

TRUST IN OUR TOWN

A PUBLICATION OF KENNEBUNKPORT CONSERVATION TRUST



PRESERVING FOREVER

KCT has preserved acres of wilderness and islands in Kennebunkport

A LIFESTYLE TO LOVE

KCT is the steward of those places we love to play

FIGHTING FOR OUR FUTURE

KCT's bold vision for environmental and climate education



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Islands for Everyone

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ON THE COVER

Ben Williamson, Goat Island Light

Thanks to my friend Mark Jones and a couple of kayaks, I was able to experience a beautiful evening at Goat Island Lighthouse off of Cape Porpoise. The caretakers, Scott and Karen, were kind enough to let us wander around, taking in the sights of this fascinating, wonderful place. I can't wait to go back.

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A Word From Our Director

Tom Bradbury

We worked from home for the first 30 years of the Trust. There were no Zoom chats, but we did have a phone and called people from time to time. And there were no computers, but I did have a Smith Corona electric typewriter to create our solicitation and thank you letters on, though it was time consuming when I made a

mistake. Looking back, we wonder how we did it, but by the time we built our new headquarters in 2003, we had completed 54 transactions. Included in those were most of the islands of Cape Porpoise, much of Goose Rocks Beach, the Emmons Preserve, the Tyler Brook Preserve, and two downtown parks.

Back then we were faced with a challenge. We were losing the places we loved, those properties that defined the beauty and character of Kennebunkport, at an alarming rate. We wanted to do something about it. And even though we were young and naïve, the citizens of our community rallied to the cause and great progress was made towards forever preserving our shared heritage.

The difficulty increased in the 1980s when land values rose sharply. We wondered if we could afford to continue with the work we were doing, but people like Steve and Natalie Emmons were there to offer their land and give us encouragement, so we carried on.

By the turn of the new century many of the most cherished properties in Kennebunkport had been set aside, insuring public access to all, maintaining wildlife habitat, and passing down a priceless legacy to future generations. But cultural changes were taking place. Many people didn't know the landscape as well as those in the past.

Kids no longer played on the islands or in the forest like we had. Without a connection to our landscape, we asked ourselves, "Who would take over the support and management of the Trust when we are gone?" So, as part of the answer, we created Trust in Our Children, hoping that by introducing students and their

parents to the land around them, they would come to love it and care for it as we had. The program grew in size and popularity, and then spread throughout the district.

In 2020 we were once again working from home, the result of a worldwide pandemic. We have more than doubled in size and complexity since 2000, but the challenges we face have grown too, some of them on a

scale we never could have dreamed of. The Gulf of Maine is warming faster than any other body of water in the world, a clear threat to our harbor ecology and traditions. Rising tides are causing more rapid erosion of our shoreline, combined with the potential of more damaging storm surge, putting our lighthouse, islands, coastline and beaches in danger. The list goes on.

Fortunately, despite these obstacles, we remain forever optimistic. As with problems in the past, we will meet these challenges head on, doing the best we can to protect those special places that define our community. What's more, we will continue with our traditional work, keeping our town special for all and for all generations. How we will do that, where we have been, what we are doing, and our goals as we look ahead are contained within the pages that follow. We hope that you will enjoy both our story and our plans for the future, and that you will consider being a part of our team. All



that we do is based on membership support and we would be grateful for yours. In addition, we would love you to become an active part of the organization, to volunteer in its activities, or participate in an event. Working together to protect our commonly loved and shared resources is the basis of the Trust, and what binds us as a community. What I originally pounded out on the keys of my Smith Corona in those letters so many years ago stands true today:

Together we can make a difference. Together we can do great things!

What KCT Means to Me...

"In 2011 my wife and I moved back to Maine (where I grew up) from Boston. We found a house we fell in love with near the KCT owned Smith Preserve that we had never explored before. While we were snowshoeing in the trails we heard that our offer had been accepted and were thrilled to start our new life in Kennebunkport. Two children and nine years later we could not be happier sharing many visits in the various KCT properties but especially the Smith Preserve. It's a privilege to have these many lands to explore in our community!"

Coby Smith, longtime KCT member and volunteer



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2,400 Acres for YOU

The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust was founded on a simple principle: to preserve areas of Kennebunkport for public use. The first property preserved was the River Green: that long swath of lawn in front of the Captain Lord Mansion. The Cape Porpoise Harbor islands soon followed, and then the ball was rolling. Today, KCT has preserved 2,400 acres of shoreline, woodlands, historic sites, and of course the islands; all preserved, and accessible to the public, for free, forever.

Although preservation and community access to these lands was the impetus, we wanted to do more. So we added trails to the woodlands and free campsites to the islands. If you need a hike or a campsite near home, trails for mountain biking or someplace new to walk your dog, we've got you covered. Not familiar with our properties? Here is a handy guide to them, including information about parking, what to expect, and where they are.

Please note, our trails are not intended for commercial use. Due to the sensitive nature of rare flora and fauna and changing weather conditions, we do not allow motorized vehicles on our trails.

Smith Preserve

Smith Preserve is the Trust's largest holding. It features over 1,100 acres, 10 miles of recreational trails, babbling brooks, picnic rocks, quaint bridges, and a gorgeous forested landscape. In addition to the trail system, the Smith Preserve is primarily a wildlife habitat. It is part of a 3,000 acre block of undeveloped land, the largest such piece between Kittery and Brunswick on the coast, and home to white-tailed deer, bobcats, coyotes, hares, owls, partridges, turtles, and many other species. For our human friends, the property is ideal for hiking, mountain biking, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, bird watching and peaceful getaways from our busy lives.

Trail Head Parking:

The Edwin L. Smith Preserve Trail Head is marked on Google Maps; it is on Guinea Road, close to the Goose Rocks Road end.

Trail Lengths

Steele Trail: 3.5 miles from Trail Head Parking to Marker 11. **Fox Den Trail:** 0.8 miles from Marker 2 to 5. **Brook Trail:** 0.3 miles from Marker 2 to 3. **Trolley Trail:** 0.9 miles from Marker 6 to 18. **Bobcat Ridge Trail:** 2.3 miles from Marker 11 to 15.

Favorite Loops

Brook Loop: From Trail Head Parking to Brook Trail to Marker 3. Return via Steele Trail - 1.7 miles. See beautiful waterfalls along Round Swamps Brook. The trail is short, but hilly. The Brook Trail is dedicated to Peter Sargent, one of the founding fathers of the Trust. Through his years of service as a KCT leader and volunteer, beautiful passages, such as this trail, were forever preserved. **Fox Loop:** From Trail Head Parking to Fox Den Trail to Marker 5. Return via Steele Trail - 2.4 miles. **Trolley Loop:** From Trail Head Parking to Trolley Trail via Steele Trail to Marker 18 and return - 4.8 miles. Enjoy the beautiful Long and Winding Bridge through a sea of ferns, and appreciate that the bridge (and all others on the trails) were built by volunteers! For longer treks, continue in either direction along the old trolley line. **Bobcat Loop:** From Trail Head Parking to end of Steele Trail at Marker 11 and return via Bobcat Ridge Trail - 7.5 miles. This beautiful loop includes several Batson River crossings and follows the spine of Bobcat Ridge with many beautiful ledges through the most remote parts of Kennebunkport. If you see the bobcat den, please do not disturb!

Smith Preserve



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Emmons Preserve

Located in the heart of Kennebunkport, the Emmons Preserve has become a vital part of our community. The site features the homestead of Steve and Natalie Emmons, which they generously donated to the Trust. Steve's dream was to have the property serve as place for children to connect with nature. Over the years, KCT has built a beautiful headquarters building, established trails, and created a place for the people of Kennebunkport to gather. Our headquarters is used for outings for KCT's Trust In Our Children and Discovery Days programs. It also hosts local nonprofit events, family gatherings, private functions and more. You are encouraged to visit and explore - take a hike, go for a snowshoe, follow the Batson River, discover on the Learning Trail or have a picnic on our deck. More information regarding private functions at the Emmons Preserve can be found on the Rentals page of our website: kporttrust.org

Trail Head Parking

Parking is available at the Conservation Trust Headquarters located at 57 Gravelly Brook Road. Limited parking is also available at both ends of Jeremy's Trail. Parking at the Emmons Preserve can fill up on a busy day, so plan ahead! Carpooling is not only a great way to save space parking, but also a great way to be environmentally friendly!

Trail Lengths

Batson River Trail: 1.8 miles from Trust HQ to the Tyler Brook Preserve. **Jeremy's Trail:** 0.4 mile round-trip (return to either access point via Batson River Trail). **Jenne's Loop:** 0.5 mile from Northern intersection with Jeremy's Trail to Overlook. **Roller Trail:** 1 mile loop from Trust Headquarters. **Learning Trail:** 0.7 mile loop from Batson River bridge.

Favorite Loops

Batson River Trek: From Trail HQ to Tyler Brook- 2.5 miles round trip. Experience the breadth of the trail network with views of the Batson River. **Learning Loop:** From Trail HQ to Batson River Bridge to Learning Trail loop. Return to Trust HQ-1 mile. Enjoy learning stations at natural and historic sites developed by the Trust In Our Children program in partnership with Kennebunk High School. **Two J's Loop:** From Trail HQ take Batson River Trail to Jeremy's Trail. At Overlook, take Jenne's Loop. Return via Batson River Trail – 1.5 miles. Enjoy the beautiful Batson River at several overlook points, including Teal Hole Falls. **Roller Loop:** From Trust HQ, follow the Roller Trail- 1 mile. This beautiful loop features views of the Batson River coupled with the Preserve's namesake historic site, the Emmons Cemetery. This loop is excellent for cross-country skiing and snowshoeing.



The Tyler Brook Preserve

The Tyler Brook Preserve connects a multitude of holding for the Trust, creating a greenbelt toward the coast. It begins at the junction of the Learning Trail on the Emmons Preserve and follows the Batson River into a forest with rich history, to where our tributaries meet the sea. Explore on foot through the winding trails and peaceful vistas.

Trailhead Parking

You can reach trailhead parking by taking Tyler Brook Lane off of Route 9. Follow road until you reach small gravel parking area. You can also enter the Preserve on the other end by parking at our headquarters located at 57 Gravelly Brook Road. Park in the lower lot and follow the Learning Trail to the Tyler Brook Preserve.

Emmons Preserve



LEGEND

- Batson River Trail
- Jenne's Loop
- Jeremy's Trail
- Learning Trail
- Mark & Gail Roller Trail
- Trust Land
- Private
- River
- Bridge
- Overlook
- Road



NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES



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Tyler Brook Preserve



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The Grist Mill

In 2006, the Trust acquired the Grist Mill property on Mill Lane. This historic property includes public access to beautiful Kennebunk River, the site of the Perkins Grist Mill and the Clement Clark boathouse. Set within walking distance to Dock Square, it is a unique setting we encourage you to visit.

Kennebunkport Consolidated School students visit the property multiple times each year. Here they learn about our ancestors and their lives on the river. They explore ship building days, tidal mills, and the growth of our town in colonial times. Additionally, their curriculum includes water sampling, river investigations, fisheries and more. The property also features a public boat launch for recreational activities. It is open to canoes, kayaks and paddleboards. To ensure that it is available for everyone's use, we ask that you do not park at our Grist Mill property when using the boat launch; please drop your vessel, park at the public lot next to the fire station and walk back to begin your journey on the water. You are welcome to enjoy a picnic while you are there. Please be respectful of our neighbors and be sure to carry-in/carry-out.

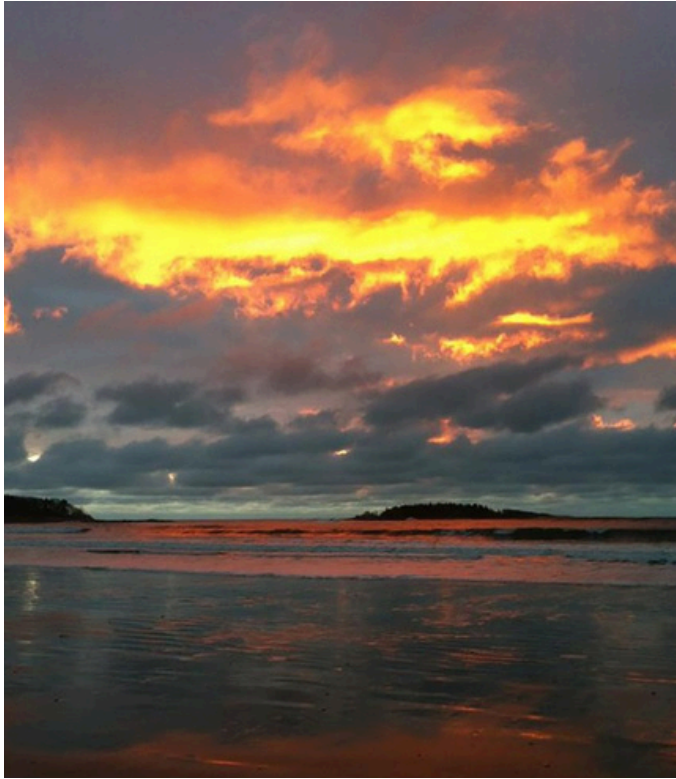
Historic Buildings:

Clement Clark, grandson of shipbuilder David Clark, had his boat building shop here. His tools and other equipment remain inside.



The historic Grist Mill, which stood on this site since 1749, was lost to fire in 1994.





Goose Rocks Beach Access

For generations, families have been enjoying Goose Rocks Beach: its long stretch of white sandy shore, stunning views of the Atlantic, harbor seals sunning themselves, and as a place to soak up the sun. The Trust holdings include seven beachfront lots. Whether you come for vacation, are a summer resident, or live here year-round, Goose Rocks Beach is a special spot for all who experience it. Goose Rocks Beach also serves as an outdoor classroom for our Trust In Education and Discovery Days programs. Learners of all ages are invited to come and explore. The Trust was also proud to lead the campaign that raised over \$2 million of the \$5.3 million purchase price to forever protect Timber Point and Timber Island. The preserved land added 110 acres, including a 13 acre island, to the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge on the Little River Division. Not only are the abundant wildlife and their habitats protected under the watchful eye of

the RCNWR, the public now has access to this sanctuary with footpaths to explore. Countless beachgoers and homeowners around Goose Rocks Beach in Kennebunkport and Granite Point in Biddeford also have the benefit of knowing the scenic vista they enjoy will be forever preserved .

Ganny's Garden on the River Green

At the end of September, 2011, friends and family of Barbara Bush surprised her with a special tribute, a wonderful garden on the Trust's River Green, in front of the Captain Lord Mansion. Inspired by a needlepoint carpet she created in which the initials of her grandchildren were hidden amidst a bed of lovely pastel flowers, "Ganny's Garden" brings that beauty to life. Ganny is the name Barbara Bush was lovingly called by her seventeen grandchildren, and their initials are randomly engraved in the stone walls which surround the garden. In addition, 17 trees have been included in the design, one for each grandchild. Once through a custom made arbor, visitors can follow a stepping-stone pathway past three beds of traditional, colorful flowers, including a rose named after the former first lady. Plaques and bronze features have been created, including a copy of her favorite book, *Pride and Prejudice*, a pair of her famous mismatched Keds, and her iconic straw sun hat, all positioned as though she had just been there.



Islands for Everyone

Jon Dykstra

In the early 1980s Tom Bradbury, the current Executive Director of the Trust, led a campaign to purchase Cape Island (eastern most island within the Cape Porpoise archipelago) to prevent it from falling into the hands of private land developers. That was the start of what has become KCT's commitment and passion to preserving our precious land resources, both islands and mainland, for future generations. Today, KCT holds ownership of all but one island (Folly Island- shown unnamed between Goat Island and Green Island on the location map on the next page), and sponsors an active Island Stewardship program that engages local residents to maintain and preserve our island resources.

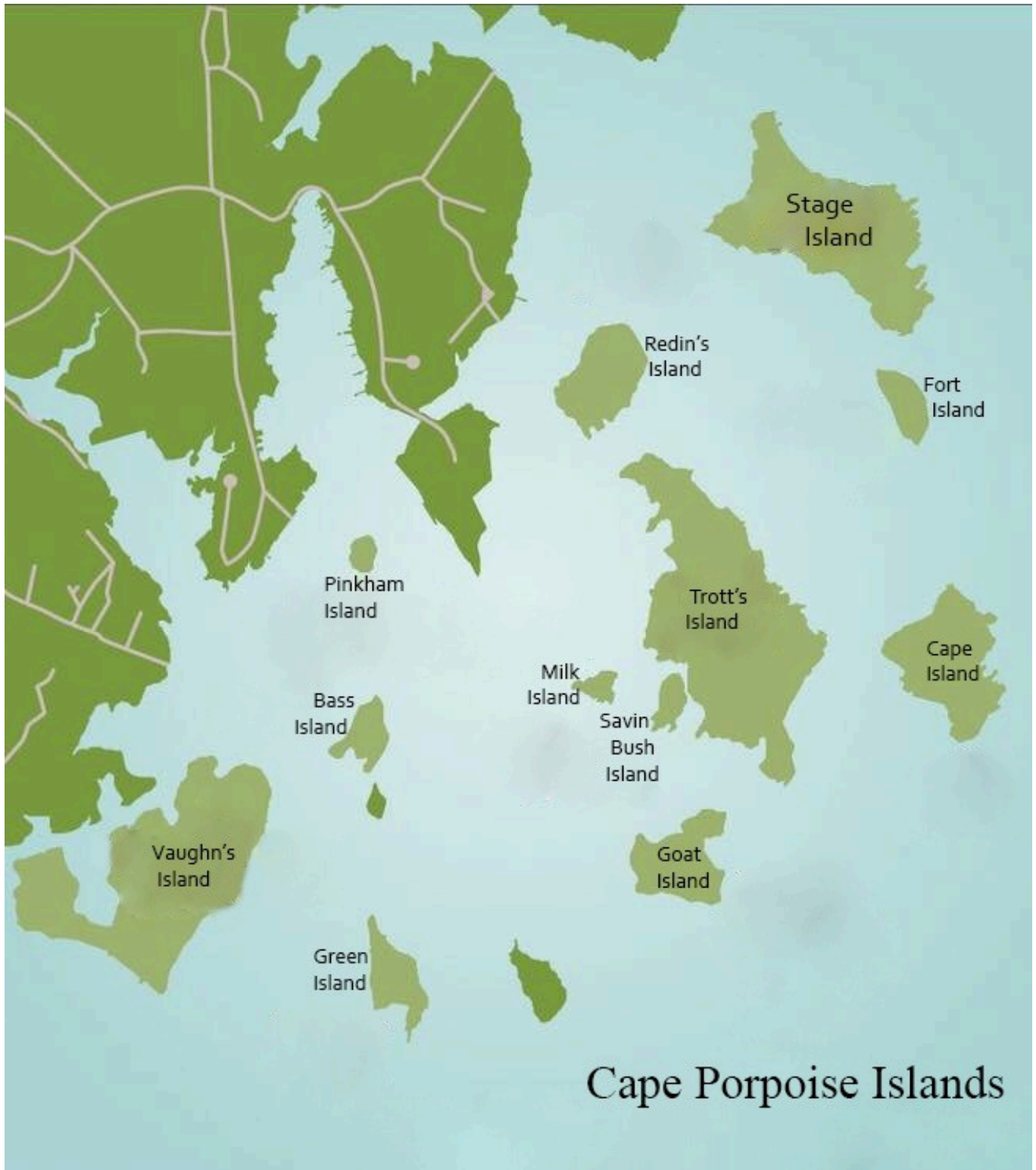
For those of us with a special love of the sea, these islands are the crown jewels of our conservation lands. Accessible by kayak, canoe, power/sailboat, and (for some) by foot at low tide, the Trust islands are special places to experience, close up, the interface between the open ocean and the rugged granite and metamorphic rocks that define our Maine coast. At low tide, along the more sheltered areas, island tidepools teem with mussels, snails, sea urchins, crabs, and the occasional lobster. For those with thicker blood, several islands offer swimming areas to jump from granite outcrops into clear, deep ocean water.

Several of the islands are accessible by foot at least one hour on each side of low tide. The most accessible is Vaughn's Island. The Town owns a small piece of land at the end of Turbat's Creek Road that has parking for two vehicles. From there it is an easy walk across firm sand to the Grove and Cobble Cove campsites on Vaughn's Island. Likewise, there is some limited parking at the end of Fisher's Lane from where you can walk to Stage Island, again across firm sand. However, please note, walking from either the Cape Porpoise Pier area or the public kayak launch area is not recommended due to the presence of deep pluff mud.

Two of the most popular and scenic areas for kayaking and canoeing are the stretch between the Cape Porpoise Pier and Goat Island, and within Stage Island Harbor (the sheltered water surrounded by Stage, Fort, Cape, Trott's, and Redin's Islands). Please note that Cape Porpoise is an active fishing harbor, and visitors should be mindful of this and respectful of fishermen at work.



For many of us who grew up in Kennebunkport, no summer would have been complete without camping on Cape Island. It was these memories that inspired the Trust to open Vaughn's, Trott's, and Cape islands for public camping. Each campsite has a substantial, dedicated firepit well suited for cooking and evening conversations. There are also two smaller firepits on Stage Island, however there are no campsites on Stage. Camping reservations, which are required for each campsite, can be reserved up to one week in advance through the KCT website (<http://www.kctislands.org>).



Island Highlights



Stage and Fort Islands

Stage Island was the site of the first European settlement on this section of the New England coastline. In the early 1600s, ships from England and Scotland would fish the then cod-rich shoals surrounding the local area and return to Stage Island to dry their catch on wooden racks called “stages.” They would fish all summer and head back to Europe with their catch in the fall. It was the ubiquitous presence of fish stages that lent the island its name.

Fort Island (aka Little Stage on some nautical charts) was the site of a circular fort in the mid and late 1600s. The fort provided a safe refuge for the fledgling town that was developing around the current Cape Porpoise area. In 1689, a Native American uprising chased the town residents out to the fort for safety. At that time, Stage and Fort Islands were a single land mass with trees and grasses stretching across the now barren rock divide. The town folk lay under siege for several days with their ammunition and supplies dwindling. All they had in the way of a boat was a small canoe with a gaping hole in the bow. Nicholas Morey, one of the town residents who had been wounded in the leg during the initial attack, volunteered to strike off in the damaged canoe to seek help. No less than three newspaper articles from the day tell the story that Nicholas paddled his broken canoe all the way to Portsmouth to rally a rescue. Within a few days, a sloop sailed into Stage Island Harbor and, quoting from one of the articles, “made the Indians a present of the contents of their cannon,” freeing the grateful town folks. Today a small unoccupied cabin sits on the approximate location of the old fort.

Trott's Island

The largest and most densely treed, Trott's has three excellent camping locations. The northern most (Northwest Point) provides a small, secluded site that can be accessed from Fisher's Lane for about one hour each side of low tide. The southern two sites are most easily accessed by small watercraft landing on the pebble beach, just in front



of the Pine Grove Campsite. From either campsite, it is a beautiful walk around the southern flank of the island to gain an excellent view of the Goat Island Lighthouse. The west flank of the island is a bit more challenging to traverse.

Cape Island

To many of us, Cape is the most majestic and rugged of all the islands in the Cape Porpoise Harbor area. It is, by far, the most difficult to access by watercraft. With no sand or pebble beaches, the only access is by small boat under very calm conditions. However, at low tide there is a small rocky isthmus that connects Trott's and Cape Islands. The excellent approach to "Pebble Beach" in front of the Pinegrove campsite on Trott's therefore offers easy access to both islands.



Once on Cape, you will be treated to a spectacular walk around the perimeter of the island with excellent bedrock exposures and beautiful vistas of open ocean, crashing surf, and the Goat Island Lighthouse. As with all the islands, it is strongly advisable to stay on the perimeter and not venture to the island center. A dense growth of poison ivy populates the interior portion of all our islands.



Vaughn's Island

As the most easily accessible by foot, Vaughn's Island is an excellent choice for a quick family outing. From the end of Turbat's Creek road, for about one hour each side of low tide, it is a short walk across firm sand to the rock beach in front of the Grove and Cobble Cove campsites. Further to the southeast, at the southern end of the island, is the North Beach campsite, one of the more secluded of our collection. The entire southeastern flank of Vaughn's provides a splendid walk across barren rock with excellent tide pools at low tide. The extensive salt marsh and thick pluff mud of Cross Creek make the northwest flank less accessible. Do watch your time or you will be holding your phone up over your head as you return back to land.



Goat Island

The lighthouse property at Goat Island is one of the Trust's most precious holdings. Please see the separate article describing the island and its structures.

Whatever your choice might be -- paddle the waters around the islands, reserve a campsite for a few evenings, or simply sit on the rocks at Cape Porpoise Pier -- the Trust's protected and maintained islands are a natural treasure that must not be missed.

Community Labyrinth

Juliet Altham

In a profoundly thought-provoking article in the March edition of National Geographic magazine, co-creator of the TV series “Cosmos,” Ann Druyan, asks the most challenging of questions and comes to a radical conclusion:

“How do we learn to value those things we cannot live without – air, water, the sustaining fabric of life on Earth, the future – more than we prize money and short-term convenience? Nothing less than a global spiritual awakening can transform us.”

With our recently acquired ‘pandemic perspective,’ Druyan’s question seems remarkably prescient. The global disruption has forced us all to pause and consider what is truly essential to life – and what we most value. Perhaps it is the opportunity we needed to take stock of where we are now and where we are headed. KCT’s missions to conserve our natural landscape, open up public access, and provide educational experiences for our children have a core belief underlying all of them: that we will protect what we love. The community labyrinth project is one more manifestation of that core belief. Consciously sited on a beautiful piece of land alongside the Batson River and encircled by guardian trees, the labyrinth is being built by volunteers stone by stone, each donated by community members in honor of loved ones.

Labyrinths have an ancient and mysterious origin. The same spiraling geometric pattern has been found at archeological sites dating back thousands of years in places as disparate as Goa, India and the Solovetsky Islands in Russia’s White Sea. It is found on iron-age cave drawings in Sicily and embedded in the tradition and artifacts of the Native American Tohono O’odham people. We don’t understand why or how most of these were used; we do know that labyrinths were adopted by the medieval churches of Europe and hypothesize that they were used as some kind of pilgrimage in lieu of dangerous travel to Jerusalem. The modern day resurgence of labyrinths – particularly in public spaces such as parks, hospitals or places of worship – has provided evidence that they can be used as a ‘tool’ to facilitate reflection, meditation or prayer. Free from institution, orthodoxy, or fixed tradition, labyrinths are universal and open to everyone; and there is no right or wrong way to walk one.

Our community labyrinth at Emmons Preserve is intended to provide a quiet space in which to pause. We hope that it will allow people to spend a few moments in mindful connection with the natural landscape - that “sustaining fabric of life on earth.” Perhaps it will help expand awareness of the bigger universe of which we are part; perhaps it will offer comfort or inspiration; maybe it will challenge or leave us wondering.

The project to build the labyrinth has itself brought gifts along the way – in particular by making connections with people not already part of the KCT community. The Christmas Prelude Labyrinth of Light has been enjoyed two years running by hundreds of locals and visitors alike. Last September a large and diverse gathering of community members participated in the project ‘kick-off ceremony’ and enjoyed music and food together afterwards. Profound expressions of appreciation have come from all corners, grateful for the project or the opportunity to honor a loved one in this special way. New volunteers keep coming forward to help dig in the stones and create the path!

These gifts, amongst others large and small, have led us to understand that the process of creation is as important as the finished labyrinth. We invite anyone from the community to come and be part of it in whatever way they can to finish building or donate a stone. To do so, please call into the HQ at Emmons Preserve or visit the webpage: www.kporttrust.org/labyrinth or Facebook page Labyrinth at Emmons Preserve. We encourage you to reach out before building is completed this fall!

In our uncertain brave new world, here's to the hope that this project be an opportunity to knit us back together, connect us more deeply to the natural world that sustains us, and – inspire us to love and protect it.



What KCT Means to Me...

"In short, the KCT gives me peace of mind. Knowing that a strong, well-run, viable organization is protecting the resources and lands in our beloved town gives me confidence that my fifteen grandchildren will be able to enjoy the Kennebunkport 'magic' down the years. They are sixth-generation Goose Rockers who come from all over the country just to be in Kennebunkport and I know in my heart that they, and the following generations, will always be able to do so."

Linda Rice, longtime member of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust

Goat Island Dispatches

Scott and Karen Dombrowski

Goat Island had another bustling year in 2019, thanks to everyone who has visited (1200-1500 people on average coming out in kayaks, small boats or on foot at low tide) and/or helped out with the sometimes overwhelming upkeep. For those unable to get themselves out to the island, Eco Tours of Maine and Coastal Maine Kayak offer various excursions.

We find that everyone we talk to feels that the island is a jewel to the community and are so pleased that KCT has protected it since April of 1993. In the spring the island is “re-awakened” with a weekend visit from the Kennebunk Boy Scouts who come out to camp, learn about the outdoors and islands, earn merit badges and do at least one major project. Last year they were key in getting the docks that are left on the island repaired and ready to accept

those that are stored on land; a task that took many strong hands. They also removed rocks from the lawn and boat ramp that had been washed in by winter tides and did initial landscaping for the start of the season. With the island's power cable aging and the cost of replacement very expensive, KHS and UNE have started a Power Project Study to research wind, tidal, and solar power as alternative energy sources. This ongoing project has the “kids” very excited. Another issue on the island is an increase in erosion due to the rising tides. We are hoping to get the Army Corps of Engineers involved in helping solve, or slow the effects of,

the erosion and dampen the energy of incoming waves.

Sharing the island with everyone is one of the most important parts of keeping Goat Island a strong part of the community. K'Port Parks and Rec has become involved by offering “dinner cruises” out to the island a couple times

a season. It is so rewarding to greet visitors that haven't been to the island before and share its rich history. Open Lighthouse Day on September 14th last year fell on a tide that worked perfectly for landing boats and we had many new guests. KCT Summer Camps brings their kids out for great days of fun and games. On the education side, keeper Scott has run a Discovery Days program through KCT



for a number of years. Children learn what it is like to be a modern day light keeper and walk the island looking for treasures. A couple other offerings coming up this year are a campfire on Trott's Island in July where stories of the island will be told and roasted hot dogs served, and a Goat Island story time around the fire in September at the new Park and Rec building. Education is a vital part of KCT's mission. Teaching the younger generation about Goat Island, and the other islands in the harbor, along with history of Kennebunkport is vital to the health of the whole community. They are our town's future. Outreach has become an

important part of being a modern-day light keeper. From a presentation to seniors at the Atria to an interview on NPR, Scott has done them all. The friendly face of Goat Island is also quick to share his love and knowledge of the past with all he meets. So if you see him, or any KCT board member, feel free to ask how you can get involved with Goat Island or any of the Trust holdings.

What KCT Means to us...

"Greetings from Arkansas! Goat Island will always have a special place in our hearts along with Tom, the Dombrowskis and Bob and Jane Card. This September will mark 10 years since we said our vows next to the lighthouse. What a beautiful island and the very special people who made it all possible for us. We hope to see you all this fall!"

The Bogners



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"Have You Ever Started a Path?"

Dave Jourdan

The inimitable George Carlin asked this of his audience back in 1974, coincidentally around the time that KCT acquired its first property (River Green, July 1973). He went on to say, "It's a little hard; you have to hold the grass down yourself at first." George was aiming for humor, but as always there was truth and inspiration in his words. From its humble beginnings, KCT's mission has been "to preserve land for use by current and future generations," and one of the ways is to provide the community a chance to experience the peace and serenity of a woodland path.

Fortunately, we didn't have to start all the paths. Trails in the Kennebunkport forests have always been there: tote roads gave access to woodlots, deer and coyotes followed game trails, and hunters followed the game. Some local landowners saw their properties as places to enjoy, among them Steve Emmons, who owned large parcels of land in the middle of town and was a KCT Board member. In the late 1990's, Steve cut some trails into his woods and enjoyed exploring the area, photographing landscapes, rock formations, birds, and critters.

Such was the situation when KCT celebrated its 30th anniversary in 2003. The Trust owned a modest 500 acres or so of islands, beaches, and the inland parcels of Tyler Brook and the Emmons preserve, including a couple of miles of rough trail. This changed in 2005 when a thousand acre

tract of land known as the Town Forest was turned over to the stewardship of KCT. Several hundred additional acres were purchased from Jim Steele to form what came to be called the Edwin L. Smith Preserve. At the time, only a couple of tote roads and a scattering of game trails led into the forest. It was clear that there was an opportunity, but the forest was a blank canvas, and we needed a plan.

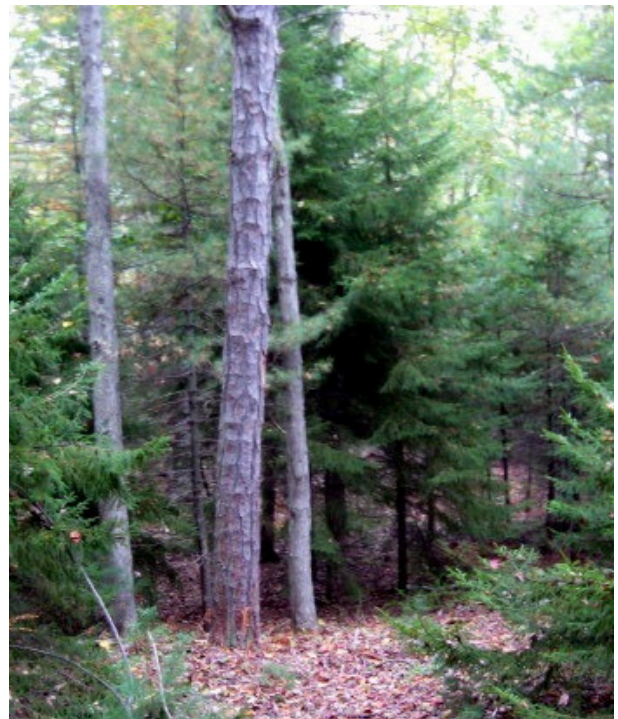
Led by volunteers Bud Danis and Bill Case, the work of the Trail Stewards began in earnest to provide a means for the community to enjoy and appreciate the land. In 2008 the group took a pause from outdoor work to make a strategic plan for trail development that would balance public access with land preservation and a refuge for wildlife. Starting in 2010, the next decade saw the trail system blossom to a 23-mile interconnected network of walking and biking paths, complete with scattered trailheads, boardwalks, bridges, and signage. Over the years our trail making



methods have matured. The process begins with scouting the terrain around the planned route, looking for wetlands, streams, tote roads, existing trails, high points, cool rocks, and anything else of interest. Typically we try to avoid wet spots and find the shortest stream crossings, though sometimes long boardwalks are needed. After a number of forays, we'll mark a prospective route with ribbon, then take care of any necessary permitting. Next comes cutting the trail, allowing the natural terrain to guide the path while avoiding removal of any large trees. Once the

route is cleared, a couple of passes with a brush cutter followed by a heavy-duty weed whacker and we have a trail! Walkers, runners, and bikers quickly find it and in a matter of weeks it looks like it has always been there.

Of course, there is more work to do, building boardwalks and bridges, installing blazes, and adding signage. And the work never ends, as falling trees and emerging wet spots always require attention. Fortunately our many volunteers keep the trails clear and weekly work sessions are filled with fun, camaraderie, exercise, and a sense of achievement. In the end, our Trail Stewards take satisfaction in the outcome, where thousands of people enjoy outdoor recreation through all seasons. The trails are a great way to get a little exercise, share some time with family and friends, listen to a burbling stream, hear a bird call, or see the magical autumn colors. And along the way, come to appreciate the land and see why it's worth preserving.



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Summer in the Sun!

Bailey Farris

Nothing says summer like a day at the beach! Trust In Education's summer programming works to get kids and families outside and exploring. From community collaborations to kid's camps, there's an activity for everyone. With so many opportunities to explore the town, our summer programs take three different approaches: Discovery Days, Conservation Kids, and week long summer camps.

During Discovery Days, kids and families connect with the community during 1-2 hour guided activities such as lobstering on the Rugosa or blacksmithing with Kennebunk Historical Society. Trust staff lead nature walks to Timber Point or searching through tide pools. Open to all aged kids and their families, these programs are great ways to kick off your morning or take a break from your afternoon!

For middle school aged kids, we've built our

weekly Conservation Kids outings. Each Thursday, adventure minded youth get together and get out onto a different Trust owned property. Whether they're picnicking on Goat Island, building sand castles on Goose Rocks Beach, or getting their shoes muddy on the trails, Conservation Kids are having a hands on blast! Last but not least: camp! All day, week long, nonstop fun! During camp weeks you'll find kids building forts, playing games in the Emmons Preserve field, wading around the islands,

and working on their team building skills. We're fortunate to collaborate with local community members and groups for all kinds of interactive programs such as kayaking, visiting the Trolley museum, and nature based art! Regardless what we're doing, nothing says fun like spending your summer in the sun.



A Kennebunkport Mountain Bike Adventure

Matt Cooper



Where to begin? The trail possibilities through the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust feel endless for all types of rides and all types of riders. As a solo rider, I appreciate technical, rocky and rooty trails. As a husband finding some trail time with my wife, I look for a combination of trail types to string together a fun and challenging, but not overwhelming loop. As a dad of a young son, I love having an option to do an out and back that builds his appreciation of the trail and its surroundings without being overly concerned with the terrain beneath us.

With these different perspectives in mind, join me for a guided mountain bike tour around my favorite Kennebunkport Conservation Trust (KCT) properties. After reading, I hope you will find your own way to link these properties together and explore the different options that KCT trails have to offer.

Edwin L. Smith Preserve

Definitely the most well-known of the KCT mountain bike properties, and for good reason. The Smith Preserve gives you a taste of everything. It boasts over 10 miles of trail; a good mix of trail types from punchy climbs and flowy sections to more advanced, technical and rooty terrain. You start off at Smith Preserve on the Steele Trail which is a great beginner's mountain bike out and back trail if you head up to the Beacon Trail intersection and then turn back towards trail head parking. Another great beginner option is the Trolley Trail. If you're looking to add in some intermediate trails, go the full length of Steele Trail down to the Tote Road intersection, or add in Beacon Trail or the new Fox Den Trail and Brook Trails to lengthen your ride and work on your skills. If you're heading into Smith as an advanced rider, the entire Smith Preserve loop offers a great taste of trails with Bobcat Ridge being the cherry on top of the sundae. Riding Bobcat you feel like you're out in the middle of another world. It's a rugged, technical trail that keeps you on your toes while flowing through some of the most scenic woodland acres in Kennebunkport. Last summer a Scarlet Tanager kept me company multiple times while riding Bobcat - bird lovers, keep your eyes out!

Emmons Preserve

A skip and a bunny hop from Edwin L. Smith Preserve is the KCT Headquarters and Emmons Preserve. While Emmons doesn't offer the same length of trails as Smith, the scenic beauty as a connection point between Smith and Tyler Brook Preserve is pretty special and something you don't want to miss out on

via the Batson River Trail. The trails at Emmons include rooty sections and a few punchy climbs, not necessarily - beginner friendly on a mountain bike but nothing that you can't get off your bike and push through if needed.

Tyler Brook Preserve and Cape Porpoise Greenbelt

As mentioned above, the Batson River Trail that begins at the Emmons Preserve continues through to the Tyler Brook Preserve. As the name implies, it snakes around the Batson River and offers a few beautiful vistas and historic landmarks to take in as you pass through. For intermediate and advanced riders, connecting down to Beachwood and Bradbury trails will guarantee to get your blood pumping as you traverse



down closer to Cape Porpoise. This trail network can be challenging but the views are rewarding, and you can even take a cruise down local streets to the ocean at the end of Bradbury Trail to catch the lobster boats hauling in their catch at Cape Porpoise Harbor. Not a bad day on a bike, if you ask me.

One of the most impressive things about KCT's trail network to me is the ability to link them together to build your own adventure. As more lands are protected and conserved by KCT, ACT (Arundel Conservation Trust) and other local land trust organizations, the hope is to keep expanding and creating more options for the public to enjoy. We live in a pretty unique place, where you can roll through 20 plus miles of amazing trails (and growing!) all the way to the ocean and back!

Hopefully this brief trail introduction will get your imagination going on the mountain bike possibilities available through KCT. KCT's trail map is available under the "Land & Trails" section at kporttrust.org and is a great tool as you plan and piece together your next ride. Take care, have fun and ride safe.



The Cape Porpoise Archaeological Alliance 2019 Report

Tim Spahr and Dr. Gemma Hudgell

Last year marked the fourth year of archaeological field work conducted by the Cape Porpoise Archaeological Alliance (CPAA). As a result of a partnership formed by the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust and the Brick Store Museum in 2016, CPAA was established to identify and document precontact, Contact and early Historic period sites in threat of destruction due to global sea level rise. CPAA consists of professional and avocational archaeologists, anthropologists and museologists whose geographic focus is the twelve-island archipelago of Cape Porpoise.

In November of 2018, CPAA archaeologists located the remains of a wooden artifact that appeared to be a dugout canoe partially buried in tidal sands. A small sample of wood taken from the artifact gave a radiocarbon date of between 1275 and 1380 A.D. (about 700 years old), confirming its nature as a precontact vessel, and furthermore, making it the oldest known dugout canoe in the northeast United States and Maritime Provinces. Strong winter tides shifted coastal sands and partially uncovered the canoe, and throughout the winter of 2018-19, sands continued to move and the canoe was uncovered even more.

Concerned for accelerated deterioration, tidal action and human contact, CPAA archaeologists coordinated with the University of New Brunswick/University of New England Coastal Archaeological Field School and recovered, crated and transported the canoe to the Clement Clark boat house in Kennebunkport where it underwent fresh water soaking and polyethylene glycol treatment (PEG). PEG is a water soluble wax-like substance that helps re-adhere the cellular structure of the wood. In addition to conservation efforts, CPAA solicited the services of Susan Osgood of the University of Chicago's Epigraphic Survey headquartered in Luxor, Egypt to provide training in documenting the canoe through epigraphic recording. Epigraphic recording is a form of archaeological illustration in which artists combine architectural drawing, sketching, tracing, photography, photographic and other processes to record artifacts and features. The method is similar to architectural drafting or mechanical drawing in that artists follow a standardized process using multiple mediums to produce scaled, detailed and interpretable archaeological illustrations. Elizabeth Kelley is the Senior Artist for CPAA and is working with Sue in advancing



epigraphic recording as a method of documenting the canoe.

In addition to the field work conducted in 2019, between 2016 and 2018 archaeologists recovered artifacts that date to the Middle and Late Archaic periods (7,500 to 3,000 years ago), Woodland-Ceramic period (3,000 to 500 years ago) and to some of the first Europeans that arrived in northern New England in the late sixteenth century. This means that people have lived in Cape Porpoise for at least 7,500 years. The Precontact artifacts have been recovered from various places on the islands and indicate the locations of former campsites or stopping-off places; each of these areas has been designated an archaeological site by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission. The location of a Ceramic period fish weir has also been identified. Interestingly, the location of these sites indicates that portions of the archipelago now within the intertidal range were once dry land, and that sea level was lower; what are now sand and mud flats uncovered at low tide were formerly more like river mouths.

Stone tools and flakes have been recovered that were fashioned from various types of rocks from distant regions implying they came to Cape Porpoise through trade or travel. These include gray colored cherts from Maine, Vermont, or New York; Kineo rhyolite from Moosehead Lake; and Lynn rhyolite from Massachusetts. Pieces of a red-colored chert likely came from the area of Munsungun Lake, north of Katahdin, and a distinctive mustard-colored material is known as Pennsylvania jasper, and as the name implies, comes from the town of Vera Cruz in eastern Pennsylvania, over 350 miles from Cape Porpoise. The various styles of stone tools recovered tell us the age of the sites, as these styles changed through time in a manner well documented through the northeast. The varieties of stone materials also inform on site age, as certain materials appear in the archaeological record at known times in the past and reflect patterns of trade and travel at those instants.

For the last four years CPAA has provided a service to the greater northeast archaeological community. Although archaeology is conducted throughout Maine, population, private land ownership and dense development have limited archaeological research at certain locations in the south of the state and thus have created a void in the archaeological record. Since the formation of CPAA by the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust and Brick Store Museum, important information of the coast of southern Maine has been distributed in annual reports and professional papers. CPAA archaeologists have presented at the Society of American Archaeology conference in Washington DC, the Eastern States Archaeological Federation in Philadelphia, the University of New England in Biddeford, the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, Canada and additional venues are scheduled. The archaeological work conducted by CPAA has been funded by the Rust Family Foundation, the National Park Service administered by the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust, and the Brick Store Museum.



KCT Goes Solar

Dave Jourdan and Jon Dykstra

In July of 2019, Maine Solar Solutions completed a 10,500 kilowatt-hour (kWh) solar electric installation for the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust (KCT). The 33 photovoltaic panels are roof mounted on our headquarters located at 57 Gravelly Brook Road in Kennebunkport, Maine.

Maine Solar Solutions designed and installed Kennebunkport Conservation Trust's solar electric system to cover 100% of our annual mainland electric usage (to include Headquarters, the Emmons House, the Grist Mill property, Ganny's Garden, and excluding Goat Island). Maine Solar Solutions also installed a mini split heat pump system at our Headquarters building to provide AC and offset the legacy propane-based hot water heat. All excess power generated at Headquarters during the day is sent back to the local power grid for credit towards usage at KCT's mainland properties.

The 33 photovoltaic panels have been in place for a year. During that time they have produced all the power needed at our Headquarters, offset the power used at all our other mainland properties, and netted a credit (to partially offset Goat Island) as well!

Here are the official numbers, obtained from the Central Maine Power and Solar Edge websites:

Annual Consumption (July 2019 to June 2020)

Headquarters (57 Gravelly Brook Road):	9,891 kWh
Emmons (house and barn) :	2,478 kWh
Ganny's Garden on River Green:	157 kWh
Grist Mill property:	2,488 kWh
Total:	15,014 kWh
Solar production:	15,859 kWh

Net solar power generated vs. electricity use: +845 kWh!

Our next steps for the KCT Solar Program is to minimize the energy consumption on Goat Island Light with the goal of having be become completely energy independent (with the exception of the Lighthouse Light, which is managed and maintained by the U.S. Coast Guard).



Trust in Education

Leia Lowery

In 2008 the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust shifted its thinking. For 35 years the Trust was clear on its mission: preserving those places that were special to the cultural history and natural landscape of Kennebunkport. The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust (KCT) did an outstanding job with their mission. But in 2008, KCT recognized that while they had saved many of these special places, the new generation didn't know about them, weren't out on them, and weren't connected to them the way the members who had sacrificed so much to save them were. It was clear that an effort needed to be made to get these local children connected to their community, to give them a sense of place, and a love for nature, so the KCT board hired me to create a program.

This was the humble beginning of Trust in Our Children, a K-5 Program at Consolidated School in



Kennebunkport. It ensured that each grade level at Consolidated had a property it learned about and that KCT connected with the same students multiple times a year and multiple years in a row. This program has taken root in our community and has now expanded from a simple Trust in Our Children a K-5 program, to Trust in Education, a program that seeks to involve and educate everyone from 0-104! In this expansion and new programming, a new educator was brought on board. Leia remains the Director of Education for KCT, but is primarily focused on older students and the

new Kennebunkport Climate Initiative. KCT welcomes Bailey Farris, who is taking over the K-5 and Summer Programming which is a big job!

Here are a few highlights of our major programs:

Trust in Our Children:

Trust in Our Children (TOC) is a district-wide, nationally awarded, education program. TOC meets the national learning standards while bringing multi-disciplinary, hands-on, nature-based education to K-5 students. This program started with the K-5 students at Kennebunkport Consolidated School and has now expanded to reach all four elementary schools in the district while addressing their individual needs.

These young students don't just learn environmental concepts when participating in our hands-on, environmentally-based lessons. Studies show that students learn so much more than information in these structures. They learn how to engage with the curriculum, work as a team, be civically responsible, and more.



In 2020, as we continue to grow and expand, it has come to

our attention that the time and resources needed to get outside of the classroom don't always exist, and unfortunately, not every lesson can be moved outside. That doesn't mean though that those classes or lessons shouldn't benefit from the positive outcomes of hands-on, community-based learning. We recognize there is so much more we can do to help augment the curriculum inside the classroom as well as the time we spend outside!

Now, we are partnering with teachers to bring our programs into the classroom. If you are at Sea Road School, you might learn about spheres of the Earth, or at Consolidated you might study forces and magnets. In every school in the district, we work with teachers to make sure the programs we create meet their needs and engage students in a fun hands-on way.

The best way to sum up our programming? When a few years ago, when a fifth grader was asked what he liked most about the Trust field trips, what was his answer? "Everything except leaving."



Adult Outreach:

TiED works to reach out to the community in as many ways as possible. We want to connect them not only with KCT but also with their land and their heritage. Our programs for the community at large include bringing people together to discuss important topics, such as the talk on Sea Level Rise. We also want to provide ways to get people thinking about the land they live on differently with programs about edible landscapes, and creating a

woodlot for wildlife. Everything from bird walks, to climate talks, TiED tries to reach our community in the ways that they connect to the land. One of our special programs is with the Atria called "Bringing Nature Home." It is a program that has sounds, smells, poetry, pictures, and information for every season, and residents come to learn. We want to bring the outdoors to those who don't have the opportunity to explore it as they used to. It is meaningful, and it shows by the interest and the smiles. "Bringing Nature Home," is by far is one of the favorite programs of TiED. This program was written up in the National Land Trust Alliance magazine for being innovative and inclusive.



HS programs and Gulf of Maine Field Studies:

TiED has a strong relationship with local Kennebunk High School. We have worked with Environmental Science classes to collect long-term data on the water quality of the Batson River. TiED brought Houston Kraft to the high school and the rest of the school district, to inspire kindness in a time when it is needed most. Perhaps one of the most well-known programs is working with Alternative Education. We have worked tirelessly to bring to new opportunities to Kennebunk High School students.

Our commitment to the students that starts in kindergarten must last. We must still be a presence, teaching civics, history, ecology, and love of community throughout their time here. We want to make sure that we inspire these students to be an active part of this community if they stay, and if they don't, become an integral part of the town that they move to.

Our most recent adventure with KHS has been the Gulf of Maine Field Studies. This class is a project-based dual enrollment class created by our Leia Lowery, Melissa Luetje of KHS, and Dr. Pam Morgan, in collaboration with the Gulf of Maine Institute. This class proved that connecting students to their communities through projects is not only an effective way to teach but an inspiring way to learn. Through KCT offering up their lands, and their connections to the community as a place to start, this class quickly took root and has become the gold standard in education.

Working with KCT volunteers and the Dombrowski family, they looked at the issues facing Goat Island. One major issue is that the island is powered by an underwater cable, and it is reaching the end of its lifespan. KHS students built and launched several data collectors to discover if renewable energy was an option.

"This is the first time what I am studying in school, actually affects my dinner table."

Caitlyn, KHS student
Gulf of Maine Field Studies class

While students toiled away analyzing data, they also studied changes in the harbor that they were noticing. They conducted interviews with local community members, and Trust members about Goat Island and changes people had seen over the years. Their goal was to start a larger conversation about the issues facing our community. For many students, it was the first time an environmental science class hit home.



The Gulf of Maine Visionary Award

To recognize innovation, creativity, and
commitment to protecting the marine
environment

Melissa Lutje, Pam Morgan, and Leia Lowery
were given this award in Nova Scotia in the
summer of 2019 for their dual enrollment
class about the Gulf of Maine, and its effect
on their community.



Each year as a gift to our graduating 5th grade class at Kennebunkport Consolidated School, our Trust in Education Program presents students with a personalized photo album of their field trips at the Trust from Kindergarten to 5th Grade. With this memento, they'll always remember the memories they made exploring the land we hope they've come to love as their own.

Changing Up the Setting

Jacqui Holmes

The Alternative Education Program at Kennebunk High School offers a non-traditional pathway to graduation. It is designed for students who are not finding success in a mainstream setting. As teachers, we have found that by changing up the setting, spending more time on social-emotional skills, connecting students to their community, and providing authentic learning experiences, these students who weren't finding success before start to flourish.

The Alt. Ed. curriculum is rooted in real world application and aligned to the KHS academic standards. It provides a space for students to grapple with and discover the importance of active, engaged citizenship on a local, national, and global level. A large part of this mission is the connection between the program and our community partners.

The Kennebunkport Conservation Trust (KCT) and the Alt. Ed. Program's partnership started ten years ago with the creation of The Learning Trail. The Learning Trail has become one of KCT's most popular trails and provides an opportunity for walkers to read about the environment they are passing through along their way. Shortly after the completion of The Learning Trail, students built The Storybook Trail, which features pages of a story and reading benches throughout. And currently, students are finishing up a Fitness Trail that will provide outdoor workout stations and recommended activities for people with a variety of fitness levels.

In addition to trail building, in 2017, The Alt. Ed. Program, KCT, and The Landing School partnered up to build and launch a mini sailboat named, "The Little Boat That Could." The sailboat was adorned with stickers from local businesses and outfitted with sensors and a GPS so that students could track it as it was launched 250 miles off the Maine coast. After following the boat's journey for about 6 months, students received confirmation that it had landed on a remote island beach in Scotland. A group of students there are preparing to re-launch "The Little Boat That Could" so that it can continue its journey around the Atlantic Ocean.

While the Fitness Trail is wrapping up and students are awaiting more news about "The Little Boat That Could", KCT and the Alt. Ed. Program are also working on a new Game Camera Project on the Emmons Preserve. Students each placed a game camera on the property to collect data about what wildlife visit different areas of the preserve. Ideally, this project will continue for many years so that students can start to analyze trends in the data. As a culminating element to this project, there will be an exhibit of the students' favorite game camera images in the upstairs sitting room of KCT's Headquarters.

As hopefully is clear, this partnership is something that we all very much value. The students come alive outside. Watching them learn by doing and begin to develop an understanding of the value of service is inspiring. Past students continue to come back to the trust to visit and walk the trails. They take pride in their lasting contribution and lovingly consider the place their second home.



The Kennebunkport Climate Initiative

Leia Lowery

The Gulf of Maine Field Studies class indeed started a conversation. In fact, it started a whole other organization! Because of its success with empowering youth, inspiring difficult discussions, and sparking action in the community, this class inspired The

Kennebunkport Climate Initiative. Why us? Why Kennebunkport? Did you know that the Gulf of Maine is warming more rapidly than 99% of bodies of water its size in the world? That New England is warming faster than any other region in the contiguous United States?

Kennebunkport is front and center to face substantial changes in the coming decades. We see evidence of this in everything from our rising tides to stronger winds and even hail storms in July!

Make no mistake, this is a global issue, one with a short timeline to make a difference. The faster we spread this to communities, create action plans, and a groundswell for change, the more likely we are to meet this very real deadline. Encouraging communities to save what they love and value builds a groundswell and will lead to ideas that are critical in making this grassroots movement influence their regions, the nation, and the world.

Founded upon this belief, the Kennebunkport Climate Initiative is a non-partisan, solutions-based organization pushing for local, tangible solutions to a global challenge. Our mission is to empower youth voices for climate action through programs that

educate, empower, and activate. KCI seeks to build a cohesive voice at the local level. Our youth programs, with the support of impassioned adults, will lead decision-makers across governments, businesses, and communities to embrace climate solutions.



In the beginning, the threat was a growing number of people moving to the area. We knew it was necessary to protect our most precious and meaningful lands from development. KCT met that challenge by preserving over 2400 acres of land in Kennebunkport to date to provide access to our whole community. Next was the challenge of children not being outside or not attached to the prized land that had been protected. This challenge was met through the Trust in Our Children program to engage youth in place-based environmental education.

Now, we face a new challenge, one that could be the biggest threat of them all. The changing climate is one of the biggest threats to the lands

that KCT has worked tirelessly to protect for over 47 years. Our islands, our beaches, our forests, our history, our heritage are all at risk. KCT's Trust in Education is ready to meet that challenge too.

With KCI, Kennebunkport can become a national leader in community-based education programs, start a nationwide grassroots movement, and save our lands, not just for our small town, but for small towns everywhere.

Let us link arms with our neighbors and rise to this new challenge head-on at the local level. Throughout our history, our nation has overcome insurmountable obstacles. We have shown time and again that grassroots movements are powerful. Our history tells us that when the few who are passionate, believe and live by what they believe, they will persevere. Join KCT and KCI in this new adventure!

Catch up with KCI!

In 6 short months, KCI hit the ground running. From a successful local program to inspiring national movement. Check out the latest accomplishments:

- Developed a strategic plan with McKinsey & Co.
- Created a dynamic board of directors
- Assembled an impressive board of advisors
- Hired an Executive Director
- Launched a brand new website www.kportclimate.org
- Created the first modules in a digital curriculum on climate change, addressing sea level rise, renewable energy and invasive species
- Created interactive online games and learning activities for students
- Launched the national campaign #ClimateCareer; hiring an aspiring youth mover and shaker. During the worst job market since the great depression, KCI is hiring!
- Launched a national social media influencer campaign #SpeakClimate. We all speak many different languages, but the one language we all need to speak is climate! One of our partners was local entrepreneur Houston Kraft, also a KCI advisor!

Meet the KCI Executive Team



Leia Lowery, Director of Programs and Outreach

Leia Lowery is the Director of Programs and Outreach with the Kennebunkport Climate Initiative. She brings over 20 years of experience in education, curriculum development, and community engagement, specializing in facilitating dynamic educational experiences that create critical thinkers, life-long learners, and productive citizens. Leia advocates building stronger communities by connecting people through their local landscape and shared history. To her, it's key to inspiring action and building hope for solutions to the climate crisis.



Louise Stephens, Director of Strategy

Louise has worked on environmental issues throughout her entire career. She joins the KCI team after helping set the conservation strategy at the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga, TN. She has conducted sustainability research for Walt Disney World and, before that, was with Manta Consulting and IMPACTS Research & Development where she focused on projects for nonprofit clients. Louise is excited to be focused on galvanizing youth around climate – the most critical environmental issue of our time.



Meagan Cooper, Director of Communications

Meagan joins the KCI team with over a decade of marketing communications experience working for global consumer brands, travel and tourism organizations and outdoor adventure companies. She's a Maine native passionate about utilizing her PR, marketing and communications background to help scale KCI's messaging nationwide to empower youth voices to climate action.

Our KCI Team Members



Emily Ferrick Social Media Manager

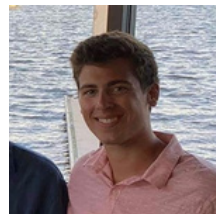
Emily joins the team with several years of social & digital media experience. Receiving her BA in Communications from UNE in 2019, she has worked with consumer brands, including environmentally sustainable Maine businesses, & nonprofits. Emily is excited to bring her passion for her community to KCI.



David Jourdan Finance / Science Community Liaison

David Jourdan is the founder & president of Nauticos, a company devoted to the exploration of the deep ocean. He studied physics and engineering at the U.S. Naval Academy and Johns Hopkins University.

Meet KCI's Youth Ambassadors



Chris Grady KCI Ambassador / Intern

Chris is a Junior Psychology major at UNE, he is passionate about how climate change affects mental health.



Amelie Panaccione KCI Ambassador / Intern

Amelie, from Boulder, CO, believes that climate change should start at the local level with small changes in everyday life.



Anela Arifi KCI Ambassador / Intern

Anela was born and raised in Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina. While in Bosnia, she developed renewable energy systems using waste chicken feathers!



Jack F. Reetz III KCI Ambassador / Intern

Jack is a Junior at Springfield college studying Business. He is interested in the intersectionality of business and sustainability.

Meet KCI's Advisory Council



John D. Sterman

Jay W. Forrester Professor of Management at the MIT Sloan School of Management & Professor at the MIT Institute for Data, Systems, Designed the EN-Roads climate change solutions simulator tool, used to inform the Paris Agreement.



James Manyika

Senior partner at McKinsey & Company and chairman of the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI). Appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as vice chair of the Global Development Council at the White House.



Houston Kraft

Professional speaker, author, curriculum designer, and kindness advocate who speaks at schools, conferences, and events internationally. Co-founder of CharacterStrong & author of "Deep Kindness".



Katharine Hayhoe

Climate scientist and endowed professor of public policy and law at Texas Tech University. Her research focuses on understanding what climate change means for people and the places where we live.



Veerabhadran Ramanathan

Edward A. Frieman Endowed Presidential Chair in Climate Sustainability & editor of "Bending the Curve: Climate Change Solutions" at the University of California at San Diego.



Anne Giblin

Senior Scientist & Interim Director of Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Laboratory. Her research focuses on the effects of climate change and sea-level rise on salt marshes.



Francis Rooney

Ambassador Francis Rooney represented Florida's 19th Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives. He is the Republican co-chair of the Climate Solutions Caucus and a member of the bipartisan Everglades and Estuary caucuses, which focus on restoring Florida's ecosystems.



Mike Judge

High school AP Environmental Science teacher at Sacred Heart Prep in California. Passionate about connecting students to global issues through their local landscapes.



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Check out MTB's latest project on **pg. 48** with Arundel Conservation Trust; building the first mountain bike flow trail in Southern Maine!

Thank You Shutterbugs!

KCI is proud to partner with Shutterbugs 4 Charity, an incredible collective of Maine-based photographers who volunteer their time and talents in supporting non-profit organizations aligned with their core values.





Run With Us in October!

In order to keep our trails and community safe from Covid-19, KCT is following Governor Mills's guidelines, and so our 2020 events will be virtual. Participants will be able to run or walk KCT's 5k, 10k or half marathon....something for everyone! Our course winds through our beautiful trail system and ends at our headquarters, but participants can run on any trails near home! All proceeds from the trail races benefit our educational programs. A win for everyone!

Meadow Woods Preserve

E. Russell Grady



While the name "Meadow Woods Preserve" may seem new to many, our work to create another vast and beautiful space began years ago. Just as many of our other preserves were formed, Meadow Woods started as a single donation in 2006 with the donation of 19 acres by Gloria and Eric Moline. The intent at the time was to simply conserve the landlocked parcel. There was no name. That didn't come until 2019.

With a very generous land donation from Bill and Lorraine Hutchins and a few purchases later, the preserve rapidly expanded to over 300 contiguous acres on the Kennebunkport-Biddeford town line between Mills Road and Oak Ridge Road. Our conservation efforts in this area are not done though, as we're under agreement to purchase an additional 50 acres, bringing Meadow Woods to a total of 371 acres.

As noted, Meadow Woods Preserve came to life and was named in 2019 when an anonymous donor gave \$500K to create a world class preserve.

That year we hired a nationally recognized landscape architecture firm, Richardson & Associates, to design the restorative work for roughly 7 acres of previously cleared and excavated land, transforming it into a place for people, pollinators, and pets in our community to connect with nature. Our preserve is a patchwork of land with many histories under local families. While the majority (99%) of the preserve will remain in its pure and natural state, the Bryant parcel presented us with an opportunity to thoughtfully restore it.

Located just minutes from Goose Rocks Beach, the preserve will have something for everyone; wildlife habitat, trails for hiking, biking, cross country skiing, and quiet places for the observation of nature. What's more, there will be accessible trails designed for those who are unable to traverse a traditional forest path. The preserve will also be dog friendly, with beautiful fenced in areas in which your pet will be able to run free. There will be a pond, picnic area, pollinator pathway, and more.

To achieve this we're undergoing a phased construction approach and enlisting the help from many volunteers and experts. We plan to create the pond and pollinator meadow in the summer of 2020 and complete all the work by our 50th anniversary in the summer of 2023.

As you can tell, we have a lot of work ahead of us. We need your help to empower this vision in making Meadow Woods Preserve a preserve for all.

The Timeline



Meadow Woods Preserve: Design Program Focus Areas





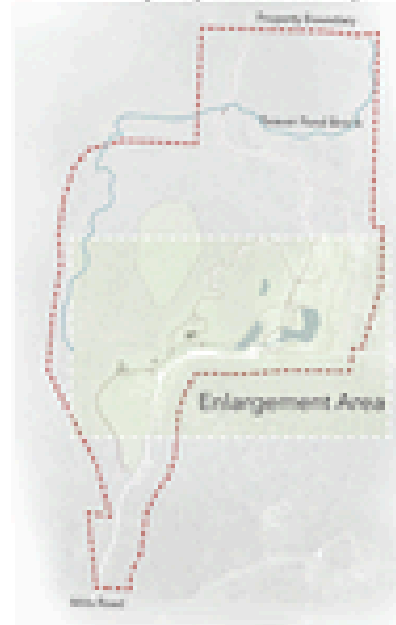
◆ 30' Program Enlargement Plan - Planned Elements Key

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Lower Trail / Passover Connector | 25. Wet Meadow Restoration |
| 2. Lower Trail Dog Park Access Gate | 26. Learning Lodge - Stone ledge for Observation |
| 3. Natural Agility Area | 27. Pond Crossing |
| 4. East Top Spur (Small Hill) | 28. Pine Point - Opening within Pine Stand, Benches |
| 5. Saddle Between Hills - Open Area | 29. Pond Pavilion - Transition to Public |
| 6. West Point Hill Top (Small Hill) | 30. Prairie Restoration / Pollinator Meadow |
| 7. Service / Maintenance Entrance | 31. Upper Meadow |
| 8. Dog Park Main Cross Walk, Waste & Water Station | 32. Access Road Segment / Emergency Access |
| 9. Solar Array - 7 kW / 11 kW System | 33. Green Shoulder - Possible Overflow Parking |
| 10. Bike Rack | 34. Dry Hydrant and Emergency Vehicle Turnaround |
| 11. Lower Trail Parking (2 cars, expandable to 8) | 35. Gate - Reconnect Cross Track Access Road |
| 12. Cabin Bridge Crossing | 36. Welcome Cabin Wet Flower Garden |
| 13. Welcome Cabin Parking | 37. Outer Multi-use Trail |
| 14. Welcome Cabin Kiosk and Seating Benches | 38. |
| 15. Welcome Cabin and Screened Porches | |
| 16. ADA Trail and Bike Parking / Cabin Entry Trail | |
| 17. Fire Circle Amongst the Boulder Clipping | |
| 18. Boulder Urban Garden | |
| 19. ADA Trail Loop | |
| 20. Vernal Pool of Significance - Protected | |
| 21. Quarry Pool Connector - to be ADA if Possible | |
| 22. Quarry Pool Overlook - Granite Benches | |
| 23. Quarry Grove - Quarry Overlook, Benches | |
| 24. Pine Point - Pine Overlook into Proposed Pond | |

Plan Not to Scale



MWP Property and Masterplan



For Happy Tails on the Trails...



MANN MEMORIAL
Veterinary Clinic



1121 Portland Road
US Route 1 North, Arundel, Maine
207-985-4774
www.manvet.com



What KCT Means to Me...

"Whether it is running, biking, or boating, I have so many KCT memories. Since I was little, I have been exploring the trails and the islands. Nothing compares to crossing the finish line at your first 10k or a sunny summer day in Stage Harbor. Accomplishing something hard, like running a race, at a place that you love is amazing. One of the highlights of my summer are warm sunny days at Stage Harbor. Spending a day in nature with close friends and family is amazing. Thank you KCT for all of these memorable experiences, I will never forget them!"

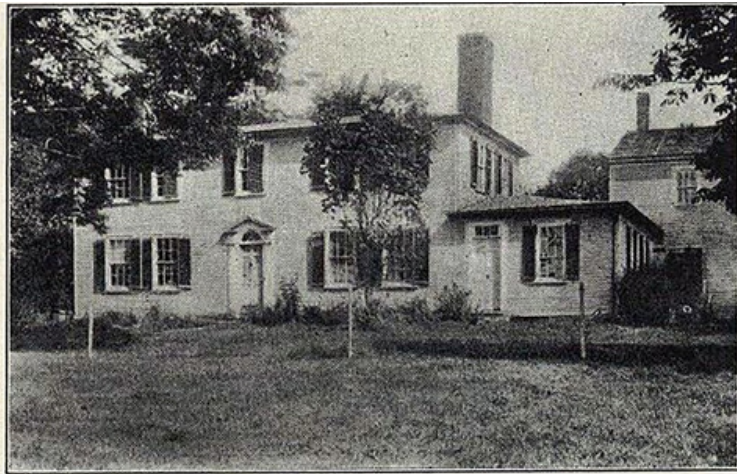
Mara Muse, longtime KCT member

James Wood

Dave Jourdan

In the summer of 2020, KCT opened a new trail to allow folks to enjoy a beautiful parcel of land in the middle of Kennebunkport. Beginning on the east side of North street, barely 100 yards from the Town parking lot, the footpath winds around a 15-acre woods donated by David and Lisanne James. Views of the tidal inlet at Mast Cove, meanders through seas of ferns, and a 24-foot ravine crossing can be enjoyed around the mile-long route. The trail includes an arched bridge over a firebreak that was dug in 1947 to help stem the spread of the great fires that year.

The earliest mention of the property we now call James Wood was in an 1811 record of Captain Thomas Perkins conveying two acres to Robert Stone. One of Perkins' daughters, Mary, wed Samuel Bourne, and



The Old Bourne House
On the Floss

in 1797 they had a son, Oliver, who became a shopkeeper, postmaster, and ship owner in Kennebunkport. He acquired land and a dwelling from Perkins in 1820 and 1824, and the Stone property in 1825. Together this became known as the Bourne Farm, which included a house at 17 North Street. This property, amounting to around 30 acres, passed to subsequent Bourne family members until the death of Esther Bourne Larrabee in 1995. In 1997, the Farm was sold to David and Lisanne James of Milford, New Jersey. The couple moved north and took up year-round residence in the house in October of that year.

The Old Bourne House was built in the 1880s on a granite foundation with two levels and yellow clapboards. Four fireplaces kept the house warm in the winter, and the surrounding forest kept it cool in the summer. The banks of Mast Cove are visible from the house. After Ms. Larrabee passed away the house remained vacant for a time, and there was talk among the beneficiaries of the estate (and alarm among the neighbors) about selling the property to developers. This ended with the sale to the Jameses, who declared in an interview with the York County Coast Star in 1997 that the only development they planned was the creation of trails through the woods.

In November of 2010, the Jameses made good on their pledge by donating about 15 undeveloped acres of the property to the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust (KCT), with the understanding that in time a trail would run through the parcel. The property is now called "James Wood." David and Lisanne kept the house and the rest of the land and live there to this day.

Volunteer trail stewards including the Jameses' daughter, Jenne, mapped out a one-mile walking loop in 2015, but for various reasons the project was put on hold for awhile. Finally, in 2019 the trail project was resumed. The route was re-established and included an easement from the Altham family to allow the route to pass farther from homes. Crossings of wet areas and a ravine were identified that would need boardwalks or bridges. Forester David Parker was engaged to survey the land and produce a forest management plan, discussing fire prevention, invasive plants, and soil & water quality protection. He noted that the forest originated in two stages. The north portion was a pasture abandoned about 100 years ago, and includes a maturing stand of white pine and red oak. The southern portion was a field

abandoned about 50 years ago and is dominated by red maple and white pine saplings and small pole timber. The land was also surveyed by James Logan of Longview Partners for environmental assessment and permitting. Logan identified the wet area crossings and walked members of the Maine DEP through the property before filing the appropriate permits.

KCT Trail steward volunteers were assisted by young people from the neighborhood who helped clear brush, haul lumber for boardwalks, and fasten hundreds of treads. Members of the local Congregational Church helped with plantings near the trail entrance. The creation of the James Trail was truly a community effort. And members the community will be able to enjoy this gem of a property for many decades to come.

WE ARE OPEN!

WEDNESDAYS, FRIDAYS - SUNDAYS 10AM-5PM

Purchase tickets at trolley museum.org

Seashore Trolley Museum

James Wood



LEGEND

- James Wood Trail ●
- Trust Land ▲
- Private ■
- Tidal River —
- Landmark ▲
- Bridge ■
- Road —



NO MOTORIZED VEHICLES

KENNEBUNKPORT
CONSERVATION TRUST



kcostrust.org



Exciting News in Arundel

Arundel Conservation Trust (ACT) is building the first mountain bike flow trail in Southern Maine!!

Joan Hull

What exactly is a flow trail?

Mountain bike flow trails are modern-day biking playgrounds for all ages. They are carefully designed and use the natural landscape to create an organic 'flowing' trail, with features like banked turns or berms, and smooth rolling bumps. The trail design allows for a wide range of skill levels, from young kids on Strider bikes to expert enthusiasts, providing fun and agility type features that aid to keep momentum on the trail. A wonderful opportunity for riders of all abilities to enjoy mountain biking.



ACT is working closely with a professional, local team of trail building experts at Maine Trail Builders to design and build these trails. The flow trails will be located on ACT's 37-acre parcel on Limerick Road "Arundel Community Trails" directly behind the new Arundel Town Hall.

The ACT Bike Trail Project will take place in multiple phases over the next year. The first trail will be 1/3-mile-long and contains 20 to 30 features, including berms, rollers, and table-top sculpted jump options. It cuts back and forth through the upland forest, just behind Arundel's new Town Hall on Limerick Road. Chris Carleton, owner of Maine Trail Builders, says, "The flow trail we are building is very unique to Southern Maine and it is truly a work of art that we are very proud of. At nearly 1/3 of a mile long, it makes it the **longest pump track style flow trail in the state of Maine**. We built this trail in such a way that riders of all ages and ability levels will enjoy it. We can't wait to finish!"

This phase I flow trail will be completed by the end of September to coincide with the opening of the Town Hall in a great community celebration in early October!

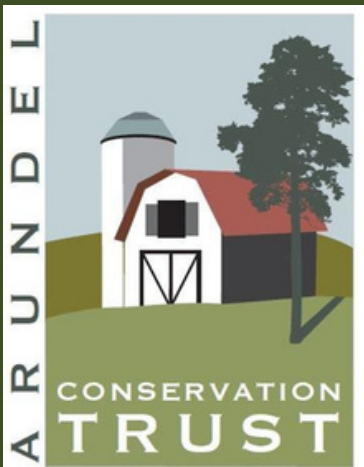
The second phase trail, planned for 2021, will be about 3/4 mile and will meander and flow through the forest connecting the Town Hall parking lot and the Eastern Trail. Other phases may include interconnecting multi-use trails with ACT's existing pedestrian trails to extend the trail network.

Together with the current pedestrian trail that connects the Town Hall with the Eastern Trail, these bike trails will complete a multi-use vision for Arundel Community Trails. We look forward to our flagship



property being a beautiful and safe place for our families and greater community to get outdoors and enjoy being in nature by traversing bogs, biking and hiking along streams and within the forest, and skirting by the bank of the Kennebunk River. Parking will be conveniently available at the Town Hall. The first phase of the mountain bike flow trail project will cost \$20,000 and we've raised \$15,000 of that goal! We are fundraising towards a goal of \$50,000 to support the entire project over multiple phases in the next year. Although a chapter of KCT we are responsible for all our own fundraising. Some special call-outs of early support for this project include the KCT board of directors, as well as the Town of Arundel Board of Selectmen, who have allowed ACT to build part of phase one on Town land to make the most of the terrain. We've heard from many families who are beyond excited to have a safe and fun place for their children to ride without having to drive a half hour each way to visit similar trails in other communities. It's amazing to see our community businesses and residents stepping up to make these special trails a reality. It's truly becoming a community project.

If you would like to participate and be part of the fun or just learn more about the project check out our webpage at www.arundeltrust.org/actmtb and follow along on Facebook (Arundel Conservation Trust) and Instagram (@arundelconservation | #ACTMTB).



The Arundel Conservation Trust (ACT) is a non-profit, all volunteer 501(c)3 organization dedicated to building our community through connecting all ages to nature and the outdoors in as many ways as possible. We are a young organization, begun in 2017 incorporated in 2018, but we already steward three properties and almost 100 acres in Arundel. We are proud to be a chapter of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust that has provided guidance and mentorship since our inception.

One Last Thing, Before You Go...

Tom Bradbury

As you can see, the past year has been a time of great challenges, achievements, and new beginnings for the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust. When several contiguous properties bordering a major Trust holding came on the market at the same time, the organization acted. We opened a million dollar line of credit and bought them all. The result will be the new, 371-acre Meadow Woods Preserve, which we believe will become one of our most loved holdings. Our archaeological team discovered a dugout canoe which was carbon dated as being between 1276 to 1393, making it the oldest one ever found between the Mid-Atlantic States and the Canadian Maritimes. Trust in Our Children kept on growing, and its innovative Gulf of Maine class led the Gulf of Maine Council to give its teachers their “Visionary Award” at a special ceremony in Nova Scotia. Recognizing the threat that rising tides pose to our properties and our community, we created the Kennebunkport Climate Initiative, a bold and far reaching program to address the many issues surrounding our changing climate, not only for the coast we love, but for those special places loved by others who share our concerns around the globe.

While all this was going on, and in the midst of a worldwide pandemic, the Trust continued to protect the beauty and character of our community, allowing all to marvel at the scenic vistas that we never take for granted. Our Island Stewards kept watch over campsites that were fully booked and tremendously enjoyed all summer, keeping them safe, clean, and beautiful. Our beach lots remained open and new kayak racks were added to keep their overnight stays organized and the dune grass protected—for all and for free. Our Trail Stewards maintained our 24 miles of trails which were used as never before. A new parking lot was added at the Smith Preserve to help accommodate the increased use. New bridges and walkways were constructed and the wonderful new James Trail was added, bringing the passive recreational enjoyment of a walk in the woods to another part of our community. Goat Island Light was maintained and a 1930s era United States Coast Guard Pea Pod was added to the boat house as part of our historic reconstruction. New property management plans were created and will soon be implemented. Our parks, preserves and access points to the water remained open for all to enjoy even as we protected critical wildlife habitat. Collectively, we continue to preserve and protect a community that all of us love and are proud to be a part of.

All of this, and very much more, is done almost entirely through membership support. Our members are the reason that all this is able to happen. That is why we are asking for your support. As has been proved so often in the past, together we can make a difference. Together we can do great things.



Become a Member

Any amount helps us achieve our goals

By donating to the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust you become part of our membership. Members of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust drive our organization. They support us financially, steward our lands, share their talents, volunteer their time, and love the places in town that the Trust is dedicated to caring for. Our members come in all shapes and sizes, from the one who sends us a nickel taped to an envelope each year, to the one who built the foundation of our endowment. We appreciate each and everyone of you! Join us as a member this year and be part of the KCT family. Any size contribution makes you a member, please give what your budget allows. More importantly, live it and love it, these are your lands! Thanks to all of our members!

You can become a member by visiting our website: www.kporttrust.org/donate-1, fill out the form below, or put the requested information in a note, and mail it to Kennebunkport Conservation Trust, PO Box 7004, Cape Porpoise, ME 04014.

I would like to become a member of the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust!

Please accept this donation in the amount of _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

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check made payable to Kennebunkport Conservation Trust Visa Master Card

Name on card: _____

Card Number _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Signature: _____



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