

# The Landmark

No. 1

Northern Connecticut Land Trust

September, 1998

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## The Landmark is Back!

Longtime members of the Five Town Land Trust have undoubtedly noticed the lack of a newsletter for quite a while now. We hope it will be appearing regularly in the future.

### Vernon Land Trust, Five Town Land Trust Have Merged

Over the course of the past two years, the officers and directors of the Five Town Land Trust and the Vernon Land Trust have been considering, and then acting on, the idea of merging the two land trusts. For several reasons (primarily financial) we felt it made sense to work together preserving land in the area.

Rather than merge directly, we finally decided that the Vernon Land Trust would dissolve and turn its assets over to the Five Town Land Trust and its members would join. At the August 1997 meeting of the FTLT board of directors, the members in good standing of the VLT were made members in good standing of the FTLT until FTLT membership renewals come due. At the FTLT annual meeting in September 1997 several VLT members were elected to positions with FTLT. As of this writing, all of the work of dissolving the VLT has been accomplished, and the assets have been transferred.

Need I say that the Five Town Land Trust now has six towns in it? So we held a naming contest among the schoolchildren within the area of the six towns and have chosen a new name, **The Northern Connecticut Land Trust.**

I would like to welcome our newest members to our expanded Land Trust. Let's all work together to make an even better organization.

### McCann Family Farm Added to our Holdings

In October 1997 the bulk (84 acres) of the McCann Farm on Main Street in Somers was donated to the Five Town Land Trust. It is a beautiful piece of land, with a mix of fields and woods, and a view to the north of Bald Mountain and the eastern slopes of the Connecticut Valley through Somers and into Massachusetts. It includes some prime farmland, which is one of the main things that the Land Trust was formed to protect.

We are greatly indebted to Mary McCann for her generosity. She was the last of her generation and owner of the land, and is now deceased. Her niece, Kathy Dufraigne, spent much time arranging the details of the donation as Mary's executrix. Don Smith, who has been our Land Trust's main contact with the McCanns over the years, also deserves our thanks for all the work he has put in.

With the other donations we have received over the years, the combined Land Trusts now hold over 180 acres of land. A feature of future newsletters will be a description of a different parcel in each issue, beginning with the McCann tract.

### Volunteers Needed

Volunteer work is the backbone of any organization like ours, and right now there are a number of projects looking for help. There will be a lot of work to do on the McCann property once we decide exactly what we are going to do. In the meantime, the same kinds of jobs can be done for our other properties (trail clearing and maintenance, monitoring, trash cleanup, etc.). We would appreciate any help we can get on this newsletter, from one article to full editorial activities. We have never seriously pursued fundraising, and if someone wanted to take that on, we might get to the point where we could buy an important piece of property. To volunteer, please phone Editor George Grant at 749-3282. Everyone is welcome to attend the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors. Phone George each month for meeting time and place.

A number of years ago several people called and offered to volunteer, but there wasn't anything I could think of just then, and in the meantime I lost their names. I do apologize, and if you would like to volunteer again, I promise to find work for you.

### Coming Events

The first Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper of the combined land trusts will be held at the old schoolhouse in Melrose on Sunday, September 27. See attached sheet for details. The following slate of officers and directors has been nominated:

President George Grant (Somers)	Recording Secretary James Gage (Ellington)
1st Vice President Culver Modisette (Stafford)	Corresponding Secretary Fay Dresner (Vernon)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President Karl Hasel (Vernon)	Treasurer Albert Grant (East Windsor)

#### Board of Directors (three year term)

Ernest Boothroyd (Ellington)	Charles Carson (Somers)
Lois Osier (Enfield)	Edward McGuire (Enfield)
John Maulucci (Vernon)	Albert Grant (East Windsor)

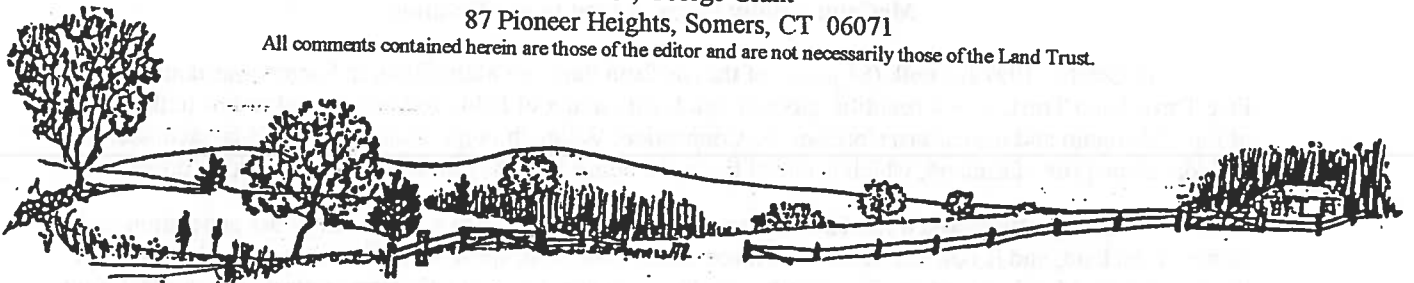
Wildflower walks will be held on the McCann property, spring through fall, to point out the 100 plus species of wild flowers already noted there.

Walks in Vernon and the Skyline Park in Somers will be announced.

Please renew your Land Trust membership and participate in our activities!

THE LANDMARK is published by the  
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All comments contained herein are those of the editor and are not necessarily those of the Land Trust.



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# Northern Connecticut Land Trust

Annual Meeting and Potluck Supper  
Sunday, September 27, 1998

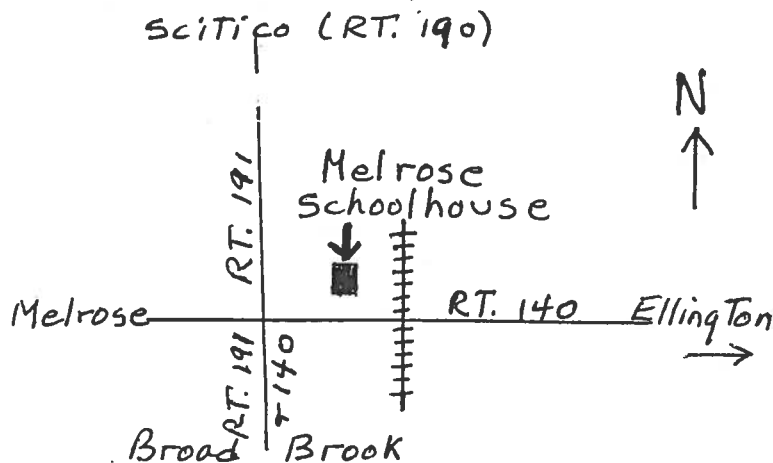
- 5:00 p.m. Social Hour
- 6:00 p.m. Supper
- 7:00 p.m. \* "The Connecticut River as a National Scenic River"  
(speaker, with slides, from the Connecticut River Watershed Council)

- \* Election of officers
- Business meeting

Where? Old Schoolhouse in Melrose

What to bring? Your own place setting and a hot dish (no oven available), or a salad or dessert  
A beverage will be provided.

All are welcome!



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## Membership Application Northern Connecticut Land Trust

August 1998 through July 1999

Please indicate your choice:

<input type="checkbox"/> Associate	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$10.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Business	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Life	\$250.00
Supporting \$ _____			

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to:

**Northern Connecticut Land Trust, Inc.**  
128 Melrose Road  
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