



LISBON AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MOMENTS IN HISTORY – APRIL 2024

OUR LANDMARK LIGHT POST - A CENTURY OF CAMEO APPEARANCES

The light post in Lisbon Square was installed 100 years ago and has witnessed the last days of horse and buggy, the coming of the automobile, and survived floods, a hurricane, snow and ice storms, and fires.



A light post was needed in Lisbon Square due to the increase in automobile traffic combined with the height of prosperity and population Lisbon experienced by the early 1920s. Automobiles and horse-drawn buggies are pictured parked alongside each other on North Main Street in the 1920s.

A red arrow points to the new light post in Lisbon Square.

In 1924, just in Lisbon Square, there was a harness shop, drug stores, a barber shop, grocery and general stores, a variety/paper store, a photograph studio, an attorney's office, apartment buildings, and a Congregational Church. There were many other stores, shops, and businesses up and down the the rest of Main Street.

The light post provides a stop sign and marker for traffic going in and out of School Street, as well as an opportunity for a U-turn. The light post has always been referred to by locals as "the dummy" and is a beautiful addition to our downtown with its large white globes. For one hundred years, the light post in the Square has witnessed our comings and goings and had a cameo appearance in photographs taken during daily life and special events. Here are a few.



The flood of November 1927 is pictured in Lisbon Square and looking up North Main Street. The arrow on the light post has the words "White Mtns" printed on it.



A snowy Main Street c. 1930s



Annual Memorial Day Parade 1935



Lisbon Winter Carnival 1936



Fire of July 1941 on North Main Street's east side



The light post is pictured c. 1940. The Esso Station has a car up on a lift.



1988 Lilac Time Parade – A float entered by Patty Ann's (a clothing store for infants and children in Littleton) and an appearance by the Budweiser Clydesdales



Fourth of July Parade in 2000

We hope you appreciate receiving these monthly Moments in History. We welcome your comments as well as suggestions for topics for future Moments. Please feel free to share any of our Moments in History with relatives and friends, and have them email us if they would like to receive them in the future at lisbonareahistoricalociety@gmail.com For more about us and to read past Moments in History, go to www.lisbonareahistory.org. We are also on Facebook. Thank you.