Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

This list was compiled by going through the minutes of over 240 town meetings. In some cases the text is a summary of the article and the Selectmen’s report. See the original minutes for complete text. We believe the list is accurate but there is no guarantee that every town meeting road action is represented here.

Notes are in italics. They are based on various editors’ research and may helpful as a guide. They are not part of the Town Meeting Road Actions and may not be accurate.

Volume 1 1767 - 1795

Sept 1767  Art 4  Voted to turn the road through the land of Mr. James Prescott as follows - beginning at a beech tree near the southwesterly corner of his fence and keep SW to a large red oak from thence turn more W or mark direct to Henry Lellenhorn’s.

March 1768  Vote that the following roads are accepted - From the house of Paul Fletcher towards James Coleman’s and believe it as follows - beginning at the East end of Paul Fletcher’s house and running N by the Trees on the west side of the road til it comes to the NW corner of J. Fletcher’s land crossing the stream by the corner. Running N still until it comes to where people used to travel by the old path by William Parkman’s house and so on until it comes to NW corner nearby Conant’s Lot meeting there with the old Proprietors Road. Voted to accept above road on condition that the town not be put to cost in purchasing land.

2. Also - beginning at a small maple tree standing on the west side of the County Road a few poles north of Cansy between the house of James Locke just to Asa Walker’s and run on a SW course across a corner of land belonging to Asa Walker’s from thence across a corner of land below James Locke on into the line between Walker and Locke then W through Locke’s land to Capt. Thomas Jones and through his land to Mr. D. Jones land to a farm known as Brown Meadow Farm, marking direct in farm and then turning more S until coming to the road leading from Tim Hodgeman to the Town Country road E of Benj. Blanchard’s land.

3. Voted to accept certain road beginning about 20 rods from Mr. Joseph Wheeler’s house at a large Hemlock stump and running between Mr. John Jones house and barn and then turning NE to Mr. Thomas Stern’s.

4. Voted to accept the following road - beginning at the white pine tree upon Townsend Road E from Daniel Kyer’s house and running through his land and part of the land of Borthal Weneg to the land of Samuel [D]arby and through his land to Lunenburg road to the bridge below the saw mill near Coleman’s. *Note that all these roads were accepted on the condition that there would be no cost to the town.

July 1768  Art 6  Voted to turn the road leading by Ezekiel Haskal’s to Townsend as follows - beginning at the S end of the bridge in Samuel Stone’s land and running N to the road leading from Tim C. Hodgeman’s near the W end of a small bridge near County road.
March 1769  

**Art 6**  

Accepted the following road - where the road nearly now goes to what is called the Dutch Farm by Ashburnham line and said road is three poles wide; also accepted a road from Timothy Hodgeman’s house to the house of Jacob Shaff beginning at Hodgeman’s dwelling house and running through land of Hodgeman’s and Esq. Jacob Upton’s, Joseph Wooley’s, and Josiah Wilder’s land and so on until it comes to [the] improvements of Abijah Wyman then turning SW to a dead hemlock and marks direct until it comes to the old path from Hodgeman’s at Wyman’s barn as marked direct until it comes to the land of Levi Houghton - then turning more S on Houghton’s land to a maple tree before Samuel Rice’s door, then turning on the line between the land of Houghton, Rice, and Stearn’s, this line being the north line of the road, until it comes to a wall of Houghton’s, then turning one rod on Stearn’s land until it comes to the land of John Bate’s and through the same to Jacob School’s land and on until it comes to the Ashburnham line.

Also a road accepted which was laid out from the west side of Trap Fall bridge running across the stream to a large white pine tree then N as marks direct in Samuel Stone’s land to the wind of the causeway in the road leading from Benj. Blanchard’s to the County Road about 24 poles from the County Road.

**Art 8**  

Article to alter Wm. Wellington’s road to turn it and done according to the request.

April 1769  

**Art 5**  

Voted to discontinue the road from Trap Fall bridge over Holden bridge and so on to Hodgeman’s road.

April 1770  

**Art 5**  

Voted to accept a number of roads provided the town be at no cost for land.

1. Mr. Jacob Puffer’s road from his house to Wm. Parkman’s for the benefit of the Publick, beginning at a pair of barns on the road, a little to the west of Jacob Puffer’s house and so on to the W of J. Puffer’s tree and from Jones by N tree over the great brook to the road near Wm. Parkman’s house.

2. Road laid out from the Province line by Samuel Healeneck’s and through Healeneck’s land and so on between the land of Benj. Hodgeman and John Meade then between the land of Wilder Flagg then through Paul Locke’s land as it is now cleared and travelled and by mark trees on the north side to John Emerson’s house [and] on to the County Road out by Mr. James Locke’s house, to be an open road accept 2 gates at Mr. J. Locke’s farm.

3. A road laid out from the road by Mr. Wm. Parkman’s beginning at the road on the E side of Parkman’s fence and running by the fence to a marked tree to the road leading from Stephen Gibbon’s to John Fitches.

4. A road laid out from Josiah Jone’s house as appears by marked trees marked on the S and W sides of the fence to the road leading from
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Ezekial Haskalls to Jacob Dammons.

5. A road leading from Abraham Gates to Wm. Parkman’s running E near the SE corner of Parkman’s and then running N near Parkman’s E line to Parkman’s house now marked on the N side.

6. A road leading from Ephrem Gibson’s as appears by marked trees to Samuel Sunderson’s line and so by Sunderson’s land to the road spending from Ashby to Fitchburg.

7. A road leading from the County road near John Locke’s beginning at the corner of John Locke’s fence and as appears by marked trees on to John Emerson’s and to the road leading by Benj. Blanchard’s.

Art 6

Voted to alter the road from the back of Mr. Bennett’s house to the side where it is now traveled to come out near the west end of his barn; also the road altered from A[...]|a Pallard’s house to Henry Lellenhorn’s and in the land of Tim Prescott’s as it goes a little farther south where Prescott has marked and cleared for that purpose. Also to alter a road below John Pringmore’s and have it go straight between the land of Samuel Sunderson and Ephram Gibson. Also voted to alter the road from Trapfall Bridge to Hodgeman’s and have it go a little above Holden Bride about 2 or 3 rods farther up the swamp and so to go straight to Hodgeman’s road a little east of the place where it now comes out.

Art 7

Voted to discontinue the road that leads N from Paul Fitch to the old road that leads by Wm. Parkman’s.

June 1770

Art 5

Voted to alter the road from Jacob Puffer’s to Wm. Parkman’s and to have the road go by Paul Fletcher’s as the road is now cleared and as it was laid out and accepted last March.

August 1770

Art 6

Mr. Locke’s road (viz) the road from John Emerson to James Lockes to be a bridle road and there is two gates allowed to be let on James Lockes’ land

Jan 1771

Art 3

Voted to accept the following roads -

1. Laid out a road from the road leading by Samuel Brown’s beginning at the corner between Abraham Taylor’s and Phineas Chamberlain’s and so run on the line as marked to the meetinghouse.

2. The road leading from Samuel Fletcher’s to Joseph Davises NW corner and then on the line between Davis and Mr. Johnathon Lawrence’s land so to the meetinghouse.

3. The road beginning at the Ashburnham line as the road is now passed by Mr. Isaac Brown’s to Mr. Dan Fletcher’s then turning the east side of Fletcher’s house to the road called Townsend Road.

4. The road leading from Mr. Robert Campbell’s mill as the way is now
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

passed by the east side of Sam Brown’s house and barn to the road leading by the Brown’s.

March 1772  Art 5  
Voted to accept a road beginning at the east side of Mr. John Jaqueth’s house and running Northerly as appears by Marchs on the East side of said road over the stream by the mill and so on to a grey hemlock tree for the benefit of Adford Jaqueth, he being about to build on said land the road meeting one of the gates by the house.

March 1773  Art 5  
Voted to accept the following roads -
1. Beginning at a small poplar tree near the corner between the land of Benj. Hodgeman and John Meade and through the land of Mr. Josiah Wilders, near the end of his house and through a corner of Davis Locke’s land and through Asa Shed’s land to the road that leads from Sam Fletcher’s to Abijah Wyman’s.

2. Beginning 5 feet W of Ebenezer Stone’s house and so on the west side of the rail fence until it come opposite to the NE corner of Stones Orchard thence from an old white pine stump standing on the west side of said road about 3 feet westerly of the white oak tree marked from there 10 feet easterly of another white oak tree direct to the Hemlock tree standing on the east side of the brook - through the land of Hugh Hall Esq. To a corner between the land of Waldron Stone and Benj. Barrett.

March 1774  Art 4  
Voted to accept the following roads -
1. Beginning at the red oak stump by the old road leading by John Dunsmoor’s house to Lunenburg, said stump being about 10 or 15 rods from Dunsmoor’s house, and then running N to an oak tree and to a white pine and to Mr. Josiah Jones house.

2. Beginning at the Hemlock stump at Benj. Walker’s house S to the White pine tree to the road that leads by John Emerson’s house to the meetinghouse.

August 1774  Art 3  
Voted to discontinue the New Road from John Lawrences by Mr. James Bennetts house to New Ipswich provided the Town be a no cost.

Voted to Discontinue the Town road where the County road leaves it on Joseph Walkers land.

April 1776  Art 3  
Voted to accept the following roads -
1. Beginning at the west side of the barn that leads out of Nathan Davises to Thomas Stearn’s and so on the west side of the road as travelled to Nathan Dawser’s house and then directly to Capt. John Jones and then on the road now traveled to Mr. Zacariah Davises.

2. Beginning at the Hemlock tree by the bridge below Isaac Gregory’s and so on to Mr. Abraham Taylor’s to Taylor’s line to the road leading from Taylor’s line to the meetinghouse.
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Art 5
Voted to discontinue the road from Mr. Oliver Blood’s to the Ashburnham line during the town’s pleasure as an open road, said road to be a bridle way - voted to discontinue the road from Benj. Hodgeman’s to S. Hildreth’s between the lots. Also voted to accept the road as it is marked to said Hildreth’s, voted to discontinue the town road that leads from Elezar Lawrence to Captain Samuel Stones.

March 1776   Art 3
Voted to accept a road by Josiah Jones beginning at the Hemlock on the south side of the road and running from there to a horn beam and thence to the Fitchburg line by the Chesnut tree. Also accepted as a bridle way beginning at the road [red] Oak stump, near Stephen Patch’s house thence to an Oak tree to Mr. Simon Patch’s house.

March 1776   Art 5
Voted to discontinue the road by Mr. Isaac Gregory’s and Benj. Barrett’s.

April 1776   Art 5
Voted to discontinue one rod of the road leading from James Bennett’s to Sam Fletcher’s house provided the owners clear out the incumbrances of the other two rods.

March 1777   Art 3
Voted to accept the following roads -
1. Beginning 8 feet south of the first road of Isaac Gregory’s house to a stake and stones by a spring thence E to the end of Benj. Barrett’s house and barn to the road north of the said barn. Voted to discontinue the new road west of Isaac Gregory’s house through said Gregory and Taylors land.
2. Beginning at the SE corner of Jon Daby’s garden to Joseph Wheeler’s house as the road is now trod, E to the poplar tree to the road in the lands of Tim Prescott. Also from Joseph Wheeler’s house to Aaron Colman’s land - the above roads are accepted. Voted to discontinue the road in Tim Prescott’s land from where above road comes to Aaron Colman’s land.
3. Beginning on Jonas Kendal’s lot at the Maple tree by the road - going east to a Birch stump in the line between the lands of Lieut. Jonas Barrett and the allowance land then turning on the allowance land to the stake and stones between Barrett’s, 2 lots thence turning NE across the land of Barrett’s to the heap of stones at the old road. Voted to discontinue the old road from where the above road begins to where it ends in Jonas Barrett’s land.
4. Beginning at the Hemlock stump by the side of the road a few rods west of Joseph Joneses house to the white Maple tree to the Hemlock tree as marked directly across willard stream a little below Joneses saw mill to the Hemlock tree and then to a little Chesnut tree - now trod from Nathan Putnam’s [t]o Josiah Joneses. Voted to discontinue the old road from where the above road begins to where it ends.

May 1777   Art 3
Voted to accept the following road beginning at the road below Stephen
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Patches house at a heap of stones turning south over the brook to the red Oak tree then to the Maple tree by the SE corner of John Lawrences barn then west over the brook to the rock with the heap of stones on it to the road leading from Samuel Tinny’s to Ebenezer Stone’s.

March 1778  Art 5  Voted that Ebenezer Emory have a bridle way from the land to the town way on the east side of Bezaliel Newton’s log fence.  
Voted to accept of an exchange of a piece of road leading from Benj. Colman’s to Josiah Jones on the line between Colman’s land and Jacob Damon’s land provided that Colman shall make the road passable before he shuts the former road up. Also that Colman shall open the road near where the old road was trod from the first of Dec to the first of April.

March 1779  Art 4  Voted to discontinue the road through Lieut. Kendall’s and Abel Richardson’s land usually called Gibson’s road - beginning a little before John Gibson’s house, bearing west from the present road to a stake - then E from the present road directed to a Hemlock tree, near the Stephen Barker house - then through Barker’s lot and Gibbeses and Richardson’s land to the road now trod in Lt. Kendall’s land to the white pine tree.  
Alteration made by Asa Shed on road - beginning at the road leading from Wilder’s to Asa Shed’s on the west side of the Shed land, out to the town road and not more than 14 rods where the road is now trod.  
Shed engages not to stop road as it is now trod before the other is open.

March 1781  Art 5  Voted to accept Elijah Houghton’s road.  
Laid out a road as follows/viz/ Beginning at the Town road Benj. Wallis’s house and barn to a white pine Marked thence across the brook through the land of Benj. Wallis, George Flint and Elijah Houghton.  
Said road two rods wide & the marks on the northeasterly side of said road.  
Ashby December 10th, 1780

Feb 1780  Art 11  Accepted the following road (viz)  
Beginning at the stake on the northerly side of the road leading from Hooker Osgoods to the meeting house from thence to small hemlock stump within about three rods of the southeast corner of Mr. Benj. Hills house.

March 1785  Art 5  Voted to accept the following road -  
Beginning at the stake near Dean J. Lawrences house and running easterly through Lawrence land to the land of Daniel Conant’s sons. Then from Conant’s land to the land of Henry M. Wright, thence to the land of Charles Lawrence and to the land above Wright to a stake near Wright’s house on the south side of the county road.

March 1786  Art 4  Voted to accept a road from Lt. Shed’s land beginning at the stake and stones thence by the east end of Ralph Hill’s barn to the land of Joseph Davis and through the land of Davis to the land of Capt. Wyman and thence across a small corner of Wyman’s land to the road that comes from Benj. Damon’s to the meeting house.

May be Sheldon (Shelden) Hill Rd  
also see March, 1838, art. 14
June 1786  Art 4  Voted to accept a road beginning at the left side of Esq. Lockes land where the bridle way is now trod until it comes against the first apple tree (one rod north of the line from the road) then leaving the bridle way running up the hill to a stump then by the south end of Esq. Lockes hogpen to the county road.

April 1787  Art 2  Voted to accept the following roads -
1. Beginning at the town road leading from Sam Tinney’s to Oliver Green’s at an Oak tree on Green’s land - so on said land of Oliver Green’s and Jon Brook’s to the town road before Brook’s house. The above road accepted in exchange for the old one.

2. Beginning at the Fitchburg line (at a road laid out by the town of Fitchburg), laid out across the land of Daniel Willard, Dr. Parker, Lemuil Willard, Ephraim Puffer, John Carrel, Lt. Kendalls, and Josiah Barn’s to the town road that leads by Barnses house on the east side, Puffer’s and Carrel’s houses on the east side of the great Hemlock tree in Barnses land to a great stump at the bars where Barns goes into pasture.

Feb 1788  Road beginning at the stump marked by the town road a little north of the Widow Holden’s Barn on the hight of the rocks until it comes to the road laid out by the north side of Harwell’s pasture.
Voted to accept the above road and to discontinue the road from the Widow Holden’s house until it comes to the road by the corner of Harwell’s pasture.

March 1788  Voted to accept the following road - beginning at the town road at the NW corner of John Hartwell’s pasture and running on the Widow Holden’s land 2 rods wide on the north side of Hartwell’s pasture until it comes to Dean J. Lawrences land and then straight across Lawrences land on the north side of his house until it come to where the road was laid out before.

2. Voted to accept the following road beginning at the east of Silas Joy’s house and a small spruce tree then north through the land of Stephen Wright and Henry Wright’s land to the road that led from Daniel Conant’s to H. Wright’s.

3. Voted to accept a bridle road beginning at the small white birch tree at the road near Tim Prescott’s barn then south through Tim Prescott’s land and Mr. Gates land to the cart way where Mr. Gates carts hay and so on the cart way to Mr. Gates house.

April 1788  Art 6  Voted that the surveyor is directed to open the county road through James King’s pastures and let out the moving of the wall which King requested.

April 1789  Art 2  Voted that the road called the gates road and the Gibson Road so much of them as is ____ in Abel Richardsons enclosures by Discontinue d and
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

given to the said Richardson in lieu of the road that is now trod by his house which is from the road east of his house to where it comes to the road again at the west line of the Parkman Lot so called and a road from Asa Kindall Land out to the Land Road by his house to the satisfaction of P Kindall.

April 1791  Art 4  Voted to accept a road beginning at the town road leading from John Piper’s to Abel Richardson’s at a Hemlock stump on the south side of the road on Abel Richardson’s land and then hence to the NW corner of Asa Kendall’s land.

April 1792  Art 6  Voted to accept a road beginning at the road that comes from Oliver Green’s out to the other road near Piper’s house leading by Stephen Patches to Abraham Gates.

March 1793  Art 9  Voted to accept the following road - a bridle road laid out at a road between Oliver Buttrick’s and Isiah Prescott’s two rods east of Buttricks wall then south to an oak stump near Abraham Gates then east across to the line between Gates and Prescott’s then south to the Beech tree. Voted to discontinue a road laid out by Stephen Patch and Charles Lawrence March 1788 beginning at the Beech tree mentioned in above bridle way and running to the town road near Isiah Prescott’s barn.

April 1794  Art 4  Voted to accept a bridle road beginning at Henry Wright jr’s house to the south to the trees to General Prescott’s and Lt. Lawrence’s land until it strikes the division line between Lawrences and Capt. Wyman’s land at the Oak tree in the line then on Lawrences land by Wyman’s west line to the county road.

March 1795  Art 8  Voted to accept the following road beginning 15 rods west of the SE corner of Oliver Wellington’s land on the county road then E bearing S of the county road to a white Oak tree (a little to the S of a corner of Jonas Hodgeman’s land) then E on Hodgeman’s land to the Townsend line

Volume 2 1795 - 1821

April 1795  Art 2  1. Voted to accept the following roads - Beginning on the road leading from Amos Brook’s to Ashburnham near through the west line of Brook’s land then west on the north side of the house belonging to the heirs of the late Ephraim Whitney, through Whitney’s land and on the land of Reubens in the Ashburnham line.

2. Also accepted a road to James Bennetts beginning at the stake a little east of the house of the heirs of the late Abel Adams on the south side of the county road. Then SW to a spruce tree near Adam’s line then through John Abbott’s and Stephen Baldwin’s land to the house of James Bennett.

March 1796  Art 9  1. Voted to accept the following roads - Beginning at the town road heading from Jonas Barrett’s to Joseph
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Wheeler’s in allowance land, east on the allowance land until it comes to Pierpont Kendall’s land, then south on Kendall’s land to the Pine stump and so on to the Town road by Oliver Lawrences, straight from the stump to the SW corner of C. Lawrences house.

2. Beginning from the road leading by Asa Shed’s house to the road that leads from the meeting house by Ralph Hill’s beginning at the gate nearly opposite Shed’s barn on the west side of the wall that fences the field from the SW corner of the wall - bending SE straight to the end of the wall - on the east side of the aforesaid road that leads to Hill’s house.

April 1796  Art 4  Voted to open the road from Asa Shed’s to Ralph Hill’s.

Sept 1797  Art 5  Voted to accept a bridle road beginning at the road leading from Ephraim Puffer’s to Fitchburg to the NW to Daniel Raymond’s land purchased of Elijah Willard. Then to the east end of Raymond’s barn.

Nov 1798  Art 6  Voted to accept a road beginning at the town road leading from Benj. Barrett’s to Benj. Wallis’es from the SW corner of Oliver Lawrences house west straight to the Pine stump near William Flagg’s house, running N to the north end of Flagg’s garden to strike the allowance land.

March 1799  Art 8  Voted to accept the road from Silas Whitney’s to Isaac Whitney’s if free of expense to the town, and the old road discontinued, free of expense. Beginning at the SW corner of the wall that encloses Silas Whitney’s orchard, then SW to a small beech tree near the east line of John Hall’s land, then west to the Ash tree north of John Hall’s house, then a straight line to the south peak of the ledge of rocks near the west line of Hall’s land. Then NW to the red Oak stump near the ledge of rocks in Isaac Whitney’s land. Then to the north side of Whitney’s barn to the SW corner of his house, and nearly straight touching the SW corner of Elias Whitcomb’s land west of Whitcomb’s house.

April 1801  Art 9  Voted that the road laid out on the allowance land for roads leading from Jonas Barrett’s to Pierpont Kendall’s land be opened by the town on the first day of Nov next.

Oct 1801  Art 7  Vote that the town make the road through Ashby on the route surveyed by Stephen Patch and others, a committe approved by the town, provided that Ashby and Rindge proceed to make the road on the same route.

March 1802  Art 12  Voted to accept a bridle way laid out, if free of cost to the town beginning through John Rices land at the road near Rices house at the west side of Rices barn, then south over the causeway to the stones then S to Sam Rices pasture.

Art 14  Voted that the road laid E of Jonas Barrett jr.’s house leading to Oliver Lawrences house be moved south so far as the north line of Abel Wright until 4 rods from the NE corner of Wright’s then straight to the road
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

against the north east corner of Wright’s land.

March 1803  Art 9  Voted to accept the following roads if free from cost to the town-
1. Beginning at the town road on the land of Tim Marshall’s by a
Chesnut tree through Marshall’s, Abraham Edward’s and Perez
Whitney’s lands to the yellow oak tree through Joseph Jackman’s lands
to the red oak tree, then through Robert Taylor’s land to the yellow oak
tree to the pitch pine tree on Asa Rice’s division line.

2. A bridle road beginning at an old bridle road near the NE corner of
Widow Persis Lawrence III’s, thence south to the county road - road
bounded on the east by Alex F. Willard’s west line.

3. Beginning at the S corner of Whiting and Rices mill yard, then west to
the yellow birch tree near the mill pond, then north across the pond to
the Hemlock tree on through to the first rise of Joneses land - to the
white pine tree at the foot of the second rise, on a straight line through
the land of Jonah Barrett, William Shielding, Oliver Wellington, Jacob
Damon, John E. Stone, and Cornelius Waters to the county road.

March 1804  Art 10  Voted to discontinue the bridle road which leads from Stephen Patches
dwelling house to the Davis pasture

April 1804  Art 4  Voted that the road leading from the Nourse place to the county road be
shut up during the towns pleasure upon the condition that there be gates
and bars at each end.

May 1805  Art 3  Voted to accept a road beginning at the NW corner of Josiah Whitney
jr.’s house, north through the land of Whitney’s to the stake then E
through the west land to Stephen Badlam’s land then E through
Bedlam’s land to the stake and NE on Badlam’s to the Hemlock tree,
near the line of Badlam’s and John Abbott’s land to a white maple tree,
on, or near the line of Abbott’s and Oliver Pierce’s land - thence through
Pierces land to the stake by the county road, near Daniel Brown’s house.
Voted to accept if free of cost to the town - not otherwise.

March 1806  Art 7  Beginning on the north side of the county road fronting Adforth
Jaqueth’s dwelling house, running N to the stake in the land owned by
Adforth near the stone bridge, then across the bridge north through the
land of James Jaqueth to a corner of the Widow Bridget Jaqueth thirds
in the line of N.H. Said road accepted if free of cost to town.

May 1806  Art 6  Voted to accept road if free of cost to town - beginning about 2 rods N
of the shop of Jabez Lawrence, on the north side of the road now
traveled, then east to the white pine tree (near where old south school
house stood) then E to the white pine near the road leading from Eleazer
Spauldings to Jabez Lawrence.
Also voted to discontinue the road as now trod from the old school
house spot to Jabez Lawrence when new road (see previous page) is
made fit for traveling.
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Oct 1806  Art 3  Accepted the road through Benj. Lawrence land beginning on the S side of the road leading from Lawrences to Benj. Barrett jr.’s then south to the Hemlock tree along the line of the Lawrence land and Mannings land near Manning’s dwelling house.

Feb 1807  Art 7  Voted to accept the following road beginning 50 feet of Asa Kendall’s house, then south on Kendall’s land, and the land of Abel Richardson and the land of Asa Kendall, to the hemlock tree then south to the red oak tree, then to the white pine tree by the road leading from Jabez Lawrences to Asa Kendall’s house.

April 1808  Art 4  Voted that the road leading from a town road to John Manning’s through Benjamin Lawrence’s land be opened.

Art 5  Voted to accept a road beginning 3 rods SW of Asa Wilder’s dwelling house, then running SE through Wilder’s land, and the land of Job Hill to a stake and stones (s&s) 5 rods SW of Hill’s dwelling house, the E to the N side of the stone wall, to the road leading from the Ashby meeting house to Benjamin Hodgeman’s.

May 1808  Art 7  Voted to accept the minutes of the following road - beginning at the s&s 32 ft west of the shed going to the barn owned by Betsey and Polly Shed at the road leading from Ralph Hill’s to Rufus Wilder’s then N through Shed’s land to the s&s by the aforesaid road.

Also voted that the selectmen would make an exchange with Betsey and Polly Shed of the old road which was formerly laid out by the town through their orchard for the new road accepted by the town, and if the exchange cannot be made, for the selectmen to open the old road above mentioned.

Nov 1808  Art 3  Could not agree with the Shed’s, but paid damages and discontinued the old road leading through their orchard after the new one was fit for traveling.

May 1809  Art 4  Voted that the road leading from Timothy Hartwell’s to James King’s be opened.

Sept 1809  Art 4  Voted to accept a town road beginning at the s&s by Allen Flagg’s garden, then S through Allen Flagg’s land, then through Benj. Damon jr.’s land on the same course, then through John Barrett’s land and on through J Wyman’s land, and the land of Shirebiah Cardy’s to a town road leading from Benj. Lawrence’s to Benj. Barrett’s. Town voted to pay damages and open the road in one year.

July 1810  Art 3  Town voted not to accept a road as laid out this day by the selectmen at the request of John Rice.

Nov 1810  Art 3  Voted to accept the road near Joseph Warren’s as laid out by the selectmen in their report of Oct 5th. Also voted to grant the request of Wm Warren respecting said road - request to discontinue that part of the road which leads from Samuel Marches to the county road west of the
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

house to that part which lies between a large rock on the W side of the road.

May 1811  Art 5 Voted to accept the road (to be free of expense to the town) - beginning at the wall on the east side of Joel Barrett’s house, thence as the wall goes to an oak tree near the line of Capt Johnathon Barrett’s land, then to a large pitch pine tree, to small pine, to a s&s on the road by Capt Johnathon Barrett’s house.

Sept 1811  Art 2 Voted to shut up the road leading from the turnpike called the Nourse road, during the towns pleasure. Voted to accept the laid out of a road as follows - beginning at a s&s at the end of a town road, leading to Asa Rices land and David and Benjamin Damon’s land, thence east on a line of Rices land to the corner of John Wyman’s land - road would be opened in one month.

March 1812  Art 7 Voted to accept the road of Isiah Gates.

Nov 1812  Art 3 Voted to accept a road laid out by the selectmen from the N.H. line beginning on the land owned by the heirs of Pelatiah Fletcher, then S as the wall runs to the SW corner of said land, then on the land of Robert Taylor to a s&s 8 ft west of Taylor’s house, then SE going on a trodway 16 rods to a s&s bounded on the east side of said road. Thence beginning at the s&s on the west side of said road, then south to a s&s, then to a white oak tree, then to a beech tree on the north side of the brook, then to a s&s by the road leading to Jeremiah Marches.

May 1814  Art 4 Voted to accept the following road - beginning at the dwelling house of Henry Wright then through his land to a hemlock tree in the land of Cushing Burr, then through his land to the road that is now trod, and through a small piece of land, formerly a portion of 3rds of Persia Taylor to a s&s in the line of Alex Willards land, then through Willards land as the wall now stands to a s&s, then on the west line of Willard’s land on nearly the same south course to the turnpike road.

May 1815  Art 6 The following report was presented to the town for its acceptance - beginning at the s&s at the road which leads to Capt Houghton’s and by the stone wall a little east of his barn, then the road runs east through Houghton’s land to a s&s by the stone wall and at the line between Houghton’s and Cutler’s land. It was voted to accept the road. Also voted to accept the road as laid out in May 1814 through the land of Mr. Richard Richardson on the request of Asa Wilder.

Probably a road off Sheldon Hill Rd., on 1831/1844 map

Also voted to accept the following road - Beginning at the s&s by the road a little west of Robert Taylor’s barn, then road runs west through the land of Taylor 23 rods to a s&s by the fence and at the line between the land of Taylor and John.

Voted to accept the following road beginning at a small oak tree on the west side of a small brook and at the road which leads from Mr. Benjamin Allen’s to Lunenburg, thence the road runs north 27 rods to a small hemlock tree, then north 14 rods to a s&s by the road a little south
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Art 7
Voted to give Thom. Cutler ____ , toward damages, which by law he is bound to pay for a road laid out for him through Capt. Houghton’s land.

April 1816 Art 4
Voted to discontinue during the towns pleasure the road from Samuel Duttons in Ashby, leading NW to the New Ipswich line.

Nov 1816 Art 2
Vote to accept the following road beginning at the s&s by the wall thence the line runs west to a s&s by a wall at the line of Benjamin Lawrence’s land, then by said line to s&s at the corner of Lawrence land, then through John Manning’s land to a s&s at the south end of his cowyard wall, and thence to a s&s by a wall and at his yard in front of his house. It is not to be a public way, but a bridle way.

Art 3
Voted not to accept a road as laid out beginning at the s&s at the road which leads from Joshua Shattucks to Eleazor Shattucks - then the line runs west through the land of Nathan P Shattuck and the land of Daniel Howard and Benjamin Damon to a s&s near the white birch tree, and from thence through the land of Damon, crossing the road to a s&s on the south side of the road which leads from Damons to Joshua Shattucks.

Art 4
Voted to discontinue the road from Sam Duttons north to the New Ipswich line

April 1817 Art 7
Voted to accept the road as laid out by the selectmen under Art 3 of the records of the Nov meeting 1816 (it was then not accepted)
Voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s on the NW corners of Eleazer Spauldings land on the road that leads from Jabez Lawrence’s to Spauldings, running east to a s&s east of the brook on the side hill - thence to the old road by a s&s near a large apple tree.

May 1817 Art 5
Voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s near the woods on the old road thence running SE to Fitchburg line to the s&s. (on the request of Timothy Marshall) Accepted on condition that no cost to the town.

Art 6
Voted to discontinue the old road from Benjamin Allens north line to the beginning of the new road north of the bridge below William Sheldon’s, including both bridges.

Oct 1817 Art 3
Voted for the selectmen to take advice respecting the road leading from S. Dutton’s to the New Ipswich line (toward Elijah Newell’s) and that they open the road should they think proper.

April 1818 Art 8
Voted to accept the straightening out of the road as laid out in front of Lewis Gould’s - minutes as follows:
Laid out a road from the east part of Cushing Burr’s garden fence near the common, from thence on a direct line to the corner of Abel Taylor’s land, it being his NE corner at the end of the wall.
Voted to reopen the Nourse road.
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

May 1818  Art 4  Voted to accept a road as laid out through the lands of Asa Wilder’s and Richard Richardson’s beginning at the s&s south of Wilder’s house then south to a s&s in the line between Wilder’s and Richardson’s land, then east on Richardson’s land to a s&s, by a road that leads to Stephen Joneses.

Art 6  Voted that the road near B. Damon’s be let out by the selectmen.

Nov 1818  Art 3  Voted not to reopen the road leading from S. Dutton’s to Elijah Newell’s.

April 1819  Art 7  Town voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s east of McRobbert’s house, then north through the land of McRobbert’s to J. Sander’s land, then through the land of Sander’s to the land of Jonas Barrett and Elisha Taylor’s land, to Parson Cowee’s land, to a s&s near James Barrett’s land, to the land of Willard’s and Lawrences, thence through said Willard’s and Lawrences land to the land of John Locke esq., thence through Locke’s land to a s&s on the old road that leads from Willard’s to Lawrence to Mason, a little north of the bridge by John Lockes land.

May 1819  Art 6  Voted to discontinue the road below William Sheldon’s to the west end of Benjamin Allen’s house.

May 1820  Art 6  Voted to open the road laid out on request of Daniel Howard and others.

Volume 3  1820 - 1837

April 1822  Art 8  Voted to accept the following road as laid out at the request of Adde Jaquith beginning at the SW corner of Adde’s house and running south to the county road to the s&s, laid out on the land of Benjamin Jaquith 30 rods.

April 1824  Art 11  Voted to accept the following road beginning at the line between Reuben Lawrences land and the land of Alethon Lawrences, then west through Alethon’s land 13 rods to the Ashburnham line.

Art 12  Voted not to accept a road as laid out by the selectmen through James Symonds land.

Nov 1824  Art 2  Voted to accept a road laid out through the land of Elijah Wright, beginning at the s&s on the south side of the road leading from William Johnson’s to Wright’s, then running SE about 4 rods to a s&s by the road leading from Wright’s to David Goodhue’s.

April 1825  Art 12  Voted that the road near Widow Lydia Lawrences be opened 3 rods wide on James Lymond’s land.

May 1825  Art 8  Voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s on the west side of the road leading from Daniel Holt’s to Josiah Davises dwelling house,
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

then west 12 rods to s&s at an angle in the wall, then west finally coming to a s&s at the land of Phillip Piper - the above i[s] through the land of Jonas Patches, then west through the land of Phillip Piper to the Ashburnham line.

May 1825  Art 7  Voted to accept the following if free of expense to the town - beginning at the s&s on the north side of the county road, then north through the land of Benjamin Jaquith to the s&s at the land of Add Jaquith.

Art 8[?]  Voted to accept the following report of a road laid out, straightened and widened which leads from James Symond’s to Lunenburg through the land of Widow Lawrence, beginning at the Chesnut tree at the road and corner of William Sheldon’s land, then NW to the s&s, then N 11 rods, NW 5 rods to a s&s near the corner of the woods, N to the upper end of a wall, then NW by the apple tree in the road.

Nov 1826  Art 3  Voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s near the Widow Sarah Manning’s house, from then north through the land of Benjamin Lawrence to the s&s in the wall, then north through the land of Abram Edward’s and then Levi Benjamin’s, to the SE corner of Edward’s east barn, then to the turnpike.

May 1827  Art 5  Voted to accept the report of the selectmen to lay out a road from the turnpike road to Captain Whitney’s land in Ashburnham beginning at the turnpike on the land of Isaac Stearn’s then running SW through Stearn’s land to the land of Nathaniel Adam’s then in the same direction on Adam’s land to the land of Isaac Hartwell, 11 rods on his land to the line of Capt Lemuel Whitney’s land.

June 1827  Art 5  Voted that the road leading from the turnpike to the road near the Widow Sarah Manning’s be opened.

Nov 1828  Art 2  Voted that the selectmen lay out a road from John McRoberts’s house through his land, the land of Moses Green, and Jacob Sander’s to the Townsend line.

March 1829  Art 13  Voted to accept the report of the selectmen of the road if free of expense to the town and that road be opened running through the land of John Wellington and beginning at a chesnut tree on the north side of the county road, then running NE to a post in the fence at the end of the wall on the south side of the turnpike.

Art 15  Voted to discontinue the road from David Damon jr’s to Nathan B. Shattuck’s.

April 1830  Art 12  Voted to accept a road from the road by Micah Eaton’s to Joel Sheldon’s house.

May 1830  Art 4  Voted to accept the following road on condition that it be complete in 2 years, beginning at the s&s on the road leading from Benjamin Allen’s to Fitchburg, then SW on the land of Allen to a corner of David
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Damon’s and Nathan Damon’s land, the northerly part of the road being on the land of Benjamin Allen, the southerly on David Damon’s, then SW finally to the corner of Stephen Wyman’s and Benjamin Kendall’s, all on the land of Nathan Damon.

Nov 1830    Art 2
Town voted to accept a road, give notices and let it out to auction to the lowest bidder, said road being laid out by the county commissioners and leading from Lunenburg road to the Fitchburg line.

Nov 1831    Art 1
Voted to accept the following road beginning south of the road near Marrett Burgesses then running NE of the before mentioneds house then running about 50 rods to the road mentioned above leading to Benjamin Jaquith’s house. Accepted on the condition that it would be of no expense to the town.

Art 5
Voted to accept the following report on condition that road of no expense to the town - Noah Andrews requested a road commencing north of a road laid out by the selectmen of Lunenburg, on the land of Noah Andrews, then running south by the s&s east of Andrews house to the old road leading from Ashby to Fitchburg.

March 1833    Art 11
Voted not to discontinue the old road by Jacob Barnard’s house.

Sept 1833    Art 4
Voted to petition the County Commissioner to suspend until May the building of a road lately laid out by the C. Commissioners beginning at the bridge near William Sheldon’s and then to the old road by Oliver Wheeler’s.

Aug 1834    Art 2
On the second article being read, and after considerable discussion was had upon it, the following motion was offered, which passed almost unanimously in the affirmative.
Whereas, when the road referred to in the foregoing article was laid out by the C. Commissioners, it was understood by the petitioners for said road and by others, that there was an understanding or agreement between our C.C’s and those of the County of Worcester that a road would be laid out and ordered to be made by the latter, from the Ashby line to the Fitchburg meeting house, to meet the new road lately made through the pine woods, leading from the bridge near William Sheldons to the Fitchburg line; and whereas the road through Fitchburg, although laid out, has not been ordered by the Worcester Commissioners to be made; and whereas said road ordered to made in Ashby, when completed, will be of little public utility unless the road through Fitchburg shall be made, therefore - voted that C. Commissioners be requested to postpone the making of such a road, or revoke their order until Worcester Commissioners order.

Art 4
Voted that the new road near Lemiri Whitney’s in 1831 be opened.

March 1835    Art 10
Voted to accept the road on the condition the land be given, at no expense to the town beginning at the s&s on the north side of the road east of Benjamin Wallises barn then north to the s&s in the wall on the
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

road 10 rods north of the barn.

Art 12 Voted that when the road in article 10 is completed, the road south of Wallises barn be discontinued.

April 1835 Art 8 Voted to discontinue that part of the old road near Limri Whitney’s house, which is supplied by the new road.

Art 11 Voted that the road at William Farr’s and Samuel Bawker’s be straightened beginning at the corner of Farr’s land west on the land of Bawker’s to the bars near Bawker’s house.

Art 13 Voted to accept the following road beginning on the land of Asa Manning at the s&s at the line of Benjamin Lawrence’s land, then on the land of Benjamin Lawrence to the s&s at the south end of his barnyard wall, then to the s&s at the west end of the wall in front of Lawrence’s woodshed.

April 1837 Art 9 Voted to accept the laying out of a road near Mr. Swain’s beginning at the corner of the road near Natt Swain’s through the land of Albert Wellington, Ezra Gates, and Joseph Kendall. Beginning at the s&s near Joseph Kendall jr’s shops then running south through the land of Albert Wellington, then south through the land of Ezra Gates to the land of Joseph Kendall’s, the wall being on the east side of the road leading to Ashburnham.

Volume 4 1837 - 1854

March 1838 Art 14 Vote to accept the following report, provided the damage be paid & the road be made without any expense to the Town.

Voted to reconsider the last vote.

Voted to accept the report as follows, & pay the damage, on condition that the road shall be made without other expense to the Town.

Report.

We the subscribers, Selectmen of the Town of Ashby, being met this sixteenth day of Feb. 1838, for the purpose of laying out a town road, have attended to that service, & laid out a town road for the use of said Town as follows, viz. Beginning at the stake & stones by the road leading from Benj. Wallis’s to the Cutler farm, so called, near the house of Elijah and Lewis G. Houghton, the running southeasterly six rods to a stake & stones ten feet from the corner of said Houghton’s house, thence southerly twenty four rods through the land of said Houghton to the land of Saml. Osborn Jr. to a stake & stones in the wall about two rods west of Osborn’s house. The said road to ly on the easterly side of said stake & stones, two rods wide: & we appraise the damage at forty five dollars.

Dated at Ashby the 16th day of Feb. 1838.

Sheldon (Shelden) Hill Rd

April 1838 Art 5 Voted not to discontinue the road leading from Benjamin Lawrence to

pg. 17 of 29
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Benjamin D Lawrences.

Art 7
Voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s near William Parks, on the line between Stephen Hosmer’s and Parks, then running SW 30 rods to a s&s by the road leading from Daniel Tuttles to Stephen Hosmer’s.

Art 8
Voted to accept the following road beginning at the s&s town road leading from Horace Lawrences to Stephen Hosmer’s, then S 8 deg W 14 rods to a corner of Marshall Farr’s barn.

Art 9
Voted to accept the following road if free from expense to the town that leads from Ashby to Fitchburg beginning at the Maple tree near the new road in the pine woods, then running N 17 deg E 28 rods through the land of Green Taylor, then N 32° deg E 30 rods to the s&s through the land of William Parks, the to the s&s through the land of Marshall Farr, then N 15 deg E 22 rods, N 10 deg E 23 rods, then N 30 deg E 19 rods to the road leading from Horace Lawrences Mill to Stephen Hosmer’s.

Feb 1839 Art 3
Voted to discontinue the piece of road near Daniel Tuttles.

April 1839 Art 13
Voted to accept the following road as laid out beginning at the NW corner of Marshall Farr’s land, then running N 64 deg W to a s&s on the east bank of the new road leading from Horace Lawrences saw mill to old Fitchburg road. S. Hosmer agrees to give the land for the road on the condition that the town will discontinue the old road from the corner where this is to begin to the new road near the saw mill. Also - beginning at the s&s on the east side of the Fitchburg road near Williams Sheldon’s and running S 88 deg E 14 rods tot the s&s near the SW corner of Sheldon’s house.

Sept 1839 Art 2
Voted to choose a commitee to let out a road from Townsend line to the road near Horace Lawrences, and to build it according to the order of the County Commissioner’s.

Art 7
Opted not to accept the road from Townsend line to the road near Ezekial Lord’s.

March 1840 Art 16
Voted to accept the following report of the laying out of a road beginning at the s&s in the road near William Green jr’s barn, then running S 12 deg W 12 rods to the s&s in the land of Mrs Whitcomb, then S 15 deg W to the s&s on the Fitchburg line.

Art 17
Voted to discontinue the old road from the NW corner of Marshall Farr’s land to the mill yard of H. Lawrences.

March 1841 Art 2
Voted to choose a commitee to petition the County Commissioners for an extension of time for building the road as laid out from H. Lawrences to Oliver Wheeler’s

Dec 1841 Art 3
Voted to choose a commitee to petition the County Commissioners
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

according article 3 of the warrant - to lay out a new road and make alterations in the old road beginning near William Sheldon’s and running near Ephraim Gibson’s to near Benjamin D. Lawrence’s - and also discontinue the road laid out but not made Beginning near William Sheldon’s and running to O. Wheeler’s.

Jan 1842 Art 4 Voted to withdraw the petition and dismiss the committee as voted in Art 3, Dec 1841 town meeting - motion made to choose committee to build road passed in affirmative - from near Horace Lawrence to near O. Wheeler’s as located by order of C. Commissioners.

Meeting of County Commissioners
Jan 1840 The petition of Levi Sherwin and other to have a town way laid out by selectmen approved and allowed.

Laying out of road by selectmen in 1839 and approved by the County Commissioners in 1840

Beginning at the Lunenburg line near the road leading to Townsend, then running S 40 deg W through the land of Isaac Wiswell to a small brook, then S 56 deg W through the land of John Andrews, then S 52 deg W through Andrews land, then S 47 deg W through land of Andrews and E.W. Lords to a large stone, then S 59 deg W through Lord’s land, to the end of the wall on the land of Jones and Howards, then S 35 deg W 51 rods on Jones land and Howards land near E.W. Lords house, and through his land to the road leading to Fitchburg.

Nov 1842 Art 2 Voted not to accept the following road* beginning at the SW abutment on the east side of the bridge near Stephen Adams, then S 14 deg W 3 rods 29 links to the s&s then S 29 deg E 13 rods 17 links to the s&s; then S 10 deg W 8 rds to a s&s; then crossing to the west side of the laying at a right angle from the last mentioned line - then S 53 deg W 3 rds 16 links to the new road - on land of Joseph Wyeth. *Road accepted later on.

Art 4 Voted to accept the road as now fenced out and traveled from George R. Mansfield’s house to Deacon Ephraim Hayward’s mill.

April 1843 Art 11 Voted to accept the laying out of the road as laid by the selectmen last Nov 1842 Art 2 near Stephen Adams.

April 1844 Art 3 Voted to accept the following report on the committee to examine a piece of road laid out by the County Commissioners near William Sheldons and the propriety of making said road - We have made a careful examination and are of the opinion that the road may be made beginning at said bridge then at an elevation of 314 deg 14 rods 10 lks, then at an elevation of 4 deg 25 rods 15 lks, then to an elevation of 4 deg 6 rds 10 lks, then to the new roads, 18 rods at an elevation of 4[deg] deg.

May 1844 Art 2 Voted to accept the laying out of a road as laid out by the selectmen near William Sheldon’s beginning at the beech stump then N 27 deg W 22 rds 19 Inks to a Chesnut tree then N 28 deg W 3 rds 19 lks to the s&s;
then N 4 deg W 6 rds to the s&s , then N 32 deg W 15 rds to the Hemlock tree by the road lying on the east side of the line of the land of Thomas Richardson.

Nov 1844  Art 3  Voted to accept the following as laid out beginning at the s&s near Rufus Taylor’s house then S 40 deg E 19 rds 12 lk on the land of Robert Taylor, thence S 38 deg E 4 rds 16 lks on Taylor’s land, then S .12 deg N 19 rds to the land of Moses Green. Then S 5 deg E 23 rds 13 lks on the land of Green, then S 36 deg E 3 rds 13 lks on Green’s land, then S 52 deg E 16 rds 22 lks to the land of Stephen Dyer, then S 71 deg E 9 rds 7 lks to the Chesnut tree, then S 73 deg E 14 rds 13 lks to the Townsend line; the last 2 lines being on Dyer’s land.

Nov 1846  Art 2  Voted to accept the following roads - Beginning at the s&s west of Joel Haywards house on the south side of the old road, then S 56 deg E 11 rds 15 lk to the s&s between Joel Haywards house and barn, then S 34 deg E 5 rds 17 lks to a bar post, then S 58 deg E 60 rds 11 lks to the land of Joel Hayward and John Rice, late of Ashby (deceased); then 80 rds 14 lks to the s&s on the south side of the before mentioned road, on then east course to the woods and through the woods over Rices old road Also another road beginning on the north side of above laying out at a s&s, thence N 34 deg E 36 rds to a s&s in the wall by the road leading to John Haywards house passing through the land of Rice and John Hayward.

April 1847  Art 8  Voted to accept the following road as laid out if at no expense to the town beginning on the west side of the road near Wright’s place at the s&s, thence S 23 deg E 3 rds, S 17 deg E 3 rds, S 16 deg E 15 rds, S 20 deg E 9 rds 10 lks, S 39 deg E 7 rds 2 lks, S 43 deg E 7 rds 3 lks, S 44 deg E 6 rds 5 lks, S 63 deg E 3 rds 23 lks, S 87 deg E 8 rds 8 lks, N 87 deg E 13 rds 19 lks, S 81 deg E 5 rds 13 lks, S 66 deg E 11 rds 20 lks, to the s&s by the side of the aforesaid road. The old road can be discontinued by having an open road built from the Wright place down to the new road.

May 1847  Art 2  Voted not to accept the propos[a]l of the County Commissioners to create a road commencing near the house of Reuben Puffer and intersecting with the road recently laid out by the Commissioners near Mr. Samuel Bowker’s to the Fitchburg line.

Sept 1847  Art 2  Voted to build the road as ordered by the County Commissioners from near Samuel Bowkers place to the Fitchburg line at such time as the town of Fitchburg shall let out and build the road to meet it.

Nov 1847  Art 2  Voted to accept the following road as laid out by the selectmen if free of expense to the town beginning at the s&s on the north side of the road near Mr. Kensman’s house, then running south on the land of Amos Green 15 deg rods then south 1 deg rods to the new road.

Art 8  Voted to discontinue the old road from Joel Haywards house passing
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

near John Hayward’s to the new road lately built.

Jan 1848  Art 3  Voted to open the road from Joseph Estabrook’s house to the house of Lewis Gould.

March 1848  Art 12  Voted to let out and build the road petitioned for by James Kendall’s and other as per the County Commissioners orders.

Oct 1848  Art 3  Voted to accept the following report of the selectmen concerning the laying out of a road, the road beginning at the east side of the town road leading from George Howard’s to Townsend at the s&s at the SW corner of a shed and shop owned by Cyrus H. Hodgeman, then running NE in a straight line 16 rods through the land of Elisha Taylor to the s&s at the corner of the wall near the SW corner of Taylor’s house.

Nov 1848  Art 2  Voted to accept the following report of a road beginning at the s&s 37 ft south of the SW corner of the house of Abram Lawrence, then running west through Lawrence land 69 rods to the north near the schoolhouse in district no. five, then continuing on the same course through the land of Willard Jeff’s 4 rods to the s&s on the north side of the town road leading from Willards Jeff’s to Samuel Damon’s and intersecting with the road before said.

June 1849  Art 7  Voted to accept the following report concerning the alteration of a road beginning on the south side of the town road between Mr. J.F. Brown’s and David Whitney’s, thence S 73 deg W 30 rds to the s&s then N 62 deg W 3 rds 14 lks to the s&s, N 46 deg W 4 rds to a s&s, then N 27 deg W 12 rds 13 lks to a road leading from Ashby to New Ipswich near the house of David Whitney.

June 1849  Art 3  Voted to accept the report on the road down Willard Brook - road completed.

Sept 1849  Art 3  Voted to accept the report on the following road beginning at the s&s on the west side of the town road near Charles S. Allen’s house, then 28 deg W 2 rds 5 lks over the land of Benjamin D. Lawrence, to the land of Ezra Gates, then the same course over Gates land 5 rds 21 lks to the land of Charles Crosby, then over Crosby’s land to the land of Abraham Whites, then over White’s land to the s&s, then S 5 deg E 6 rds 24 lks to the s&s on the north side of the county road partly on the land of White and Crosby.

Sept 1849  Art 4  Voted to build the road as laid out near Mr. Burnap’s.

Art 5  Voted to build the road as laid out near David Whitney’s.

Nov 1849  Art 2  Voted to build the road near the Pail Factory.

Art 4  Voted to discontinue the old road leading from David Whitney’s to the new road towards J. Brown’s.
Dec 1849  Art 5  Voted to accept the following report concerning a road beginning on the east side of the road leading from Ashby to New Ipswich at the spruce tree, then N 38 deg E 1 rd 20 lks on the land of Joel Hayward’s, then N 38 deg E 7 rds 19 lks to a birch tree, then N 42° deg E 12 rds to a s&s, then N 89 deg E 19 rds 17 lks to the s&s on the south side of the town road.

Also another piece beginning on the south side of the last mentioned road at the s&s, then S 30 deg E 12 rds 7 lks to a s&s where it intersects with the above laid out. East side of the road on the land of the heirs of Benjamin Jaquith (deceased).

April 1850  Art 7  Voted to build the road as laid out near J Swain’s by the selectmen.

Dec 1850  Art 3  Voted to accept report of the selectmen on the laying out of the following road beginning at the s&s near Asa Mannings house, then S 18° deg W 13 rds 11 lks on the land of Manning’s to the s&s, then same course on the land of Charles Crosby to the s&s on the line of Benjamin D Lawrences land, then S 37 deg W 10 rds on Crosby’s land to the s&s, then N 58° deg W 20 rds on the land of Charles Allen to the s&s, then N 15 deg W 12 rds 9 lks on the land of Allen to the s&s near the SW corner of Allen’s house, then N 62° deg W 4 rds 13 lks on the land of Allen to the new road leading to White’s Pail Factory.

April 1851  Art 11  Voted to accept the report of the following road, if at no cost to the town, beginning at the s&s on the north side of the Nourse road then NE 6 rds to the old county road near Benjamin D Lawrences house

Art 12  Voted to discontinue 12 rods of road on the east end of old Nourse road near Benjamin D. Lawrences.

Art 13  Voted to discontinue a piece of old road near Natt Swain’s between the new roads lately built.

Meeting of the County Commissioners June 1849

Ordered to discontinue the piece of road by Daniel Parkers on the petition of Charles Walker.

April 1852  Art 9  Voted to accept the following report on the lay out of a road beginning at a corner of land of John Wheeler’s and John E. Damon’s by the old town road from Ashby to Townsend near the house known as the John Wellington place, then N 30 deg E 20 rds 12 lks on the line between the land of John Wheeler and John Damon, then on the same course on the land of Wheeler 10 rods to the old turnpike road.

April 1853  Art 7  Voted to accept the following road as laid out, the selectmen having made an alteration in the highway leading from the house of Benjamin Wallis [Wallace] to Samuel Osborne’s, laying out a new piece of road near Wallis’es house, beginning on the road from Wallises to Osborne’s at a s&s on the south side of he road on the land of Wallis at an angle in the road, then N 78° deg W 5 rods 50 ft to a s&s then N 18 deg E 7 rods to the road near Wallises house;
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

also to discontinue a piece of old road from the s&s at the angle in the wall above named at the road leading from Wallises to Joseph Foster’s.

Wallis (Wallace) is Pernaa farm, Osborne (Osburn) is at end of Sheldon (Shelden) Hill Rd. see map 1831/1844

Nov 1853  Art 7  Voted to accept the road as repaired by the Reservoir Company.

1854 - 1876

April 1856  Art 12  Voted to build road near Samuel Osborne’s

Osborne (Osburn) is at end of Shelden Hill Rd

July 1856  Art 12  Layout of new road and new bridge at Sheldon’s

Dec 1856  Art 2  Layout of county road from Ashburnham line to county road to Fitchburg at Edmund Marble’s house

May 1857  Art 5  Voted not to choose agent to build road near Samuel Osborne’s

See April, 1856, art. 12

April 1858  Art 12, 13  Voted layout Whitney’s house to Ashburnham line.

April 1860  Art 9  Voted to discontinue road called the old Nourse Road leading from the Turnpike Rd near Henry Bangs to the road leading by William Johnson’s to Ashburnham

Art 10  Voted to discontinue the road near the guide post near Charles Wellington’s to the new road near Leonard Smith’s

May 1860  Art 4  To see if the town will adopt the laying out of a new road as reported by the Selectmen at the annual March meeting near E.H. Hayward mills. Voted to adopt the report. Voted to reconsider the vote whereby they voted to adopt the report above.

June 1860  Art 2  Voted to oppose the laying out of the road as prayed for by Ai Foster and others.

March 1861  Art 13  Voted to let out the new road as laid out by the County Commissioners commencing at the Arch Bridge near Mrs. Sheldon’s and terminating near Levi Smith’s. Detailed layout of road by County Commissioners - Volume 5, pp 133 - 137

March 1867  Art 19  Orders of County Commissioners on petition of El. W. March to see what action town will take to build road as laid out by C. Commissioners near W.L. Robert’s which led to Mason, N.H. Under Commissioners orders above highway was established. For detailed layout of road by C. Commissioners, see Volume 5, pp. 269 - 274.

March 1867  Art 21  Voted to discontinue that part of the old county road leading from Mr. F. Wheeler’s house to the road leading across the arch bridge near S.N. Nepton’s. Also the road leading from the schoolhouse in district No. 7 in a southerly direction to the new road.

April 1867  Art 3  Pass in affirmative and said road is discontinued from this date - the old county road from the north east corner of Nathaniel Brown’s land on the

pg. 23 of 29
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

hill near the land of the late Lewis G. Wright to the Ashburnham line.

March 1868  Art 21  Voted to discontinue the road leading from Morrick Gibson’s to Charles Wellington’s.

July 1868  Art 2  It was voted unanimously that nothing be done about building the new road in Ashby laid out by the County Commissioner in 1868 until the Mason road is built to meet the Ashby road.

March 1869  Art 20  Accepted - the road laid out by the selectmen beginning near John G. Whitney’s and ending near Carr Wilder’s mill. A detailed layout of the road can be found in Volume 5 pp. 328 - 330

April 1870  Art 7  Voted to discontinue the road leading from Leonard Thorning’s house to the new road leading from Wm Sheldon’s to Townsend.

April 1870  Art 11  Voted to discontinue the old road from Wm L. Robert’s house to the state line, near Almon Newell’s house in Mason.

Volume 6  1877 - 1900

March 1877  Art 31  Town voted to discontinue the road from Rufus A. Woodward’s barn as far West as the road is laid out.

March 1877  Art 32  The town voted to discontinue the road leading from the new road, leading by No. 7 schoolhouse, to the old Horace Lawrence house.

March 1877  Art 33  The town voted to discontinue the road leading east from the Ezekial Lord place, near Daniel Wares to the Lunenburg line.

April 1878  Art 2  Town accepted the road as laid out by selectmen, leading from Sheldon bridge, so called, to Geo. Kendall’s road (Fitchburg Road). See detailed layout in Volume 6, pp. 29 - 30.

May 1878  Art 2  Town voted to build Fitchburg Road.

March 1879  Art 28  Voted to discontinue the N[o]urse Road from the corner of the road near Silas Wetherbee’s to the Fitchburg Road.

March 1880  Art 26  The town voted to discontinue the old road, and authorized the selectmen to sell or exchange with Henry C. Wilder, the land belonging to the town, located between the now traveled road and the estate lately occupied by John B. Whitney.

Nov 1880  Art 2  The town voted not to exchange land with Henry C. Wilder but voted him leave to grade his dooryard.

March 1881  Art 29  The town voted to discontinue the old road up the Allen Hill (just below Sheldon Bridge northeast of the new road).

March 1882  Art 27  The town voted to discontinue the piece of old road leading from Edwin
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

L. Piper’s to the road leading past J. Edwin Damon’s.

Aug 1886 - Return of County Commissioner’s

“said commissioners do determine that roads be discontinued.”
1. highway leading from main county road near the house of
Frank M. Butterfield across Trap Falls Brook to its junction with a
townway near the house of E.L. Piper.

2. Road between main road from Ashby to Fitchburg near Henry
A. Lawrence’s house and its junction with a town way near
Edmund P. Stone’s.

3. Road between the main road from Ashby to Mason, N.H. near
the house of Wm F. Robert’s and the Mason town line.
And said commissioners order that said return be accepted and
recorded, and that all the matters therein ordered be done and
performed accordingly.”
Entire correspondence in Volume 6, pp. 187 - 189

Sep 1886  Art 2  Town voted not to accept the road as laid out by the Road Commission
near Frank M. Butterfield’s.

July 1887  Art 2  The town voted to build the road and bridge as laid out by the C.
Commissioner’s (from the brook road to the corner near the house of
G.N. Thorming by Frank M. Butterfield’s)
There is a detailed description in Volume 6 of Town Meeting minutes

April 1889  Art 2  Art 2 The town accepted the report of the Road Commission and voted
to build the road leading from Wm O. Loveland’s grist mill to the road
near P.A.Hayward’s mill.

Jan 1894  Art 2  Town instructed selectmen to petition the Mass Highway Commission to
acquire a State Highway - road from Ashby to Fitchburg, commencing
near Charles C Greenstone’s in Ashby and ending at the Fitchburg line
near Leonard Carter’s house.

July 1894  Art 3  Town voted selectmen be authorized to contract with Highway
Commission to build a mile of State road.

Sept 1894  Art 2  The town voted to discontinue the following roads on the common.
1. The road leading from the State road, east of the Elm tree, to the road
near Dascomb Wright’s house.

2. The road leading from the State Road across the common to the road
leading to New Ipswich.

3. The road beginning at the road leading to New Ipswich and running to
the first Parish Church.

4. The road beginning at the State Road west of the Hay Scales and
running to the road leading to New Ipswich.
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Nov 1894  Art 3  Town voted to build road - commencing at State Road where the Hay Scales now stand and continuing to New Ipswich Road, and also from a point on this road past the Unitarian Church and meeting the road past F.D. Wright’s house.

June 1895  Art 2  The town voted Selectmen to contract for the second mile of the State Road.

Nov 1895  Art 3  Town instructed the surveyor to make a piece of road leading from the State Road to L.P. Frenches.

County Commissioners Report in answer to a petition - “Order that the highway in Ashby from Sheldon Bridge toward West Townsend in junction with Fitchburg be discontinued as a public highway.”

Jan 1899  Art 2  Town voted to accept a report to build a road - at a stake near Frank Bowker’s cottage on the Rindge Road, thence north over the land of Dolly Marble, Nathan F. Hapgood, Leora Page, Sam Hayward, John Brock, and John W. Piper, to a road leading by the house of Mrs. Philip Piper and also a road commencing near Ivers H. Brook’s Ice House, and running southeast over the land of Brook’s and John W. Piper to intersect the first described road.

Art 3  Town voted to discontinue the road leading from J.A. Piper’s house to Charles W. Hockin’s corner. Also from the corner near Philip Piper’s to the corner near the ice house below Ivers Brook’s house; also from the junction of the Frank Gates road near I.H. Brook’s, to the old J.A. Piper place; also from the Frank Gates place to the corner near Lora Pages; the road from Lora Pages to Dolly Marbles house is discontinued.

March 1899  Art 21  Town voted to rescind a vote whereby they voted Jan 16 to discontinue the road from Lora Pages to Dolly Madison’s road. The road from L. Pages house to Frank M. Gates house stand discontinued on the completion of the new road.

Art 22  Town appropriated money to build the road near Cat[a]yes on the Rindge road, to near the house of Mrs. Philip Piper.

March 1902  Art 27  Town voted not to discontinue the road from the corner near Ivers Brook’s to the Ashburnham line.

Art 28  Voted to lay out the road from F.M. Gates house to some point on the new road.

March 1903  Art 30  Voted to discontinue the road of T.A.S. Lukes house to the foot of Blood Hill.

March 1906  Art 26  Voted to discontinue the old road from the main road near the Wright Pond to where the Daniel Kelleher buildings used to stand.

Portion of Sheldon (Shelden) Hill Rd. see Selectmen minutes 9/3/1986
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

March 1909  Art 23  Voted to accept the road from Ancil W. Brooks to the town farm road as a public highway.

March 1915  Art 35  Voted to discontinue the road from Lora Pages to Rindge Road at the Bowker’s grove, known as the new road, on the completion of a new road.

Aug 1917  Art 3  Town authorized the selectmen to contract with the Highway Commission to build a state road from the Post Office to the Ashburnham line.

Aug 1919  Art 2  Voted to accept the layout of a road near Carr’s Mill.

March 1930  Art 28  Voted to discontinue the road from the parking place of the former I.H. Brook’s place to the former Lora Page place.

March 1931  Art 32  Voted layout of a road from John Elliot’s to John Flinkstrom’s.

May 193[7]  Art 5  Voted to discontinue Foster Road from No. 5 schoolhouse to Mason Road.

March 1938  Art 35  layout a section of the road located at the end of Mattson road.

March 1939  Art 35  Voted to accept above.

March 1941  Art 37  Voted to accept a section of road which was discontinued by vote of town March 1930.

March 1944  Art 12  Voted to discontinue the former road, leading from the house now of Charles Metcher to that of Charles Nivala at the junction with the so called new road, now Piper road.

March 1946  Art 13  Voted to change the name of the road from the residence of Ralph Rackliffe by the home of Howard White to the house of Harold Greene from Taylor Road to the original name of Old Northfield Road.

March 1952  Art 8  Voted to accept the roadway known as Laurelwood drive running west from Fitchburg State road at a point approximately 1 mile north of the Fitchburg - Ashby line, such roadway to be 40 feet wide by 600 feet long with exact bounds to be located by the Road Surveyor.

March 1953  Art 8  Voted that the Town accept the roadway known as Park Road, such roadway starting on Breed Road and running for a distance of 600 feet and ending on Breed Road.

November 13, 1962  Art 4  Voted to discontinue Pound Hill Road from Jewell Hill Road to Fitchburg Line.

April 1974  Art 28  Voted to accept Pine Rd.

April 1977  Art 28  Voted to close down French road at its intersection with Mass. route 119, Fitchburg State road, to the intersection of Damon road.

Art 29  Voted not to close Damon road at its intersection with French road to
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

route 119.

Art 30  Voted to close Valley road from its intersection with Fitchburg State road at or near intersection of Allen road, during the winter months.

April 1982  Art 20  Voted to close Damon Rd. from its intersection with French Rd. to Rt. 119

October 1982  Art 10  Voted to discontinue French Rd from Damon Rd. to Rt 119 and discontinue Damon Rd. from French Rd. to Rt. 119

September 1987  County Commissioners discontinue a portion of Hosmer Rd. Plan is recorded with the County Engineer.

April 1992  Art 17  Voted to accept Hillside Drive

June 1993  Art 11  Voted to change the name of Watatic Pond Rd. to Pond Rd
Change the name of Jewell Hill Rd to Crocker Rd.
Change the name of the remaining portion of French Rd to Damon Rd.
Change the name of West State Rd and West Rindge State Rd. from its intersection with West Rd to West Main St.
Change the name of Coleman Rd to Foster Rd. and Foster Rd from Coleman Rd to Mason Rd. to Coleman Rd.
Rename Rt 119 from its intersection with Rt 31 to West Rd. Main St.

Art 38  Voted to discontinue Valley Rd. from Fitchburg State Rd. to the west boundary of Willard Brook State Park.

May 1994  Art 42  Voted to discontinue Lyman Rd.

Art 43  Voted to discontinue Damon Rd. from French Rd. to Main St.

Art 44  Voted to discontinue French Rd. from Damon Rd. to Main St.

Art 45  Voted to discontinue North Spring Hill Rd. from Piper Rd. to Spring Hill Rd.

Art 46  Voted to discontinue Brooks Lane from 500 feet west of its intersection with West Rd. to the end

May 1999  Art 28  Voted to accept the layout of the way known as Wilder Rd.

Art 29  Voted to accept the layout of the way known as Nash Rd.

Art 30  Voted to accept the layout of the way known as Mill Creek Rd.

Art 31  Voted to accept the layout of the way known as Stone Brook Drive

Art 32  Voted to accept the layout of the way known as Page Rd.

Art 33  Voted to discontinue a portion of the way known as Watatic Mountain
Ashby Town Meeting Road Actions

Rd. from a point 2075 feet from its intersection with Bennett Rd to its terminus.

Art 34  Voted to discontinue the way known as Caswell Rd.

Oct. 2003  Art 23  Voted to discontinue the road from South Road to Valley Road, formerly known as Wilder Road, being the same road accepted by Article 20 of the March, 1869 Town Meeting.

May 2005  Art 10  Voted to name the road known as Kendall Hill Road, Kendall Hill Road.

Notes:

1998: Hargraves Lane, a small road to a subdivision SE off Piper Rd near Spring Hill Road was named Blueberry Lane by owner and then renamed Wood Drive by Planning Board. Named after Rev Wood who was a minister and school superintendent in Ashby from about 1850 for 18 years or so.

Erickson Road was referred to as Beard Road at one time, see deed 28794 pg 111

Most of Nourse Rd was dc’d in 1879

Badger Rd was Wright Rd

Kendall Hill Road, aka Kendall Road for the sake of the Haapala’s, at one time known as Spindle Hill Road, Mattson Road, Benjamin Kendall Rd. Layout believed to be May 1830, Art 4

Section of Old Foster Road (maybe aka School House Road) runs from 149 Frost Rd to Mason Rd was dc’d 1937