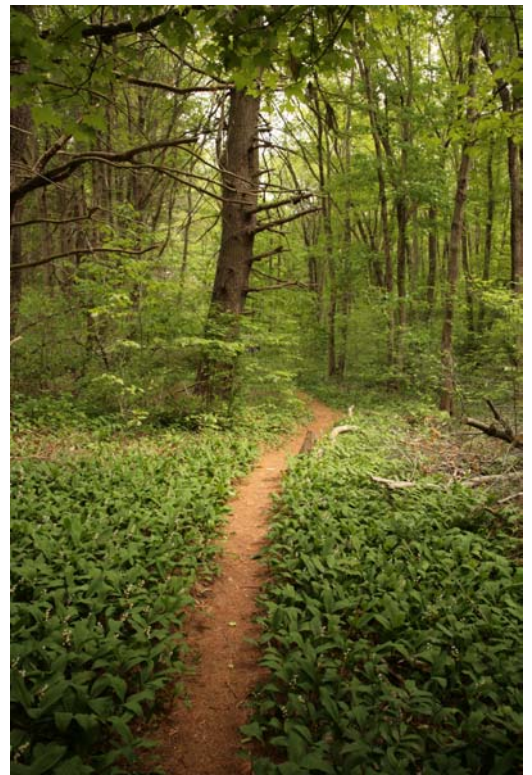


## **HWOLT 2007 in Review: Dodge Tree Farm Update and Partridgeberry Woods**

In 2007, HWOLT moved forward on the design and construction of walking trails over the former Dodge Tree Farm between Main Street and Porter Street in Wenham. The Land Trust Board has decided to name this path “Boulder Trail.” As you may be aware, the private developer we partnered with developed a portion of the land as senior housing and named that project the “Boulders,” and the name Boulder Trail seems appropriate.

The Land Trust was able to preserve approximately half of the ten-acre site as open space and issued a request for proposals earlier this year. State law (M.G.L. Chapter 61A) requires the Land Trust to devote this land to horticultural or agricultural uses. Hugh Collins responded with a proposal that funded the construction of Boulder Trail in exchange for his continued use of a portion of the property as a tree and shrub nursery. A new request for proposals will be issued shortly before Hugh Collins’ current lease expires on December 31, 2009. If you belong to or know of any suitable organization in Hamilton or Wenham that would be interested in a complementary agricultural or horticultural use, please ask them to contact the Land Trust.



Chute-Tarr Reservation. C. Davis

The Boulder Trail project exemplifies the Land Trust’s commitment to local land preservation and its ability to work cooperatively with local landowners, municipal officials and other stakeholders. These attributes have made HWOLT an attractive alternative for important local land conservation projects. In fact, the Town of Ipswich has now encouraged two local developers to work with the Land Trust on open space preservation, including our most recent acquisition, Partridgeberry Woods. HWOLT has now helped to protect three parcels in Ipswich, including the New England Biolabs property and Baker Pasture. Partridgeberry Woods directly abuts Willowdale State Forest and will provide direct access to the Forest’s extensive trail network. Walking trails are already established and HWOLT has been in discussions about trail maintenance with the Essex County Trails Association. A Conservation Restriction was finalized in the fall of 2007, and is presently being reviewed by the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services (EOEEA).

## Reservations

### HAMILTON

#### Chute/Tarr Farm

8.6 acres off Bridge Street  
Gift of George E. Tarr and Mary Ann Chute

#### Ted and Ella Johnson

7 acres on Candlewood Island  
Gift of Theodore E. Johnson

#### Michaela's Woods

16.9 acres off Appleton Avenue  
Gift of Mark S. and Andrea L. Arratoon

#### Pondview

2 acres on Boardman Lane  
Gift of Ephron and Priscilla S. Catlin

#### Helen Warren Richardson

2 acres on Woodbury Street  
Gift of Frederick L.W. Richardson, III

#### Riverside

9 acres off Gardner Street  
Gift of Tom and Tim Ford

#### Taft Woods

4.4 acres off Taft Woods Row  
Gift of Warren 5 Cents Savings Bank

#### Tamarack Farm (CR)

9 acres off Essex Street  
Protected by Michele Stecyk and Kevin Donovan

#### Whipple

2 acres on Candlewood Island  
Gift of Linda Greeley and Paula Minichiello

### WENHAM

#### Boulder Trail

5 acres between Main and Porter Street  
Acquired through public/private partnership

#### Nickerson Knoll

11.7 acres on Cedar Street  
Gift of Pauline M. Nickerson

#### Cherry Street (CR)

24 acres on Cherry and Pleasant Streets  
Protected by Binkley and Paula Shorts

### IPSWICH

#### Baker Pasture

9 acres on Pine Swamp Road  
Gift of Paul F. Wegzyn

#### Marshview

9.7 acres off Sagamore Street  
Gift of New England Biolabs Corporation

## President's Letter

*In 2007, the Land Trust continued several important projects that had been initiated over the past few years, which has allowed us to become involved with some new and exciting properties that will provide access to even more open space. Most significantly, we continued our work on the former Dodge Tree Farm property. Please read our cover story for more information about our progress with this project.*

*We also were asked to be the holder of a Conservation Restriction on a significant parcel in the Town of Ipswich. This is our third parcel in Ipswich and provides access to Willowdale State Forest. More information regarding this parcel and how it exemplifies the efforts of the Land Trust can be found on the cover.*

*The Land Trust website has been up and running ([www.hwolt.org](http://www.hwolt.org)) for approximately one year. I encourage all of you to visit the website and provide us with any comments or suggestions that you may have. We continue to add content to the website and view this as an important communication tool with all of our current and prospective members and land donors.*

*This coming year presents great opportunities for the Land Trust to help preserve open space in our communities. We are aware of several properties in Hamilton and Wenham that may become available in 2008 to the Land Trust and other conservation groups. We view preservation of these parcels as an important and fundamental purpose of the Land Trust in order to help insure that open space and natural areas are preserved for future generations.*

*We continue to seek out properties that are important to preserve and appreciate your considering the Hamilton-Wenham Open Land Trust if you or someone you know is interested in preserving a parcel of land in Hamilton, Wenham or Ipswich. As always, we wish to thank all of our land donors and members for their continued support of the Hamilton-Wenham Open Land Trust, and wish you and each of your families a happy and healthy 2008.*



## Website: [www.hwolt.org](http://www.hwolt.org)

The Land Trust continues to refine its new website, which contains information about the Land Trust and each of its reservations, with property descriptions, directions and maps. There is also important information for landowners about conservation options. It is our hope that over time the website will be a more regular source of updates and news on the Land Trust.

## Reservation Walks and Volunteer Opportunities

The Land Trust is planning several walks in the coming year on our reservations. In addition, we hope to have a work day to conduct trail maintenance and construction where needed. We look forward to your participation with us as we work to steward our beautiful properties. Please visit our website and watch the local papers for further details and scheduling, or contact Chris Davis at 978-468-5258.

## Long-Term Projects

The Land Trust would like to focus in the next year on the exploration and development of a modest trail system in the Woodbury Street area—specifically in our Taft Woods and Michaela's Woods properties. The Land Trust Board would love your ideas and input into what you would like to see us accomplish on these two adjacent reservations.



Cherry Street. C. Davis

## 2006 Federal Conservation Restriction Tax Incentive May Become Permanent

House bill HR 1576 and Senate bill S. 469 would make permanent a 2006 law that allowed landowners donating conservation restrictions to deduct a larger percentage of their income over a longer period of time. On December 14, 2007, the Senate passed S. 469, which includes provisions for making the tax incentives permanent, however, this is not the end of the process. A final bill will require a House-Senate conference in January of 2008. If the conference approves the Senate provision, it will be made retroactive to January 1, 2008. HWOLT's land conservation success will certainly be enhanced in no small part by the new federal incentive. As you know, HWOLT relies upon thoughtful landowners who want to – and can afford to – conserve their lands. For modest-income

landowners, especially family farmers, conservation needs to be a viable option to be realistically considered. While few property owners relish the thought of their land being converted to a sub-division, for many, that land is their family's retirement plan. The new federal conservation tax incentive provides vital benefits to make conservation a realistic option for working family farmers and other landowners in our area. For more information, contact HWOLT or visit the Land Trust Alliance website at [www.lta.org](http://www.lta.org).

### Officers and Directors

Martin Pomeroy, President  
Chris Davis, Vice President  
Robert Shaw, Vice President, Reservations  
Ken Whittaker, Clerk  
Peter Dana, Treasurer  
Belinda Recio, Vice President, Communications  
Carol Decker  
Christopher B. LaPointe  
Binkley Shorts

## **Membership**

The Land Trust is a charitable organization that conserves land in our communities for its natural, recreational, scenic, and wildlife values. Contributions are tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations. A regular membership is only ten dollars; and larger amounts or negotiable securities are always welcome.

## **Land Gifts**

The Land Trust can acquire land for permanent protection and can accept donations of Conservation Restrictions over appropriate land. We can accept donations of land or the funds to purchase land, accept a bequest, or accept the donation of a conservation restriction, which permanently limits the development that can take place on the land. Please contact Marty Pomeroy at (978) 468-6256 with any inquiries.



HAMILTON | WENHAM  
OPEN LAND TRUST

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