Newington History - MINUTES

April 19, 2021, 10:30 a.m. – 11:19 a.m. Old Town Hall

UDC		la Hashall	Alternata (2022)
HDC	. 1	Jo Haskell	Alternate (2023)
Members	V	John Lamson	Member (2021)
	V	Peggy Lamson	Member (2023)
		Mike Marconi	Member (2020)
	,	Katie Moody	Alternate (2023)
		Lulu Pickering	Member (2023)
		Kristen Poulin	Alternate (2023)
		Becky St. Germaine	Alternate (2023)
		Alan Wilson	Member (2022)
Public	•	Chris Cross	
1886 Parsonage	•	Chris Cross updated the board on	what is happening with the 1886 Parsonage.
	•	Clear titles do not exist for owner Parsonage and (2) the 4.5-acre lot	ship by the Newington Town Church for (1) the 1886 by the 1699 Parsonage.
	•	hired attorney Jonathan Flagg of	ng sale under contract for the 1886 Parsonage and have Portsmouth to work on clearing the titles. A legal notice <i>puth Herald</i> , once a week for three weeks.
	•	The NH Charitable Trusts Unit is filings relative to the deeds and the	overseeing the titles, any deed changes, and court tle.
	•		new owners are aware that any changes to the outside print must be reviewed and approved by the HDC.
Minutes	•	Approved the HDC minutes of M by Becky St. Germaine, all is favo	arch 22, 2021 on a motion by John Lamson, seconded or.
Summer Recreation Camp	•	recreational program at the Old T	MCA backed out of hosting the 8-week summer own Hall for children. The Recreation Committee men to hire a director and staff to run the program.
	•	Historical Society/HDC can help the summer program. Projects con	Committee has asked whether the Newington with a few small group tours in the historic district for ald also include working on the flower gardens, new children the opportunity to take pride in the town and
	•	Approved on a motion by Kristen	Poulin, seconded by Becky St. Germaine, unanimous.
	•		on for this endeavor with Kristen Poulin to work with ours/projects. Others to help as needed.

Historic District Commission Minutes

Metal detecting	• Martha Roy asked the HDC to consider a request by a person from outside of town for permission to metal detect around the Old Stone School and 1699 Parsonage.
	• The HDC voted not to allow metal detecting in the historic districts. John Lamson noted that we have sponsored several formal archeological digs in the past, and we need to respect the historic district and minimize any digging/ disturbances there. All other members concurred with John.
Archaeological trench work	• Jesse Cofelice of Independent Archaeological Consulting is scheduling work for archaeological projects this spring and summer.
	• The HDC approved the October 26, 2020 proposal from IAC (attached) with the funding to come from the HDC special projects budget. Motion by John Lamson, seconded by Peggy Lamson, all in favor.
Library boundaries by cemetery	• Alan Wilson is the HDC point person for the proposed Memorial Garden with unmarked burials and for tree cutting along the cemetery fences. He could not attend this meeting but sent the attached update about the boundary next to the library.
	• The HDC has proposed that the boundaries around the library be agreed and formally approved at town meeting, which has never occurred. A meeting was held with the cemetery trustees, library trustees, Selectmen Connors, and HDC on February 9, 2021 for this purpose.
	• When Alan is back, the HDC will discuss next steps.
Library boundaries by	• John Lamson agreed to be the HDC point person to protect the Veterans Memorial area and to establish a 10-foot buffer around the cannons and monuments.
Veterans Memorial and Town Forest	• This area is threatened by the library parking lot expansion and by a water drainage plan that would come within 2 feet of the cannons.
	• The HDC will discuss the next steps.
Meeting adjourned	• Motion by Peggy Lamson, seconded by Becky St. Germaine, all in favor, adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Included here for completeness but took place after the HDC meeting:

Town Forest	• Martha Roy sent an April 22 email message that the Selectmen are forming a new committee to review what uses should be allowed and not allowed in the Town Forest.
	• The HDC is happy to work with the other groups to bring more people into this part of town that dates back to the original land grant from Dover.
	• Katie Moody agreed to be the HDC representative on the Town Forest Use Committee.
General Sullivan Bridge	• Lulu Pickering has been the point person for the General Sullivan Bridge, historic mitigation measures relating to the Railroad Depot, and the potential transfer of the property to Newington for a Bloody Point Park.
	• NH DOT and its consultant met with the Selectmen on Monday April 19.
	• Attached is Lulu's analysis of the current state of the Railroad Depot and surrounding property, and her response to NH DOT following the Selectmen's meeting.

Newington Historical Society Minutes

Old Parsonage walk through - rodent damage	 After four years of working with the Town Office, the rodent problem in the Old Parsonage is still severe. Multiple trays of poison have been put into each room and refilled this winter. Peggy Lamson will be the point person to try to remedy this issue. Dead mice, urine, and feces are not compatible with public use.
Public programs	• Discussed holding an annual meeting this Spring and what is needed to recreate the old public tavern that was held decades ago in this building.
	• To make the building usable for year-round programs and events, we need lamps, comfortable chairs, small tables, a means to block the fireplace flues to prevent heat loss (if they are not blocked already), internal storm windows to slow heat loss through the single pane windows (the building that has no insulation), and perhaps heavier curtains.
	• The Selectmen have agreed to use the Eversource \$20,000 to add an HVAC system, electrical outlets, and electrical panel to the Old Parsonage. The Historical Society can work on the other issues stated above.
Annual Meeting and Picnic	 The meeting will be on Saturday June 26th 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. with a rain date the next day.

Lulu Pickering, April 26, 2021

Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC 801 Islington Street Suite 31 Portsmouth, New Hampshire 03801

GPR Anomaly Exploration Town Cemetery Newington, New Hampshire

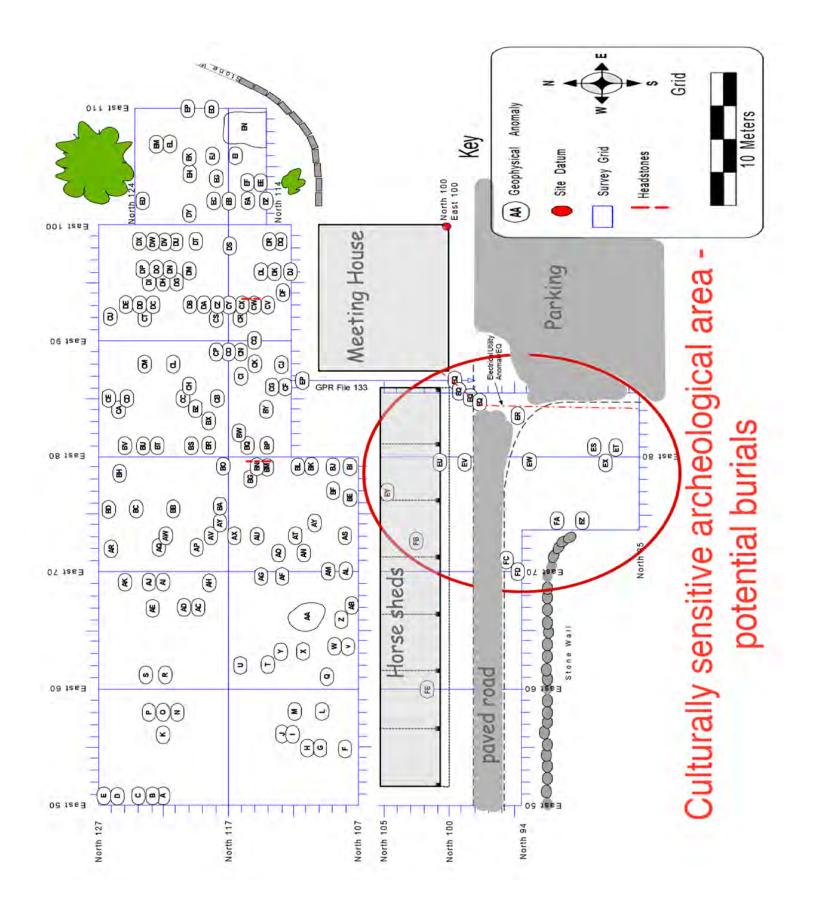
October 26, 2020

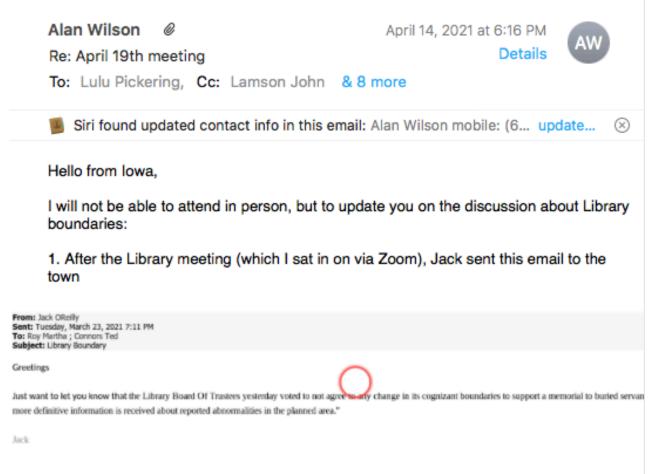
, 1	r absence of grave at location of GPR		Hourly	H	
anomaly "EY"		# Hours	Rate	T	otal Cost
Fieldwork	Principal Investigator	16	\$95.00	\$	1,520.00
Fieldwork	Archaeological Technician	8	\$50.00	\$	400.00
Labwork/Analysis	Archaeological Technician	2	\$50.00	\$	100.00
Report Preparation	Principal Investigator	8	\$95.00	\$	760.00
Report Preparation	Archaeological Technician	2	\$50.00	\$	100.00
Miscellaneous	Supplies, postage, photocopies	1	\$50.00	\$	50.00
Total for GPR Anomaly Explo	ration			\$	2,930.00

Jesse Cofelice, MA, RPA, Director and Principal Investigator, Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC

It was great to speak with you today about the Newington Cemetery. Please find the attached proposal for your review.

- For our efforts, we propose to bisect GPR Anomaly "EY" with a hand excavated trench to confirm the presence or absence of a grave.
- The length, width and depth of the grave shaft will be dictated by existing conditions.
- I've put in a full day for three staff members, to allow extra time to probe the cleared area north of the Meeting House to see if we can find evidence of buried headstones or fieldstones.
- Also, in the event the EY results are inconclusive or if no grave is detected, I'd like to bisect a second anomaly. I was thinking either EU, EV or PC/PD (*FC/FD?- lulu*) we can chat about this possibility.
- Upon completion of the project, we'll produce a brief report outlining our methodology, results and recommendations.
- In terms of scheduling, early Spring 2021 would be ideal our field season is still in full swing and right now we're booked through the week of December 7th. If it's nice and the weather cooperates, it's possible we could complete the Newington Cemetery work the week of December 14th, I just can't make any guarantees. As long we have a mild Spring, we're typically digging by late April (as long as the ground is thawed and the soil is dry enough for screening).





They had decided not to change the existing northern boundary.

2. I measured the 100 feet **north** from the old building and marked out with pink marker paint.

(my measurement agreed with that done by Peter Welch. The north edge of the big stump by the parking lot is at approx. 97 feet)

3. I found the 2 drill marks on the stone wall across the road from the horse-sheds and marked them with pink marker paint.

4. I estimate that a rectangular area 25 feet **south** from the line between the drillmarks will be appropriate for the proposed memorial garden.

5. I believe that this area is entirely on Town land, falling outside the Library's 100 foot area of responsibility to the north of the old building.

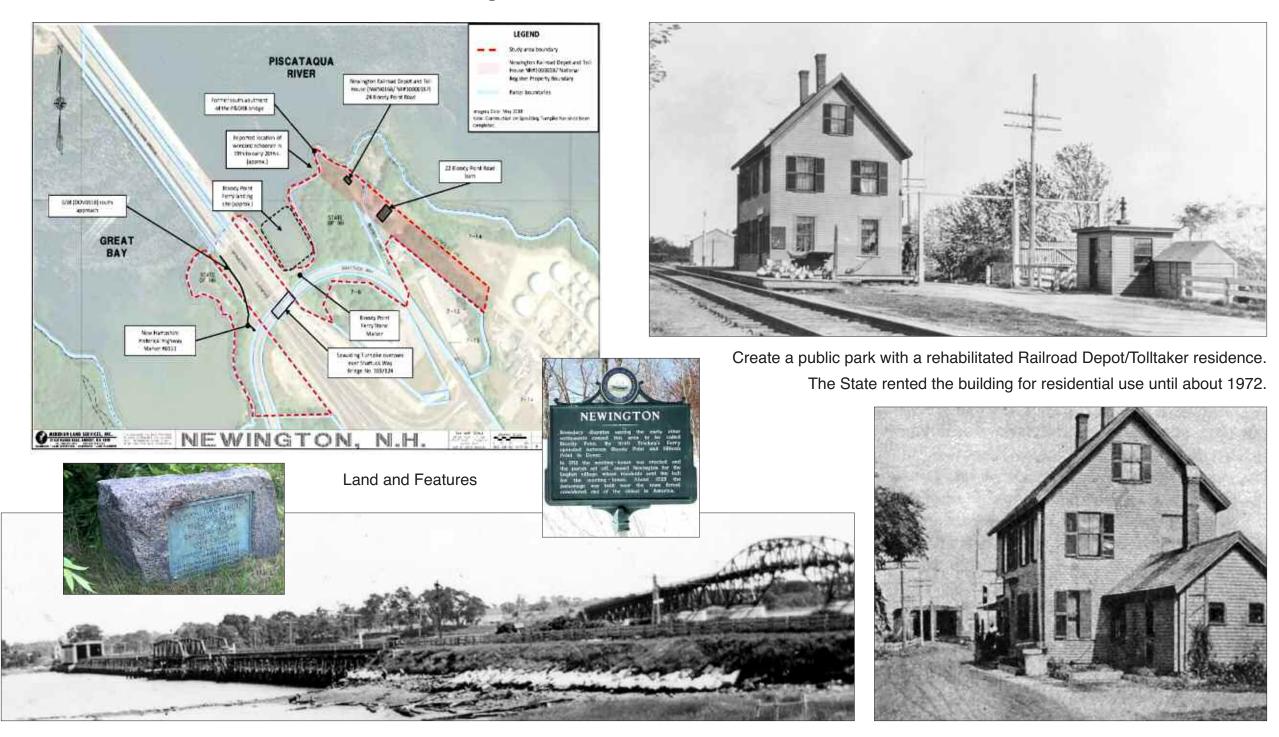
6. I proposed to Peggy that a plaque might be attached to the big boulder - since this is within the 100 foot area, we should work with the Library Trustees on this.

7. I support going ahead with further investigation of the anomaly in the second bay of the horse shed

Alan Wilson



Bloody Point Park - April 19, 2021



Land Rehabilitation



Stunning viewscapes and shorelines already exist.

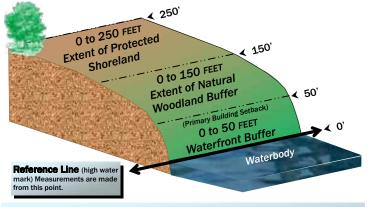
Enable access to the water.

Create nature trails.



Shoreline Protection Act to be followed

THE COMPREHENSIVE SHORELAND PROTECTION ACT (CSPA) was enacted in 1992 to protect the water quality of larger water bodies by setting minimum requirements for the development and use of all land within 250 feet of the **Reference Line** (the high water mark - see below). Within this area, called the **Protected Shoreland** (see below), there are setbacks and restricted use areas that you need to know about. **Effective July 1, 2008**, *a state shoreland permit is required* for many construction, excavation or filling activities within the protected shoreland.



The Protected Shoreland showing setbacks and areas of restricted use. *See inside for definitions of minimum standards for each section.*

Rehabilitating the railroad depot building itself is largely exempt from the shoreline protection buffer requirements because it is an existing, non-conforming structure.

Rebuilding the previous platform as a deck will have to be discussed.

Needed to be done:

Surveying to designate the 50, 150, and 250 foot buffer lines

Environmental consultant to walk the waterfront buffer area, count trees as necessary, and create a report on what can be trimmed, removed, bush hogged, etc.

Existing paths to be designated, approved, and widened for access to the waterfront



0-50 feet from Reference Line* See diagram on reverse for illustration of reference line Waterfront Buffer

- All new primary structures must be set back 50' from the reference line. Towns may have a greater set back – but not a lesser one.
- A 50' waterfront buffer must be maintained. Within the waterfront buffer, tree coverage is managed with a 50'x 50' grid and points system (definition at right). Cutting trees and saplings is allowed as long as the sum of points for remaining trees and saplings equals 50 points or more per 50'x 50'grid (see table at right).
- Natural ground cover (lawns excluded), including the leaf litter, shall not be removed. No cutting or removal of vesetation below 3' in height.

(excluding lawns) except for an allowable footpath to the water (up to 6' wide) that does not concen-

- Stumps, roots and rocks must remain intact in and on the ground.
- Pesticide use by a licensed applicator only.
- Fertilizer restrictions please visit DES website.

* Does my waterfront property come under the protection of the CSPA2 Find out at www.des.nh.gov/cspa. Read DES Fact Sheet, Water Bodies Under the Protection of the CSPA.

0-150 feet from Reference Line Natural Woodland Buffer (NWB)

- Within the NWB, from 50-150′, for lots over 1/2 acre, fifty percent of the area not covered by impervious surfaces shall remain in an unaltered state (*definition at right*). For lots 1/2 acre or less, 25% of the area shall remain in an unaltered state.
- Fertilizer restrictions please visit website.

0-250 feet from Reference Line The Protected Shoreland

- Permits are required for many construction, excavation, and filling activities. However, certain
 maintenance and low impact activities have been
 exempted as listed in Env-Wq 1406.
- The general allowance for impervious surfaces is 20% - and up to 30% with runoff protections (definition at right).
- New lots must have subdivision approval by DES. For new lots, there are density restrictions.
- Fertilizer restrictions please visit DES website.
 For new septic systems there are setback require-
- ments at 75', 100' and 125'.

Non-Conforming Structures

Structures that do not conform to the provisions of the CSPA may be repaired, renovated, or replaced in kind, as long as the repairs or replacements result in

Definitions

Impervious Surface—Modified surfaces that cannot absorb water, such as roofs, decks, patios, paved and gravel driveways (excluding bedrock).

Unaltered State means native vegetation allowed to grow without cutting, limbing, trimming, pruning, mowing, or other similar activities.

Grid and Points System

The waterfront buffer is divided into 50'x50' segments. The trees in each segment are given points according to their diameter at 415' off the ground.

Tree Diameter (at 41/3' off the ground)	Number of Points	
1" to 6"	1	
>6" to 12"	5	
12" and larger	10	

Fifty points must be maintained in each segment.

You may cut the trees or saplings as long as the sum of the points of the remaining trees for that segment is at least 50 points.

If your property did not have 50 points in each segment as of July 1, 2008, you are not required to plant trees to achieve 50 points. However you may not cut any existing trees or saplings unless the grid segment exceeds 50 points.

This is a summary of the CSPA's major provisions. Before planning or undertaking any construction, excavation or filling within the protected shoreland, contact NHDES:

NH Department of Environmental Services, Wetlands Bureau 603-271-2147 www.des.nh.gov/cspa

General cleanup and removal of fallen trees and limbs



Surveying and permits will be needed

A good tree company can handle the tree trimming, tree removal, stump removal (where approved), and brush mulching.

0-50 feet from Reference Line*

Waterfront Buffer

A 50' waterfront buffer must be maintained. Within the waterfront buffer, tree coverage is managed with a 50'x 50' grid and points system (*definition at right*). Cutting trees and saplings is allowed as long as the sum of points for remaining trees and saplings equals 50 points or more per 50'x 50'grid (*see table at right*).

0-150 feet from Reference Line Natural Woodland Buffer (NWB)

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Plenty of open areas will be good for trails with some cleanup and clearing





Invasive species to be removed



Mechanical removal by trimming and mulching.

Chemical treatments with Round-Up.

Shoreline erosion is a concern





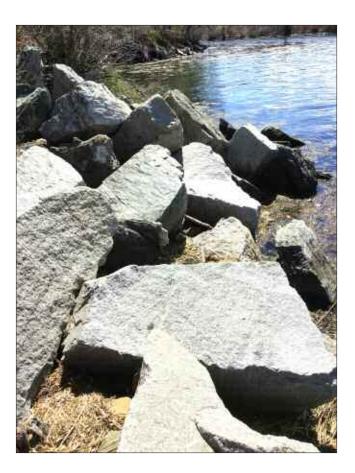


Shoreline stabilization is likely to be the most expense piece of the land rehabilitation plan

The river side of the point facing Eliot has the most vunerable erosion areas.

The end of the point facing Hilton Park already has boulders that may be sufficient.

The turnpike side of the point also has some erosion issues but many small boulders already line parts of the shoreline.



Shoreline erosion is a concern - turnpike side of point





The turnpike side of the point also has some erosion issues (right photo).

Many small boulders already line parts of the shoreline (photo above and to the left).



Lawns, driveway, and drainage



Existing cleared spaces and lawns can be maintained even if within the 50-foot waterfront buffer.

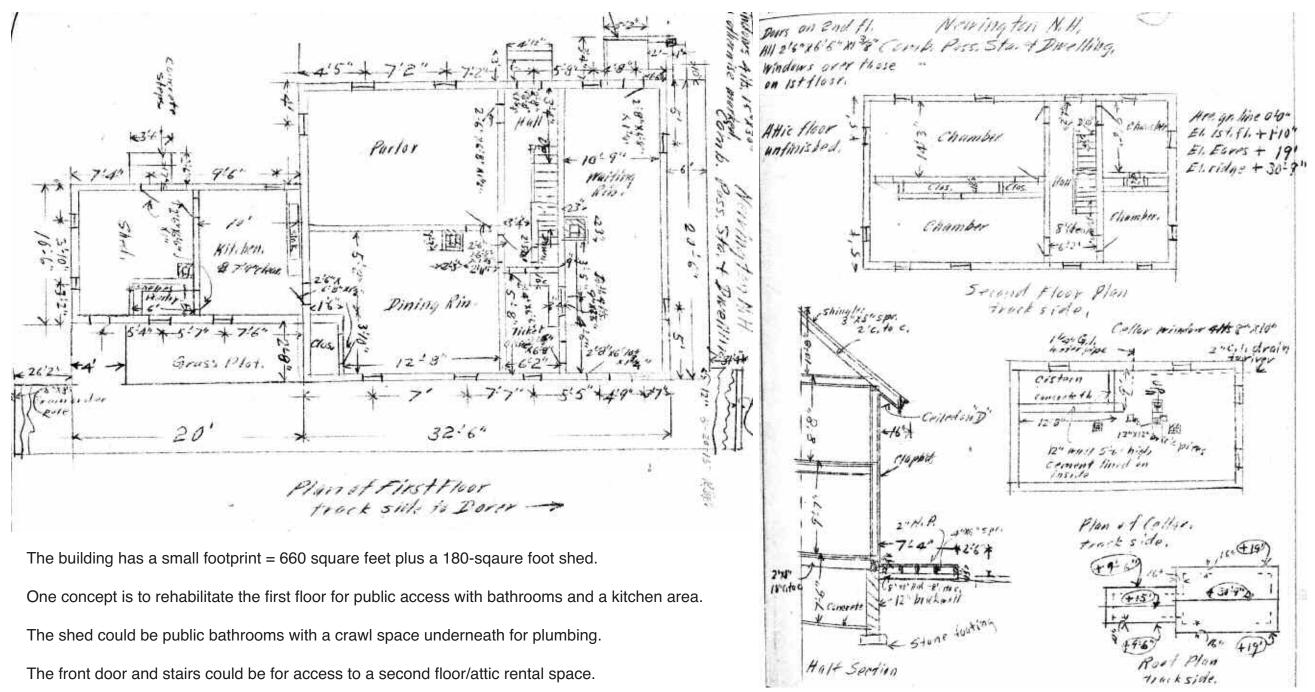
The broken asphalt driveway should be removed so the grounds can be graded away from the front of the building so water does not flow into the cellar.

Note the different ground elevation on the driveway side of the building. Rain and snow can pool by one side of the foundation and cause a wet basement.

Replace house gutters to direct water away from foundation.

Install appropriate drainage around the building perimeter.

Internal floor plan



Roofs and chimneys



House and shed roofs need to be reshingled.

Roof sheathing needs to be checked for water damage and replaced as needed.

Insulation could be installed above or below the attic roof to make the attic part of the living space.



Chimney flashing needs to be checked/replaced.

In 2009, the chimneys looked in good shape.

Check for pointing cement blocks and bricks as needed.

Decide whether to install chimney caps or use the chimneys for heating.

Chimneys need to be cleaned and free of birds and insect nests.

Chimney foundations need to be checked.



Foundation and sills

All internal photos taken in 2009



Wet cellar means water is coming through the front foundation.

Need to regrade the lawns and install drainage around the perimeter of the building so water drains away from the foundation.

Repoint the brick foundation.



Bricks need to be repointed to keep out water (above). Front sill is rotten in places (below).



The inside sills and brick foundation in the shed (right) looked new in 2009

A floor needs to be installed in the shed to create a crawl space below for electric, plumbing, etc.



The back foundation looks better (above). Grading and drainage is needed.



Siding, trim, pests, windows and doors



All trim needs to be replaced with Azek trim.

Windows and some doors need to be replaced, and storm windows (heat loss and noise) and gutters installed. Animal and insect issues need to be addressed.

The roof overhang gives space for using (or not) outside insulation to preserve the internal plastered walls.

Internal rooms – 2009







It looks like the plaster walls had wallpaper that was painted. Removing the wallpaper shows the plaster underneath to be in good shape in most places.

Everything needs to be checked for lead paint and asbestos.

The trim is not fancy and could be replaced. But it looks to be in good condition and could be reused if any lead paint is properly handled.

Electric panel in photo to the left.



Chances are that light sanding and encapsulation would work on all the woodwork to address lead paint if present.

Some ceilings may have had sheetrock installed.

Many floors look like wood floors that could be sanded and refinished.

All rooms need to be painted.

Floors, doors, bannisters, stairs – 2009



In 2009, the floors looked to be wood and in good shape. They could be sanded and refinished.

The front door looks like it could be reused.



The bannisters look in good shape. Their height needs to be checked for code, an iron rail could be installed at code level if needed.

Although not to code, the building is historic and the 3 stairs can likely be refinished and used as is. Note the good state of repair of the plaster walls.



Consider using external insulation to preserve these walls.

Mechanicals, water, sewer, electric, communication, parking, driveway



All the electrical and plumbing will need to be redone. Perhaps two panels, one for the top and one for the bottom floors.

Bathrooms need to be installed on both floors.

HVAC needs to be installed. Perhaps two systems for the public and non-public areas. Kitchen areas need to be installed if the top floor and attic are to be used for rental income and the bottom floor for public events.

Full basement for mechanicals, hot water heater, HVAC, etc.



The driveway is in poor shape and could be removed. Removing impervious surfaces will help with shoreline buffer discussions.

Unknown if septic system exists. Perhaps connect to Newington sewer system.

An existing electric pole is seen above.

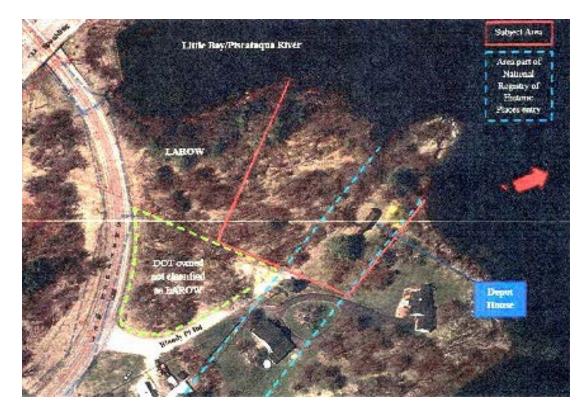
The lot is grandfathered, but electric, water, and communications lines could be installed underground.

Parking to be on open areas that will be gravel.

Hi Jennifer, Jill, and Peter,

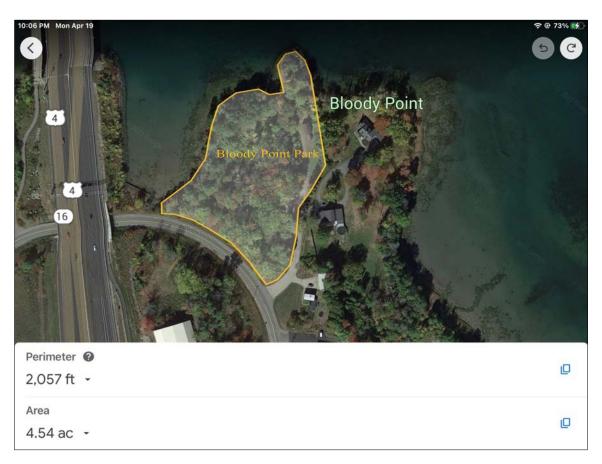
Thank you for meeting with the Town of Newington yesterday at the Selectmen's meeting. If NH DOT had come in with the proposal we had been discussing, about transferring the 4-acre Bloody Point parcel to the town, and with a more viable financial commitment, I think we could have been close to an agreement. I got the sense that the selectmen do not want us to negotiate terms during one of their selectmen meetings, but they are interested in a proposal that can be acted upon. So here is where I think we are now:

1. The new map and proposal you presented yesterday with "Subject", "LAROW", and "DOTowned not classified LAROW" areas were a surprise. You said this map has already been approved by the Governor/Executive Council. When? I wish you had first discussed the concept with the Town of Newington.



2. The new map shows that NH DOT has carved out what essentially looks like a 2.3-acre house lot (the red Subject area) with frontage on the water. In the event that this "house lot" is sold to a private bidder, perhaps that makes sense. It does not make sense if the Town of Newington wants to create a public-access park and that park is significantly hemmed in by State-owned property with no access. I imagine that Hilton Park also has several LAROW designated areas but there is still a public park on both sides of the highway at Dover Point. Newington also does not want to see a chain link fence around the perimeter of a LAROW area or a DOT owned area.

3. The Town's preferred option has been and still is to create a 4-acre Bloody Point Park on our side of the river from Dover, to own the entire 4-acres, and to become responsible for the land and building. When looking at what can be done under the Shoreline Protection requirements, treating the park as one single 4-acre parcel will give much more flexibility in park design than that afforded by the newly proposed 2.3-acre parcel – especially when 50% of any 50-150 foot woodland buffer zone must remain in an unaltered state. A 4-acre park will also give many more options for parking, trails, and water access to the shoreline and the shoreline of the old ferry landing area.



- 4. Your new alternative presented yesterday of a 2.3-acre house lot has perhaps 30 feet of road frontage on Bloody Point Road, which does not satisfy the 200-foot requirement for a new residential lot in Newington. I know the State and the Town do not have to abide by local zoning requirements on their own property. So, the Town could accept the transfer of the 2.3-acre house lot to the Town as municipal property. But in the possible event that the lot is to be sold to a private party, it seems likely that the subdivision of the depot property would have to follow local zoning ordinances and be approved by the Planning Board in order to create a new residential lot for sale. There are also form factors that need to be considered in the shape of any new lot. I imagine title agencies and banks would also require a Town-approved lot to issue a title, mortgage, or occupancy permit.
- 5. If the Town and NH DOT cannot agree on how to transfer the Bloody Point property to Newington and the "house lot" is instead sold to a private bidder, the income from that sale

– your current estimate is \$470,000 to \$520,000 - should go to the Town for use to rehabilitate another historic resource in Newington. NH DOT should not be able to save millions of dollars by not renovating the General Sullivan Bridge and then make hundreds of thousands of dollars by selling one of the oldest and most historic parts of New Hampshire and eliminating public access to Bloody Point that has existed for almost 400 years.

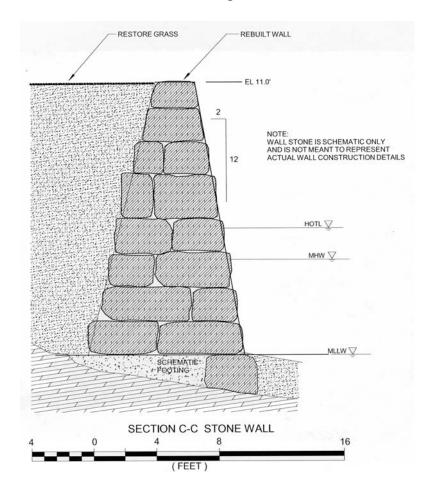
- 6. Can the green area marked "DOT owned not classified as LAROW" be combined with the 2.2-acre house lot marked "Subject?" The green area contains the existing parking lot and could have beautiful trails and picnic areas. Combining the two areas would also provide the road frontage along Bloody Point Road needed to create a new residential lot in the event that lot is to be sold to a private entity.
- 7. Shattuck Way is a town-owned road, not a highway interchange, so the part of the property marked "LAROW" seems odd. What is the purpose of this restriction to prevent direct access onto Shattuck Way? to hold land for future highway expansion? to prevent access to the shoreline of this area? When was this LAROW so designated?
- 8. Whatever the LAROW purpose, is that purpose compatible with a long-term lease to the Town of Newington for use of this area as part of Bloody Point Park? I don't think NH DOT wants to maintain a park on the Newington side of the river. Ownership by Newington or a long-term lease makes the most sense.
- 9. The April 19, 2021 document titled "Bloody Point Park" shows several projects to be done to rehabilitate the Bloody Point land and building. Yesterday's proposed \$150,000 isn't close to what is needed after fifty years of inattention by NH DOT. The Town had proposed \$1 million.
- 10. The largest cost for rehabilitation of the land is likely the work to be done to stabilize shoreline erosion along the old bridge abutment. The bridge abutment of the old 1794 Piscataqua River Bridge at Fox Point in Newington also had shoreline erosion issues that were addressed about 2009. That project was phased over multiple years. Other sections of the Fox Point shoreline also need erosion control measures, and the Selectmen are very aware of how expensive that work can be.
- 11. I don't have any of the proposals from 12 years ago for the Fox Point bridge abutment projects or any cost estimates that would be pertinent today. But I was able to find some old photos and designs that were published in the local newsletter (attached 3 pages). Similar measures are likely to be needed to stabilize the Bloody Point bridge abutment area.

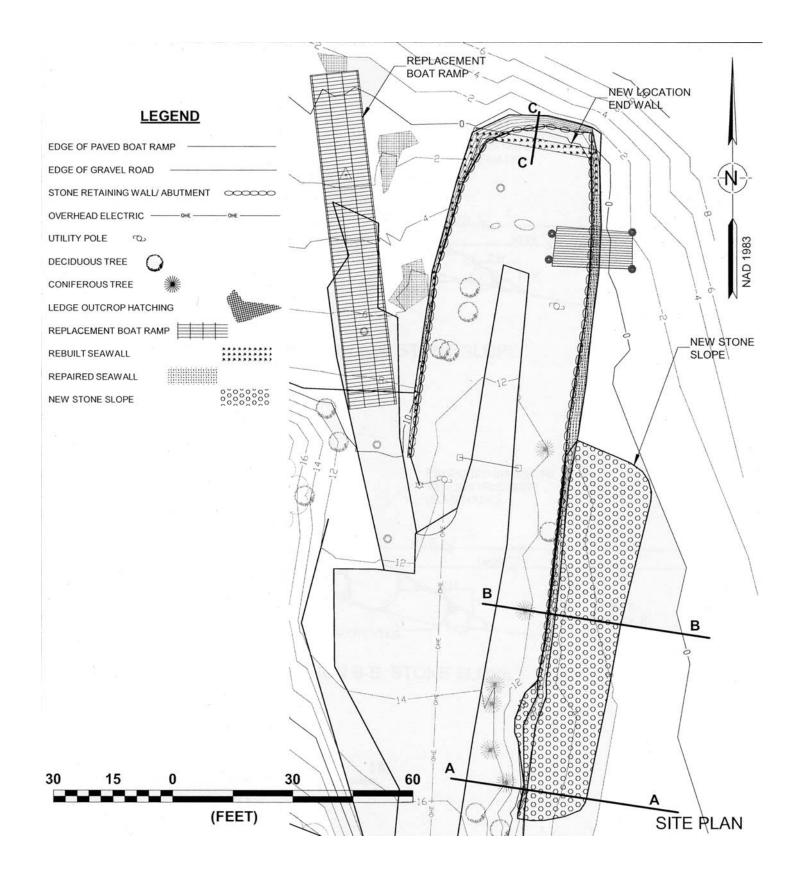
I am optimistic that we can work out something that will be agreeable to NH DOT and the Selectmen. We have come a long way, but we are not there yet.

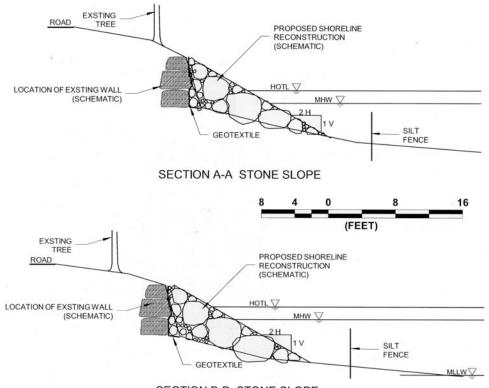
Lulu Pickering HDC Chairman, Newington Consulting Party



Fox Point 1794 bridge abutment







SECTION B-B STONE SLOPE

