The Middlefield Document Hoard

About April 2015 a shopping bag full of secondary town documents from the 1790 to 1885 period was discovered at the Town Hall. A short while later a second collection was found by Duane Pease. In all there were over 2,000 documents in these long-forgotten hoards.

I removed all the documents from the acidic paper bag and removed the rubber bands and paper clips that were damaging the documents, straightened the documents into categories and was prepared to electronically scan the majority.

Many of the random sized pieces of paper were vouchers for road work. There were hundreds and in itself would have provided a detailed view of this critical town job over an extended period of early town history.

I digitized a few documents and the hoard was given to the Town Clerk after the Historic Documents Committee came apart and disbanded as a result of the disagreement on how to proceed with these documents. Please see Appendix A for the transfer document given to the Clerk in June of 2015. The present location of these documents is unknown.

School house levy 1828 - Link

Nathan Smith's invoice as school superintendent 1846 - Link

Use of Town hearse, Seldon Root 1849 – Link

Methodist Church petition 1853 - Link

Town meeting warrant April 1861 – Link

Men eligible for militia 1861 – Link

Roster of eligible men 1863 – Link1 Link2 Link3

Surveyors of roads budgets 1874 (My GG Grandfather was Henry Ferris) – Link

Appendix A: Discovery of the hoard and the 2015 Document Committee response. - Link