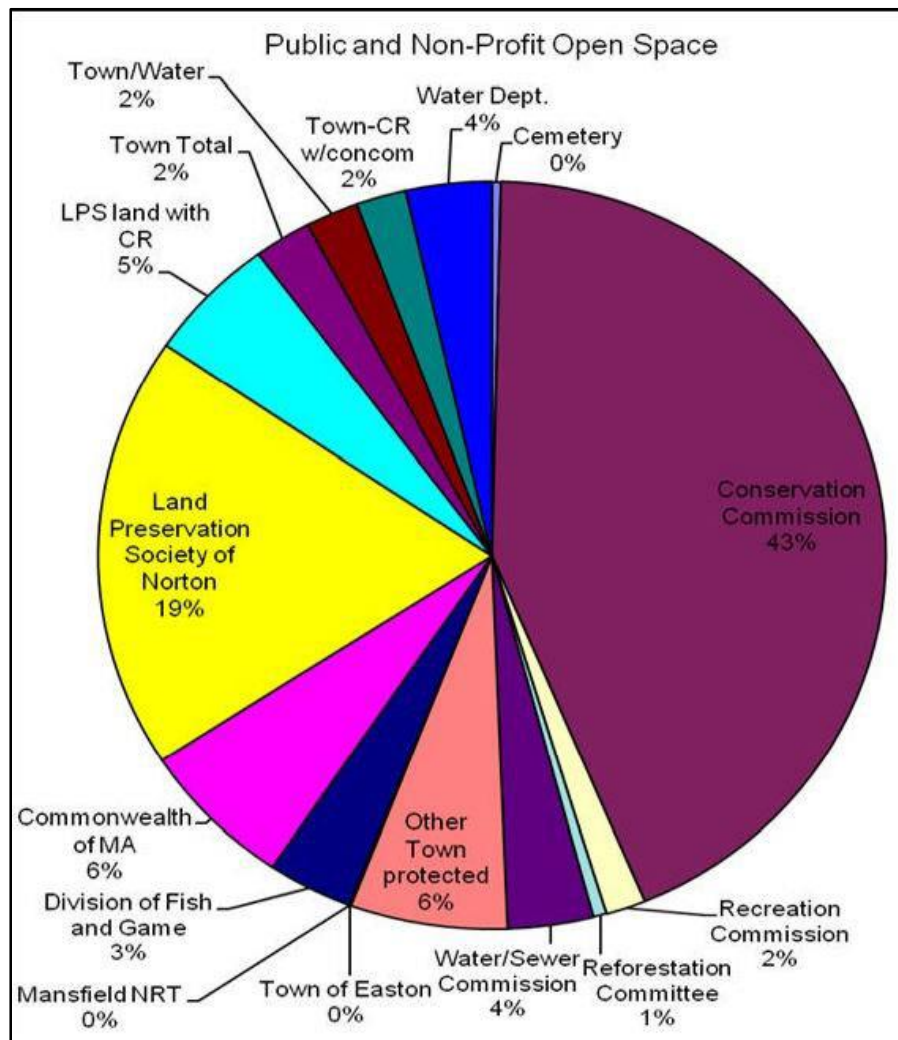


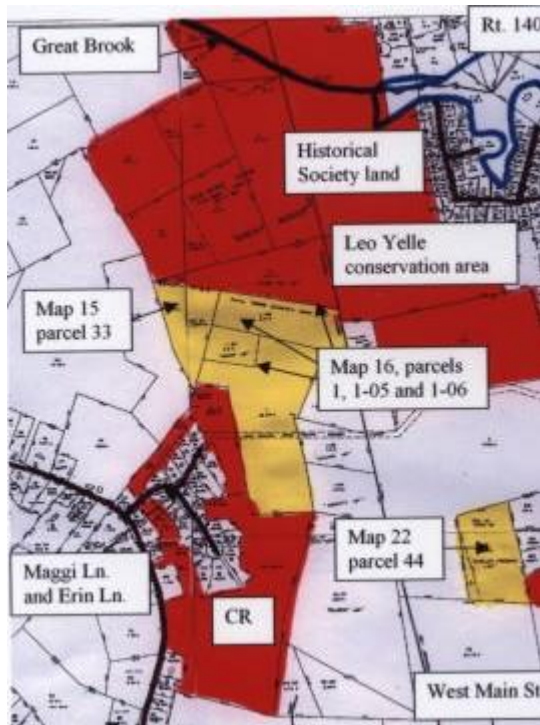
Public and Non-Profit Open Space Land

As with the private open space evaluation, the public and non-profit open space land changes are due to new acquisitions and a change in how the properties are counted. Previously, certain town-owned lands were not counted as open space because they were not permanently protected. The Commonwealth of MA has a Care and Control Agreement signed by the Division of Capital Asset Management and the Division of Fisheries and Game for nearly 100 acres of land along the Canoe River. This land was supposed to revert to the Town of Norton for open space purposes as part of the Route 495 construction in the 1970's. While this still hasn't been done, the land is now permanently protected under Article 97 with the signing of the Care and Control Agreement. The Land Preservation Society of Norton has included over 100 acres of land to the inventory, a significant feat in the previous and current economic climate. Unprotected municipal land (like school land) is included in the Description of Parcels below but has not been included in quantifying the acreage. The pie chart below illustrates the various ownership of open space land.



OPEN SPACE MAP HERE

Not immediately obvious by viewing the pie chart is the very successful campaign to group open space land into large contiguous blocks or to provide greenbelts along major waterways. This can most easily be observed looking at the open space map. It should be mentioned that Norton has taken an exceptional and concerted effort to gap fill those areas to provide these contiguous blocks and greenbelts in all projects and acquisition projects for the benefit of continued ecological processes, wildlife migration and corridors, and for human recreation value. Below are examples of this gap-filling (left picture) and greenbelt (right picture) strategies. Protected land is shown in red and land to be transferred to the Conservation Commission is shown in yellow. All yellow parcels have been transferred at Town Meeting and now receive Article 97 protection.



Description of Parcels: Public Protected Open Space

Conservation Commission Parcels

Canoe River Greenbelt and Recreation Area (former Subon property). Map 5, parcel 13

In 2001, the Subon property located on East Main Street was purchased for \$391,000.00 with 47% funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. The property was subdivided into two lots. Lot 1 is managed by the Conservation Commission. Lot 2 is managed by the Recreation Commission. The land is now part of the Canoe River Greenbelt and preserved for wildlife habitat.

Everett Leonard Conservation Area. Map 31, parcel 51

The Everett Leonard Conservation Area is located on Parker Street next to the Everett Leonard Park (managed by the Recreation Commission). Land and Water Conservation Funding was used to purchase the property in 1979 for trails and wildlife habitat. There is

an open field, Birch Brook and forest area ready for exploration. It is best to park at the Everett Leonard Park and walk to the conservation parcel.

Leo G. Yelle Conservation Area. Map 16, parcels 3, 4, 5 and 6, Map 15, parcel 32

In 1974 the 80 acres of land were purchased with a Self-Help Grant in order to preserve the forested area of the Great Woods. Bog iron was mined in this area and trees were felled for charcoal production. The property was dedicated to Leo G. Yelle for his dedication to protection of natural resources and commitment to serving Norton as a member of the Conservation Commission and Historical Society. A two-car parking lot is found on Freeman Street.

Johnson Acres. Map 10, parcel 602

This former farm land was purchased in 2000 with Land and Water Conservation Funds. Johnson Acres is located on the corner of North Washington Street and Newcomb Street.



The large field provides a picnic area and the trails are used often by equestrian riders. The property is now part of the Canoe River Greenbelt. The rich history of the property has been documented by Bruce Church and is available in the Conservation Office. Do not park in the driveways. This is the only conservation parcel where hunting is NOT permitted.

Rose Farm Conservation Area. Map 26, parcel 79-01

In 1966 the Rose Farm area was purchased with a Self-Help Grant. The property is bounded on one side by the Wading River and offers excellent bird watching. There are large fields also excellent for observing butterflies and other insects. The property was temporarily used for soccer fields and reverted back to conservation and passive recreation activities. There is room for one car at the entrance on North Worcester Street or the property can be accessed through trails at the Solmonese School on West Main Street.



Lincoln Woods. Map 19, parcel 1

The Lincoln Woods located on King Phillip Street had been in the Lincoln family for over 300 years. In order to preserve this portion of Norton's history, the Conservation Commission applied for grant funding to purchase the 70 acres of land within the Canoe River aquifer. Grants were received through the Self-Help Grant, Sweet Water Trust and the Fields Ponds Foundation. The property contains trails and excellent wildlife habitat. There is a small area suitable for parking on King Philip Street.

Erikson Conservation Land.



The Erikson property, 21 acres on Bay Road, is now permanently preserved in memory of Suzanne and “Erik” Erikson. Suzanne was a founding member of the Land Preservation Society of Norton and longtime member of the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee. The Norton Conservation Agent facilitated the purchase of this land by securing an appraisal through the Taunton River Stewardship Council, a state LAND grant for \$146,272.00, a \$5000.00 donation from the Land

Preservation Society, and a grant for \$25,000.00 from the MA Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program.

Conservation land rules

Conservation property is open to the public for enjoyment of passive recreation only. Under Chapter 40 Section 8C the Conservation Commission may adopt rules and regulations for the use of conservation property. The following are rules that were adopted by the Conservation Commission:

1. Hours of use are from ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
2. No cars, trucks, or other powered vehicles or tools except for conservation or authorized vehicles are permitted.
3. Hunting, fishing, or trapping in season with a license and in accord with applicable law is allowed except as posted. Johnson Acres is the only conservation property where hunting is NOT permitted.
4. No person shall cut, break, remove, deface, defile or ill-use any structure, fence, sign, or have possession of any part thereof. No growing trees, bushes, plants, flowers shall be defaced or cut, nor shall trails be cut or marked, nor dams built nor any structure such as a lean-to, bridge, tower or handrail be constructed, without authorization of the Conservation Commission.
5. No person shall engage in business, sell or expose for sale, or give away any goods, wares or circulars.
6. Overnight camping in these areas shall be permitted to organizations having adult leaders present at all times. Every group shall complete a notification form and obtain permission from the Conservation Commission. Groups must obtain a fire permit if open fires are planned, and must notify the Chief of Police and Fire Chief each time of exact dates of occupancy and identity of the accompanying responsible adult.
7. All trash shall be removed at time of departure.

Recreation Commission Parcels

Canoe River Greenbelt and Recreation Area (former Subon Property). Map 10, parcel 274

In 2001, the Subon property located on East Main Street near the Easton line was purchased for 391,000.00 with 47% funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant. The property was subdivided into two lots. Lot 1 is managed by the Conservation Commission and lot 2 is managed by the Recreation Commission. Proposed plans for the Recreation parcel (lot 2) call for a public swimming pool, playground, picnic areas and multi-use field although a master plan has not been created.

Lee Burchill Fields. Map 17, parcel 113

Located off Plain Street, the Lee Burchill Fields are opposite the L.G. Nourse Elementary School. The 2.04-acre parcel is managed by the Reforestation Committee and contains an easement for the Recreation Commission to allow active recreational activities on the former Town Forest property. This easement was done in the 1970s. Currently there are two baseball/softball fields, dugouts and chain link backstops. A hard-packed stonedust walkway connects the fields to the parking lot and the concession stand located between the two fields. Norton Youth Baseball and Softball



Association provides port-o-potties during events. Lee Burchill Field is shown below.

Everett Leonard Park. Map 31, parcel 52

In 2000 the Recreation Commission conducted a municipal parks needs survey with 270 respondents. As a result, Daylor Consultants were contracted to produce a master plan for Everett Leonard Park in 2001. \$30,000.00 was approved at the Spring Town Meeting after \$6,000.00 was spent for the conceptual plan. The Conservation Commission issued an Order of Conditions in the Spring of 2002 and the work on the master plan is on-going. There is a parking lot on Parker Street.



In 1999 the park was cited for a series of violations of the Americans' with Disabilities Act. Walkways were re-constructed and handicapped parking spaces installed. In 2002, a new concrete deck was installed to replace the frost heaved asphalt deck. The new deck incorporated access ramps for handicapped and joined with the shower area constructed in 2000. In 2003 a ne

pool pump and valves were installed.

Fernandes Nature Park. Map 22, parcel 85

In 2002 the Recreation Commission took on the project from the Board of Selectmen. A conceptual plan for the property on West Main Street created by Moriece & Gary was rejected in 1999. The property underwent wetlands delineation in 2002 and a new conceptual plan calling for a nature park with aerated pond/skating rink was approved in 2003. The creation of a master plan for development is on-going.

Lion's Field. Map 31, parcel 30

Lion's Field is located on Dean Street across from Harvey Street. The 5.3-acre parcel contains a baseball field with dugouts and a chain link backstop. Norton Youth Baseball

and Softball Association provides port-o-potties during events. In 2003, the parking lot was regraded to allow for better parking and an accessible path from the parking lot to the uppermost viewing area. The field sits at the bottom of a fairly steep slope. While it is not possible to provide universal access to the field at this time, the Town of Norton has been working toward this goal. The work on the parking lot is a step toward providing accessibility. This parcel is actually owned by the Conservation Commission.

Town-Owned Open Space

Gertrude E. Cornish Town Forest. Map 18, parcels 63 and 63-01

The town forest is located on Plain Street. It is believed that the forest was dedicated to Gertrude E. Cornish. Several other parcels in town were specifically listed as town forest; however, most of those records are lost. It is a goal of this open space plan to investigate the forests that have been dedicated, re-dedicate them, install appropriate signs, and ensure that the special protection afforded to town forests is recorded with the deeds to avoid any conversions. Other parcels of town forest may be located on Pine Street.

Slattery property. Map 31, parcels 1 and 61

The Slattery property is located on John Scott Blvd and Harvey St. The 90-acre parcel was purchased from the Slattery family, who produced cranberries. Many people enjoy walking around the old cranberry bogs along the dike roads and fishing at the two reservoirs. One of the bogs is used for skating in the winter when the water freezes. The land was purchased with town funds and funds from the Water Department Reserve Account. As part owner of the land, the Water Department is locating their new offices on the property.

Mansfield Ave boat ramp. Map 3, parcel 721-01

The Mansfield Ave property was purchased for the potential of placing a boat ramp to the Norton Reservoir. The existing house is currently leased to an insurance company while the town acquires the funds to create the boat ramp. LL Bean and the Norton Kayak Company also lease the property and host tours of the Reservoir and islands.

Unprotected Town-Owned Land (Board of Selectmen)

So. Lakeview Road, Evergreen Road, and Juniper Road

In 2000 the Recreation Commission attempted unsuccessfully to acquire town-owned parcels at Evergreen and Juniper Road for improvement. The former beaches were used as dumping grounds and boat launch areas. The Recreation Commission had hoped to construct public restrooms (area has sewer service) parking and picnic areas. A skating area was proposed at Juniper Road while a community playground was proposed for former Norton Reservoir Association property at S. Lakeview Road. The site would have been used for boat launching from the East side of the Norton Reservoir.

Town School Property and Fields

The Norton Middle School and the Solmonese School, both located on West Main Street, have fields for soccer and other play areas. The L.G. Nourse School is located on Plain Street and has a baseball field as well as a play area and playground equipment.

Reforestation Committee lands

This property is also located on Plain Street. Although the Reforestation Committee is no longer active, the rear portion of this parcel is still forested. In the 1970s several acres of the front of the parcel were included in an easement to the Recreation Commission for the creation of the Lee Burchill Fields. Two baseball fields are now located on the front portion of the Reforestation Land.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Land

In 2004, the Department of Public Works through the Division of Capital Asset Management transferred the care, custody and control of 134.6 acres of land along the Canoe River to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife for creation of the Canoe River Greenbelt. This project has finally been completed after over 30 years of negotiations and setbacks. (See the discussion of the Canoe River Greenbelt in the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee section.) The Division of Fisheries and Game maintains the acres within the Wilder Wildlife Management Area and has not acquired any new land. The Department of Public Works would not be considered public protected land. The DPW can construct roads and easements on the property and would not be considered an open space use. The 145 acres listed as protected land in the previous OSRP has been removed from this section and included in the unprotected land inventory. The 5.72 acre parcel of land that is included in this updated OSRP includes a parcel of land on Plain street and canoe access to the Snake River.

Division of Fisheries and Game Parcels

Erwin S. Wilder Wildlife Management Area

This property can be accessed from Toad Island Road. It contains a mix of open fields, marshes and forested areas. Hunting is permitted on the property. In addition, a car-top canoe launch area is located on Bay Road for canoeing and boating on the Snake River.

Canoe River Management Area

Several parcels along the Canoe River and Route 495 have been transferred to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife in a Care and Control Agreement with Massachusetts



Highway. This agreement was signed in 2004 and is the result of over 20 years of negotiations and persistence. There is no public access to the property from roads; however, if one were to gain access to the Canoe River from a public area, one could canoe to the Fisheries and Wildlife land. The major purpose for the protection of the land is to create a five-town wildlife habitat and passive recreation corridor. This project is the Canoe River Greenbelt project. More information

on this project can be found under the section on the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee. A significant amount of the work to complete the care and control agreement

was done by Leonard Flynn of the Mansfield Natural Resources Trust. Mr. Flynn also is the land acquisition coordinator for the Canoe River Aquifer Advisory Committee. The Town of Norton is eternally grateful for the dedication and persistence of Mr. Flynn. He has been a wonderful ally.

Description of Parcels: Non-Profit Protected Open Space

Land Preservation Society of Norton (LPS)

Since 1970, the Land Preservation Society of Norton (LPS) has used different approaches to make people aware of the need for stewardship of natural areas and the importance of protecting open space throughout the Town. Originally started by twelve people, this



non-profit, all volunteer land trust has grown in membership to about

150. Although independent, the LPS is a member of the Steering Committee of the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition, and keeps abreast of issues facing land trusts throughout the State. The Society owns over 900 acres of land in various parts of Norton, some of them with trails. There are a variety of habitats ranging from the geologically interesting King Philip's Cave to wetlands along the Canoe River and the old Copper

Works Canal and Pond off Taunton Avenue. Some, like the Woodward Forest off Gateway Lane, have walking trails that are also suitable for cross-country skiing in winter. Others have been left completely natural as habitat for a variety of plant and animal species.

The Society's goals are to:

Safeguard land forever.

Encourage people to use that land as a place to walk, observe plants, birds and animals, and be away from motorized vehicles.

Provide information about environmental issues and help educate people about ecology, conservation and land stewardship.

The Society's current project, "The Wild Backyards of Norton", is affiliated with the National Wildlife Federation's Backyard Habitat program. The goal is to get enough backyards, public spaces and other properties certified as suitable places for wildlife so

that Norton will be recognized as a habitat town (to date a distinction held only by Milton in Massachusetts).

The Land Preservation Society has certain criteria for purchasing or accepting land. The parcel should have no pollution that could require cleanup; it should have value as wildlife habitat or for wetland protection; it should be large enough to provide decent habitat or adjoin other preserved open space; it must have clear title and no tax liens. The Society encourages abutting landowners to make non-motorized recreational use of its land and to help monitor it. Land can be donated to the LPS or the Society will sometimes purchase it at below market value. The donor or seller can take a tax deduction for the value of the land or the tax-advantaged sale. The Society also accepts tax-deductible cash or stock gifts and memorial donations.

To become a member of the Society, pick up an informational flier at the Norton Public Library or visit the web site <http://www.nortonlandpreservation.org/>

Description of Land Preservation Society Parcels (Contributed by Frances Shirley. *This list represents only a portion of the holdings of the land trust. For a complete list of land contact the Land Preservation Society of Norton*)

The Canoe River Land. Part of a 43.5-acre purchase from the Newcomb Home. The negotiations were complex and finally cleared through Land Court. The land has a *riparian* boundary and most of the land is wet and currently impassable. It originally included a mill pond and dam, but the Town removed the boards on the dam, and the area has *eutrofied*, with low water levels. It can be reached from Red Mill Road (Newcomb St.) and at high water, a canoe can be launched upstream, but there is no longer good paddling. The land abuts Easton Water Department land, which is upland. At one time a footbridge crossed the Canoe River downstream from Red Mill Road. The area includes the old dam and mill foundations from the nineteenth century. Purchased April 5, 1976.



The Polly Goodwin Lot. Originally part of Polly Goodwin's extensive land holdings. Donated by Curtis Dahl, who has written a pamphlet on Polly Goodwin, an important figure in nineteenth-century Norton. The land is wooded, and close to I-495. It can be reached from Bruce and Sumac Streets in Norton Grove, off of Cobb St. Donated December 29, 1980.

The Winthrop Dahl Nature Preserve. Originally part of the land abutting Old Cobb Street, and Bruce's Basket Factory. There are remains of a barn foundation and well, and an old stone wall along the line of Old Cobb Street with a cut behind the Bruce building, which has been torn down and replaced by a house. There is a vernal pool (certified) at the rear. It is also traversed by the Shell pipeline right of way, and bounded at the rear by the disused railroad track bed, now owned by Mansfield Sewer and Water. The Mansfield Municipal Airport flightpath crosses it and trees are occasionally trimmed in accordance with FAA regulations. Part is still meadow, part is in shrubs and there are hardwood trees. It is accessible beside the sign on North Washington or from the trackbed, an extension of Mansfield's Rails to Trails project. Donated by Mary Dahl December 22, 1994.

Park at Great Woods. Remnant portion of a woodlot, part of a land swap with BankBoston using a total of 15.84 of the 20.4 remaining acres of the land originally purchased from Alice Clapp Smalley on February 28, 1986, and traded with her blessing for more acreage of better wildlife habitat. One piece was part of a 12.4-acre parcel of land abutting the Great Brook and the remaining parcel also abuts the Mansfield Natural Resources Trust Gooch land. The land given up in the swap abutted the Tweeter Center parking lot and was used recreationally by patrons of rock concerts. This remnant is partially wet and contains interesting habitat. Part of it is in Mansfield because of a resurvey of boundaries. Swap negotiations completed August 14, 2000. As part of the deal, the LPS and the Town of Norton also share a conservation restriction along Great Brook.

The Henrich Woods. The gift of the late Jean and Leonard Henrich. It is bounded by the old railroad trackbed on the east (now the property of Mansfield Sewer and water), and runs down to a narrow frontage on the Rumford River on the west. There is a Shell Oil pipeline right of way through it that provides north-south access, and a path from the railroad trackbed west to the river. It is signed on North Washington Street at the Johnson Woods, and there is also a path through the Johnson Woods to the stone fence boundary from that parking area. There are two certified vernal pools, a grove of old pine trees, and mixed hardwoods. In addition, there are Indian pipes, many toads, and a number of shrubs, including blueberries. The path toward the north is low and wet; much of the rest is dry. There may be a large chestnut tree on this land or abutting land which is protected by a CR. Given on December 26, 1995.

The Reinhard Pasture Land. Now wooded, it runs from North Washington Street to the Canoe River, with a path to the left of the sign. It demonstrates the speed with which open land returns to woods if not continuously cut. There is a remnant of an old cart path running through it, and a mix of trees, including a pine grove near the river. Cleanup work was done by members of the youth-confirmation class of the Trinitarian Congregational Church. Purchased from 'Lanky' Reinhard, the Town's long-time Tree Warden on July 2, 1985.

The Johnson Woods. given by the Johnson heirs—Arlene Cox, Ruth Church and others in appreciation of the Land Preservation Society's efforts to secure funding for the Town's purchase of Johnson Acres, the old family farm across North Washington Street. This

was originally pasture and is bounded by stone fences. It tends to be wet in spring and there was once a skating and duck pond. There may be a vernal pool. It is wooded, and a path has been cleared, with the help of Wheaton students, to provide access to the Henrich Woods, without having to deal with dirt bikers on the old trackbed. Parking is at the trackbed crossing of North Washington Street.

King Philip's Cave. The land surrounds a cluster of three houses, with the main part upland with some bedrock and very large glacial erratics forming a shelter reputedly used by King Phillip and his tribe when they were hunting and fishing in the area. The land runs from this high point down to Mulberry Meadow Brook, which is now quite brush filled. Boy Scouts conducted a cleanup of the area around the "cave" and the path leading in. It was donated by Raymond Passenti, and he has been granted an easement to put his driveway up the old roadway which led to the "cave" and then down toward the brook. Indian artifacts have been found in some locations along the brook. The driveway will provide a paved, handicapped access for the LPS. This is a site visited by school children, and it helps to have it handicapped accessible. A stone wall abuts it on the north side, with paths leading into cranberry bogs owned by Makepeace. Given on October 4, 1999.

Copperworks Canal and Pond. Part of the donation tied to the lease purchase deal with Marjorie and Barbara Foster. The 19th-century copper works used water power at first to make, among other things,



the copper blanks for large U.S. pennies, which were shipped to the Philadelphia Mint for stamping. The Wading River was diverted into a pond by a canal, and the earthworks for that make a pathway on the south side of the pond leading west to the original diversion point. The pond is bordered by woodland to the north. To the south, the land was quarried on a small scale for gravel. Near the breast of the

pond there are remnants of stone construction that are part of the water control for the Copperworks across Taunton Avenue. An overgrown roadway leads in from Taunton Avenue. From the earthworks one can look down into the Wading River's course, which is mostly abutted by wetlands and was apparently at one time a larger pond. The Massachusetts Historical Survey has extensive documentation and old plans. December 8, 1993.

L.A. Foster Wildlife Refuge. It was originally to have been named "The Leighton Foster Preserve". Gift of Marjorie and Barbara Foster (Leighton's widow). South of Taunton Avenue, it borders the Wading River across from the old copper works, and was once

part of the copperworks. The old roadway, with a much lower bridge, went through it. It can currently be reached by a steep roadway off Route 140 on the Taunton side of the Wading River bridge. There are remnants of a slag pile there. December 23, 1992.

Misty Meadows-The Antonio Medeiros Wildlife Preserve. The first of two donations by Laura Medeiros and her family, encouraged by Robert Medeiros. South of Richardson Avenue, it includes an easement for a Mass Electric Power line, and the service road, on the Attleboro border, provides access. There is also an entrance between two of the houses on Laura Lane. There is wetland bounding it along the Attleboro line, and a very minor tributary of the Wading River runs through it. It is wooded and rich in bird life, including wild turkeys, visiting bald eagles, and over a hundred other species spotted at various times by Jean Shea, whose land abuts it. To the south it is bordered by Town conservation land, which in turn abuts the Nickerson gift, a small Norton remnant of Ms. Nickerson's major gift to the Attleboro Land Trust. Given February 19, 2000.

The Medeiros Family Wildlife Preserve. Also given by the Medeiros family, it is bounded by the Attleboro and Mansfield town lines. A power line easement for Massachusetts Electric high tension wires and service road provides a wet meadow habitat bordering the wooded main portion of the land and access to the west side. There is also a bog, perhaps a natural cranberry bog, in the center of the land. A large number of wildflowers grow in the meadow habitat, which is the richest open land the Society owns. Plants include wild lilies, orchids, a variety of clovers, as well as several varieties of goldenrod, etc. These attract butterflies and the wetlands attract dragonflies. Given in 2001.

The Alice Clapp Smalley Wildlife Preserve. When Mrs. Smalley sold a total of about 36 acres in scattered woodlots in the Great Woods to the LPS in 1986, she was hopeful that somehow we would be able to add other land and create a wildlife preserve. The woodlots were on very thin soil and she was pleased to have the land swapped for better acreage in the same general area. (Her home farm was sold to become Tweeter Center in Mansfield.) Developer Robert Kraska swapped 14.2 acres of the original woodlot acreage for over 61 acres he purchased



from George and Ameila Reilly (inherited Woodward lands) along the Rumford River and donated to the Society in 1988. He also promised to give 45 acres off Oak Street with a path leading in to it for the Alice Clapp Smalley Wildlife Preserve when he completed his development. His plans never materialized, and Bank Boston eventually donated the land. The

Vice President of BankBoston and President of the Park at Great Woods Corporation Alice Guiney opened a path into it while they were working on the TPC golf course. It is close to the Norton County Club and its entrance, at the intersection of Oak and Walker

Streets, is signed. The path leads into some wetland behind the TPC golf course. These lands near Oak Street, taken together with land owned by the Town and both golf courses, help provide a wildlife corridor between the Mansfield Great Woods preserved lands and the land belonging to the Norton Historical Society and leading down to Norton Reservoir. Donated July 14, 2000.

Woodward Forest. Part of the original purchase to create the Woodward Forest Preserve which now, with the L.A. Foster lands which adjoin, totals almost 250 acres. It was part of the old Woodward farm, a mixed operation with woodlots and pasture that ran originally from Old Taunton Avenue to the Wading and Three Mile rivers. At one time greyhounds were trained on a portion of the land. There is a continuation of the Shell Oil pipeline through it, which makes a path along one portion. Paths have been cut and are maintained in the land, often with the help of Wheaton College students, and are accessible from the turnaround at the end of Gateway Lane, where the Jonathan Rowe's have built a set of wooden steps to make access easier. Parts of the current paths follow old cart paths established in the 19th century. The land was bought from Carlton H. Woodward April 6, 1979.

Crane Farm Preserve.



Crane Farm has been in the Reilly family for 300 years and is a locally important historic, ecological, and cultural site. The Nature Conservancy partnered with the Land Preservation Society, the Reilly Family Trust, and the Town to complete the purchase and conservation restriction of approximately 40 acres. The Land Preservation Society owns the land and the Norton Conservation Commission holds the conservation restriction. Over 30 acres were purchased with a LAND grant of \$259,200.00, a donation from the Nature Conservancy of \$135,800.00, \$5,000.00 from the Land Preservation Society, and \$5,000.00 from the Town. The Reilly Family Trust donated a fourth parcel, and Save the Bay designed the sign.

Land Preservation Society Rules

1. Please stay on paths and leave no trash.
2. Hunting is prohibited.
3. Motorized vehicles are prohibited.

