



The Andover Historical Society's Secret Garden in Potter Place provides a cool and shady spot on the hottest of days. Photos: Charlie Darling



The field at Cemetery Corner has been an East Andover landmark for generations. Carolyn Currier bought it in 2013 in order to preserve it for the enjoyment of generations to come. Photo: Donna Baker-Hartwell

Sibbel and Frank Cellini Create a Sign for the Secret Garden

Press release

Sibbel and Frank Cellini of Carving by Cellini, a popular vendor at Andover Historical Society's (AHS) Old Time Fair every year, have donated a new sign to AHS to point the way to the Secret Garden that Ken Reid and Bob Hamilton created several years ago in the foundation of Richard Potter's former home in Potter Place.

The Cellinis, who have been in business for 30 years, "thought this lovely little spot needed a proper sign," so they created one and installed it on August 3, in time for the Old Time Fair on August 7. For more information about the Cellinis' business, visit CarvedWoodSignsNH.com.



Sibbel and Frank Cellini donated a new sign to AHS for the Secret Garden.

Andover's Special Places: The Field at Cemetery Corner

Preserved for generations to come

Donna Baker-Hartwell for the Beacon

The field across from Lake View Cemetery corner has been a landmark for travelers coming into East Andover for generations. It might just be one of the oldest consistently farmed fields in town.

It has been in the Thompson family since the late 1800s. Ernest Bertelle

Carolyn Thompson Currier, youngest daughter of Alan and Florence, decided that she would purchase the field from the Thompson LLC in order to preserve it for the enjoyment of the generations to come.

Carolyn writes, "As I look at the field being mowed, it brings back happy memories from the 1940s. It was during World War II, when many people from Andover were in the armed services. Farm help was scarce. My two sisters and I helped hay the fields. Before my dad went out to hay, I would pedal the old grindstone while he sharpened the mower's blade.

"We would rake the hay into rows with Nellie, our dappled gray horse, in the lead. The big wooden bull rake came in handy when picking up the scatterings. We didn't have a hay baler. The three of us all learned to drive the truck and wagon.



Alan Thompson farmed and mowed the field for many years.

and Stella Thompson, who lived at the Homestead on Maple Street, passed it to their son, Alan K. Thompson, and his wife Florence after Stella died in 1968. Alan farmed it for many years and used his horse-drawn sickle bar to cut the hay.

About 40 years ago, the Shaw family took over its use. There were some years that corn was planted. This past July, Emile Shaw reports that he got 700 bales of hay off of it. He will most likely get another cutting this year.

In 2008, owned by the Thompson LLC, part of the original field was given to the Town of Andover to make more room in the cemetery. The State of New Hampshire Department of Transportation had redesigned the bad corner in Route 11, cutting through a large part of the field. It made sense to the Thompson LLC trustees to give to the Town the section of the field that was now on the cemetery side of the redesigned road.

The Shaws continued to hay the remaining field. However, in 2013 the Thompson LLC wanted to dissolve and put the field on the market. The future of this old field was uncertain.

"After heaping the hay into piles and loading the wagon high and wide, we were off to the barn at the Homestead on Maple Street. On our way, we would stop for a cold drink at Stebbin's Store near the wooden railroad bridge. That was our reward.

"We didn't get money for our work in the fields. We were a family doing farm work that needed to be done. Dad let us know that we were important, and that gave us the feeling of satisfaction and accomplishment. I remember my father saying, 'My first three boys were girls.'"



Carolyn Thompson Currier has vivid memories of haying the field as a young girl during World War II.

Before Route 11's Cemetery Corner See Field on page 21

THE DUMPSTER DEPOT
Waste Recycling Services



COMMERCIAL



RESIDENTIAL

Great for New Construction - Home Clean Outs
Storm Damage - Roofing Materials



NO

Hidden Fees
Fuel Surcharges
Tricky Long Term Contracts To Sign

- Roll-off containers
- Front-load containers
- Demolition and clean out
- Compactor systems

Do you own a business?

Reliable and affordable commercial trash removal!
We offer weekly and bi-weekly pick-ups.



THE DUMPSTER DEPOT

TOLL FREE 1-866-56-DEPOT LOCAL 603-783-8050
WWW.DUMPSTERDEPOT.COM

