

HERITAGE COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORT 2015

The **Candia Heritage Commission**, appointed by the Board of Selectmen, provides for the proper recognition, use and protection of Candia's historic and cultural resources.

During the past year, the Commission has continued to focus on activities and projects that generate an appreciation for the history of the town as well as support efforts to document that history.

Toward that end, the Commission arranged for additional printings of *A Sense of Place*. A compilation of existing town histories and residents' personal memories, the work was first compiled and published by the Commission in 2014, and in 2015 was reprinted twice due to its popularity. (Copies are available at the Town Office Building or the Smyth Public Library for \$15.)

The Commission undertook the creation of historical self-guided walking tours spotlighting the Candia Village and Main Street Depot areas of the town. Historic markers also are planned, in order to properly designate these areas of historic importance.

In 2015, the Commission joined the Conservation Commission in developing a trail guide for walking or other non-mechanized recreation, and at least two Commission members are participating in the creation of a Community Profile as part of the ongoing master planning process.

As in past years, the Heritage Commission actively participates in various events around Candia:

- Commission members welcome townspeople and other visitors at the Smyth Memorial Building during the annual holiday Lights on the Hill event;
- The Commission sponsored a presentation on water powered mills at the Smyth Public Library;
- Members monitor barn conservation easements by doing site visits and evaluating maintenance of barns by property owners;
- The Commission organizes the annual roadside cleanup; and
- Moore School's 4th grade Candia History Day is a major undertaking, with several commission members playing key roles in making this education event a success.

The Commission meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Smyth Memorial Building. Anyone interested in the history and heritage of Candia is encouraged to attend meetings.

Members: Diane Philbrick, Chair; Carleton Robie, Selectmen's representative; Betty Sabean, vice-chair; Carmelle Druchniak, secretary; Lorraine Briand, Ray Cresswell, Dave Desilets, Carol Howe, Sandra Whitcomb.