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HARTLAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

1991 Report to the Town

Background

The Conservation Commission was established by the voters at Town Meeting in 1989. Its purposes are summarized as follows: to inventory the Town's natural and cultural resources; to work to protect these resources; to increase awareness of conservation goals; and to cooperate with all levels of government and groups with similar concerns.

Summary of Activities

Nineteen hundred ninety was the first full year of activity for the Commission. We focused on two major projects:

Participation in Planning and Conservation: The Planning and Conservation Commissions received a grant of $7,600 to promote the participation of Hartland residents in planning and conservation issues. The Commissions have sponsored the "Common Ground," a newspaper providing a forum for local opinions on these issues; several public meetings on topics such as land conservation, proposed subdivision regulations, and "cluster" development; and the purchase of equipment and supplies to begin mapping the natural and cultural resources of Hartland.

Green Acres Farm: Thanks to the efforts of many people, the "development rights" to the Green Acres Farm were purchased in 1990. This assures that the land will remain in agricultural use for the foreseeable future. Project participants include the Town of Hartland, the Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Board and the Department of Agriculture, the Upper Valley Land Trust, and the Nature Conservancy. The Commission raised $10,000 in private donations for this project, under the leadership of Dr. Charles Marrin. Thanks to all who contributed to the project and thanks to the voters at the 1990 Town Meeting for appropriating $5,000 as part of the local match to purchase the development rights.

Commission Meetings and Membership

The Commission meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, in the Listers' office at Damon Hall. All are welcome to attend. For further information, call Geoff Dates at 436-2544 or Gloria Merritt at 436-2700.

Commission Members as of December 31, 1990:

Gregory Chase
Dorothy Cummings
Geoff Dates, *Chairman*
Charles Day, *Vice Chairman*
Charles Marrin, *Treasurer*
James May
Gloria Merritt, *Clerk*
Philip Nothnagle, *Planning Commission Representative*
Jennifer Porter
Carol Stratton

Thanks to Tim Rockwood and Trine Bech, who served on the Commission for part of 1990.

Special thanks to the "Heart of the Land" Quilters for donating their time and talents to produce a beautiful quilt, which was raffled in December. The proceeds from the raffle will benefit the Hartland Conservation Trust Fund.