

6.20.18

Here is your Country. Cherish these natural wonders. Do not let selfish men and greedy interest skin your Country of its beauty, its riches, or its romance.
THEODORE Roosevelt

To whom it may concern,

This letter is to inform the town of Bristol of the work which was done on the Carrig property on the upper notch road.

The town contacted my parents by mail and asked if they could cut some trees and stone line the ditch along the upper notch road. In order to do the project the town stated that they may need to move some of the stone in the stonewall that ran the length of the hill.

Permission was given to cut the trees and move any stone that was in the way, they were never given permission to remove the rockwall or the dumptruck loads of ~~fill~~ fill that were taken.

When the rockwall was taken a crew came out and started to dynamite the larger boulders without prior notice or warning. At the time I was in the cellar doing repairs on the foundation.

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Before the work was started by the town a gentleman from Waitfield Telecom called and asked if we would mind them moving the poles onto our property beyond the right of way. Permission was granted and the poles were moved. After the town finished the work, the survey ^{was} done, they put the survey stakes beyond the poles on our property. There was never any mention or communication to my family about taking our property. There should have been compensation to my family under eminent domain, which was mentioned by Dave Sharpe, but rejected by other board members.

In appraising the property the town should get an estimate on what it would cost to replace the rock wall and fill that were taken, as well as the ones on the Beaver Meadow that were ruined by Vt. Forestry that the town let grade the road. This also caused problems with the home as well.

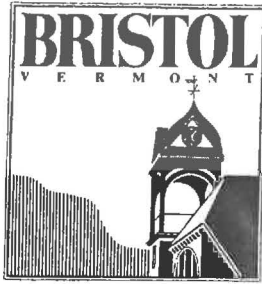
Attached are copies of the letters that were sent by the town, also attached is an article that my mother sent to me prior to the town doing the work, which

6.20.18

Clearly shows that she did not want the
rockwall to be taken.

Thank you for your attention
to this matter,

Mr. Christopher Cary



Town of Bristol

Holley Hall
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 • Fax 453-5188
Email: holleyhall@gmavt.net

January 11, 2005

Chris Carrig
90 Beaver Meadow Trail
Bristol, VT 05443

Dear Chris,

Enclosed please find a copy of the Findings of Fact and Order, along with a copy of the resulting survey map, having to do with the section of Town Road No. 8 (Upper Notch Road) as shown on the map.

The Findings and Order, dated 12/27/04, are recorded in Book 113, Page 569 of the Bristol Land Records, and the mylar version of the map is to be recorded.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Hall
Town Administrator

Report of Findings and Order for Laying Out of Highway
Bristol Vermont Selectboard

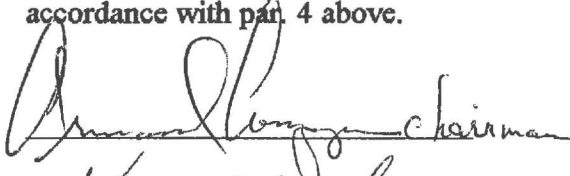
In accordance with Title 19 VSA we hereby find the following:

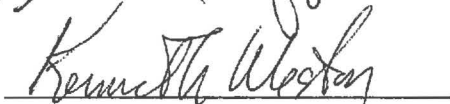
A Hearing and Examination in accordance with Section 709 has been conducted for a portion of Town Road No. 8 ("Upper Notch Road", so-called), being that section beginning at the intersection with Town Road No. 19 ("Beaver Meadow Trail"), so-called, and extending in a westerly direction for approx. 525 Ft.

We find the following:

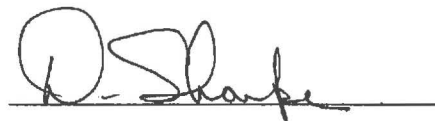
1. Periodic loss of roadway and ditching due to the narrowness of the road, along with new road construction, may have resulted in shifting of the road surface, so that the use of the existing centerline may not represent a fair re-establishment of the right of way boundaries.
2. Existence of traces of old fences, hedgerows and stonewalls do not create a consistent source of evidence of the road limits.
3. Recent re-construction of the roadway has resulted in the establishment of a new stone wall on the south side (with the landowner's permission), that in the future could be misleading as to the right of way limit.
4. After preliminarily staking a proposed right of way boundary during the original hearing and inspection, a second inspection/visit with both abutting land owners or their representatives resulted in a further change by setting the easterly limit 5 Ft. to the northerly, and by setting the westerly limit 2 Ft. to the northerly of our original stake-out.
5. Due to the circumstances, we find that no damages should be awarded.

As a result of the above, we hereby order that a survey be conducted in accordance with Section 33 of Title 19, in order to re-establish and confirm the 3-Rod limits of this highway section. We further order that the limit be monumented in accordance with par. 4 above.


 chairman



Dated: 12/27/04





Bristol Town Clerk's Office
Rec'd. for record Dec 29 2004 AD
at 10 o'clock 25 minutes A. M.
Recorded in Book 113 Page 569
Attest:  Town Clerk Asst



Town of Bristol

Holley Hall
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 • Fax 453-5188
Email: holleyhall@gmavt.net

June 19, 2003

Chris Carrig
90 Beaver Meadow Trail
Bristol, VT 05443

Dear Chris,

Yesterday I drove along the Beaver Meadow Road to see how the Forest Service made out with the grading. Looks like they had a problem in front of your house.

I understand your concern about traffic and the possible illicit goings on beyond you, but it is a public road, albeit, a class 4. The statute says the town may maintain a class 4 road to the extent required by, "the necessity of the town, the public good and the convenience of the inhabitants of the town". Because there are property owners past your house we feel there is an obligation on the Town's part to perform some maintenance. We are just fortunate that the Forest Service takes on the responsibility.

It would be helpful if you could remove the pickup truck from the right-of-way. At some time when we are grading the Upper Notch Road we will come in and touch up in front of the house.

If you have any questions give me a call. Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Hall
Town Administrator

Cc: Bristol Selectboard
Mike Pezzetti, U.S.F.S.



Town of Bristol

Holley Hall
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 • Fax 453-5188

May 20, 2002

Chris Carrig
90 Beaver Meadow Trail
Bristol, VT 05443

Dear Chris,

As you know we are getting ready to do the FEMA work on the Upper Notch Road. Specifically there is a stretch of road approximately 750 feet long on the north side of your property that the Town would like to ditch.

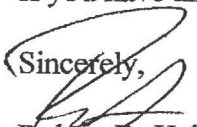
All the trees between the stonewall and the road will have to be cut. The wood is yours and we will place it where you want at your house.

The accepted right-of-way on most town roads is 25 feet from the centerline. (A right-of-way is just that, an easement for the town to perform necessary roadwork. As the property owner you actually own to the middle of the road in most situations.) The stonewall seems to be partly in and partly out of the 25 foot limit. We will try and push the rocks up the bank to maintain the stone wall as best we can. Any rocks that you don't want we will remove.

The enclosed sketch will give you an idea of what is to be done.

If you have any questions please let me know. Thanks for your continued cooperation.

Sincerely,


Robert B. Hall
Town Administrator

Cc: Margaret Carrig

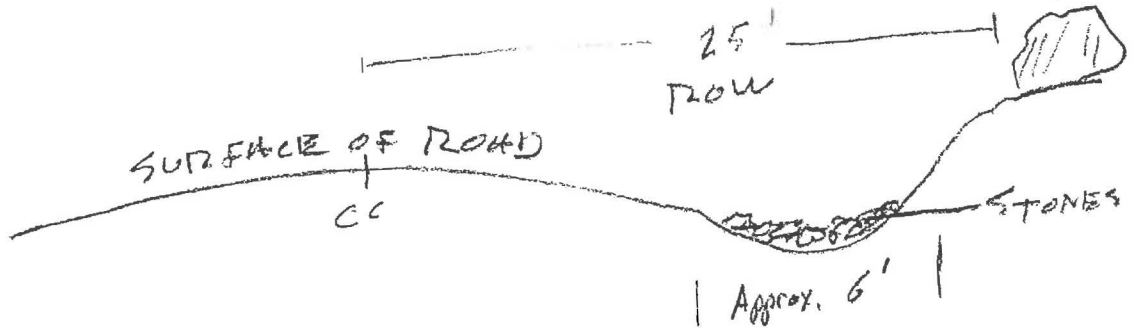
BEAVER MEADOW RD

← REPLACE CULVERT

UPPER NOTCH RD

WIDEN DITCH - APPROXIMATELY 750'

ALL TREES
BETWEEN ROAD AND
STONE WALL WILL BE CUT.



BOB HALL
453-2410

5/24/02



*Thanks for
your help.
Bob H.*

Town of Bristol
Holley Hall
P.O. Box 249
Bristol, VT 05443
(802) 453-2410 • Fax 453-5188

June 23, 1998

Joseph and Margaret Carrig
614 Westmoreland
Trenton, NJ 08618

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Carrig:

The Town of Bristol's Selectboard is concerned about the status of the road ditch that runs along the Upper Notch Road adjacent to your property. There is a continuing problem of water eroding and deepening the existing ditch. This erosion occasionally undermines the road causing a dangerous situation for traffic and an expense to the Town.

The Board and the Road Foreman believe that widening and stone lining the ditch will solve the problem. That is why I am contacting you. The Town has a right-of-way that extends 25 feet on either side of the road centerline to facilitate maintenance. In order to accomplish the job we would have to extend beyond that right-of-way in a few areas to move some rock and earth and possibly cut some trees. We obviously need your permission to do this.

The job is not planned for the immediate future would like to get prepared. If you are in Bristol this summer we can show you what we are planning. If not, please let us know what you think.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Hall
Robert B. Hall
Town Administrator

*Permission to cut trees
and move rocks on south
side of Upper Notch Road in order to
repair road.*

Margaret L. Carrig

GUARD YOUR STONES!!!

The Times, Thursday, November 7, 2002 AA5

New England's heritage is etched in stone

By STEVE GRANT
The Hartford Courant

Stuck in traffic on I-84 in Hartford, Conn., one day this year, Robert M. Thorson noticed a flatbed 18-wheeler beside him. It carried 12 wood crates, each packed with lichen-crusted field stones.

Thorson is a scholar of stone, a University of Connecticut professor of geology and geophysics, and he immediately recognized the cargo as a disassembled wall that, judging from the kind of stone, almost certainly came from eastern Connecticut. It was headed west, undoubtedly to be used in some construction project.

Left behind was a rip in the eastern Connecticut landscape.

"If you think of the landscape that we love in New England as a fabric, that fabric is held together by stone walls," Thorson said. "To lose them one at a time is slowly but insidiously unstitching that fabric — and one day you won't be able to wear it."

If there is a quintessential icon for inland New England, one that rivals lighthouses on the New England coast, it is the stone wall, Thorson says. And those stone walls, the single most tangible legacy of the region's early agricultural heritage, are disappearing.

They are sometimes purchased and shipped elsewhere, sometimes destroyed as part of road improvements, sometimes bulldozed as new commercial or residential development washes over old agricultural lands. Sometimes they're even stolen.

As they disappear, there is increasing alarm that one of the signature and ubiquitous features of the New England landscape will go the way of the great auk and the passenger pigeon. A national preservation effort is growing.

Protecting these walls is protecting historic character," said Helen Higginson, executive director of the Connecticut State Office of Historic Preservation, who is investigating whether stone walls could be included next year in its list of "endangered" places.

The biggest challenge to stone walls, she said, is road widenings.

Preservation effort needs a manual. His new book, "The Magnificent New England Stone Walls," is a history of stone walls



This is a portion of an old stone wall surrounding a cemetery in Mansfield, Conn.

and examines their environmental and cultural significance.

Thorson makes the case that New England stone walls are unique to the region because of its geology and cultural history, that they were a function of deforestation and subsequent widespread agriculture that was rapidly declining by the mid-19th century, leaving the walls largely as relics.

"I see these as largely natural and organic, with a large cultural overlay," he said one day last week, walking beside a knee-high stone wall in Mansfield, Conn.

cause they were, in effect, "linear landfills," Thorson said. As frost worked stones to the soil surface each year, farmers carted them to the edge of the field and tossed them, shaping them roughly into a wall. The fences are mostly thigh high because lifting the stone higher than that was too much trouble.

While the classic New England wall is rock upon rock, without mortar, they are remarkably enduring. Thorson said the peak of stone wall activity was from about 1775 to 1825, but since then, the

cause of their nature, they are as easily removed as they were built, however.

"We've had people come in off-hours and dismantle stone walls right in our state forests," said Richard K. Clifford, chief of the bureau of outdoor recreation at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.

Scott Dawley, supervisor at Pachaug State Forest in eastern Connecticut, said he was not aware of any instances where an entire wall had been taken at Pachaug, but in recent years, layers of rocks have disappeared from walls and old stone foundations within the forest.

walls. Thorson was outraged recently to learn that a Massachusetts company sent a bulk mailing to residents of Ashford asking property owners if they wanted to sell their walls.

"Left unsaid was that the property owner's short-term financial gain from selling stone would, in a few years, be offset by the long-term loss in value for property denuded of its stone walls," Thorson said. "Also left unsaid was that quarrying the wall for its stone was, quite literally, strip-mining the land of its character."

Thorson and his wife, Kristine, have formed the Stone Wall Initiative, an organization that he says is so informal as to be a nonorganization. Its only reason for being is the education, appreciation, study and preservation of stone walls by anyone who cares about them.

He said he hopes to avoid being seen as a smug academic telling people what to do with their land. Any solution, he said, will have to respect private property rights. An appreciation of the history of stone walls and their aesthetic appeal today is an essential first step, he believes, if the walls are to be spared over the long term.

Towns are beginning to take notice.

In Mansfield, subdivision regulations have been adopted that require developers to identify existing stone walls and retain them in any development, if possible. Where not possible, the town insists that the walls be relocated or the rock used to repair or enhance other walls.

"I would say there has been a general recognition over the years that stone walls are an important feature of any site being developed," said Gregory Padick, Mansfield's town planner.

In Plainfield, where stone walls have been stolen and sold, planner Louis J. Soja said zoning regulations do not protect stone walls, but the town now requires that if a stone wall is to be removed, a permit must be obtained first to ensure that environmental standards are met.

Landscape architects like working with stone walls when designing a project. "It's a tie-back to what has preceded us," said John Alexopoulos, associate professor of landscape architecture at the University of Connecticut.

"There is a written history right in front of us. Everyone has a piece of it, because they are everywhere in New England."