

The MASHANTUCKET LAND TRUST, Inc.

P. O. Box 49
Old Mystic, Connecticut 06372

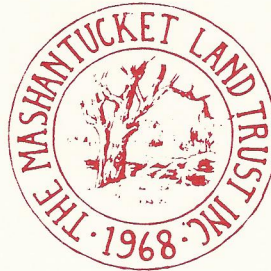
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NEWSLETTER,



SPRING 1971

North Stonington
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Stonington
Hugh L. M. Cole
President
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For a young and virtually unknown organization we can be proud of the progress we have made in the last three years. Besides acquiring more than 106 acres of land which will be preserved in perpetuity as open space, we have participated in many other activities helpful in the cause of conservation in Connecticut.

May we remind our members of our reason for existence as set forth in our Charter. Summarized briefly, we exist " * * * to promote for the benefit of the general public the preservation of the natural resources of the State of Connecticut * * * "

We do not exist solely to acquire real estate and hold it in its natural state. With this in mind we have engaged in many other activities.

Perhaps the most important of these is our arrangement with The Nature Conservancy whereby we manage the Pike property on its behalf. This involves, among other things, maintaining the bridle paths. The Pike property consists of 160 acres of woodland in Ledyard formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. H. Harvey Pike.

There follows a partial list of our other activities:

We helped raise money to save the Haley Farm in Groton and also donated \$100 to this cause.

We helped raise money for the acquisition by The Nature Conservancy of the Cottrell Marsh on the shore between Mystic and Stonington.

We had an exhibit at the Ledyard Fair and at the Earth Day gathering on Avery Point in Groton.

We have opposed the creation of a leaching field at the Rest Area on Route I-95 in North Stonington. There will be no leaching field.

We also opposed the petition of Rykar Industrial Corporation, filed with the Connecticut Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, for permission to fill and develop 277 acres of marsh land in Stratford. Commissioner Gill denied this petition but the petitioner is going to court to try to over-rule Commissioner Gill's decision.

There follows a brief description of the properties we have acquired:

Ram Point - Masons Island

At the end of a peninsular stretching south-westerly on Masons Island, opposite Skippers Dock and the Ram Island Yacht Club is a point partly rocky and partly sandy, an undivided one-half interest in which was donated to us by the Masons Island Company. It comprises about one and one-half acres. It has been for many years and still is used by the public for digging clams in the Mystic River. Our deed prohibits camping. The point is accessible only by water, there being no road or right of way by land.

The Paffard Marsh

This comprises more than nine acres of marsh land on the north side of Route 1 between Stonington and Pawcatuck donated by the Paffard estate. It is separated from Seaport Ford's property by a brook which is used by fishermen.

The Ina Peck Property

This comprises about 25 acres of rugged, rocky woodland in what is known as the North Common area in Stonington northeast of the terminus of Prentice Williams Road. It was donated by Mrs. Howard F. Peck. At present access to this land is only with the consent of the adjoining landowners.

The Amos Avery Property

Our most recent acquisition, and the largest, is the generous gift of our Vice President, Amos G. Avery of Ledyard. It comprises about 75 acres of lovely wooded upland on the west side of Avery Hill Road.

Naturally, our Directors and Officers are extremely grateful to those who have so generously given all this land — and so should be the people of Connecticut.

None of this could have been accomplished without your continuing support, *but* we need all the help we can get.

Enclosed are:

- (1) A map showing the location of the properties referred to above.
- (2) A notice of our annual meeting which you are urged to attend.

Hugh L. M. Cole, President
By order of the Board