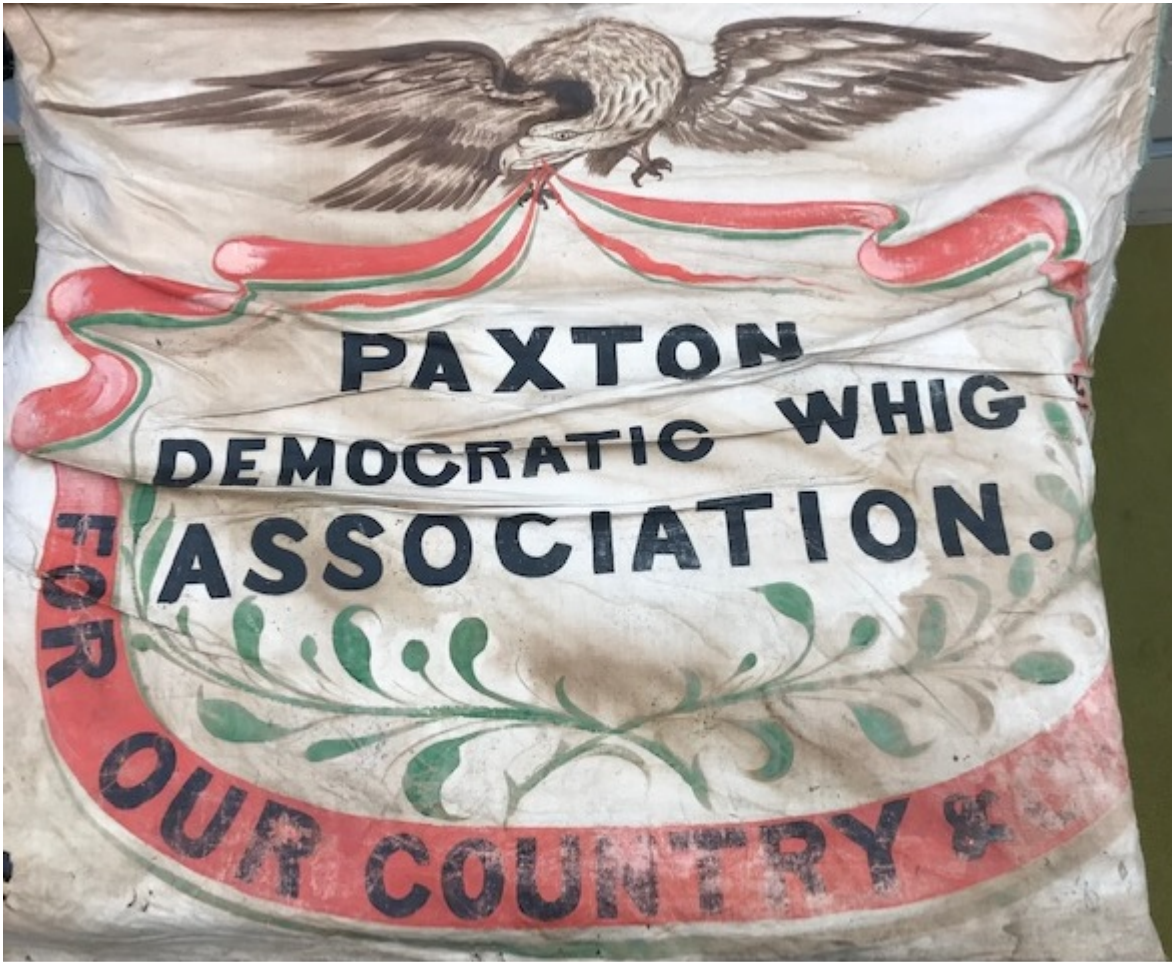
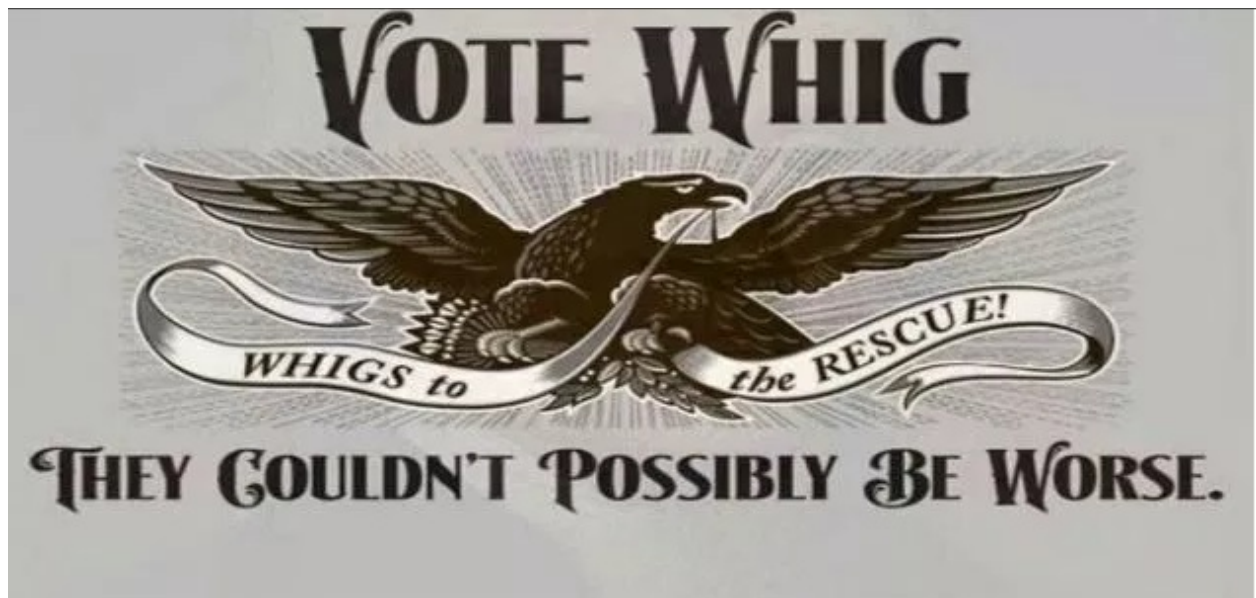


NEWLY DISCOVERED WHIG BANNER, CIRCA 1835



The Trustees of Richards Memorial Library discovered a unique piece of Paxton history while organizing the library basement in 2019. The cloth banner was created for the Paxton Whig Party. It will be preserved by the Historical Commission in an archival box to protect it from further degradation.



The American Whig Party existed for only a rather short time from 1834 to approximately 1854. It was created through the efforts of Henry Clay and Daniel Webster and was in direct opposition to Andrew Jackson, who was viewed as making the Executive Branch of government too strong. Whigs supported the supremacy of the Congress. Of the four Whig party members who became President, only William Henry Harrison and Zachary Taylor were elected. John Tyler and Millard Fillmore each were Vice Presidents who succeeded their respective President upon his untimely death. In Paxton, the Whig party was quite powerful, sending two members to the Worcester convention in 1840. Numerous Paxton Whig members were commercial farmers in town.