

## The Old Stone Store Over the Years

The volunteers at the old stone store were organizing the gift shop storeroom when they discovered this painting by Walter Cole atop a shelf. It depicts the Old Stone Store in the 1950's when it was called Kersey's Market. The store has had several owners, and numerous uses since it was built in 1835 by Major Eli Ensign. Originally it was a general store opened by Edward Ensign in 1836 that, according to an advertisement, sold "dry good, groceries, and hard-ware," at "very low" prices. Around the time of the Civil War it was a drug store run for years

by druggist Putnam Flint Bradford. In the 1870's a long wooden addition was added to the rear of the stone building. At the turn of the 20th century, George A. Scott was running the drug store in the main stone building and in the rear were the businesses of James Wallace, barber; Miss Cassidy, milliner; Mrs. N.E. Scott, dressmaker; George A. Pfahl, shoemaker; Peter Cassidy, butcher; and a billiard hall owner by Samuel Fox. In 1901 the addition went up in flames, and all of



The sign above the door states  
"We Specialize in Fresh Native Turkeys"

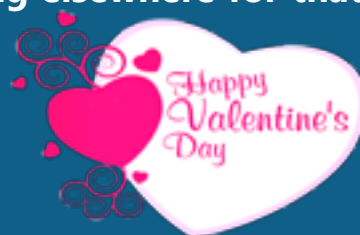
the businesses housed there were lost. Butcher Peter Cassidy bought the Stone Store and rebuilt it. It remained a butcher shop by the time Kersey's ran it in the 1950's & 60's. The market also sold produce and cheese. There was a liquor store in the rear wooden addition, the one that Peter Cassidy rebuilt being much smaller than the complex that burnt down. By

the 1970's it was called the Sheffield Package Store and Cheese Shop. The Sheffield Historical Society acquired the building in 1998 and raised \$225,000 to restore it. The local community was very supportive as the campaign statement indicated that the building would be used for exhibits which would involve the local community. The Old Stone Store opened in 2000 with the first exhibit being many of the photographs of Carrie Smith Lorraine a local photographer of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The first Festival of Trees (now Festival of Holidays) opened in December 2000.

**The Old Stone Store was originally known as the New Stone Store**



**Did You Know?...**The Gift Shop at the Old Stone Store is open every Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm. Gifts for all occasions abound. Come in and browse rather than traveling elsewhere for that gift. You might find just the item you need, or maybe something you do not need! Proceeds benefit the programs and services of the Sheffield Historical Society. Persons interested in volunteering to help staff the Store should contact Catherine Miller at 413-229-8668.

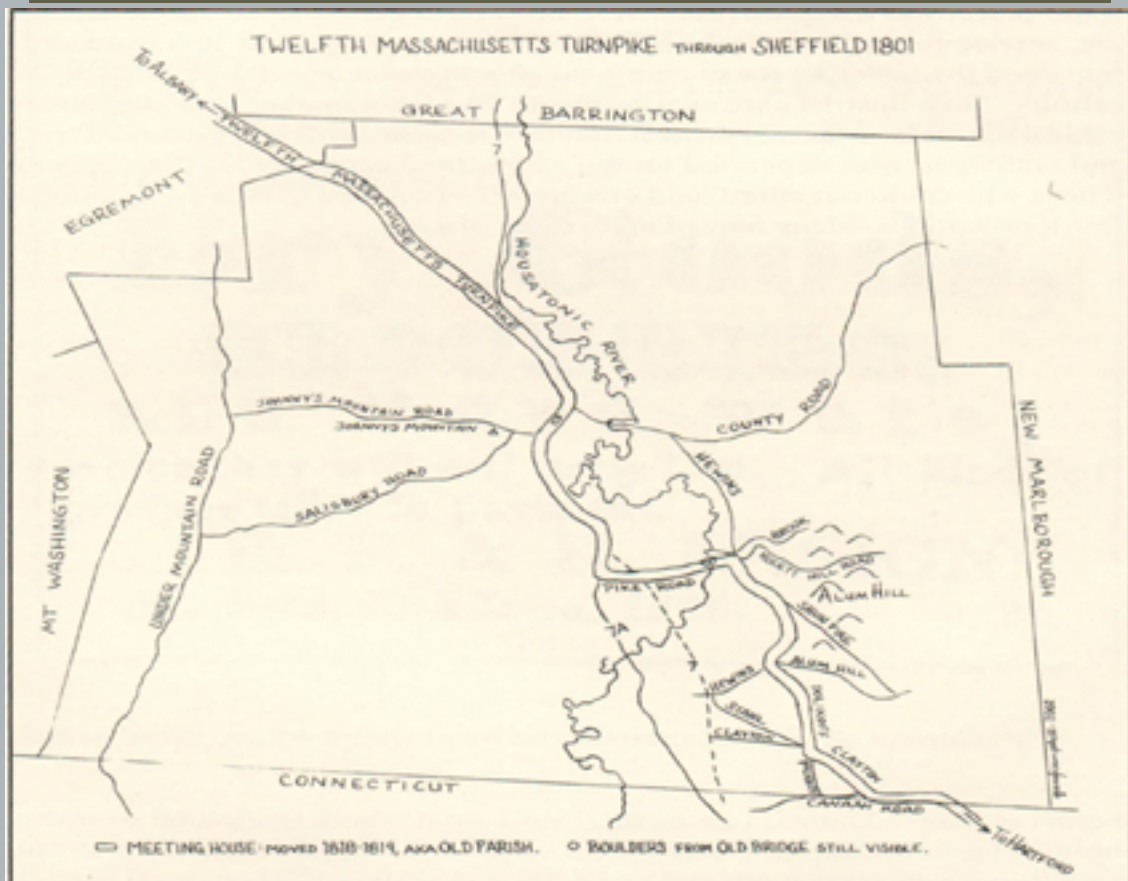


# What's in a Name?

What's in a name? Quite a lot when you look at the changes that have taken place over the years for the names of Sheffield's roads. Where was Johnny's Mountain Road? Could you find Burtch Street today? Or for that matter, Pine Road, Taconic Road or Soda Creek Road. Or try an easy one, Mill River Road, there being three ways by that name in 1931. Some names are steeped in mystery by having unknown origins such as Bow Wow, others of more recent change resulted from votes of the selectman such as Water Farm and Pike from Fink and 12th Massachusetts Turnpike respectively. --James R. Miller

The following renames were gleaned from material at the Society's research library.

Current Name	Prior Name
Berkshire School Road	Johnny's Mountain Road
Bear's Den Road	New Guinea Road
Hewin's Street	Ranney Road
Ward Road	South end of Undermountain Road
Cook Road	West Cross Road
West Sheffield Road	Turnpike Road
Bow Wow Road	Road to the Meeting House
Giberson Road	Old Road
Berkshire School Road (a section of)	Pine Grove Road



Sheffield Street Map 1801



# Society Happenings

Sheffield Historical Society  
**The History of  
 Water Fowling and  
 the Art of the Decoy**



A presentation by  
**Ken Schopp**

Friday, February 12  
 7:30 pm

**Dewey Hall**  
 91 Main St.

Free and open to the public  
[www.sheffieldhistory.org](http://www.sheffieldhistory.org)  
[sheffieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sheffieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com)  
 413-229-2694

Sheffield Historical Society

## THE HYDROPOWER CONTROVERSY

Exhibit on the proposed hydroelectric  
 project that nearly flooded half of Sheffield



**January 16  
 thru  
 February 7**

**Weekends  
 10am-3pm**

**Old Stone  
 Store  
 159 Main St.**

Free and open to the public

[www.sheffieldhistory.org](http://www.sheffieldhistory.org) • [sheffieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sheffieldhistoricalsociety@gmail.com) • 413-229-2694

▶▶▶▶▶ SAVE the DATE ◀◀◀◀◀◀

Sheffield Historical Society

### *Silent Auction & Tag Sale*

SATURDAY JULY 2, 2010; 9am - 2pm  
 American Legion Hall; Route 7, Sheffield

***NOW ACCEPTING DONATIONS***

To donate, please call:  
 Lois - 229-8375 or Rene - 229-3534  
 Free Pickup is Now Available

Due to space limitations, some items can't be accepted.

***Items gratefully accepted:***

- ▶ Small furniture
- ▶ Lamps
- ▶ House wares, including kitchen items & small washing kitchen appliances
- ▶ Linens
- ▶ Crafted items or supplies - yarn, fibers, beads, canvas, soapstone, craft kits
- ▶ Art - sculptures, paintings, enclings, etchings
- ▶ Lawn & Garden items - tools, accessories, furniture & ornaments
- ▶ Books - all but encyclopedia sets
- ▶ Seasonal items & decorations
- ▶ China, crystal & silver
- ▶ Jewelry
- ▶ Leather goods, especially purses, gloves, portfolios
- ▶ Baskets
- ▶ Quilts and bedspreads
- ▶ Vintage, leather & new clothing
- ▶ Services of all kinds
- ▶ Collectibles
- ▶ One-of-a-kind items

***Sorry, we can't accept these items:***

- ▶ Clothing except leather, vintage or rare
- ▶ Computer equipment or any electronic equipment, including phones
- ▶ Medium to large furniture
- ▶ Bedding or pillows, except bedspreads
- ▶ Automotive equipment
- ▶ Exercise equipment
- ▶ Chairs
- ▶ Baby furniture
- ▶ Appliances to large appliances
- ▶ Paints

All donations are tax deductible.

# SNOW

This winter we have not seen much in the way of snow (knock on wood). That has not always been the case in the past. Below are images of Sheffield after two of the most momentous snow events in its history.



*Blizzard of 1888. Peck's Hotel on left, Will Little house to right of hotel.*

## The Great Blizzard of 1888

In the early hours of March 12 an incredible Nor'easter struck the region dumping more than 50 inches of snow on Massachusetts before it left the region March 14. Drifts of 30-40 feet were reported with some covering 3-story houses, and people confined to their houses for a week or more. This storm also produced severe wind gusts of 50-80 mph, and record cold temperatures.



## Nor'easter of 1969

This snow event brought strong winds, low visibility, and accumulations of over 20 inches to Sheffield over February 9-10. Thank you to Wes Petersen for sharing these photos with the Society.

Top: Maple Ave (now Bow Wow Rd), showing the the railroad crossing

Below: Silver Street, showing Bud West's house

## Virtual Museum

### Digital Snow Museum

[Click here to visit an online archive of images of the major snowstorms in the US since 1717.](#)

[Click here to watch a video of the Nor'Easter of 1969](#)



*The  
Sheffield  
Historical Society*



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413-229-2694

Office Hours

Monday 3:00 pm-7:00 pm

Friday 3:00 pm-7:00 pm

Sheffield Historical Society

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Mark Dewey Research Center

K.C. Clow, James Miller, & David Prouty, Volunteers  
mdrc@sheffieldhistory.org

413-229-3682

Office Hours

Monday 1:30 pm-4:00 pm

Friday 1:30pm-4:00 pm

or by appointment

Old Stone Store

On the Green in Sheffield

Weekends 10:00 am-3:00 pm

413-229-2287

The Sheffield Historical Society invites the support of you and your friends through membership.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please check:  New  Renew

Individual (\$15 - \$50)  Family(\$51 - \$100)  Patron (\$101 - \$500)  Sponsor (\$501 - \$1,000)

Please make checks payable to: The Sheffield Historical Society. Send to : P.O. Box 747, Sheffield , MA 01257