



Town of Carlisle

MASSACHUSETTS 01741

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Annual Report 2023

The main role of the Carlisle Historical Commission is to act as the Historic District Commission for the Carlisle Historic District, which primarily includes the town center, and to act as the Historical Commission for the town. The membership of the Historical Commission is prescribed by Article 9 of the Carlisle General Bylaws and consists of 5 members and up to 3 alternate members to be appointed by the Select Board. The membership must include at least one architect and a nominee from the Carlisle Planning Board.

The Historic District and Historical Commission were created to preserve and protect the distinctive characteristics and architecture of buildings and places that are significant in the history of Carlisle; to maintain and improve the settings for such buildings and places; and to encourage designs compatible with the character of the Historic District.

In its role, the Carlisle Historical Commission receives, hears, and rules on applications for alterations to the exterior of structures within the Historic District, and alterations to hardscaping on a property.

During 2023, the Carlisle Historical Commission reviewed 6 applications, issued 6 Certificates of Appropriateness and 0 Certificates of Non-Applicability and continued hearings for 0 applications into the year 2024. See table below for applications reviewed by the Commission.

Property	Owner/Applicant	Project	Certificate
27 School Street	The First Religious Society of Carlisle	Installation of new telecom equipment in steeple and in new fenced-in enclosure	Appropriate
42 Lowell Road	Center Park/Town of Carlisle	Installation of sign on tree with bracket	Appropriate
83 School Street	Town of Carlisle/ Brian Waterson	Outdoor Classroom railing	Appropriate
5 Lowell Street	Anna Stoebel/Michael Bertini	Replace 5 dormer sashes & 4 storm windows, repaint exterior to match existing color.	Appropriate
15 Lowell Street	Ruth Cruise	Installation of two signs	Appropriate
27 School Street	The First Religious Society of Carlisle	Installation of black aluminum fence at play yard	Appropriate

The Commission held 8 informal discussions on most of the applications before the formal hearing – a process that the Commission continues to encourage as it is an opportunity to provide important guidance to the applicant and has regularly resulted in streamlining the hearing process for the applicant.

Other Activities

- The Historical Commission supported the warrant article for the Gleason Public Library.
- The Historical Commission submitted an application for CPA funds to restore the Central Burying Ground. This article was approved at the Special October Town Meeting.
- Full member Krissy O’Shea represents the Historical Commission on the Community Preservation Committee.
- Jennine Blum stepped down as administrative assistant in October. A search for a replacement administrative assistant is on-going.

Committee Membership

There were various changes to the Committee in 2023.

- The terms of Co-Chairs Annette Lee and Chip Dewing expired. They continue to serve as alternate members to the Commission.
- Krissy O’Shea and Ben Herter were chosen as the new Co-chairs of the Commission.
- Ed Rolfe became a full member Historical Commission
- Colby Mauke became a full member of the Historical Commission.
- Sara Cassidy Smith is the new Planning Board liaison to the Historical Commission.
- Jack O’Connor continues to serve as an alternate member.

The Historical Commission extends its sincere thanks to the members who have left the Commission and appreciation to all those who have worked diligently to preserve the historic character of Carlisle, and particularly to the residents of the Historic District for their appreciation of the historical importance of Town Center.

Co-Chairs: Krissy O’Shea and Ben Herter

Members: Ed Rolfe, Colby Mauke and Sara Cassidy Smith

Alternate Members: Annette Lee, Chip Dewing and Jack O’Connor