

HARRIS ROAD

(at page 9)
Note: See entry of May 10, 1830, for the actual, final acceptance of the Harris Road.

February 23, 1775

Warrant, 3rd Article: Request of Amos Harris Jr. and Paul Sanborn to lay them out a cross road from the road that leads to said Sanborn's [the old rangeway known as Sanborn Road] to the road that leads to James Tuttles [Tuttle Road] .

March 14, 1775

Upon the request of Mr. Amos Harris Jr. and others for a cross road to be laid out, Town Meeting Voted said petition be referred to the Selectmen, they to view and lay out said road if they think proper and make report to the town at the next annual March Meeting.

Undated

The following is the return of a road . . . to be laid before the Town of North Yarmouth at their annual March meeting A.D. 1776:

Gentlemen: At the request of Amos Harris, Jr. and others to lay out a cross road from the First Range Way next Falmouth line to the Second in the Westerly 100 Acre Division in the town, and upon the situation of the settlement in that part of the town, we judge such a road necessary - therefore have proceeded to lay said road, which is to be two Rods in width and to lay one Rod on each side of the following lines and stations, and is described and bounded as follows, viz:

Beginning at a stake near a small Beach marked which stake stands fourteen Rods on a course South 45 Degrees East (according to

the original running o the Range line) from the most Westerly corner of John True's half of Lot No. 24 which he now lives upon and from said stake North 66 Degrees East 18 Rods to a stump. Thence North $50\frac{1}{2}$ Degrees East twenty Rods to a heap of stones. Thence North 63 Degrees East twenty rods to a heap of stones. Thence North 30 Degrees East seventeen and a half Rods to a heap of stones. Thence North $86\frac{1}{2}$ Degrees East thirty five Rods and 10 links or untill it comes within one Rod of the Northwesterly side line of 100 Acre Lot No. 23 so as to bring the whole width of the road on John True's land. Thence North 45 Degrees East sixty four Rods of a heap of stones. Thence Northeasterly across the Easterly corner of said John True's land to the corner between Lot No. 44 Richard Stubbs, and Lot No. 45 Amos Harris, Junior and Joshua Spears in such form as to bring the whole width of the road on said Amos Harris's land. Thence North 45 Degrees East eighty Rods or untill it comes to Joshua Spear's half of said Lot No. 45 there to make a turn of one Rod to the Southeast so as to bring the middle of the road on the dividing line between Richard Stubbs land and Joshua Spears land and so to continue Northeasterly to the road that leads from James Tuttle's to the County Road, and for better information a plan of the foregoing road and the Lots it passes upon is put upon the back of this report. All which is humbly submitted.

John Hayes, Samuel Merril, Samuel Cutter - Selectmen
Recorded Pr. David Mitchell, Town Clerk

March 12, 1776

At town meeting the Selectmen reported upon a road laid out at the request of Amos Harris Jr. and others and thereupon,

Town Meeting Voted that said report be accepted and recorded providing that the town be at no expense in purchasing the land through which said road is laid out.

April 18, 1777

Warrant, 10th Article: Request of Mr. Amos Harris relative to opening a road, which was laid out at his request and others and accepted March 1776.

May 5, 1777

Town Meeting Voted that the 10th Article in the Warrant be dismissed.

February 26, 1778

Warrant, 6th Article: Request of Mssrs. Richard Stubbs and Joshua Spear with regard to giving them time to fence out the road lately laid out between their land, at the request of Mr. Amos Harris and others if said road should not be flung up by the town.

March 16, 1778

Town Meeting Voted that the 6th Article in the warrant be dismissed.

March 21, 1778

At the request of more than seven of the Freeholders, Town Meeting Voted that the vote dismissing the 6th Article in the

warrant be reconsidered and Voted that Messrs. Stubbs and Spear be allowed till the first of November next to fence out the road referred to between their lands, provided Mr. Stubbs allows the inhabitants to pass through his land occasionally during said time.

March 5, 1779

Warrant, 4th Article: Request of Messrs. Richard Stubbs, Joshua Spear, Enoch Sawyer and Joseph Drinkwater Jr. relative to a cross road laid out through their lands from the Sanborn Road so called to the Tuttle Road so called, to see if the town will grant said persons a reasonable compensation for said road going through their lands, or discontinue said road or otherwise as shall then be thought best.

March 24, 1779

At the request of Mr. Richard Stubbs and others, Town Meeting Voted that the road laid out from the Sanborn Road so called to the Tuttle Road so called be discontinued.

October Term, 1779

Court of General Sessions, County of Cumberland

A Petition having been presented the last Term by Paul Sanborn and others of North Yarmouth setting forth that that Town had voted to discontinue a road which was laid out in the year 1775 to accommodate them and which was accepted and recorded by said Town at their annual meeting in March the next following and praying that the matter may be enquired into with respect to the necessity and convenience of such discontinuance by a Jury for that purpose to be appointed. The Court ordered that the Sheriff of the County should be directed to appoint and convene a Jury of twelve suitable disinterested men

to view said road and report their opinion and doings thereon at this Term having first caused the said Town of North Yarmouth and all persons through whose land the said road was laid out as well as the Petitioners and all persons interested therein to be notified of the time and place they should make the said view -- And the said Sheriff having appointed a Jury accordingly and notified all parties as aforesaid. That Jury now make report "That agreeable to their appointment they have viewed the road aforesaid and think it convenient and necessary and that it ought to be continued" - It is therefore considered by the Court that the said road ought to be continued and that the costs of said view taxed at ninety-nine pounds six shillings be assessed on the Inhabitants of said Town.

(County Commissioners Records, Vol. II, pp. 69-70)

February 18, 1780

Warrant, 6th Article: To see if the town acquiesce in the report of the Jury and Judgement of the Courts of General Sessions of the Peace for this County respecting a cross road applied to them for by Mr. Amos Harris and if not to determine what measures they will pursue respecting the same.

March 4, 1780

Town Meeting Voted that Edward Russell, Jonathan Mitchell and Jonas Mason, Esq. be a Committee to take advice of Counsel upon the proceedings of the Court of Sessions upon a cross road applied to them for by Mr. Amos Harris, and if they find no bar in the way, then to carry the proceedings of said Court of Sessions upon said road up to the Superior Court by writ of certiorari.

Also Voted that if the proceedings of the Sessions referred to in the last vote be not carried up to the Superior Court and there should be a necessity of paying the warrant issued by the [Court] before it can be taxed with other taxes, that then the assessors be empowered to [illegible word] the money to pay the warrant.

September 29, 1780

Warrant, 2nd Article: To receive the Committee's account who were appointed to carry on the lawsuit relative to the discontinuance of the road that was laid out for Amos Harris and others and settle the whole expenses of said law suit as shall then be thought proper and raise money for discharging the same.

October 11, 1780

Town Meeting Voted Edward Russell Esq. and Col. Mitchell

allowed [stated sum] for carrying on the law suit upon Harris' Road.

Note: Superior Court records for this time period, located in the State Archives in Augusta, were checked. No record of an appeal in this case could be found.

Undated

Report of the Selectmen respecting a road laid out by them as prayed for by Josiah Harris and others as follows, viz,-

Beginning at the most northerly corner of William Noyes, Jr.'s land, running south 45 degrees west eighty-three rods through said Noyes' land, same course through Josiah Harris' land sixty-five rods, same course seventeen rods through John Stubbs' land; thence south $29\frac{1}{2}$ degrees west 27 rods through Josiah Harris' land, same course 89 rods through land belonging to the Heirs of Asa Sawyer; thence south 26 degrees west 61 rods through land now owned by Reuben Sawyer to Sanborn's Road (so-called), same course 4 rods across said road, same course 19 rods through Benjamin Sanborn's land; thence south 45 degrees west 143 rods through John Stubbs' land to Falmouth line; said road is laid 4 rods in width, two rods on each side of the above mentioned courses and distances.

We have estimated for land and damages as follows, viz-

To William Noyes, Jr. for 2 acres and 12 rods of land, \$20; for other damages, \$50; total, \$70.

To Josiah Harris for 2 acres and 48 rods of land, \$23; for other damages, \$80.96; total, \$103.96.

To John Stubbs for 4 acres of land, --; for other damages, --.

To the Heirs of Asa Sawyer, for 2 acres and 36 rods of

land, \$22.25; for other damages, \$78.32; total, \$100.57.

To Reuben Sawyer, for 1 acre and 64 rods of land, \$12.20;
for other damages, \$53.68; total, \$65.88.

To Benjamin Sanborn, for 76 rods of land, \$3.80; for other
damages, \$16.72; total, \$20.52.

Total damages, \$360.93.

All of which is humbly submitted.

William Buxton, James Prince, Nicholas Rideout, Jr. -

Selectmen

May 11, 1829

Town Meeting Voted to accept the report of the Selectmen respecting a road laid out by them as prayed for by Josiah Harris and others. Also Voted not to open said road the present year nor pay damages.

April 7, 1830

Warrant, 5th Article: To raise money for the payment of damages of the town road laid out and accepted by the town the last year; also raise money or labor to open and make the same if the town shall judge expedient.

Warrant, 18th Article: Request of David Spear for compensation for the additional fence he has to make in consequence of the road laid out through the land of William Noyes 2nd and others, and act thereon as the town shall think just.

May 10, 1830

Town Meeting Voted to accept the report of the Selectmen relative to a road laid out by them through William Noyes Jr.'s land and others as follows:

Beginning two rods southeasterly from the most northerly corner of William Noyes Jr.'s land running south 45 degrees west 83 rods through said Noyes' land; thence south 37 degrees west 65 rods through Josiah Harris' land, same course 17 rods through John Stubbs' land; thence south 29 degrees west 27 rods through Josiah Harris' land, same course 89 rods through land belonging to the heirs of Asa Sawyer; thence south 26 degrees west 61 rods through Reuben Sawyer's land to Sanborn's road, same course 4 rods across said road, same course 19

rods through Benjamin Sanborn's land; thence south 45 degrees west 143 rods through John Stubbs' land to Falmouth; said road is laid out four rods in width, two rods each side of the above mentioned courses and distances.

We have estimated for land and damages by said road as follows, viz:

To William Noyes, Jr., \$45; To David Spear, \$25; To Josiah Harris, \$75.70; To John Stubbs, \$42.55; To the Heirs of Asa Sawyer, \$100.57; To Reuben Sawyer, \$67.88; To Heirs of Benjamin Sanborn, \$22.52;
Total, \$377.22.

Also Voted to raise the sum of \$377.22 to pay the damages for the aforesaid road.

September 11, 1838

To the Selectmen of the Town of Cumberland -

The undersigned would respectfully request those Gentlemen to order and have the road leading from the Tuttle Road through the farms of Wm. Noyes and John Stubbs and the Harris Farm new run and staked out and the fences put on the lines from the Tuttle Road to Ruben Sawyers line.

John Stubbs

[original document]

April 8, 1843

Warrant, 15th Article: To see if the town will discontinue that part of the town road southwest of Reuben Sawyer's gate or bars to Falmouth line and act thereon.

April 17, 1843

Town Meeting Voted to dismiss the 15th Article.

Note: Reuben Sawyer's homestead was centered in 100-acre Lot 23, which was located directly northeast of the intersection of the Harris Road and the old rangeway known as the Sanborn Road (Book 213, p. 413).

February 22, 1910

Warrant, 36th Article: To see if the town will vote to instruct the Road Commissioner to gravel the Harris Road (so called) from Tuttle Road to E. S. W. Jones' Road [Brook Road] .

March 8, 1910

Town Meeting Voted to instruct the Road Commissioner to gravel the Harris Road to E. S. W. Jones' Road.

March 6, 1923

Town Meeting Voted \$500. to repair the Harris Road. ✓

1923 Annual Report

Highway account shows \$368.20 spent on the Harris Road.

March 5, 1940

Town Meeting Voted an unspecified sum of money for repairs on the Harris Road.

1940 Annual Report

The highway account shows that the sum voted above was spent.

1947 Annual Report

The road commissioner reported that shoulders were removed on the Harris Road.

1951 Annual Report

The road commissioner reported that the Harris Road was ditched and gravelled from the Tuttle Road to John Taylor's home and a bridge on the road was replaced with a culvert.

1952 Annual Report

The road commissioner reported that Harris Road was ditched and gravelled and two culverts installed up to Guy Brooks driveway.

1953 Annual Report

The road commissioner reported that the Harris Road was ditched, resurfaced and tarred.

1955 Annual Report

The road commissioner reported that a new culvert was replaced.

1972 Annual Report

The road commissioner reported that new culverts were installed and extensive brush clearing done on the Harris Road.

Oral History

Fred Robinson, who was a road commissioner in the 1920's, states that to his knowledge the town has never kept the Harris Road south of the old range road open for passenger vehicles. However he points out that he was the road commissioner for the area west of Main Street.

Normen Christenson, who was road commissioner from 1951 to 1966, states that he ran a grader through the Harris Road to the Falmouth line twice a year in case of fire. He expressed the opinion that a road into Falmouth must be kept open and appears to assume that any road that runs to the town line is a county road. He did not plow the Harris Road south of the old range road in the winter, but states that as of 1966 a passenger car could make it through in the summer.

Milton Copp, who was road commissioner from 1966 to 1976, states that he never kept the Harris Road open south of the old range road, that it wasn't being kept open when he became road commissioner, and that it was never kept open as long as he can remember.

Harris Road Extension (never built)

March 21, 1848

Notice is hereby given that it is the intention of the Selectmen of the town of Cumberland upon the application of Jeriah Harris and others to lay out a town way in said town for the use of said town; beginning at a point near the house of Mr. Dennis Doughty, on Tuttle Road and running in a northeasterly direction and ending at a point near the commencement of the road leading from the Greely road by the Baptist Meeting house in North Yarmouth and that they will meet for said purpose on Friday the 31st day of March, at the dwelling house of Mr. Dennis Doughty in said town at 9 o'clock 'fore noon, and all persons interested therein will govern themselves accordingly.

Sewell Blanchard, Matthias Morton, J. M. Rideout - Selectmen

March 31, 1848

The Subscribers Selectmen of Cumberland upon the application of Jeriah Harris and others to lay out a town way in said town beginning at the south corner of Ephraim Sturdivants land near the dwelling house of Mr. Dennis Doughty and ending at the commencement of the Baptist Meeting house road on the Greely road so called, having given seven days written notice of our intention to lay out the same and stated in said notice the termini thereof by posting up said notice in three public places in said town, and in the vicinity of the proposed rout to wit at the store of N. L. Humphrey, at the school house in District No. 15 and at the school house in District No. 6 in said town, on the 31st day of March, and having met at the time and place appointed for that purpose and having personally examined the rout proposed are of the opinion that there is occasion for a public town way for the use of said town, as proposed, we therefore lay out said road as follows; beginning two rods northwest of the south corner of Ephraim Sturdivants land

(called Spear lot) near the dwelling house of Mr. Dennis Doughty in said town thence running North $47\frac{1}{2}$ East 146 rods 5 links to a stake thence North $61\frac{1}{4}$ East 15 rods 8 links to land owned by Joseph Gooding, thence same course through Joseph Goadings land $94\frac{1}{2}$ rods to the Greely road, the line described to be the middle of the road, and the road to be 4 rods wide, the damage to owners of land through which the road passes is as follows:

To Ephraim Sturdivant	\$210.53
Dennis Doughty	86.56
Joseph Goadings	<u>303.12</u>
	\$600.21

Which such laying out with the boundaries and admeasurements have been filed with the town clerk on the 31st day of March 1848 being seven days before this meeting, and we now hereby report such laying out with the boundaries and admeasurements of the same to said town at a meeting of the inhabitants regularly warned and notified for them to accept and allow the same.

Sewell Blanchard, Matthias Morton, J. M. Rideout - Selectmen

Recorded by R. Rideout, Town Clerk

April 1, 1848

Warrant, 15th Article: To hear the report of the Selectmen relative to a town road laid out by them from Tuttle Road to Greely Road and act thereon.

April 17, 1848

Town Meeting Voted not to accept the report of the Selectmen laying out a town road from Tuttle Road to Greely Road, so-called.

September 12, 1851

Warrant, 3rd Article: To hear the report of the Selectmen relative to laying out a town highway near Dennis Doughty's and act thereon.

September 20, 1851

Town Meeting Voted that the second and third articles in the warrant be laid over to the annual town meeting in 1852

February 28, 1852

Warrant, 14th Article: To act upon reports of the Selectmen relative to roads, adjourned to the Annual Meeting of 1852.

April 12, 1852

Town Meeting Voted to dismiss the article relative to laying out roads as per warrant.

September 11, 1865

Warrant, 4th Article: To hear the report of the Selectmen relative to laying out a town way from the range road near the dwelling house of Dennis Doughty to a point on the Greeley road to the center of the cross road leading to the Baptist Meeting house in Yarmouth.

September 18, 1865

Town Meeting Voted to dismiss the 4th Article.

December 22, 1868

Upon the petition of Jeriah Harris and others, the Court of County Commissioners, having adjudged that common convenience and necessity require the laying out of a highway from the Tuttle road near the late homestead of Daniel Doughty to the Greeley road and laid out the same, ordered that the Town of Cumberland be allowed one year from the time the proceedings are closed within which to open and make said road safe and convenient to travellers, horses, teams, carts and carriages. (Report of Proceeding appears in the County Commissioners Records, Vol. 12, p. 280)

February 20, 1869

Warrant, 15th Article: To see what action the town will take in regard to the order of the County Commissioners requiring a road to be built between the Tuttle Road and the Greely Road, under the petition of Jeriah Harris and others.

March 2, 1869

Town Meeting Voted to dismiss the 15th Article.