

Town Report
North Brookfield Historical Commission

After several months of planning, the North Brookfield Historical Commission is excited to partner with the North Brookfield Historical Society on a variety of projects beneficial to preserving our local heritage, including the completion of the Survey and Inventory Project which was started by the members of the North Brookfield Historical Commission in the early 1980s.

This important project helps identify the unique areas, buildings, objects, burial grounds, structures, bridges, parks and landscapes of historic significance in North Brookfield through a searchable database of the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS.)

The MACRIS database separates the physical listing of places, yet remains inseparable as it represents the very heart of historical North Brookfield as a whole. In fact, what is this information but the sum of all its parts; the who, what, where, and why these places even exist?

An excerpt from the History of North Brookfield, Massachusetts... With a Genealogical Register, by J. H. Temple, published by the Town of North Brookfield in 1887, reads:

“The desirability of publishing a Town History having been in the minds of the older inhabitants for several years, and after the destruction of the Town Records by fire in 1862, the propriety, and even the necessity, of such a work becoming more apparent, in 1864 the North Brookfield Historical Society was formed, with Hon. Charles Adams, Jr., as Corresponding Secretary and Librarian. This organization resulting in the collection of considerable material for a Town History.”

The result of this incredible undertaking provides us with an accurate accounting of our early history through personal memoirs, marriages and deaths, old wills and deeds, genealogical records and so much more. This vital information also provides the foundation of each North Brookfield record listed in MACRIS by providing a detailed overview and meaning to each place.

It is in recognition of the many contributions of individuals and families who founded this community over two hundred years before us that we continue their legacy of North Brookfield historic preservation through our work with the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS), and other important projects to come. And we need YOUR help!

We encourage the participation of All in the opportunities to contribute, together, our own history and build upon the legacy on the Town of North Brookfield for future generations.

Please visit the Town Website at <https://www.northbrookfield.net/historical-commission> and the North Brookfield Historical Society Facebook Page to learn more.

Sincerely,
The North Brookfield Historical Commission