

## Belmont Heritage Commission

### Annual Report 2005

The Belmont Heritage Commission was established by the voters of Belmont at the 2004 annual town meeting. A further vote at the 2005 annual town meeting authorized the establishment of a Heritage Fund which allows the Heritage Commission to accept and retain funds acquired by appropriation, gift or otherwise which are to be retained in a non-lapsing account to be expended by the Heritage Commission for its purposes without further approval of the voters.

During the year six meetings were held by the Commission as deemed needed. Accomplishments during the year, in addition to several discussions relative to the purposes and goals of the commission, include the following.

At the meeting held on January 13, 2005 the following Statement of Purpose was adopted "The Belmont Heritage Commission will promote the proper recognition, use and protection of the unique historic and natural resources of Belmont, and also integrate preservation planning as a partnership with individuals, businesses, Town Boards and other groups."

The Board prepared and submitted the nomination of Christopher Williams, architect for the Belmont Mill, for consideration for the 2005 Governor's Arts Award in the "Lotte Jacobi Living Treasure" category. The Heritage Commission was pleased to have the nomination endorsed by organizations, including: Belknap Mill, Canterbury Shaker Village, NH Music Festival, NH Preservation Alliance, NH Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Squam Science Center, Meredith Public Library, and the Deputy Director, State Division of Historical Resources.

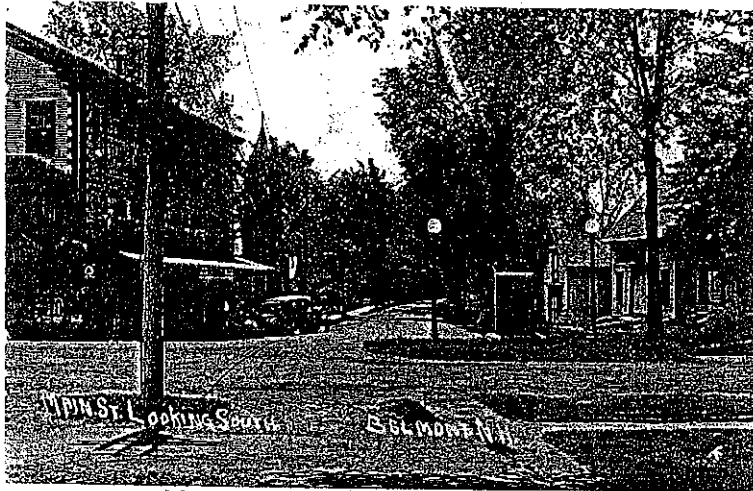
The Board prepared the necessary petition and suggested wording for a State Highway Historical Marker for the Belmont Mill. The completed application was submitted and is being held by the State Division of Historical Resources pending availability of funding. The Commission thanks the Belmont Historical Society for its initiative and support gathering resident signatures for the required petition.

The Board held conversations with the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance relative to applying for a grant for an architectural assessment of the Province Road Meeting House. The Board looks forward to making application for this funding early in 2006.

Citizens are again encouraged to bring to our attention their concerns about historic or cultural sites anywhere in Belmont which are threatened or which lack documentation and recognition.

Sincerely,

Wallace Rhodes, Chairman  
Linda Frawley, Vice Chairman  
Ronald Cormier, Selectmen's Representative  
Diane Marden  
Margaret Normandin



Monument Photo Courtesy of Wallace Rhodes