

Time to Remove Election Signs

Andover Select Board

The Presidential Election was tense and exciting to say the least but campaigning ended on November 9.

According to Election Law (RSA 664:17) all election signage must be removed within two weeks after the election. This applies to signs on public property AND private property. It has been more than two months since the election, so we ask everyone to please comply.

Enforcement of this law is through the Attorney General's Office.



Remembering from page 5

port, an accounting of the costs to purchase the land and construct the old town hall, assessed today at \$365,000.

At the left of the entrance was our ante-room. Here, behind closed doors, no doubt much political scheming and planning has taken place. Often it served as ticket office and checking room for wraps. The selectman's room was at the right.

There were two large pot-bellied stoves at the rear of the hall, looking like they grew out of sand boxes, and reaching out from them many feet of black stove pipe finding its way to the chimney.

The sand around the stoves was for the convenience of those who preferred to chew their tobacco rather than smoke it and a safe place to deposit half-burned matches and cigar butts; cigarettes were not plentiful in those days.

Stationary to the east wall and a little more than waist high, looking much like a row of doorless cupboards, was the voting place, where ballots were marked. No curtains or booths concealed the voter. Only a portable railing marked off the section."

In a 1961 newspaper article, Andover historian Ralph Chaffee described how the town hall built in 1879 came to be located on Andover Center's Main Street – a decision that ended a

longstanding tug-of-war between the residents of the Center and those living in East Andover. Chaffee's article concludes as follows:

"Now, 82 years after it was built, another controversy seems likely to threaten the continued existence of the town hall as such. No argument over location this time but rather between sentiment and economy, for a new Andover High School addition with a gymnasium and auditorium is building, with a completion date before the next town meeting.

Sponsors of the new building program suggest the sale or abandonment of the town hall in favor of the new gym as a place for future town meetings, pointing out a large annual savings in heating and upkeep.

On the other side stands a group of older citizens to whom the old hall, with its pleasant memories of past town meetings and social activities, represents more than just a building. Rather it has become an institution, a landmark in the history of the town that, like the few remaining covered bridges, should be preserved for posterity.

They fear that most democratic of all forms of local government, the old-fashioned New England Town Meeting, stands to lose a little more of its distinctive color and flavor if transferred to a new modern setting. Only the future holds the answer.



Ausbon Sargent Protects a New Property in New London

Press release

The Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust (ASLPT) closed on a conservation easement on the Trayner property on Shaker Street and Mountain Road in New London on October 27. This brings the total number of Ausbon

land trust an easement on any remaining property. (Naming a land trust in a will is one option that some landowners choose to manage their land following their death.)

Libby died on March 1, 2016, one month shy of her 101st birthday, and ASLPT was well aware of Libby's intentions for her land.

Libby's longtime friend and neighbor, Gerry Gold, spoke of Libby's wishes. "At the end, Libby got her way. She had brought her parents to New Hampshire to build their shared home and survive the economic struggles of the 1930s. Now she had succeeded in giving her part of New Hampshire a gift of the land she loved."

The Trayner property is mostly forested, but it does contain a maintained field on the northern edge that could be used for pasturing horses or other farm animals. There is extensive road frontage on both Shaker Street and Mountain Road that offers scenic value,

and the property has valuable agricultural and forestry soils. The resources that will be protected on this property are those recommended in the New London Master Plan.

The easement allows for low-impact recreational activities. This newly protected Trayner property feels larger than its 18 acres, as it expands on the already-conserved land in the area including the Low Plain area, ASLPT's Currier easement, and the Cascade Marsh Wildlife Management Area.



In 1949, property owner Libby Trayner purchased her property on Shaker Street and Mountain Road near the New London/Sutton town line and moved with her parents to the home she built on the property.

Sargent protected properties to 139, comprising 11,117 acres of land in its 12 town area of operations, which includes Andover.

Libby was an only child who never married, leaving her no direct heirs. In 1988, Libby began having conversations with Debbie Stanley, Executive Director of ASLPT, about conserving her property. Since Libby was not sure if she would ever need to liquidate any of her land as she grew older, she chose to name ASLPT in her will, gifting the

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