adams, Vice Chair  
Polly Cote, Member  
Erna Johnson, Member  
Gary Daniels, Board of Selectmen's representative