

Things of That Nature

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Cones & Arrows

I noticed Cones & Arrows everywhere.

Charles D. Scanlon, a painter for the Street Painting Department of the City of Los Angeles, invented traffic cones to manage vehicle flow and restrict access to sections of road. The patent for his invention was granted in 1943.

Most common traffic cone colors are orange and red due to their brightness and a standard color for danger or caution with the traditional “witches hat” design.

There are other colors green and white. Some cones are adorned with retro-reflective strip to increase their visibility and tall thin cones with yellow reflectors.

There were times I would see cones in places where the need for them had finished or wondered, how did they end up here? And many cones are just abandoned.

Arrows, like cones, are here when someone can't be. Arrows signify force, movement and position. They symbolize power, flight, direction; in some cases, love. They designate and control.

Robert Finkel, assistant professor of graphic design at Auburn University, notes that “the use of the arrow as a symbol is thought to be less than four hundred years old. In early maps and diagrams the arrow is often illustrated as a variation of an archer's arrow complete with point, shaft, and fletching. Over time the arrow becomes increasingly simplified and abstracted to the degree that the only recognizable feature of the original archer's arrow is simply a triangular point for the head.”

Today, arrows lead you to water, to your plane, out of the parking lot and to the bathroom. Arrows are found in different places, in all sizes and colors. In some Native American cultures, when an arrow points to the left it means warding off evil, pointing to the right means protection and an arrow pointing down means peace. Regardless of applications and meaning, the arrow's basic characteristic is “to show direction or position; a pointer”

At times, cones and arrows work together.

Photo: One Way Street, Malden, Massachusetts, 2016



Don't Jump

Malden, Massachusetts
2015



Hard Working Cones

York, Maine
2015

Orange and green are attention-getting.



Which Arrow was Recently Added?

Elsah, Illinois
2008



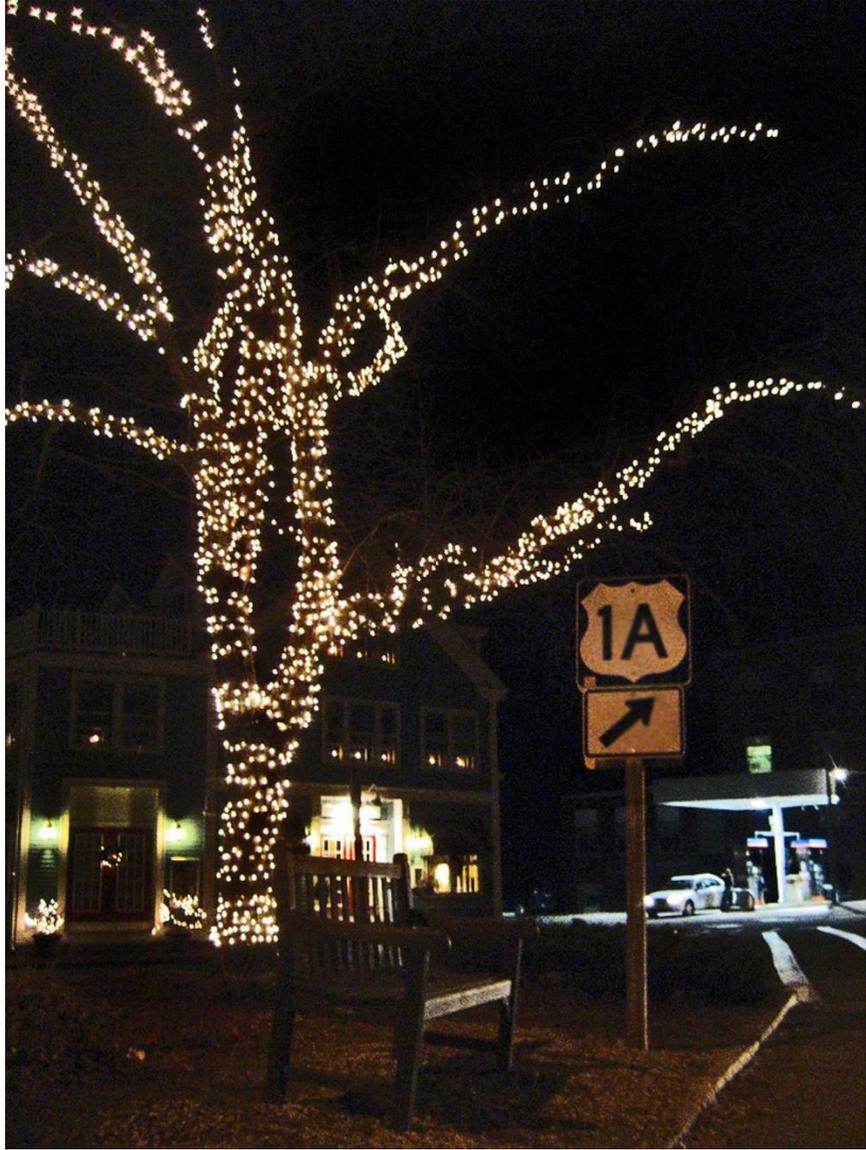
Cone on a Soap Box at City Hall

Malden, Massachusetts
2016



Night Arrow

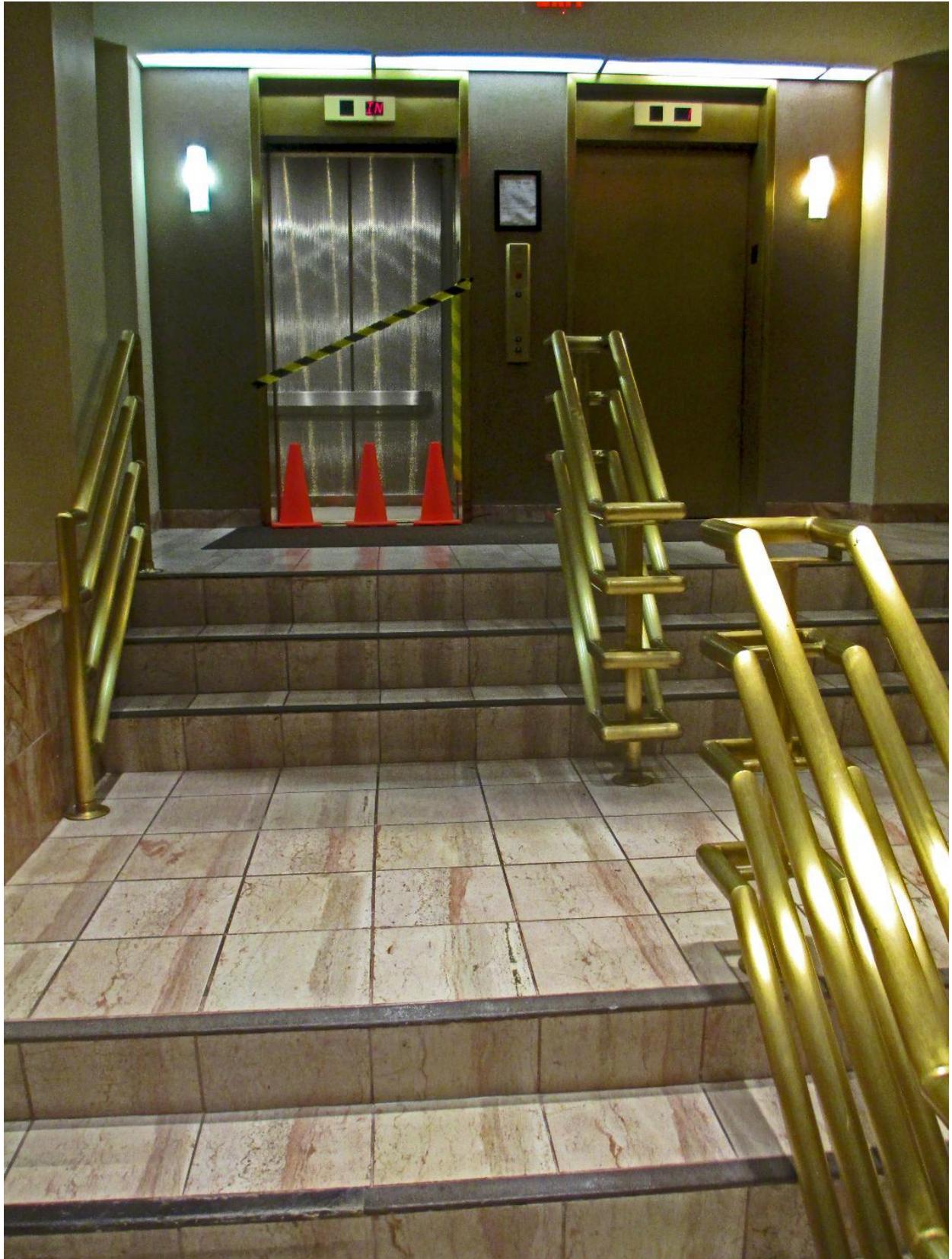
York, Maine
2012



Don't Go In

Malden, Massachusetts
2014

These three cones are placed here because I saw one person walk around the single cone and push the button and wait for the elevator to move. So, now three cones and yellow tape are used to reinforce the idea that the elevator is NOT WORKING!



It's the View

Kittery, Maine
2015



Don't Come Any Closer!

West Palm Beach, Florida
2015

*To get through the day, this cone thinks of itself as a Buckingham Palace Guard, stoic, duty bound and can tolerate the public antics with a smile. Because not soon after this picture was taken a person looking at their phone walked to the elevator and saw the cone and **KICKED IT!***



Arrow Behind Bars

Boston, Massachusetts
2015



Abandon

Cambridge, Massachusetts
2015



See Through Arrow

York, Maine
2012

York Water District's first supervisor is still talked about today for his inspired ideas in management and for his dream of bringing a "sense of artist expression and playfulness" to the small New England town municipality. BRAVO!



Cone & Printer “Unplugged”

Boston, Massachusetts
2018



Arrow Aria

West Palm Beach, Florida
2015

Pavarotti once used the bathroom here.



Union Cones

Malden, Massachusetts
2018



Nothing to See Here

West Palm Beach, Florida
2015



Extra Cone Duty

York, Maine
2013

The town public works supervisor, testifying in front of the board of selectmen, said “that slower drying paint was a cheaper way to go.” But, the supervisor failed to mention the added expense of the cone and making a sign, which took the selectmen and the town by surprise. “WHERE IS THE TRANSPARENCY?!” said the homeowner whose house is pictured.



WET
PAINT

YW

Sign Within a Sign

York, Maine
2013

Suburban gang members make their mark to show their conservative street cred.



Pole Climbing Cone

Everett, Massachusetts
2018



How Many Arrows Do You See?

Grafton, Illinois
2015

At twenty miles per hour, I want to go where "whatever that drawing is."



Down & Out

Malden, Massachusetts
2018



Arrows Lost to Numbers

West Palm Beach, Florida
2015

TOW AWAY
24 HRS A DAY **ZONE** 7 DAYS A WEEK
UNAUTHORIZED VEHICLES & VESSELS WILL BE TOWED AT OWNER'S EXPENSE
Sheehan's
659-0758

METROCENTRE

2440	↑	2541
←	2540	→
2478		2581
←		→

Cone Rapture

York, Maine
2012

It's what happens when a cone takes the day off.



Older Arrow on the Bottom

York, Maine
2013

*In the old days the “One Way” sign was nearer to the top. Today “state law” with pedestrian symbol, and lime green background for the arrow, means one thing:
NOBODY STOPS!*



Left for Dead

Boston, Massachusetts
2016



Homemade Arrow

Somerville, Massachusetts
2016



Overly Protective Cones

York, Maine
2011

“Explain this!” said his supervisor when he saw all the cones. And added, “You’re drawing a handicap symbol in the parking place that already has a symbol. It’s the space next to all those cones that needs the symbol!”



Taxpayers Marking Their Territory

York, Maine
2012



Two Cones in the Rain

Malden, Massachusetts
2018

