

What used to be Riverside Drive has been redesignated Lot 000430 and arbitrarily evaluated at \$4,600.00. It's still a road. Romeo Plourde sold lots with deeded 'rights of way' allowing buyers to access their property via what is now Lot 000034. The deeds for all of the lots taken by the Town also include 'rights of way' via Riverside Drive.

My wife Jane and I are now being taxed \$200.00 a year for this Lot/Road, a property we don't want and couldn't sell.

Back in the late Sixties, we were looking for a bit of land on which we could build a pottery and craft shop. We wanted it to be passive solar, so we needed a spot that would face south, face a road that would accommodate potential visitors and ideally, abut a body of water. We looked everywhere, even along the Baker River up in Rumney, until we found the ideal spot, 1.4 acres at what was once an oxbow on the Suncook River.

The lot on the highway was, we thought at the time, exactly what we'd been looking for. Plourde, however, refused to sell it separately, insisting that the mostly unsalable remaining lots be included. Romeo had his son, Robert, write up the deed. It didn't mention the road. Being former city dwellers, the idea of individuals actually owning roads that others lived on had never occurred to us.

We recently learned that in 1984 the State's Superior Court ruled that Jane and I own Riverside Drive. It ruled that "the deed of the developer of Riverside Park granted all right, title and interest to all lands excepting the previously conveyed lots." While our deed doesn't mention the road, it doesn't state that we don't own it either.

Had we been smart, we would have asked around a bit. We didn't realize that Romeo had twice tried to get the town to accept the road. Even though he owned a sand and gravel business, he was too cheap to do it right so the Town refused to accept it.

The people in the Park have never, from the time we first got here, made us feel as if we owed them anything. They understood that Romeo sold as many lots as he could and then bailed on them. Apparently Jane and I own the road in a technical sense, but it's Plourde who will always "own" it.

Jane and I ask that Lot 000034 be redesignated Riverside Drive and that we not be required to pay taxes on the Park residents' and the Town's deeded 'rights of way.'